How has Covid-19 affected Family Law Mediation?

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Family Law Mediation is used by parties as a way of trying to resolve or reduce the number of issues in a family law dispute with the assistance of a mediator. The benefits of family law mediation are far reaching particularly when parties are able to avoid the considerable costs, time and stress associated with Court proceedings.

The onset of the pandemic saw parties, legal practitioners and even the Court having to quickly adapt to online and electronic means in addressing disputes. Family law mediations have been no different and in fact have proven to be a useful pathway to resolving matters over the online platform.

It is now not uncommon for family law mediations to take place through applications like Zoom or Microsoft Teams or even electronically over the phone. These avenues still enable the parties to have their confidential discussions with their solicitor and/or with the mediator while also being able to have a joint session with the other party.

The added advantage to the online forum shift is that there is greater flexibility for parties, practitioners and mediators alike to participate in family law mediation particularly when participants are geographically distant or self-isolating as a result of Covid-19.

The pandemic has seen parties experiencing unexpected stresses that are often health related and/or financial in nature. The addition of a family law dispute can be particularly difficult making the cost effective and timely option of family law mediation appealing in resolving the dispute during such uncertain times.

If you would like further advice or information in relation to family law mediation, contact our office on 1800 300 170 or email us at famlaw@matthewsfolbigg.com.au to speak to one of our family lawyers and mediators.

Disclaimer

Family law situations can be complex and sometimes they can involve serious issues. Information outlined is proposed to provide general guidance only. Due to the seriousness of legal matters as well as the uniqueness of your individual situation, professional advice should be sought. For advice, please contact one of our Family Lawyers.