Abstract

Post separation & co-parenting: What really matters?

Ms Sylvia Siu Wing-yee, Council Member, The Law Society of Hong Kong

Recent judgments/ decisions show that the trend is for Courts to direct joint custody, but what does "joint custody" and "sole custody" actually mean? Does "joint custody" work in high conflict situations? Why do parent insists on sole custody? Should the terminology of custody be changed? Are parents really helping their children by insisting their legal rights? What really matters to children when faced with separation of their parents? Are children able to express their wishes? Any reform needed to enable children's voices be better heard? Any reform required on the present legislations relating to children issues? Ms Siu's sharing of reported cases and a touching story by a pastor about his own experience may shed some light to the above questions.