

Maryland Judicial Equality Committee

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Date: 8-22-2002

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: **NO PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT SHOULD BE SHOWN.**
- What percentage of all domestic violence do you believe is committed by men? **WILLIAM ARMSTRONG SHOW**
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**
PERSONALLY SPEAKING WITH MEN AND WOMEN WHO WERE REFERRED TO ME BY OTHER VICTIMS OF THE EX PARTE SYSTEM, AND THE UNFAIR BAIL SYSTEM.
- To your knowledge and in your opinion, does the issuance of a protective order result in decreased domestic violence? Explain: **IN THE CASES THAT A PROTECTIVE ORDER IS USED, YES. THE PROBLEM IS THAT THE ORDER, IS USUALLY ONE SIDED, BOTH PARTIES SHOULD BE REFERRED TO COUNSELING, BOTH SHOULD BE ACCOUNTABLE UNDER THE LAW.**
- Do you believe the current Family Law system treats both men and women equally and what would you change if given the opportunity? Explain: **NO! FAMILY LAW SHOULD BE USED TO KEEP THE FAMILY TOGETHER. NOT TEAR IT APART! THE WHOLE FAMILY SHOULD BE REFERRED TO COUNSELORS.**
- 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: **YES. LAWYERS SHOULD BE FORCED TO FLAT FEE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THEIR CLIENTS, BASED ON INCOME, FAMILY INCOME.**
- 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: **NO! COUNSELING SHOULD BE MANDATORY FOR BOTH PARTIES. FALSE ACCUSATION SHOULD BE SEVERELY PUNISHABLE.**

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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: ~~NO~~ YES. THE MEDIA, WOMEN ARE ENCOURAGED TO CREATE A PAPER TRAIL, BY THE COURT SYSTEM. COUPLES ARE USING PROTECTIVE ORDERS TO SOLVE MARITAL PROBLEMS.
8. Would you support legislation to modify the current domestic violence statutes to correct abuses currently occurring in the system? Explain: YES. COUNSELING SHOULD BE MANDATORY FOR BOTH PARTIES.
9. Do you believe that given the opportunity, as a single parent, both men and women are equally capable of raising children? Explain: YES. MAN OR WOMEN, BEING A SINGLE PARENT IS HARD. KEEPING THE FAMILY TOGETHER, SHOULD BE THE FIRST PRIORITY.
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. OR ONE PARENT DECLINES PHYSICAL 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: ① ABUSE, ② AGE OF CHILD ③ MEDICAL