

CHOICES: When you are considering divorce.

“People change and forget to tell each other.” - Lillian Hellman,
American author and playwright

Every marriage ends. It's true. Approximately 50% of marriages end with “until death do we part”; the other 50% end in divorce. People get married and divorced for many reasons. For some, marriage seemed like “the right thing to do” and divorce because “we fell out of love.”



Here are some more common reasons:

Married: “I found somebody that I want to spend the rest of my life with.”

Divorced: “I am unhappy and cannot imagine spending the rest of my life with her.”

Married: “We got pregnant.”

Divorced: “He wouldn't stop drinking.”

Married: “As a public declaration of our love – I want the world to know.”

Divorced: “I couldn't stand being broke.”

While every marriage has struggles, some marriages are broken. If your marriage is in trouble you have three choices.

“One thing I did learn is you don't hold on to the bitterness of the loss; you hang on to the beauty of love.” - Eva Longoria, American actress



FINDLING LAW

Choice number one: Do Nothing

“To do nothing at all is the most difficult thing in the world, the most difficult and the most intellectual.” Oscar Wilde, poet



This first choice might not be obvious, but it may be a good decision. However, this choice is not without risks. Sometimes, struggles in marriages are temporary events and every relationship has its ups and downs. Doing nothing may provide you with the time to realize that the ups are better than the downs. There may be financial reasons to do nothing. Living together as a nuclear family is more efficient than apart. The cost of food, shelter and luxuries are more affordable, if shared. This financial reality may outweigh the benefits of divorce.

There may be emotional reasons to do nothing. Many people fear change, or being alone. These feelings are real and sometimes paralyzing. While doing nothing may not be considered the “healthiest” decision by others, it is your life. Having children may also be a consideration for doing nothing.

However, the risks of doing nothing are also real and should not be ignored. For example, domestic violence does not go away if ignored. Happiness is never created out of nothing, and doing nothing may inadvertently teach your children that it is ok for them to be unhappy too. Notwithstanding, the choice may be right for you and should be considered.

“Real freedom is creative, proactive, and will take me into new territories. I am not free if my freedom is predicated on reacting to my past.” - Kenny Loggins, American musician



Choice number two: Get help from a third party

“Words of comfort, skillfully administered, are the oldest therapy known to man.”-

Louis Nizer, Trial attorney



Help from a third party can work, *however, this choice will work only if both parties are committed to the process.* Marriage counseling or religious leaders can be of tremendous help. Friends are important too, but be careful in relying on friends as they are not always qualified in recognizing and resolving conflicts.

Marriage counseling can be an effective tool in addressing communication problems, sexual difficulties and conflicts with children, blended families or infidelity. Before scheduling a session with a specific therapist, consider whether the therapist would be a good fit for you and your partner and his/her credentials including education, licensure, and experience.

“For some reason, we see divorce as a sign of failure, despite the fact that each of us has a right, and an obligation to rectify any other mistake we make in life.”

- Joyce Brothers, Psychologist



FINDLING LAW

Choice number three: Divorce or divorce alternatives

“You live longer once you realize that any time spent being unhappy is wasted.”

– Ruth E. Renkl, German author

When one or both parties are no longer happy, unfulfilled, or satisfied with remaining married, the decision to divorce may appear clear, but the decision requires careful analysis, rational thought and appropriate guidance.

A divorce is the end of a marriage. The assets and liabilities of the parties are divided, alimony is evaluated and issues of custody, child support and parenting time are resolved. A divorce is final and typically non-modifiable. In addition, a divorce is the appropriate fit for the majority of our clients.

The alternatives to a divorce include a legal separation (formally called a separate maintenance agreement) and a post-nuptial agreement. In either agreement, the parties remain married while legally separated or under a post-nuptial agreement. However, the parties can live separate lives or remain living together without wondering how a divorce might look in the future as the issues are resolved in the agreement. The reasons for divorce alternatives vary. They may include financial, religious or otherwise. The agreements can award custody and support, divide property and debts. The parties can also remain on each other's health insurance.

Every case is different and legal advice must be tailored to the individual's circumstances and goals.

“Before anything else, preparation is the key to success.”

– Alexander Graham Bell, eminent scientist and inventor of the telephone



Conclusion

“It doesn’t matter where you are, you are nowhere compared to where you can go.”

Bob Proctor, author and inspirational speaker

Findling Law helps divorcing families successfully navigate one of life’s most difficult chapters by focusing on you. We will help you achieve your goals and establish a plan so you can find happiness again.

Findling Law will help you avoid the confrontational, chaotic and vindictive aspect of a divorce. We offer a systematic approach that leads to certainty and finality, regardless of your financial station in life. With our guidance, we will help you both stay focused on your goals, and successfully navigate you through the divorce process. Our goal is to achieve your goals and provide you with an opportunity to learn and grow during this transition into a new phase of life.

Findling Law services our clients’ needs by utilizing a team approach. We do not hand off your file to a single associate. This team approach combines the unique skills of our staff and lawyers to provide a level of service that is almost impossible for a sole practitioner to achieve.

It is our privilege to represent you.

©2012 FINDLING LAW



FINDLING LAW

About the Author



Daniel Findling heads Findling Law. Daniel has gained a reputation in solving complex legal problems. His team of attorneys, legal assistants and support staff, create and implement a comprehensive strategy to both set and achieve the client's goals. Daniel believes that "everyone has a right to be happy, and the goal of every family law case is to provide a road map to achieve happiness, even in life's most difficult circumstances."

A graduate of Wayne State University, Daniel earned his doctorate degree in law, *cum laude*. Daniel's undergraduate degree is in Public Affairs, *magna cum laude*. Daniel was also awarded a key certificate for the outstanding study of law and is a member of the National Political Science honor society.

Daniel has extensive experience in representing both men and women of all income levels. "Whether my client's net worth is several hundred million dollars or insolvent, we take pride in offering the highest level of legal skill to everyone, regardless of socio-economic circumstances. I love to settle cases, and I love to win; Even if it means taking the matter to a higher court."

Daniel hosts a talk show on the law, and his opinions have been reported in several media outlets, as an invited specialist in family law.

Email:

daniel@findlinglaw.com

Address:

414 W. Fifth St.
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Ph: 248-399-3300

Toll free: 877-968-7347



FINDLING LAW