



Please Support Equal Parenting

True Equality for Texas Parents, True Child Support for Texas Children

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Who opposes equal parenting in Texas? The biggest opponent to equal parenting is the Texas Family Law Foundation. We call them the Texas FLAW Foundation.

Who are the members of the Texas FLAW Foundation? The FLAW is made up mainly of family law attorneys from the state of Texas.

Why does the FLAW oppose equal parenting in Texas? Because they know if equal parenting is an option for judges, it would reduce the money in their pockets.

How does equal parenting reduce the money in the pockets of the family law attorneys? Equal parenting removes children from the conflict of divorce. Less conflict will result in less billable hours that the attorneys can charge to their clients. Less billable hours equate to less money in their pockets.

How does the FLAW oppose equal parenting in Texas? The FLAW pays BIG BUCKS to Steve and Amy Bresnen, lobbyist for BresnenAssociates, Inc. Steve and Amy use these funds and make large campaign donations to legislators in hopes of getting favors during session (*quid pro quo*). It's all public record, so don't take our word for it, check for yourselves: www.ethics.state.tx.us

Why don't the Bresnen's and the FLAW want equal parenting in Texas? Because this would change the status quo. This would disrupt their income stream. They would no longer be able to make the big bucks by depriving children equal access to both of their fit, willing, and able parents. You see, to them, it's not about what's in the best interest of the child. For them, it has always been about what is in the best interest of their check books. They have a financial interest in keeping things the same. Only evil people value money more than what's best for kids.

Please don't take legislative advice from a person that has never birthed a child, never raised a child, nor who has any clue about what is in the actual best interest of a child. Just follow the money and you will see that their true motive is money.

EQUAL PARENTING GIVES JUDGES MORE DISCRETION

Current law only gives judges 2 choices: standard possession and expanded standard possession. Not very much discretion with just 2 choices. Equal parenting would give judges a third choice, resulting in more discretion for judges.

EQUAL PARENTING IS NOT FOR EVERY SITUATION

Equal parenting is only for:

- Parents who are appointed Joint Managing Conservators;
- Parents who live within close proximity of each other;
- Parents who are fit, willing, and able.

Equal parenting is NOT for:

- A parent who is an alcoholic, drug addict, abusive, neglectful, violent (basically parents who are determined by the court to be unfit parents);
- Parents who live far apart;
- Parents who do not want to split possession time equally;
- Parents who are not able to split possession time equally.

MOTHERS WILL BENEFIT FROM EQUAL PARENTING

Most of the time the mother is the custodial parent and has the children about 60 – 80% of the time. With equal parenting, the mother will not have to bear the weight of child rearing all by herself.

When the children are with the father: he will be called by the school to pick up sick children; he will be responsible for taking them to the doctor and dentist for emergencies or check-ups; he will be the one that has to take off work to tend to childrens' needs; he will be responsible for taking children to extracurricular activities; he will be the one helping with homework and school projects.

When the children are with the father, the mother will be able to focus on other things, such as: advancing her career; taking classes to start a profession; taking a vacation; taking care of projects around the house; hanging out with friends and family; sparking up new relationships; she will have freedom to make more choices.

EXPANDED STANDARD PO IS NOT EQUAL POSSESSION

Under current law, if the Managing Conservator exercises all 13 additional periods of possession, the split is not close to equal possession.

In 2023, the ESPO allows children only 148 overnights with the non-custodial parent as opposed to 217 overnights with the custodial parent.

In 2024, the ESPO allows children only 161 overnights with the non-custodial parent as opposed to 205 overnights with the custodial parent.

*These figures are based on the Leander ISD school calendar.

CHILD SUPPORT LAWS ARE OUTDATED

Child support was intended for parents who are absent. The current child support system does not take into account the time that the non-custodial parent has with the children. If the non-custodial parent exercises all of their possession time under the expanded standard possession order, that parent is not absent. That parent has their children about 40% of the time and is actively involved in the lives of their children, not absent.

Texas and Mississippi are the only states that use the winner-take-all method to calculate child support. All other states use some variation of the shared income model which takes into account both parents' income to calculate child support. Other states also use time spent with each parent as a factor in determining child support.

It is time for Texas to update the family code to account for the changes in society over the past 50 years. Women make up a large portion of the workforce and less frequently take on the role as housewife or stay-at-home mom.