

## What clients say: About the Collaborative Process:

"I was pleased with the process and will recommend it to anyone I know who is...thinking about separation or divorce"

"I was pleased that we were able to negotiate what felt fair to both of us."

"Well, we can pay people to fight for each of us, or we can work it out and pay people to help us. I'd rather do the last one!"

"The collaborative process provided three significant benefits: (1) the private nature in which it is performed; (2) less contentiousness and therefore, less anxiety-ridden; and (3) the outcome seemed fair for both parties"

## Collaborative Family Law Group

■ A new way to resolve divorce and family disputes with dignity and respect.

■ Divorce takes an immense toll. Time, emotions and financial resources are often sacrificed.

■ There is another way, a less adversarial, more solution-oriented alternative. It is **Collaborative Family Law**.

*"My joy was boundless. I had learnt the true practice of law. I had learnt to find out the better side of human nature and to enter men's hearts. I had realised that the true function of a lawyer was to unite parties driven asunder. The lesson was so indelibly burnt into me that a large part of my time during the twenty years of my practices as a lawyer was occupied in bringing about private compromises in hundreds of cases. I lost nothing thereby - not even money, certainly not my soul"*  
*(M K Gandhi)*

For further information on Collaborative Family Law and Resolution please log on to:  
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# Norfolk Collaborative Family Lawyers

 **resolution**  
first for family law

 **Collaborative**  
All-together better solutions

## About Collaborative Family Law

Collaborative family law is a new approach begun by family lawyers to manage the divorce process in a dignified manner. In this collaborative process the family lawyers and their clients agree in writing to reach settlement without court involvement. They agree to work together to resolve children and financial issues arising out of separation. In addition, they may enlist other experts, such as child specialists, as part of the team. Utilising their skills in client representation, negotiation and problem-solving, collaborative family lawyers help their clients shape a fair agreement.

Relationship breakdown will always involve financial and emotional costs. The benefits of collaborative family law minimise those costs for all concerned.

## What is Collaborative Family Law?

- You and your spouse/partner are in charge of the process - it is your settlement
- All discussions in 4 way face to face meetings
- Your collaborative lawyer is present at all meetings to help articulate and secure your interests
- You and your collaborative lawyers commit to resolving issues without going to court

# Collaborative Family Law

A new way of resolving family law matters



## The Process:

- You and your partner agree with your lawyers to resolve issues without going to court
- Settlement is reached in '4 way' face to face meetings (2 of you and 2 lawyers)
- All information and disclosure is provided in the collaborative process
- You remain in control of the process but with your lawyers there throughout for legal advice and guidance
- If no settlement can be reached new lawyers will have to be instructed for court proceedings

## How does it work?

- You and your spouse/partner commit to providing information and disclosure in an open and honest way
- Your collaborative lawyer will provide legal advice and guidance throughout the process
- Your collaborative lawyer will work in a non-confrontational way with your spouse/partner and their collaborative lawyer to reach resolution
- Both collaborative lawyers will consider with you and your spouse/partner whether to involve other professionals such as:
  - Trained counsellors to help you emotionally and to improve communication with your spouse/partner
  - Financial experts, e.g. if you or your spouse/partner require tax or business advice
  - Child experts to assist you and explain the process to your children and work through any problems the separation may cause the family
  - Property experts to assist in valuing properties and exploring planning potential etc

## Start the Collaborative Process now

- Talk to your spouse or partner about collaborative law and share this information
- Suggest they contact a collaborative lawyer