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## **STATISTICS THAT SHOULD BE OF CONCERN TO EVERYONE**

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In recent years there has been a significant withdrawal in the influence that a father has on children in families of divorce. Statistics show that courts grant custody to mothers almost exclusively. On an average the custodial mother spends 80% of the time with the children compared to only 20% with the father. Analysis of these trends of reduced paternal involvement in children's lives result in other alarming statistics that should be of concern to everyone.

### **From Fatherless homes come:**

- **85 % of all children that exhibit behavior disorders**
- **80 % of all rapists motivated with displaced anger**
- **71 % of all high school dropouts**
- **85% of all youths sitting in prisons**

The most frequent reason for fathers fading from their children's lives is the interference of the mother as well as the failure of the legal and court system to recognize and to understand the importance to children of being parented by both parents. Often access and visitation schedules are not flexible enough to allow children's relationships with both their parents to grow.

Shared Parenting maintains the balanced input from both parents that is needed for proper development. Children as they grow must learn perspectives from both sexes to develop a normal balanced view and to be able to interact with both sexes when they reach adulthood.

\* sources of data available upon request

**HELP SUPPORT THE RIGHTS OF  
OUR CHILDREN SO THAT THEY  
WILL GROW WITH TWO REAL  
PARENTS NOT  
“WEEKEND VISITORS”**

**SHARED PARENTING WILL  
REDUCE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
AND ABUSE OF POLICE  
SERVICES THROUGH PRINCIPLES  
OF FAIRNESS AND EQUALITY  
BETWEEN PARENTS WHILE  
PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF  
CHILDREN TO BOTH PARENTS**

***THIS PUBLIC INFORMATION BROCHURE IS  
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ORGANIZATION***

**REDUCING  
ABUSE OF  
POLICE  
SERVICES  
THROUGH  
SHARED  
PARENTING**

**INFORMATION OF INTEREST  
TO THOSE CONCERNED  
ABOUT THE ABUSE OF POLICE  
SERVICES DURING DIVORCE  
AND SEPARATION  
CONFLICTS**

**Every year in Canada** members of the police services find themselves dealing with thousands of parents involved in separation and divorce. Few parents involved in family conflict are actually criminals but somehow the police get involved in the complex issues of family relationships. Many hard working and honest family members end up branded criminals and abusers in the process. More damaging to our society over the long term is that many parents, their children and extended families end up losing their respect for the law and the justice system, thus making the jobs of officers more difficult and dangerous.

The causes of domestic disputes between parents often revolve around the battle to control the children, to force the other spouse out of the matrimonial home, to seek revenge, and to win in family court. With the increase in the divorce rate in recent years there has been an increased public concern about the ever rising numbers of “messy” divorces and the abuse of valuable police resources.

**The police services often become involved in these domestic battles at great expense to taxpayers. This as part of the intended strategy of one parent wishing to get custody of the children by using to police as part of their plan prior to appearing in court. False allegations against the other party in order to have the other parent charged are also often used as a strategy to force the other parent out of the home and out of the children’s lives and to turn the other parent into a criminal.**

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## **HOW SHARED PARENTING REDUCES THE ABUSE OF THE POLICE SERVICES IN DOMESTIC DISPUTES**

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Presumptive Shared parenting in law will significantly reduce domestic calls by police where separation and divorce is a factor. It is effective because it is based on very simple principles of equality and fairness. Treat parents equally so that neither parent has anything to win nor anything to lose and the causes of conflict are reduced.

Presumption of Shared Parenting means that in the event of separation or divorce, both parents will be given the equal opportunity to parent their children. When both parents know that the outcome for their children and themselves is predictable, then the incentive to make false allegations during custody disputes will be greatly reduced.

Presumption of Shared Parenting means that both parents would be confident that their rights to their children after separation or divorce would not be taken away from them. Therefore parents in high conflict situations can voluntarily leave a high conflict situation and leave the matrimonial home without fear that leaving will put them at a disadvantage and result in them losing their children, as is currently the case.

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**Gaining the upper hand in a separation and divorce through abuse of police services and the use of false allegations is a common strategy often used by a spouse wanting to break up their marriage.**

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## **POLICE PERSONNEL CAN HELP REDUCE ABUSE OF SERVICES AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR THE CHILDREN OF DIVORCE IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS**

- 1) By supporting the right of children to be with both parents. Shared parenting must be made mandatory to protect the rights of the children.
- 2) By supporting efforts to take family disputes involving children and access out of the adversarial court system and put into a mandatory community run mediation and/or arbitration process. When divorcing parties know that police involvement will not give them an unfair advantage over the other parent, then there will be less incentive to get the police services involved.
- 3) By recognizing that the dynamics of domestic conflict are complex and that BOTH, men and women contribute to domestic conflict.
- 4) By encouraging legislators to make penalties for anyone who makes false allegations or lies in an attempt to gain an unfair advantage in court. False allegations are used as the weapon of first choice in court.
- 5) By supporting the implementation of mandatory divorce courses which include the effects of parental alienation and hostile parenting on children.