



LAW OFFICES OF

Michael Kuldiner, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Children & Divorce

Preparing yourself and your family for transition



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What to say and how to say it

One of the first concerns of parents considering divorce should be properly sharing their decision with their child. Both parents must approach these discussions with the best interests of the child in mind; this should stay the focus throughout the divorce and custody process. Parents should also understand that each child has a unique way of processing this information and expressing emotion.

Don'ts of telling kids about divorce

- Don't tell your kids about the *possibility* of divorce—make sure it's a definite before starting a discussion
- Don't avoid the conversation: being up front and available is extremely important as your child may begin to question a lot about his or her own life. Kids just want to understand how this change will effect them.
- Don't tell your child in public or in front of other relatives or friends: this could hinder or exacerbate the response.
- Don't let the conversation become a an opportunity to argue your case against the other parent or get the child on your "team"



Do's of telling kids about divorce

- Reassure each child individually that you will always be there, that both parents will remain in his or her life and that you will stay friendly with the other parent.
- Let them know that even though you and your spouse are not living together anymore, that both parents will not be out of their lives. If one spouse is planning to leave the home, make sure this conversation occurs before leaving—this sounds obvious, but is often a quick decision that can be emotionally damaging to the family.
- Write out your thoughts before starting the conversation, and make sure there is plenty of uninterrupted time to talk with them. You may not be able to predict the response, but choosing your words wisely is important. 🏠

Signs of Grief

Depending upon the age of the child, signs of grief may look different. Whether the child is very young or a teenager when you and your spouse divorce, stay aware of signs of signals from your children to stay in tune with their mental health.

- Aggressive behavior
- Uncooperative
- Withdrawal
- Poor grades in school
- Changes in their friendships, relationships



Fostering an open, nurturing environment for children is critical no matter what age.


During the Divorce

Choosing your children over yourself

Once you are both absolutely decided on divorce and tell your children, the divorce process can become very involved and frustrating. This is where parenting needs to stay consistent and amicable—your children will be acutely watching for cues and information to help them process the change.

In Pennsylvania, the courts ultimately abide by whatever is in the best interests of the child. Keep this sentiment at the forefront of every conversation regarding the family. Badmouthing the other parent or preventing custody time is really of greatest detriment to the child. It can be easy to get caught up in anger, but in an effort to “punish” the other parent, the relationship with your child’s parent is at stake.

For a parent who hopes to keep his or her spouse away from the child, there are very rigorous and intense criteria that must be met to legally prevent that from happening. Even in extreme cases, the court still may see it as being in the child’s best interest to see their mother or father. Bearing this in mind, it is important to understand that even the most passionate effort to upset that relationship is not supported by the laws.

On principle and experience, our office always seeks the most amicable approach to handling custody to uphold the best interests of the child and prevent costly, wasteful litigation. Having handled so many of these cases, we work with clients to ensure they understand the consequences and implications of every legal decision in a custody matter. Unlike other firms, we try to keep families out of the courtroom. 

What Makes Us Different

At the Law Offices of Michael Kuldiner, P.C., we champion an amicable and efficient methodology to handling divorce and custody matters. With compassion, experience, and a practical approach to family law, we listen to clients and provide results.

Our experienced team of professionals will handle every aspect of your case with the upmost care and diligence; that's why our clients trust and recommend us to their friends and family. Each client receives a unique plan of action tailored to individual family needs.

By listening to our clients and allowing them to remain in control, we can apply our extensive family law experience in a way that gets the best results possible. Not all cases are the same, even if they do go through the same process.

Professionals who care

Above all else, our practice maintains a strong and personable rapport with our clients. Chances are, clients are coming to us during the toughest time in their lives—we take that personally and it shows in the service we provide.



Michael Kuldiner, Esquire

Michael has in-depth knowledge in family law matters such as divorce, support and custody. He is also part of the expanding field of collaborative divorce and has completed his certification in this discipline. Michael has been recognized by his clients/colleagues as a "SuperLawyer", nominated for the Bucks Happening, "Best Of" list and was selected into The National Trial Lawyers: Top 40 under 40 list.



Michael Petro, Esquire

Attorney Petro has a decade of experience in litigating divorce, family law and civil matters in Bucks, Montgomery, and Philadelphia Counties. His area of emphasis has focused on representing women and children of domestic violence. He also brings comprehensive experience in medical malpractice and other areas of law.