



Your Helpful Guide to Dispute Resolution: The Respectful Approach to Separation

Whilst working within the Court process when appropriate, we also work behind the scenes towards an early negotiated settlement. We aim to advise, negotiate and conduct matters to help parties settle differences and reach agreements as quickly as possible.

If your relationship has reached the point of irretrievable breakdown and you would like confidential advice on your *rights* and *responsibilities*, then **Parker Family Law** can help. Follow our simple **Do's and Don'ts of separation** below, and if you have any further questions contact us on **(07) 3283 3377** for fast, accurate and timely legal advice.

Do's

- Get good legal advice as soon as possible;
- Do your best to retain a civil relationship, in order to protect your children from further distress;
- Realise agreement is more important than victory;
- Accept that a minor concession may help to develop the discussions and secure settlement;
- Make offers and develop negotiation rather than make threats and refuse to negotiate;
- Remember there are always many ways to react to any situation - never only one;
- Keep in mind agreement is the goal, both sides must feel satisfied to reach a workable settlement;

Don't's

- Make unfair, unreasonable and unrealistic demands;
- Point score;
- Use emotional blackmail;

- Use the children to get at one another;
- Make threats or be abusive;

The cost of separation is not just financial. More often than not it is also an extremely stressful, time consuming and emotional process. In our experience this can be minimised by obtaining **specialist legal advice as soon as possible** following separation. We strive to achieve a dignified, cooperative outcome, best for you and any children involved.

Parker Family Law also offers a non adversarial, solution orientated alternative to separation called Collaborative Family Law. **Bruce Scott** is trained in Collaborative Law. He is part of a network of collaborative practitioners in Queensland who can offer this low-conflict approach for Queensland couples.

For more information on Collaborative Law visit our website or phone us on **(07) 3283 3377**.

This guide contains information on current legal issues applicable at the time of printing. Please note that there may have been changes subsequently which have not been incorporated in to the material. This guide is intended for information purposes only and its content should not be applied to any particular set of facts or relied upon without first seeking legal or other professional advice. For further information on how we can help you, please contact:

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