

There are two sides to every family law story...



Talking to your children about divorce

John and Elena have been having trouble for some years and have decided it is time to file for divorce. The children are in their teens and John has been talking to them about the circumstances of the divorce. Elena wants to keep the children out of it.

Now what?

Andi's advice to Dad:

Of course, the old adage, honesty is the best policy, applies. Neither parent should lie, however, there is a continuing duty to act in the best interests of your children. That may mean shielding them from topics that beyond their age and maturity level. I often counsel my clients to respond to questions of the children by reminding them that it is an adult issue and the parents will work it out.



Andi Lawrence



Andi Mengedoth

Andi's advice to Mom:

While it is important not to involve the children in the adult details of the divorce, Elena needs to remember that it is important to have honest communication with them about the divorce and how it will affect them. This is the time where Elena and John must communicate about when to talk to and what to say to the children. Having one parent talking to the children and the other remaining silent creates distrust in the children.

Here's what...

Both parents should remember that regardless of the reasons for the divorce, they will both always be the parents of these children. Just because someone is a bad spouse doesn't mean he/she is a bad parent. Sharing information that casts the other parent in a bad light in the children's eyes serves no purpose other than to create doubt and mistrust for the children; and that can never be in their best interest. Co-parenting counseling may be a good idea for John and Elena and even one session can help them decide how to approach the children.

Andi and Andi always support resolution of family issues through open dialogue and amicable settlement.

If you have a family law question that you would like answered, email us at AndivsAndi@HallierLaw.com.



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