

Family Law Lawyers and Mediation

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For most of those dealing with their family law matter through the Court system, it becomes apparent very quickly that you might be in this for the long haul and it won't be cheap. With a currently under resourced Family Court, the excessive delays no doubt add to the stress of separating couples who want nothing more than to be able to move on with their lives. So, what else can you do to try and take back control of your future? Well there are many alternatives but a cheaper and often underestimated option is Mediation. Family law lawyers are able to assess your particular situation and advise whether mediation is suitable in your circumstances.

What is Mediation?

It is a voluntary process facilitated by a neutral third party (the Mediator) where you and the other party can have confidential discussions in trying to resolve your matter. The Family Law Mediator will navigate the process and assist you in sorting through your issues in dispute, generating options for resolution and how you might go about finalising any agreement that is reached. Family law lawyers may also attend with you if you so wish, allowing you to get tailored advice as different options surface through the discussions. If you are not comfortable with being in the same room as the other party, participating in shuttle mediation where the mediator goes between rooms can also provide you with the same benefits. So why should you try it?

What can I get out of Mediation?

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You contribute to any agreement reached by tailoring an arrangement that you see working for yourself and your children;

- Even if no agreement is reached, some issues in dispute can be resolved even if all of them are not;
- A better understanding of what the other party is seeking and what is really important to them which might help you reach a settlement;
- Saving on the substantial costs associated with proceeding through the Court system with legal representation;
- Saving invaluable time and avoiding the stress involved in proceeding with litigation where it is not uncommon to be waiting 3-4 years for a final decision;
- An opportunity to resolve all outstanding issues in dispute immediately which can then be made into binding court orders without you having to see the inside of a courtroom.

The hardest part about mediation is getting the other side to agree to attend but once you are there, many are pleasantly surprised at what can be achieved.

If you would like to know more about the mediation process, contact one of our family law



lawyers. Our team of family law lawyers consists of Accredited Family Law Specialists and Accredited Mediators who can provide you with the advice that you need.

Contact us on **1800 300 170** or email us at **familylaw@matthewsfolbigg.com.au**

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.