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## FAMILY LAW CLIENT'S HOMEWORK

Attached you will find an outline of information that you will need to gather before our next meeting. The list is long and tedious but the information is vital to preparing your case. Domestic cases are always difficult, and no one comes out a winner. The more information I have, the better legal advice I can give you.

If you have any questions about the information that I have requested, please feel free to call me or email me.

### MARITAL INFORMATION

1. Write a narrative of your marriage in general terms going back as far as you like.
2. Write a detailed description of all that has transpired within your marriage in the last couple of years.
  - a. Include dates and places; what was said and done.
  - b. Note any witnesses to particular events – include their names, addresses and phone numbers.
3. List every complaint that you have about your spouse.
4. List every complaint that your spouse may have about you.
5. Write what you want the outcome of this conflict to be and what are your expectations.

### CUSTODY INFORMATION

6. Write a narrative of a day in the life of your children.
  - a. Where do they live, go to school, after school?
  - b. In what activities are they involved?
  - c. List relatives that are involved in your children's lives.
  - d. Discuss their current living situation and environment. Is the current living situation in the children's best interest? Why or why not?

- e. Ask for the list of custody trial questions for further help with this.
7. What are the current child care costs?
    - a. Daycare.
    - b. Medical costs.
    - c. Activities.
    - d. Other costs.
  8. Write why you want custody and why you think that you are fit and proper to have custody.
  9. Explain why it would be in your children's best interest to be with you.
  10. Write out your day-to-day plan for the children if you get custody.

### **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

11. If you have a child support and/or spousal support case, please do the following:
  - a. Use the checklist titled "Documents to Gather for Child Support and Spousal Support " and gather the documents listed.
  - b. Fill out the form titled "Financial Affidavit"
12. If you are going through an initial separation from your spouse, please do the following as it relates to dividing assets and debts:
  - a. Use the checklist titled "Documents to Gather for Property Division" and gather the documents listed.
  - b. Fill out the form titled "Equitable Distribution Affidavit"