

**REPORT OF THE
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
MONITORING AND EVALUATION UNIT**

**A STUDY OF PREVENTION OF
DIVORCE PROGRAMS
AND
PARENTING SKILLS FOR
SEPARATING COUPLES PROGRAMS**

**TO THE GOVERNOR AND
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA**



HOUSE DOCUMENT NO. 43

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND
1995**



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

George Allen
Governor

Kay Coles James
Secretary of Health and Human Resources

February 9, 1995

TO: The Honorable George Allen

and

The General Assembly of Virginia

The report contained herein is pursuant to House Joint Resolution 225, agreed to by the 1994 General Assembly.

This report constitutes the response of the Department of Social Services, working in cooperation with the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, the Department of Youth and Family Services, and other interested individuals, to the request to study the use of divorce-education classes in Virginia's courts. The study involved divorce prevention programs in and out of Virginia as well as classes offered on parenting skills for separating couples in Virginia and other states.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kay C. James", written over a horizontal line.

Kay Coles James
Secretary of Health and Human Resources

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Virginia Department of Social Services was given the responsibility under House Joint Resolution 225, passed by the 1994 General Assembly, to study the use of divorce-education classes in Virginia's courts. The study was to include an evaluation of the programs, how they are used in other states, and how they could be used in Virginia. To carry out this responsibility a task force, chaired by a staff person from the Department of Social Services, was formed. The task force was composed of representatives from four state agencies, two legal organizations and a private citizen. The workgroup developed three telephone surveys to collect information from:

- 1) programs to prevent family break-up;
- 2) programs on parenting skills for separating couples; and
- 3) judges in Virginia localities that offer parenting skills for separating couples programs.

The purposes of the two program surveys were to determine:

- 1) the goals of the program;
- 2) how the program was formatted; and
- 3) the cost of operating the program.

The purpose of the judges survey was to obtain feedback on the effectiveness of the parenting skills programs in the opinion of the persons who are requiring participation.

The study identified six nationally recognized developers of divorce prevention programs. These programs, specialized versions of marital therapy, are offered nationally and internationally through churches, licensed therapists/counselors or other mental health professionals, who are trained by program developer(s) or an authorized agent via workshops, seminars and/or manuals. One of these developers is located in Virginia. These experts as well as four presenters and a developer of a locally-based divorce prevention program provided information for this study. Two of the presenters surveyed are located in Virginia.

Telephone surveys of eight programs in Virginia and 32 programs in 20 other states were conducted to learn more about existing classes in family coping skills for divorcing or separating couples. All of the programs are offered as group educational classes and have as their main goal to make/keep the children's family needs paramount, in spite of the parental break-up. Twelve judges from seven Virginia localities that offer classes in parenting skills

responded to a survey that was focused on obtaining their opinion on the effectiveness of the classes. All the judges felt the classes should be continued and ten felt they should be expanded to other localities in Virginia.

As a result of the information obtained from the surveys, the following recommendations were developed:

1) Strongly recommend that judges in all Virginia localities develop and implement divorce prevention programs to be offered to families prior to their filing for divorce. The judge should take into consideration problematic situations such as those where there is evidence of child abuse or spousal abuse when encouraging couples to attend these programs.

2) Develop a group of trained/certified program presenters (e.g., clergy, volunteers) who could offer prevention programs at no charge to low income or otherwise disadvantaged couples in Virginia whose access to these services would otherwise be limited. A consortium of clergymen and other presenters could also be formed on a local or statewide basis to maintain a referral service, to recruit new "presenters" and to promote outreach.

3) Encourage local Community Service Boards to intervene at the earliest possible point of marital discord and offer prevention programs on-site or via contractors.

4) Recommend that judges in all Virginia localities explore ways to make available a course in parenting skills for separating couples with children who file for divorce. The judges should take into consideration problematic situations such as those where there is evidence of child abuse or spousal abuse when encouraging couples to attend these classes.

5) Explore the possibility of having the courses taught by trained volunteers to keep the cost of operating the program to a minimum.

6) Establish a fee for this service based on ability to pay.

I. INTRODUCTION

STUDY CHARGE

House Joint Resolution No. 225 (See Appendix I for full resolution) requested "the Department of Social Services, in conjunction with the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia...to study the use of divorce-education classes in Virginia's courts. The study shall involve an evaluation of these classes and programs, their use in other states, and how such programs may be used in the Commonwealth's court system. The Department is requested to seek the assistance of the family law sections of the Virginia State Bar and the Virginia Bar Association during the study."

STUDY OBJECTIVES

To obtain information on programs offered to prevent family break-up in Virginia and other states.

To gather information on programs that provide parenting skills for separating couples in Virginia and in other states.

To obtain the opinions of judges in Virginia on the effectiveness of currently offered programs on parenting skills for separating couples.

To determine the feasibility of offering programs to prevent family break-up or on parenting skills for separating couples in Virginia.

APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

A task force (See Appendix II for a complete list of the task force members and the agency/organization represented) chaired by a staff person from the Department of Social Services was formed to complete the study. The task force was composed of representatives from four state agencies, two legal organizations and a private citizen.

Three telephone surveys were developed by this group. The surveys were used to collect information from:

- 1) programs to prevent family break-up;
- 2) programs on parenting skills for separating couples; and
- 3) judges in Virginia localities that offer parenting skills for separating couples programs.

The purposes of the two program surveys were to determine:

- 1) the goals of the program;
- 2) how the program was formatted; and
- 3) the cost of operating the program.

The purpose of the judges survey was to obtain feedback on the effectiveness of the parenting skills programs in the opinion of the persons who are requiring participation.

A list of programs was compiled by contacting national organizations such as the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Family Services of America, National Family Court Service Center, National Center for State Courts and the Association of Family Conciliation Courts. All programs identified were contacted. Appendix III contains the names of the programs and judges contacted.

ORGANIZATION OF THIS REPORT

This report is organized into three chapters. Chapter I gives the objectives of the study and the methodology used to met these objectives. Chapter II discusses programs to prevent family break-up. Chapter III focuses on the parenting skills for separating couples programs and their effectiveness. Findings and recommendations are found throughout the report.

II. PREVENTION OF DIVORCE PROGRAMS

INTRODUCTION

The effects of divorce are profound. According to The Index of Leading Cultural Indicators, the percentage of families headed by a single parent has more than tripled and the divorce rate has more than doubled since 1960. The United States has the highest divorce rate in the world and, at the present rate, approximately half of all U.S. marriages can be expected to end in divorce.

While the effects of divorce on children is still the subject of much research, it has been determined that "children who experience parental divorce, compared with children in continuously intact two-parent families, exhibit more conduct problems, more symptoms of psychological maladjustment, lower academic achievement, more social difficulties, and poorer self-concepts. Similarly, adults who experienced parental divorce as children, compared with adults raised in continuously intact two-parent families, score lower on a variety of indicators of psychological, interpersonal, and socioeconomic well-being."¹ According to the Index of Leading Cultural Indicators children from single-parent families are more likely to become pregnant as teenagers, abuse drugs, become entangled with the law and twice as likely to drop out of high school.

The Index of Leading Cultural Indicators states that "because of the shattering emotional and developmental effects of divorce on children, it would be reasonable to introduce 'braking' mechanisms that require parents contemplating divorce to pause for reflection."² Paul Amato in his article Life-Span Adjustment of Children to Their Parents' Divorce indicates that "government could take steps to promote marriage preparation, enrichment, and counseling. Increasing the availability of such services would probably help to keep some marriages from ending in divorce."³

The approach to prevention of family break-up generally centers on optional therapeutic counseling versus a court-mandated, educationally-based setting. The study identified six nationally recognized developers of divorce prevention programs. These programs which are specialized versions of marital therapy, are offered nationally and internationally through churches, licensed

¹Pual R. Amato, "Life-Span adjustment of Children to Their Parents Divorce", *The Future of Children*, vol.4, no.1 (Spring 1994), p. 143.

²William J. Bennett, The Index of Leading Cultural Indicators. (New York, N.Y.: Touchstone, 1994), p. 60.

³Paul R. Amato, *Ibid.*, p. 153.

therapists/counselors or other mental health professionals, who are trained by the program developer(s) or an authorized agent via workshops, seminars and/or manuals. One of these developers is located in Virginia. These experts, as well as four presenters and one developer of a locally based divorce prevention program, provided information for this study. Two of the presenters surveyed are located in Virginia. The two additional presenters are a licensed therapist in private practice and one jurisdiction in Michigan using a court-based, state-mandated counseling program.

FINDINGS ON PROGRAMS

All of the 11 programs surveyed have been in existence for over five years and three for over ten years. The common goals of the programs are:

- 1) to help resolve marital conflicts;
- 2) to enhance/develop the marriage through heightened awareness;
- 3) to develop/improve communication skills; and
- 4) to develop skills on how to love.

Only the program in Michigan accepts court-mandated participants. The participants in the other programs, and some of the participants in the Michigan program, are volunteers. Only four of the programs allow group participation, with the size of the groups ranging from 12 to 30. The total therapy time for participants ranges from a low of three to a high of 120 hours. The cost to participate in these programs range from \$125 to \$1000. Three of the four presenters surveyed waive fees for families with low income and two offer a sliding scale. The cost to operate the programs varies from \$2000 to \$26,210 a year. In addition to registration fees, the operation of the programs are paid for through subsidies from churches and in Michigan, through the use of proceeds from an increase in the marriage license fee.

Presenters must go through an initial training, as well as having a broad education and experience in the human service, education or religious fields. Two of the programs require on-going follow-up training at least once a year.

Two of the programs have been the subject of university-based evaluations. Research conducted by the University of Denver and the University of Chicago showed that the Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP) was still effective for couples after five years. The study did show that effectiveness decreased over time, but the initial impact of the program was still beneficial. Additional university-based research indicated overall positive outcomes for couples involved in PREP and that these outcomes often carried over favorably to other family members. A Perdue University researcher is currently conducting an evaluation of the Practical Application of Intimate Relationship

Skills (PAIRS) program. He hopes to learn which program participants are being most affected by the program and how effective the program is in improving marital functioning. Duke University researchers are conducting a study to see if the program could improve the prognoses of heart disease patients. No preliminary results from either study have been released.

All of the developers/presenters were asked if Virginia was to implement their program, did enhancements need to be made. Five of the 11 recommended modifications. These recommendations include:

- 1) getting the couples involved in problem resolution at the earliest possible point in the relationship;
- 2) initiating follow-up/refresher programs after initial therapy; and
- 3) targeting more minority couples.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Strongly recommend that judges in all Virginia localities develop and implement divorce prevention programs to be offered to families prior to their filing for separation or divorce. The judges should take into consideration problematic situations such as those where there is evidence of child abuse or spousal abuse when encouraging couples to attend these programs.

Develop a group of trained/certified program presenters (e.g., clergy, volunteers) who could offer prevention programs at no charge to low income or otherwise disadvantaged couples in Virginia whose access to these services would otherwise be limited. A consortium of clergymen and other presenters could also be formed on a local or statewide basis to maintain a referral service, to recruit new "presenters" and to promote outreach.

Encourage local Community Service Boards to intervene at the earliest possible point of marital discord and offer prevention programs on-site or via contractors.

III. PARENTING SKILLS FOR SEPARATING COUPLES

INTRODUCTION

Parents who go through the divorce process are often concerned about how the divorce will effect their child(ren) and how long it will take for them to return to "normal". Until recently not much was known about the long term effects of divorce on children. It is now known that growing up does become more difficult for children whose parents are divorced. In addition to normal developmental issues, there is an additional set of issues specific to the divorce experience. Understanding those issues can give parents some direction in helping children do more than just cope with the pain, chaos, and stress that comes with divorce.

Many divorcing parents experience the dilemma of being less emotionally available for their children at a time when their children are in the greatest need of them. They may spend less time and provide less discipline. This disruption in parenting can hurt the children more than the divorce itself. The degree and intensity of conflict before the divorce and duration of bitter conflict afterwards will determine how long this disruption will last for the children. Therefore, parents should seek all available support for themselves and the family.

It is important for parents to remember that while a marriage can end, a family does not. The role of parent is lifelong and how well adults are able to be cooperative as parents is one of the major variables in how well children adjust to divorce. Paul Amato indicates in his article that other factors which effect children's adjustment to divorce include:

- 1) the amount and quality of contact with noncustodial parents;
- 2) the custodial parents' psychological adjustment and parenting skills;
- 3) the degree of economic hardships to which children are exposed; and
- 4) the number of stressful life events that accompany and follow divorce.

Telephone surveys to eight programs in Virginia and 32 programs in 20 other states were conducted to learn more about existing classes in family coping skills for divorcing or separating couples. All of the programs were offered as group educational classes. The major findings are as follows.

FINDINGS ON PROGRAMS IN OTHER STATES

Of the 32 programs in 20 states other than Virginia that offer group classes in family coping skills for divorcing or separating couples, one half have been operating prior to 1990. Universally,

the main goal of the programs is to make/keep the children's family needs paramount, in spite of the parental breakup.

Twenty-eight of the programs have mandatory attendance. Thirteen of the programs are mandated when custody is contested and another eight require it for all divorcing couples who have minor children. Most of the classes can be attended at any time during the divorce or separation period. While the programs are usually offered to both married and non-married couples, at least half (16) of the combined programs have a minimum of 75% married couples. One-quarter (8) of the programs do not allow married couples to attend classes together, while one-fifth (6) do not allow non-married couples to attend together. Eight of the programs also include children, with all but one holding separate classes for the children.

The 32 programs are evenly divided with one half being offered or arranged by court staff and one half being offered by persons outside the court system. Nine of the 32 programs require specific curricular training for group leaders. The others require master's level training, some years of appropriate professional experience; or a combination of curricular training, professional training, and experience.

Two-thirds of the classes meet only one or two times. The total time for all sessions is between two and four hours for 50% of the programs. Half limit class size to 10 to 30 participants. Two-thirds of the programs charge a fee, with half of them charging between \$25 and \$35. In 16 of the 21 programs charging a fee, the fee covers between 80% and 100% of the total annual costs of operating the programs which ranges from \$6000 to \$15,000 a year. For programs with funding sources other than registration fees, the most common sources are from local courts/court service units, bar associations and private donations/grants. Most programs (86%) will waive the fee for low-income couples and 45% offer a sliding scale.

In two-thirds of the 15 programs that have been evaluated, the participants were highly satisfied.

Finally, all 32 programs recommended that Virginia consider adopting their program. Twenty-one (21) suggested minor modifications such as more class time, more visuals, and follow-up programs for parents with their children.

FINDINGS ON PROGRAMS IN VIRGINIA

Of the eight programs in Virginia offering group classes in family coping skills for divorcing or separating couples, only one has been operating prior to 1992. Universally, the main goal of the programs is to make/keep the children's family needs paramount, in spite of the parental break-up.

All of the programs have mandatory attendance, with three requiring the program when custody is contested. All of the programs make classes available at any time during the divorce period. Eighty-eight percent make them available at any stage of the separation period. While the programs are usually offered to both married and non-married couples, 43% of the combined programs have a minimum of 80% married couples. Two of the programs do not allow married couples to attend classes together and two do not allow non-married couples to attend together. None of programs involve children.

Of the eight programs, two are provided by court staff and six are provided through informal agreement with family services centers. Five programs require specific curricular training for group leaders. The other two require master's level training or experience in domestic relations work.

Only one class meets more than twice and the total time for all sessions is between four and five hours for all but one program. Six of the eight classes limit class size to between 12 and 50 participants. Seven of the eight programs charge a fee of between \$25 and \$45. In five of the seven programs charging a fee, the fee covers between 90% and 100% of the total annual costs. The annual operating cost for these programs ranges from \$500 to \$26,000, with in-kind support, the United Way and foundation grants making up the difference between funding received from registration fees and the operating cost. All but one of the programs will waive a fee for low-income couples and five of the seven offer a sliding scale.

Only one of the programs has been evaluated. The evaluation indicated that the participants were highly satisfied, with higher functioning parents getting more out of the program and faring better.

Finally, all programs recommended that other Virginia localities consider adopting their program. Five would suggest modifications such as more visuals, minor changes to presentation format, and requiring the program to become fully mandated.

FINDINGS FROM SURVEY OF VIRGINIA JUDGES

Twelve judges from seven Virginia localities that offer classes in parenting skills for separating and divorcing parents responded to a survey that was focused on obtaining their opinion on the effectiveness of the classes. Five of the judges mandate the classes for all cases involving custody. Four mandate the classes for all cases involving visitation and four mandate them for all cases involving child support.

Judges require separating or divorcing couples to attend for a variety of reasons. Some of the most common were:

- 1) helps the parents to understand divorce from the child's

perspective; and

2) helps parents learn a healthier way to communicate.

Mediation was offered in all jurisdictions and three judges used the classes to prepare people for mediation. The judges felt these classes helped the parents understand the effect of the divorce on the children and, thus, were more amicable in mediation.

Ten of the judges felt the classes were beneficial for those who attended. Nine of the judges had received positive feedback on the classes from persons who had attended. Most parents felt they could work better together after attending the classes and had a better understanding of their children's feelings. Five judges felt that the classes resulted in fewer people returning to court over custody. Five felt that fewer people returned over visitation issues. Three judges felt that the classes resulted in fewer people returning to court over child support issues, but ten did not know if attending the classes increased the frequency of child support payments.

All the judges felt the classes should be continued and ten felt they should be expanded to other localities in Virginia.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommend that judges in all Virginia localities explore ways to make available a course in parenting skills for separating couples with children who file for divorce. The judges should take into consideration problematic situations such as those where there is evidence of child abuse or spousal abuse when encouraging couples to attend these classes.

Explore the possibility of having the courses taught by trained volunteers to keep the cost of operating the program to a minimum.

Establish a fee for this service based on ability to pay.

1994 SESSION

LD3432358

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 225
2 AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
3 (Proposed by the House Committee for Courts of Justice
4 on February 12, 1994)
5 (Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Mims)

6 *Requesting the Department of Social Services to study the use of divorce-education classes*
7 *in Virginia's courts.*

8 WHEREAS, currently, divorce-education classes are being used by the courts in several
9 counties within at least six states, including Virginia; and

10 WHEREAS, these courts allow and, in some cases, require couples to take classes on
11 how to guide children through the breakup of a marriage; and

12 WHEREAS, the children learn coping skills such as how to adjust to having two homes,
13 and parents learn how to behave and not treat their children as adults or parties to the
14 divorce; and

15 WHEREAS, the use of these classes in Virginia's courts may assist many families
16 through the difficult realities of divorce; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Department of
18 Social Services, in conjunction with the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme
19 Court of Virginia, be requested to study the use of divorce-education classes in Virginia's
20 courts. The study shall involve an evaluation of these classes and programs, their use in
21 other states, and how such programs may be used in the Commonwealth's court system.
22 The Department is requested to seek the assistance of the family law sections of the
23 Virginia State Bar and the Virginia Bar Association during this study.

24 The Department shall provide staff support for the study. All agencies of the
25 Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Department, upon request.

26 The Department shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and
27 recommendations to the Governor and the 1995 Session of the General Assembly as
28 provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for processing
29 legislative documents.

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APPENDIX II

WORKGROUP FOR DIVORCE PREVENTION STUDY
AGENCIES AND CONTACTS

Todd Areson
Division of Child Support Enforcement
Virginia Dept. of Social Services
730 E. Broad St.
Richmond, VA. 23219-1859
Telephone: (804) 692-1460

Charles Baldwin
Monitoring and Evaluation Unit
Virginia Dept. of Social Services
730 E. Braod St.
Richmond, VA. 23219-1849
Telephone: (804) 692-1859

Teresa Biggs
Bureau of Child Protective Services
Virginia Dept. of Social Services
Suite 100, Commonwealth Bldg.
210 Church Avenue, SW
Roanoke, VA 24011
Telephone: (703) 857-7867

Frank Bishop
Division of Child Support Enforcement
Virginia Dept. of Social Services
730 E. Braod St.
Richmond, VA. 23219-1849
Telephone: (804) 692-1400

John J. Brown, Jr.
Dept. of Youth & Family Services
700 E. Franklin St.
Richmond, VA. 23219
Telephone: (804) 371-0752

Peggy Friedenbergr
Division of Child Support Enforcement
Virginia Dept. of Social Services
730 E. Braod St.
Richmond, VA. 23219-1849
Telephone: (804) 692-1400

Barbara Hulburt
Office of the Executive Secretary
100 N. Ninth St., 3rd Floor
Richmond, VA. 23219
Telephone: (804) 786-6455

Lynette Isbell
Monitoring & Evaluation Unit
Virginia Dept. of Social Services
730 E. Broad St.
Richmond, VA. 23219-1849
Telephone: (804) 692-1850

Teresa Jordan Jacobson
Division of Child Support Enforcement
Virginia Dept. of Social Services
730 E. Broad St.
Richmond, VA. 23219-1849
Telephone: (804) 2404

Diane Maloney
Office of Prevention & Children's Resources
Dept. of Mental Health, Mental Retardation & Substance Abuse
P.O. Box 1797
Richmond, VA. 23214
Telephone: (804) 786-1530

Stuart Miller
Children's Right Coalition
9806 Kohouter Ct.
Vienna, VA. 22182-1945
Telephone: (703) 255-2428

Frank W. Morrison
Route 4, Box 179-P
Rustburg, VA. 24588
Telephone: (804) 821-5022

Linda Nisbet
Bureau of Adult Services
Virginia Dept. of Social Services
730 E. Broad St.
Richmond, VA. 23219-1849
Telephone: (804) 692-1263

Winship Tower
Kaufman & Canoles
700 Pavilion Center
Virginia Beach, VA. 23451
Telephone: (804) 491-4032

APPENDIX III

CONTACTS FOR PREVENTION OF DIVORCE PROGRAMS

1. PREP, Inc.
Natalie Jenkins, Business Manager
1780 S. Bellaire St., Suite 621
Denver, CO. 80222
(303) 750-8798
2. Divorce Busting Program
Michele Wilner-Davis
P.O. Box 197
Woodstock, IL. 60098
(815) 337-8000
3. Berrien County Friend of the Court
Rosie Reissman, Deputy Director
811 Port St., Room 301
St. Joseph, MI. 49085
(616) 982-8624
- * 4. Prepare-Enrich, Inc.
Karen Olson, Co-owner & Coordinator
P.O. Box 190
Minneapolis, MN. 55440
(800) 331-1661
- * 5. The Hudson Center
Rhonda Applegarth
11926 Arbor St.
Omaha, NV. 68144
(402) 330-1144
- * 6. The Institute for Relationship Therapy
Carl Stewart, Information Assistant
1255 Fifth Avenue, Suite C-2
New York, NY 10029
(800) 729-1121
7. Love is a Verb
Dr. Ray Levy
18333 N. Preston Road, Suite 430
Dallas, TX 75252
(214) 407-1191

*Program sent information which is on file

- * 8. M.E.E.T. Program
Falls Church Presbyterian Church
Pamela Adler, Director of Christian Education
225 E. Broad St.
Falls Church, VA 22046
(703) 532-6594
- 9. PAIRS Foundation
Dr. Morris Gordon
6509 Waterway Dr.
Falls Church, VA 22044
(703) 354-9494
- 10. The Family Education Center
David Hulburt
106 N. Thompson St.
Richmond, VA 23221
(804) 278-9179
- *11. Vienna Family Therapy
Andrew J. Tibus, Marriage & Family Therapist
1980 Gallows Road, Suite 200
Vienna, VA 22182
(703) 356-1330

CONTACTS FOR PARENTING SKILLS FOR SEPARATING COUPLES PROGRAMS

- * 1. Orientation/Children's Rights & Parental Responsibilities
The Family Center of the Conciliation Court
Ford Nicholson, Marriage & Family Counselor
32 N. Stone
Tuscon, AZ. 85701
(602) 740-5590
- 2. Helping the Child Through Divorce
4th Judicial District/Custody Investigation Office
Thekla Johnson, Custody Investigator
604 Barnett St., Room 209
Fairbanks, AK. 99701
(907) 452-9360
- * 3. Humbolt County Family Service Center
Paula Nedelcoff, Executive Director
2841 E St.
Eureka, CA. 95501
(707) 443-7358
- 4. Family Court Services/Superior Court of San Diego County
Don Millikan, Counselor
1501 Sixth Av.
San Diego, CA. 92101
(619) 557-2108

- * 5. **Family Court Services Orientation Program**
Sandra Clark, Director Family Court Services
170 Park Center Plaza
San Jose, CA. 95113
(408) 299-3741

- * 6. **Kids Turn**
Rosemarie Bolen, Director
P.O. Box 192242
San Francisco, CA. 94119
(415) 512-4760

- 7. **Parenting and Divorce Education**
Psychiatric Associates
706 13th St.
Modesto, CA. 95354
(209) 577-1667

- * 8. **Mediation Orientation Program**
Shasta County Probate/Family Court Services
Phillip Reedy, Manager
1558 West St., Suite 1
Redding, CA. 96001
(916) 225-5707

- * 9. **Divorce...Putting Children First**
West Central Mental Health Center, Inc.
Marie Henderson, Child & Adolescent Coordinator
P.O. Box 1780
Canon City, CO. 81215
(719) 269-9155

- 10. **Children in Divorce**
Las Animas Combined Courts
Lori Veltri, Deputy Clerk
200 E. 1st St., Room 304
Trinidad, CO. 81082
(719) 846-3316

- *11. **Parenting Education**
Superior Court, State of Connecticut
Ellenor Felicetti, Assistant Clerk
95 Washington St.
Hartford, CT. 06106
(203) 566-3140

- *12. **Parents, Children & Divorce**
HMCS, The Training Company
Sari Lesinski, President
P.O. Box 51424
Fort Myers, FL. 33905
(800) 767-8193

13. Families First - Helping Children Cope With Divorce
Exchange Club Center
Teresa May, Executive Director
821 U.S. #1
Fort Pierce, FL. 34950
(407) 465-6011
- *14. Children Cope with Divorce
Families First
Teresa Ross, Administrative Assistant
P.O. Box 7948, Station C
Atlanta, GA. 30357
(404) 853-2861
- *15. Helping Children Cope with Divorce
County Superior Court
Linda Slack, Program Administrator
Office of County Administration
30 Waddell St.
Marietta, GA. 30090
(404) 528-1810
- *16. They're Still Our Children
Family Court of the Second Circuit
Marianne Scott, Settlement Coordinator
2145 Main St., Suite 206
Wailuku, HI. 96793
(808)244-2870
17. Children in Transition
1st Circuit Court - Island of Hawaii
Ben Gaddis, Judge
345 Kekuanaoa St.
P.O. Box 1007
Hilo, HI. 96721
(808) 969-4914
- *18. Parent Workshop
4th Judicial District Court - Ada County
Vicky Christopherson, Coordinator of Mediation Orientation
514 W. Jefferson St.
Boise, ID. 83702
(208) 364-2044
- *19. Focus on Children
Kathleen Crowe, Assistant Director
32 W. Randolph St., Suite 2100
Chicago, IL. 60601
(312) 609-4842

- *20. Children First
Dr. Dan Cuneo, Founder
5825 W. Cliffe
St. Louis, MO. 63129
(314) 846-4439

- *21. Children of Divorce Workshop
Witchita Child Guidance Center
N. Adrienne Churchill, Assistant Coordinator
415 N. Poplar
Witchita, KS. 67214
(316) 686-6671

- *22. What About the Children
Parents Education Clinic
Don Taylor, Court Administrator
215 W. Main St., Room 104
Lexington, KY. 40507
(606) 252-4477

- *23. SMILE
Oakland County Friend of the Court
Lorraine N. Osthaus, Director of Family Counseling
1200 N. Telegraph Road, Dept. 434
Pontiac, MI. 48341
(801) 858-0441

- 24. Divorcing Parents
Shepard-Pratt Health System
Carren Mayer, Director Community Educational Programs
6501 N. Charles St.
Baltimore, MD. 21285
(410) 938-3929

- *25. Parenting Program - For Never Married Parents
Circuit Court for Baltimore City
Miriam Hutchins, Domestic Relations Master
111 N. Calvert St., Room 548
Baltimore, MD. 21202
(410) 396-5110

- *26. Healing Hearts
Children of Separation & Divorce Center
Kathy Helt, Administrative Director
2000 Century Plaza, Suite 121
Columbia, MD. 21044
(410) 740-9553

- *27. Family Alliance of Reno
Mrs. Marinelli, Co-Director
5039 Cassandra Way
Reno, NV. 85923
(702) 746-1635

- *28. Children in the Middle/What About the Children
Center for Divorce Education - Ohio University
Jack Arbuthnot, Co-Director
P.O. Box 5900
Athen, OH. 45701
(614) 593-1065

- *29. Divided Yet United
Patricia Only, Assistant Director
135 Norwood Av.
Cranston, RI. 02905
(401) 784-3530

- 30. Children First
Bob Cannon, Moderator/Trainer
P.O. Box 181
Cookeville, TN. 38503
(615) 526-4371

- *31. Divorce Education for Parents
Chris Loveridge, Court Program Specialist
230 South 500 East, Suite 300
Salt Lake City, UT. 84102
(801) 578-3827

- 32. Helping Children Cope with Divorce
University of Vermont - Extension System
Judy Campbell, Regional Specialist
80 Highland Av.
Newport, VT. 05855
(802) 334-7325

PROGRAMS IN VIRGINIA

- * 1. Children Cope with Divorce
Children, Youth and Family Services, Inc.
Catherine J. Bodkin, Executive Director
116 W. Jefferson St.
Charlottesville, VA. 22902
(804) 296-4118

- * 2. Children Cope with Divorce
Chesterfield Mental Health
Patricia M. Cullen, Prevention Services Manager
P.O. Box 92
Chesterfield, VA. 23832
(804) 768-7229

- * 3. Children Cope with Parental Separation
Northern Virginia Family Services
Mary Agee, Executive Director
100 N. Washington Street, Suite 400
Falls Church, VA. 22046
(703) 533-2544

- 4. SPARE
Fredericksburg Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court
Beverly Evans, Executive Director
701 Princess Ann
Fredericksburg, VA. 22401
(703) 372-1159

- 5. Leadership Education for Parents: II
Loudoun Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court
Mark Crowley, Intake Supervisor
1 E. Market St., 3rd Floor
Leesburg, VA. 22075
(703) 777-0303

- * 6. Children Cope with Divorce
Family Service of Roanoke Valley
Patricia H. Davidson, Marriage & Family Therapist
3208 Hershberger Road NW
Roanoke, VA. 24017
(703) 563-5316

- * 7. Children Cope with Divorce
Family & Children Services
Cecily Powell, Program Coordinator
1518 Willow Lawn Dr.
Richmond, VA. 23230
(804) 282-4255

- 8. The Custody & Visitation Program
Home Studies, Inc.
Sabrina Fairbanks, Certified Mediator
119 Berkeley Lane
Williamsburg, VA. 23185-3408
(804) 229-9503