

# Maryland Judicial Equality Committee

Name: Arthur Dorman Office Sought: SENATE 21<sup>ST</sup>

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## Position Survey

- Under what conditions if any, should preferential treatment be shown to one gender in family law cases? Which gender and with what restrictions? Explain:  
*Do not believe special treatment should be based on gender*
- What percentage of all domestic violence do you believe is committed by men?  
Circle One 100% 90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 10%  
Based on (a) news reports (b) case statistics, (c) prosecutions, (d) research studies, (e) other
- To your knowledge and in your opinion, does the issuance of a protective order result in decreased domestic violence? Explain:  
*Do not believe that, it ~~does~~ does. the basic problem is still there*
- Do you believe the current Family Law system treats both men and women equally and what would you change if given the opportunity? Explain:  
*I believe that the law treats them equally.  
It might not be interpreted equally*
- Do you believe that false testimony occurs frequently in contested custody or divorce cases? If so, what can be done to deal with this situation? Explain:  
*Agree, but do not know how to stop it. People lie  
unintentionally*
- Currently, judges issuing protective orders via Ex Parte' requests consider only the written statement made in the request and if the accused is capable of carrying out the alleged action. Do you feel that the civil rights of the accused are adequately protected under these conditions? If not, what changes would you recommend?  
Explain: *The rights AREN'T fully protected.*

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7. Are you concerned that the number of domestic violence protective orders fall disproportionately against men and to what do you attribute it? Explain:

I Am concerned - I feel we have gender bias.

8. Would you support legislation to modify the current domestic violence statutes to correct abuses currently occurring in the system? Explain:

I feel I would support such Legislation. Need to know more about the issue

9. Do you believe that given the opportunity, as a single parent, both men and women are equally capable of raising children? Explain:

I do believe this. Both are parents and have parent skills.

10. Would you support legislation to direct judges to require the joint legal physical custody of children unless there are compelling reasons not to do so? Explain:

Yes. As long as there is not a ~~ca~~ reason for not granting custody

11. What are the compelling reasons for not giving joint legal physical custody of children to both parents who live in the same jurisdiction? Explain:

Abusive parents  
Child and parent do not get along.  
Distance between child and parents - geographically