



Education - Resources - Networks

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# Divorce Center Briefs

## Message from Barbie Jetter, Co-President

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The Divorce Center has been working to ease the trauma of divorce on the family through educational programs since 1983. The organization, its membership and programs have undergone many changes through the years.

The ‘New’ Divorce Center continues to build membership, expand public education and provide a wide array of professional development seminars. This year we expanded our public education by offering it in two venues, Braintree and Needham, as well as expanded our internet presence.

We have always encouraged professionals from the many disciplines to join, work together to educate the public and each other. Our most recent professional development seminar held on April 28th was a perfect example of how a panel of professionals with varied financial expertise addressed the topic of ‘planning in today’s perilous economic times and steering clients through it’. The success of this seminar was reinforced by various requests for more seminars with a variety of panelists!

During these stressful and difficult times, more interest has been shown in our public

education series as well as professional development seminars. You members are the resources for the most current information to divorcing couples. For this reason, we will now be providing a quarterly newsletter and invite you to submit articles.

Mark your calendars for our Annual Dinner/Professional Development event on June 17th. Our keynote speaker promises to draw a large crowd, so reserve early. I look forward to seeing you then and welcome your participation in our growing organization.

### Special points of interest:

- *Message from Barbie Jetter, Co-President*
- *Board Member Spotlight—Justin Kelsey, Esq.*
- *“Parents Apart” schedule*
- *P/T Instructor wanted*

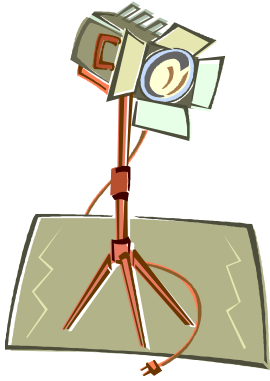
## Board Member Spotlight — Justin L. Kelsey, Esq.

Justin L. Kelsey is a member of the Board of Directors of the Divorce Center and the Chair of the recently formed Marketing Committee. He has been a practicing attorney since 2004 and is a Partner at Kelsey & Trask, P.C. Justin also maintains an *of counsel* relationship with Stevenson & Lynch, P.C. of Hingham, Massachusetts.

A resident of Canton, Justin concentrates his practice on bankruptcy, divorce, paternity, 209A Restraining Orders, collection of debt, and business litigation. Justin graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (B.S. 2001) and Boston University School of Law (J.D. 2004). Justin was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar in December 2004 and is also a member of the Bar of the

Federal District Court for Massachusetts and the First Circuit Court of Appeals.

Justin is also a member of the Massachusetts Bar Association, Norfolk County Bar Association, Pilgrim Advocates, Inc. Lawyer of the Day Program, Norfolk County Probate & Family Court Lawyer of the Day Program, a sponsor member of Massachusetts Continuing



## Board Member Spotlight continued...



Legal Education, and an American Red Cross Donor.

Justin is the co-author of the *Kelsey & Trask, P.C. Blog: Scaling the Summit: Bankruptcy & Divorce* ([http://kelsey-](http://kelsey-trask.blogspot.com)

Justin's office is located at 154 E. Central Street, Suite 302B in Natick, Massachusetts 01760 and the telephone number is (508) 655-5980.

[Trask.blogspot.com](http://kelsey-trask.blogspot.com)). You can also contact or follow Justin on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/jkilo>, or on LinkedIn at <http://www.linkedin.com/in/justinkelsey>, or at our website <http://www.kelseytrask.com>.



Paula Noe, Esquire

## Can Our Family Afford a Divorce? And, To Whom Should We Listen???

*By Paula H. Noe, Esquire*

What should we tell our friends, our clients, our own families about divorce or modification during these challenging economic times? We all know that everyone is affected by the current financial crisis, and that includes families who desire to, and/or should be considering, a divorce or a modification. Articles and news stories have abounded recently about families that cannot afford to move forward with divorce and are even still living together (literally 'cornered' in the marital home, complete with the stress and anxiety and rising levels of domestic abuse and substance abuse). After all, how can people voluntarily undertake the huge life-changer of divorce when they don't know what the future holds for any of the family members in terms of

jobs, asset values or retirement plans?

I suggest we should tell them what we, as professionals, have experienced and learned over the years; we should explain to them the choices they have to make - before, during and after the divorce or modification process.

As a family law attorney, I am ethically bound, I believe, to let any potential client know what options are available to him or her in Massachusetts divorce or modification. After all, comment 5 to Rule 1.4(b) of the Massachusetts Rules of Professional Responsibility states about "Alternative Dispute Resolution": **"There will be circumstances in which a lawyer should advise a client concerning the advantages and disadvantages**

**of available dispute resolution options in order to permit the client to make informed decisions concerning the representation.**" Thus, I make sure all clients understand what I see ahead in the different scenarios - from 'kitchen-table' negotiation through litigation, including dispute resolution (ADR - alternative dispute resolution - is, in my opinion, itself an out-moded phrase, since dispute resolution is no longer 'alternative', but is very mainstream now) and settlement alternatives, including mediation and collaborative practice. And, while I am sure that my preferences are clear, especially since I advocate zealously for fair and equitable solutions made by the during divorce-family for the after-divorce -family, I am careful to provide infor-

"I suggest we should tell them what we, as professionals, have experienced and learned over the years; we should explain to them the choices they have to make before, during and after the divorce or modification process."

## Can Our Family Afford a Divorce? *Continued from Page 2*

mation about each scenario so that the divorcing parties are able to make educated and informed decisions about the future of their family. As we should know, we can offer no ‘one size fits all’ solution to families, so we have the obligation to provide them with the best information we have to allow them to make their decisions.

Part of the information I pass on to these people who are wanting and/or needing to change their family life involves the cost, in terms of finances, in terms of energy and emotion and in terms of damages. When we estimate, to the best of our ability, the cost-benefit analysis with these folks, we must, of necessity, address their understandable question “What will it cost?” The easy answer, of course, doesn’t exist, for lots of reasons, but we do have to give these folks the information we do have, emphasizing, of course, that the financial cost (as important as it is and will always be) is one of many potential ‘costs’ of divorce; the emotional and familial ‘costs’, as well as the possible delays and complications, can also be prohibitively expensive!

As far as the money goes, I think it is fair to give clients a couple of answers, suggesting that the research shows a few interesting trends.

In 2005, *Money* magazine (July 2005, p 48), in its article entitled, “Getting a Divorce? Why It Pays to Play Nice”, states that “Collaboration can save each spouse a bundle in legal fees.”, estimating that a ‘traditional’ divorce would cost about \$35,000 and a Collaborative divorce would cost about \$16,000. These estimates, based upon ‘Attorney estimates’, are not backed up with any further data, and it remains unclear to me, whether these numbers reflect the TOTAL cost of divorce. In other words, let’s know if these numbers we give to clients are the cost to one spouse or are they the cost to the couple? Does the number also include fees for any ‘allied’ professionals (i.e., mental health for the parties or the children, financial people for the division

of assets, appraisers for the real estate or businesses)? This *Money* article raises these questions for me, so I am sure to point this out to the clients in front of me.

Also, David Hoffman, of Boston Law Collaborative, has provided us with some further and more current information about the cost of divorce. In his article, “Colliding Worlds of Dispute Resolution: Towards a Unified Field Theory of ADR”, (2008 *Dispute Resolution Journal*, p. 11), using a methodology which attempts to estimate, while taking into account the information that is often missing (i.e., cost of other professionals, including the other attorney) the combined cost of a divorce, he says, ‘One of the surprises in the data was the much lower cost of divorce mediation as compared with the other processes, except (not surprisingly) coaching from the sidelines.’ p. 30. Indeed, the cost of the divorce to the couples involved in the 199 cases in this study ranges from a low of \$4,549 for the ‘coaching from the sidelines’ case to the high of \$77,746 for the ‘litigation’ case. Without adjusting for any other factors, the Mediated Divorce cases cost \$6,613, the Collaborative Practice Divorce cases cost \$19,500, the Cooperative Process Divorce cases cost \$26,500, the Negotiation/Litigation cases cost \$26,830. Again, some of the data may be missing from these analyses; we do not know, for example, how much mediating families paid for their individual attorneys or other ‘allied professionals’ in addition to paying the mediator.

In addition, David notes, ‘What is more surprising is that the couples who found themselves in litigation were among the least wealthy clients.’ P. 29. I agree with David that this is startling information and wonder about the implication. The lesson might be: let’s make sure we are giving correct and uniform information

to all potential clients, regardless of their financial situations; all processes should still be available to everyone.

Another important point for us professionals to remember is that, although most divorce and modification cases settle sometime before trial, the case that starts in litigation mode (by which I mean the adversarial model of ‘file first, talk later’) will be more expensive for the clients than the divorce that starts with negotiation or dispute resolution clearly perceived and articulated to be the preference. This does make sense, since we should understand that getting everyone around the settlement table is much more complicated and even chaotic once the battlefield has been entered in discovery or court or otherwise; as we know, harmful words, whether written or spoken, can cause damage that might need to be repaired. If, indeed, the family has chosen a mediation or dispute resolution process of any kind at the beginning, then they save money. If, on the other hand, the case has started collaboratively or in mediation or some other form of dispute resolution, and then moves to litigation, I believe the clients will save money over the ‘traditional’ litigation case, since, hopefully, many issues have been already decided during the dispute resolution phase, so that the litigation is narrowed and can, we assume, be resolved speedily.

Although, of course, my perspective does remain limited to my experience as a family law attorney, I do believe strongly that all of us professionals who do our work with divorcing families (or families in any kind of crisis) must continue to share our information (*continued on P.5*) about the cost of the divorce or crisis. And, of course, we must really consider all of the ‘costs’; thus, we

## **Dealing with Transitions Through Divorce by Edward Anthony Colozzi, Ed.D.**

A free PowerPoint presentation on this topic including several assessment activities, a decision-making model, and live Internet links for job and training information is available for use at <http://www.lifeworkps.com/edwardc/weblog/3844.html>.

### **Transitions, Endings, and New Beginnings**

Every transition begins with an ending, an ending of old rules and old ways of thinking and behaving and an opportunity to create new rules and different ways of thinking, behaving, and living your life. Endings are difficult because most people are used to their rules and ways of thinking and living. With the advent of some transitions, one can easily feel alone, abandoned, even lost and scared. Most people like having rules and living a life that seems to move with some sense of order and at least a moderate degree of regularity. Transitions change everything pretty quickly and leave people with feelings of uncertainty that can often lead to depression and low self esteem.

Transitions occur across one's life span and across various career-life roles. The challenge is to deal with these transitions in ways that lead to new beginnings that bring success and fulfillment. The term *career-life* is a new paradigm that refers to all the different roles played by a person in her/his life, including time spent as a student, part-time or full-time worker, or even homemaker, spouse, or parent, as well as several others. The traditional way of thinking of career as "What I do from 9 to 5, pays me bucks, and hopefully I'll like it", is no longer effective. It focused on the work role and neglected the time and energy spent on other important life roles. The new career-life paradigm is powerful because it makes people aware that they are playing a variety of life roles, including the work role, and all their roles are opportunities for growth, expressing oneself, and finding some sense of purpose and meaning.

The major career-life roles include time and energy spent in *work, being a spouse/friend, a homemaker, a parent/caretaker, a learner, in leisure activities, as a daughter/son, and as a volunteer* (Super, 1980).

Most people, even children, play several career-life roles simultaneously, thus the recurring experience of stress and lack of balance among the roles being played. Endings will always be occurring in these various life roles throughout one's life journey; jobs will end or some people will decide to leave their jobs because they are no longer satisfied with their work tasks or work environment. Likewise, people can also experience similar transitions in their spouse role. Events occur that cause one or both spouses to decide to terminate the marriage.

The work role is often difficult to balance with other life roles such as spousing, parenting, and homemaking, and stress can be an increasing problem that affects all career-life roles. People work longer hours and have more jobs prior to retirement than in the past. Retirement for many will not be at 60 or 65 but more likely stretch into the 70's. Most people today will have seven to ten jobs during their working life in a minimum of three or perhaps even four unrelated career fields. Add to this the difficulties associated with a recession and a downturn in the entire economy, and all this has major implications for people experiencing separation and divorce, including dealing with alimony, child support, and custody deliberations. Traditionally, divorce often meant confrontation and litigation. Now mediation and collaborative divorce are gaining much recognition as couples are realizing that even when a marriage ends, life needs to move on and a win-win compromise is often the wiser way to proceed than a win-loose vindictive approach, especially when children are involved.

Divorce can mean one spouse must consider activating a full or part-time work role and begin to strategize how to creatively balance the homemaking and/or

parenting roles. Divorce can mean activating the learner role and attending college for re-tooling in addition to playing several other demanding roles, including being a caregiver to aging parents. These are important considerations for persons experiencing divorce, therapists counseling couples, even attorneys and judges who help couples through the divorce experience, hopefully encouraging more *mindfulness* on the part of both spouses during and after the divorce proceedings. Reflection encourages mindfulness and facilitates decision-making. Making career-life choices is part of everyone's life journey, and having an effective strategy that really works is important.

### **Making Choices**

(The following information is adapted from Ed Colozzi's book, *Creating Careers with Confidence*, Published by Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2009.)

To make wise and informed career-life choices, during a divorce and especially during challenging economic times, it is useful for clients to have a strategy for setting and accomplishing realistic goals. Five main components of a successful career-life strategy are as follows:

- **Discovering self-knowledge:** information about you, your skills, interests, and values-your personality type. There are six major personality types and each person is dominant in two or three of these six types. Discovering your major top two or three personality types can make job selection much easier and significantly more effective. The six types are **Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising, and Conventional**.
- **Learning important information** about the world-of-work, how it is organized, and the various occupations that make up the world-of-work. All jobs can be delineated into four distinct groups according to work tasks, jobs (*to P.6*)

## Can Our Family Afford A Divorce? *Continued from Page 3*

need to keep learning from each other. Our mental health colleagues are so vital in this process, especially in these tough times; in collaborative cases, the practice of using a collaboratively-trained 'divorce coach' or 'divorce facilitator' or 'child specialist' is becoming increasingly routine, and the clients and the lawyers all benefit from the valuable guidance they can gain from this added dimension. In addition, our collaboratively-trained financial experts provide us with so much important information, without which the clients cannot make the necessary informed decisions about the future of their family. When suggesting to a client that the use of these collaborative professionals is a vital piece of their collaborative divorce (often in response to their 'We can't afford all of these people.' statement), I make sure to emphasize that, although the choice does belong to the parties, my advice is that 'all

of these people' can actually cut the costs of a divorce, since the collaborative process runs more smoothly and more efficiently with these other professionals involved.

Families in crisis collect information from various sources before making decisions regarding their choices, from their neighbor's cousin and their friends and relatives and also from the professionals to whom they turn for guidance. It behooves us to provide ethical and practical advice regarding the cost, perhaps by giving these folks a range of options and a range of potential costs, all the while emphasizing that no one can predict the future. I also suggest that we should be gathering our own data, that we should review our own past cases, in order to categorize and quantify how much our clients have spent on divorce. Educating the potential clients about the costs will, of course, inform their decisions, and should be part of our conver-

sations.

\*\*with special thanks to David Hoffman, for his comments and insights on this article.

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"It behooves us to provide ethical and practical advice regarding the cost, perhaps by giving a range of options and a range of potential costs, all the while emphasizing that no one can predict the future"



## Are You A Proud Member of the Divorce Center?

You can show off your membership, impress your clients, and help The Divorce Center all at once by adding this Divorce Center badge to your website.



To add this badge to your website, just add the following code to your website's html (or have your webmaster do it for you) where you want it to appear:

```
<a href="http://www.thedivorcecenter.org">
</a>
```

An example may be seen at: <http://www.kelseytrask.com>

## Dealing with Transitions Through Divorce ...continued from Page 4



that deal primarily with **People, Data, Things, and Ideas**. These four work tasks can be further sub-divided into six areas that match the six major personality types, making person-work environment matching very easy.

- Understanding the career-life concept and the different roles that make up your career, including the work role and the learner role that often need modification and/or reactivation resulting from a major transition such as a divorce. Education is lifelong, and divorce can be a catalyst for returning to school and obtaining important new skills to remain competitive in the current job market.
- Discovering and/or creating the best person-environment matches for yourself across all career-life roles, especially in the context of a divorce and resulting life changes. Most people choose to obtain traditional jobs that are established and available. Some people choose to *create a career* and use traditional jobs as bridge jobs that lead to their ideal career. Consider doing both!
- Understanding a reflective and intuitive decision-making process that helps you make wise and informed choices across multiple career and life roles in ways that will be realistic, financially rewarding, and personally fulfilling. Everyone faces decision points throughout their life journey; most people neglect to use an effective decision-making strategy for major decision that have serious consequences.

People's beliefs about themselves, how they perceive themselves, ultimately influence their approach to life and their specific career-life choices. Although clients' learning experiences may hinder or facilitate career decision-making, learning is lifelong, and there are many opportunities to re-learn old limiting beliefs. The core of all those learning experiences, at some level, is linked to "what is important to me (to do, to be, to believe, to say) as an individual", and the resulting evolution

of a values system becomes a central factor that influences all career-life decisions. Even when life happens and situational determinants occur, including divorce, people's values influence how they choose to respond to those determinants. Making career-life choices during and after a divorce is possible with the right help, and this important career-life paradigm offers realism and hope for new beginnings.

### Divorce During A Depressed Economy

Both spouses need to be aware of the ramifications of divorce in a depressed economy, especially if children are involved and there is a common goal of wanting the highest and best for the children.

Assisting people through their divorce requires an honest discussion about the many challenges facing them regarding being competitive in the labor market, often a first time experience for those who have been primarily homemakers. Some clients might require more education and training to be competitive in the current economy. Complicating this further is the fact that many women who have been primarily homemakers might not have the appropriate training to enter the labor market after a divorce. Even if they do have previous education and a work history, their time spent homemaking might have precluded them from keeping current with their skill sets, and they will often require time and financial resources to become current and acquire additional training and education prior to entering the labor market

### Mini-Assessment

Several key questions useful for encouraging clients to consider their need for career counseling are as follows:

- 1) Do you have a clear and specific career goal, or are you unfocused and in need of career counseling?
- 2) Are you ready to be competitive in today's labor market? What are your top

skill sets, and what sector of the labor market do you plan to enter? Do you have a current resume, and are you prepared to go on informational and job interviews?

3) How strong are your self-efficacy beliefs (beliefs one has about their ability to accomplish goals), and do you need some assistance with raising your confidence and developing a stronger internal locus of control?

4) Are you adequately prepared to deal with the short and long term consequences of your divorce such as achieving financial stability, exploring your need for retraining, and developing strategies for balancing various career and life roles such as parenting, homemaking and your worker role?

**References** -Colozzi, E. A. (2009) Creating careers with confidence. Pearson/Prentice Hall. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

Super, D. E. (1980). A life-span, life-space approach to career development. Journal of Vocational Behavior 13, 282-298.

(Dr. Colozzi is the owner of Career Development and Counseling Services in Winchester, MA. He is a licensed mental health counselor, a nationally certified counselor and a Fellow with the National Career Development Association. His thirty years of counseling include much experiencing working with adults in transition dealing with relationship problems and divorce. He can be reached at (781) 721-1200 or via email: [careercoach-colozzi@verizon.net](mailto:careercoach-colozzi@verizon.net) or online at [www.lifeworkps.com/edwardc](http://www.lifeworkps.com/edwardc).

## When Divorce Means Re-entering the Job Market

*By Laurie Israel, Esq.*

In working with divorcing couples, reemployment of an “at-home” spouse is a recurring theme. This is usually (but not always) the wife, who needs to enter the job market after the divorce. An analysis of the finances of a divorce case generally leads to the stark truth that the family unit (now divided into two households) cannot live on the earned income that was being brought into the household prior to the divorce. It is a zero-sum game, and without an additional income stream (which now has to be brought in by the wife), the standard of living of the family unit (as reconstituted) will be drastically reduced.

It does not take a divorce lawyer or mediator to figure this out. However, the lack of adequate income post-divorce comes as a surprise for many divorcing couples. People getting a divorce are so pained by their interpersonal difficulties that they generally do not adequately contemplate the financial shoals ahead. These are difficult financial times between job losses and losses of equity in homes, pensions, and other assets. As a result, the financial problems inherent in divorce worsen dramatically.

Colliding with this difficult new world of post-marriage finances in hard times is the fact that often the Wife has left the job market, never entered it, or is only tangentially connected to it through part-time or volunteer work. The Husband has built up his career or job path, but the Wife has been the primary person at home, also a full-time job. The Wife generally has many concerns and great fears about re-entering the job market. When people are losing their jobs every day, the fears of joblessness are well-founded, reality-based, and magnified.

I have no easy solution for this problem; just have a few thoughts to share with the spouses who need to embark on getting into the job market that may help deal with that new task. In my practice, I have seen women rise to the challenge,

and have seen women who are defeated and unable to rebuild their lives financially after a divorce. The women who rise to the challenge – even if they build up careers that result in a fraction of their husband’s income – seem to be much happier and well-adjusted post divorce

I hope that my thoughts below help a few spouses gain courage and give them some tools to reintegrate themselves into the job market.

1. Being afraid is reality-based and normal. Age discrimination (which starts about age 40) and gender discrimination are facts of life. No one can tell you it’s easy to get a job, or to build, or rebuild a career after being out of the job market for some or many years. You probably feel scared and unsure of yourself as you go towards the unknown. This is normal. Don’t beat yourself up. Try to get through those feelings with action. Your goal is to get a job or build a career. When you have negative thoughts, push them away. Be focused on the goal
2. You are as talented, capable, and bright as your Husband. That’s why he chose you, right? Understand that you have a lot to offer whenever you feel demoralized. Look for work that takes advantage of your strengths. Be persistent. Always think well of yourself. Banish negative thoughts.
3. Be aware of the cultural lessons that impede your building a career or getting a job. Men generally build careers and establish themselves in the job market through life-long training and expectations. From early childhood onward, boys are taught that they will have a job, support a family, and succeed at work.

Women do not have this training. We are taught to assist, be a homemaker, parent, and be a support to family members. Making a successful entry (or re-entry) into the job market requires you to learn the cultural lessons little boys and young men learn. They are learnable with time and effort.

4. But what about looking for jobs in these difficult times? Yes, the job market is bad. People are being laid off. At some point this will turn around, and you will have months of experience in looking for a job. Spend at least four hours a day. Keep a log of your efforts and of the lessons you learn along the way. Stick to it. Your experience will benefit you greatly once jobs become available.
5. Patience and persistence are essential. A spouse needing a job will be competing with young people entering the job market for the first time. It is indeed a challenge, and getting your foot in the door may take some time. Persistence is very important, as is getting the moral support of friends and family while you are looking for work. You will succeed eventually.
6. Keep an open mind. There are things you can do for work that you have probably never thought about. For instance, outside sales representatives earn very good salaries and often find their jobs enjoyable. This type of job can be a good fit for an outgoing person. Working as an administrative assistant can lead to greater responsibilities. Peruse all the ads in your city or regional paper for ideas. You may get some ideas that you hadn’t thought about. Seek out an excellent employment counselor to get more ideas on what might be a good fit for you. (*to P. 8*)



Laurie Israel, Esq.

**“To simplify writing this article, I will refer to the at-home or underemployed spouse as the Wife, the working spouse as the Husband.”**

## When Divorce Means Re-entering the Job Market ..continued

7. Think about getting some short-term training for a career. There are short-term training programs to gain entry into many careers where jobs are still available, including in the medical and computer fields, much of which is available on the internet. Keep focused and choose a job path that you think will be a good fit and lead to a fairly quick result. Be realistic.

8. Be careful about starting your own business. Starting your own business has a lot of appeal because you don't have to get a job, you create it. However, this idea is fraught with pitfalls. Unless you have significant business experience or training, the business may not generate the level of income you need or will fizzle out. Starting your own business after you've built a career with outside employers is generally safer and may lead to a more fruitful outcome.

9. You will be happier and more fulfilled once you are in the job market. When a marriage ends, you have lost a great deal even if it is you that decided to end the marriage. You no longer have the status of a stay-at-home spouse. Remember that work can be very healing and can generate self-satisfaction. As a success in the outside world, you will be modeling independence and self-reliance to your children, both your daughters and your sons.

10. View having to work as a benefit (not a detriment) even though it may take some change of attitude. Dependence on a spouse has its downside, as you have learned by making the commitment to your marriage, which is now ended. Being independent and in control of your own life will actually make you feel very good about yourself. This inner strength will grow and enhance your going forward

into new pursuits and into any new relationships you may embark upon in the future.

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*Laurie Israel is a lawyer/mediator who helps clients resolve their disputes with a high level of dignity, integrity and creativity. Laurie works in the areas of collaborative divorce, divorce mediation, divorce negotiation, and pre-nuptial agreements. She also helps people who wish to stay married through providing marital mediation (“Mediation to Stay Married”) and negotiation of post-nuptial agreements. You can find out more about her work and read her articles on her websites: [www.laurieisrael.com](http://www.laurieisrael.com) and [www.mediationtostaymarried.com](http://www.mediationtostaymarried.com).*

## **“Parents Apart”**

Our court-mandated parenting courses in Braintree and Waltham continue to be well attended.

The **Braintree class** meets on two consecutive Mondays at the Braintree Rehabilitation Hospital, 250 Pond St. in Braintree.

Our next classes will be held:

- July 6 and 13

- July 27 and August 3

- Time: 6:45—9:15 PM.

The **Waltham class** meets on two consecutive Thursdays at the Waltham West Suburban Chamber of Commerce, 84 South St., in Waltham.

Our next classes will be held:

- June 4 and 11

- July 2 and 9

- Time: 11:30 AM.—2 PM

All classes run 2 1/2 hours each.

For more information, call 888-434-8787 or visit our website.

***Come Join Us for The Divorce Center’s Annual Membership Meeting and Professional Development Event***

**Hon. Beverly W. Boorstein (Ret.)**

**Probate and Family Court Justice**

**“A View From Both Sides of the Bench”**

Judge Boorstein served for fifteen years as a Probate and Family Court judge in both Middlesex and Norfolk counties, where she was known for her hard work and keen intellect. Prior to her service to the Commonwealth, she was an experienced litigator who tried cases at every level in Massachusetts, and also served as a guardian ad litem or fiduciary in numerous cases in the Probate and Family Court. Judge Boorstein now conducts a dispute resolution practice in Newton. Her varied and distinguished career offers her a unique perspective on the practice of divorce in Massachusetts.

**Where:** Papa-Razzi Restaurant, 16 Washington St., Wellesley Lower Falls, Route 128, Exit 21, 1/4 mile West on Route 16.

**When:** Wednesday, June 17, 2009

5:00—6:30 PM—Get-together & Annual Membership Meeting

6:30—8:00 PM—Professional Development Event

Buffet supper will be served. Cash bar available.

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**Registration Form**

**Make check payable to: The Divorce Center. Mail this form with your check to: The Divorce Center**

**PO Box 1207, Framingham, MA 01701**

***Please include the following information:***

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Firm/Agency:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone/Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Profession:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-registration fee received before June 12th—Members—\$35.

Pre-registration fee received before June 12th—Non-Members—\$40.

Registration fee received after June 12th—Members—\$40.

Registration fee received after June 12th—Non-Members—\$45.

On-line registration available at: [www.thedivorcecenter.org](http://www.thedivorcecenter.org)



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# The Divorce Center

Phone: 888-434-8787

E-mail: [info@thedivorcecenter.org](mailto:info@thedivorcecenter.org)

Website: [www.thedivorcecenter.org](http://www.thedivorcecenter.org) or  
[www.thedivorcecenter.net](http://www.thedivorcecenter.net)



Making divorce more civilized and less traumatic especially for the children

Since 1983, the non-profit Divorce Center has been easing the trauma of divorce. Comprised of volunteer attorneys, mediators, psychotherapists, career counselors, and financial experts, we believe that families experiencing divorce need to be well informed and supported throughout the process.

Our mission is to make divorce more civil and less traumatic especially for the children. We accomplish our goals by:

- Educating individuals and the community at large about divorce and its effects, and the services available to them.
- Helping professionals from various disciplines improve the service they provide to their divorcing clients.

Our goal is to bring our expertise and compassion to those who need us— individuals and families, divorce professionals, religious groups, parent organizations, non-profit groups and others who can benefit from our programs and support groups.

## Part-Time Parenting Instructor Needed

Part-time position - male half of a mixed gender team teaching our mandated course for divorcing parents. Minimum Master's degree in mental health, with experience in interactive teaching, parenting and divorce issues.

Interest in becoming involved with our non-profit organization dedicated to easing the trauma to divorcing families is a plus.

Teaching schedule would be two 2 1/2 hour classes in 1 or 2 locations (midday Thursday in Waltham, Monday evening in Braintree) each month, totalling 5 hrs per

course taught. Hourly rate \$84, you provide transportation.

Contact, and resume to: David Seaquist, PhD, 781-899-8285

Email: [dseaq@msn.com](mailto:dseaq@msn.com)

(See page 8 for course sites and times.)

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