

Divorce Legal Communication Services:

A Restorative approach with
Family Law and Family Violence



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Divorce Legal Communication Services



Objectives

- 1) stop abuse and create safety
- 2) build collaborative separation agreements
- 3) expedite the divorce process.
- 4) create separations without creating further harm
- 5) transparent with both parties on what a judge would consider a fair and reasonable separation agreement.

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Restorative Legal Facilitator

- 1) provides a five-week process to create separation agreement
- 2) works with both parties separately for two hours per week.
- 3) ensures both parties have independent legal advice throughout the process.
- 4) engages Restorative IPV Therapists for both parties – address trauma and gender
- 5) if no agreement within four weeks, facilitator arranges binding settlement conference with judge at family court.
- 6) charges flat fee; no retainer

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Restorative IPV Therapists

- 1) address stopping abuse and creating safety
- 2) address issues of trauma and gender that may be hindering the creation of a fair and reasonable separation agreement.
- 3) the restorative therapists connect with each other and the legal facilitator to monitor issues of safety.

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Client Endorsements

"I can move forward and sleep at night with this agreement." - Donny

"I couldn't have made it through to the end of my divorce without her support. I highly recommend the service." - Linda

"Excellent, thoughtful work and with a gentle manner that makes it easier to navigate the system, highly recommended." - Catherine

Safety and Repair Approach for IPV



Phase 3: Practicing

Phase 2: Preparing

Phase 1: Safety

Safety and Repair Approach for IPV



Phase 1: Safety

1. Establish values/ identity
2. Physical Safety
3. Defining abuse
4. Defining repair/ taking responsibility

Phase 2: Preparing

5. To repair harm with person who hurt you
6. How gender/ trauma impairs
7. To Repair harm with person you hurt
8. How gender/ trauma impairs

Phase 3: Practicing

Repairing harm with the other person

Repair:

1. Acknowledging details of the abuse
2. Creating a plan to stop abuse
3. Acknowledging the effects
4. Creating a follow up plan to repair the effects

Repairing harm without creating harm. 7

Example: *A Better Man*

CBC Anna Maria Tremonti, Episode 5: 3:48 –10:20 min



[Now streaming on nfb.ca](#)

NFB
JNO

A film that shifts the conversation on violence against women.

WATCH THE TRAILER

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PEI FEST

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DOC NYC
2017

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OFFICIAL SELECTION
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2017
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OF COURAGE IN CINEMA

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