



LAW OFFICES OF

Michael Kuldiner, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Men's Divorce Guide

Understanding the male perspective and experience of divorce



This is a publication of The Law Offices of Michael Kuldiner, P.C.
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It's not as simple as you hope

Top regrets of divorced men and the choices they didn't make

Even in the most amicable or “simple” of splits, there are still a lot of considerations and laws surrounding your decisions. Many couples attempt to handle their divorce either on their own, or with one party hiring an attorney to take care of it. This is often the game changer—that attorney is hired to represent the interests of one party. Being unrepresented means taking a back seat to your spouse's interests. That is why “not knowing my rights” and “waiting to hire counsel” are often the top regrets of divorced men.




Out of guilt, fear, or even love, men sometimes hand over everything to the spouse, hoping it will expedite the process. As soon as the process begins, the changes start taking place and the questions arise—can I stay in our marital home with my children? Do I have to be the one that moves out? If I move out, do I still have to pay for the mortgage on top of my new apartment/home? When will I see my kids if she doesn't let me back into the home? What if she starts cohabitating with a new partner? What if I want to cohabitate with a new partner? What if I don't want the new partner to be around my kids?

House & Belongings

When it comes rights over the residence, many are not aware that in Pennsylvania, parties can be considered separated while living under the same roof—if it is not financially possible to move out, you don't have to do so just to validate the divorce process. If couples can live separately and foster an amicable environment for their children during that time, either of the spouses can prepare for a move or both prepare for sale of the marital residence. Men often feel like they have to leave immediately, when this may not always be the smartest or necessary move in the long run.

Kids

Within the courts, custody is a separate action from divorce; however, parents share legal custody of their children and a father does not lose his rights just because spouses verbally and physically separate. Completely losing custody and visitation rights is difficult to achieve (in that many conditions must be proven) and should not be cause for anger or concern if brought up in an argument. Men often regret playing into this tactic, and missing time with their children prior to the entering of a custody Order. Those without a custody Order are even more likely to be engaged in an unfair arrangement.

An attorney will be able to accurately describe all of your rights at the get-go; based upon the unique facts of your case, your attorney can provide the facts of the laws in Pennsylvania as well as insight on how they apply and strategizing for the most favorable outcome. These are the reasons men look back and wish they hadn't gone through the unnecessary litigation and emotional stress that was caused by not having the information they needed. 

The Game Plan

The best defense is a good offense - don't sack your own QB



The first defense to preventing this from happening is hiring an attorney you like and have a good rapport with. Then, it's fighting a bit of nature and nurture. Men have a tendency to downplay or minimize how they feel, their fears and concerns when talking to others. For many, it may not come naturally to discuss relationships with anyone, let alone a new attorney that you recently met—but holding back too much can damage your case and result in both financial and emotional damage.

Understanding the confidentiality agreement between attorney and client may help to alleviate much of the apprehension. Your attorney is bound by that agreement to keep all of your information confidential. Unless you tell them, no one will know about your divorce.

Simply put, the more you make your attorney work, the costlier the case becomes. Opposing counsel will eventually file discovery requests that must be truthfully answered. You certainly do not want to be caught up in lying when those answers are questioned in court.

A common example of this might be a client who owns his own business and has been cushioning paychecks or accounting to withhold assets from his spouse. Secret accounts, hidden assets, or the "sale"/transfer of marital property all need to be disclosed to your attorney to avoid major problems. If mistakes have already been made, they need to be known in order to protect your best interests in accordance with the laws.

Another way to hurt a case is by not disclosing any abuse or violence. This is something that should not be tolerated regardless of gender. This also creates an unsafe environment for any children residing in the home. If violence, drug abuse or other harmful, illegal activities are taking place, your attorney needs to know.

Unless a client expresses intent to harm himself or another, an attorney cannot share details of a case with anyone. If having a quick and fair divorce are priorities, get everything out in the open from the start. Planning a strategy is only possible with all of the facts. 🏛️

Anger Control

If your marriage taught you anything, it should be that women and men handle their emotions quite differently. Don't risk a good settlement by losing your temper—stay in control with these tips:

- Diet and exercise, don't turn to substances
- Reconnect with family and friends
- Be above bickering, pick your battles
- Don't dismiss the idea of talking to a therapist to sort through your feelings
- Remember that this part does not last forever!

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.



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