

hen I first meet a new client, many of them want to go straight to Court believing that trying to negotiate anything with their ex will be hopeless.

But why would you relinquish decisions about your financial security and parenting arrangements to a judge who doesn't know anything about your family at all?

Although negotiating with your ex may pose some challenges, especially if there's a power imbalance between you or you've been subjected to family violence(including coercive control), it is without doubt a better way to deal with your family court matter. Why?

- · You maintain control of the outcome.
- · You decide what you can live with and what you can't.
- Alternate forms of dispute resolution are immeasurably cheaper than a litigation pathway.
- · Your children can have their own voice in this process.
- · You might even salvage a relationship with your ex so you can collaboratively parent going forward. Most of my matters are resolved in lawyer assisted mediations, saving my clients 10s of 1000s of dollars and years of angst and stress, being unavoidable pitfalls of a court process.

So, if you're about to embark on a family law dispute, talk to your lawyer about options outside Court. It will be a conversation well worth having!



## FREE 10 MINUTE CONSULTATION

For a FREE confidential 10 minute phone consultation, call Managing Director, Fiona Reid.

Fiona Reid is the Managing Director of Reid Family Lawyers, a boutique specialist family law firm with offices in Brookvale and Surry Hills. She is supported by a team of expert family lawyers. The firm has a wealth of experience in all facets of family law including complex property matters, parenting matters, child support and spousal maintenance issues, relocation, de facto and same sex issues, surrogacy and adoption.



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A SPECIALIST FAMILY TO HELPING YOU.