

**FRIEND OF THE COURT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR  
CUSTODY OR PARENTING TIME INVESTIGATION**

The purpose of this questionnaire is to obtain a comprehensive picture of your background to assist the Friend of the Court in her effort to understand the family dynamics before making any recommendation to the Court. By completing these questions as fully and accurately as you can you will cut down on the amount of time it will take to complete the Friend of the Court study and will reduce the actual amount of time you will need to spend in interviews with the Friend of the Court. If you do not want to answer a particular questions, simply write "do not care to answer."

**CASE INFORMATION**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Assigned Judge: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Party Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Party Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Party Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Party Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_

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**RESIDENCE HISTORY**

<u>List current address and last three addresses:</u>	<u>Dates:</u>	<u>Reason for moving:</u>	<u>Other Occupants:</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

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**FAMILY RELATIONSHIP**

Your Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Ages: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mother: \_\_\_\_\_  
Father: \_\_\_\_\_  
Siblings: \_\_\_\_\_

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**EMPLOYMENT**

List Current Employer first and then your last three previous employers:	Date employed:	Reason for Leaving:
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____

What is your hourly rate of Pay at current employment? \_\_\_\_\_ What is your gross weekly pay? \_\_\_\_\_  
How likely are you to be relocated by your employer? \_\_\_\_\_

**INFORMATION ABOUT MINOR CHILDREN**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age/Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

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Are any of the children experiencing problems in school? \_\_\_\_\_ Attach a copy of child(rens) most recent report card: \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

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When did you last talk in person with the teacher (s) and why? \_\_\_\_\_

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Which parent is most involved with the child(rens) schooling? (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

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Have you, the child(ren) or the other party been involved in counseling relative to the marriage, divorce, separation or custody (when, who and what happened):

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Describe your own personality: \_\_\_\_\_

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In what areas did you get along with the other parent? \_\_\_\_\_

In what areas did you not get along with the other parent? \_\_\_\_\_

What was good about the other party's relationship with the child(ren)? \_\_\_\_\_

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What was bad about the other party's relationship with the child(ren)? \_\_\_\_\_

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**HEALTH**

Who is the child(ren)s primary physician? \_\_\_\_\_

Date of last physical examination of child? \_\_\_\_\_ Are shots up to date? \_\_\_\_\_

Which parent normally takes the child(ren) to the doctor? \_\_\_\_\_

Current medications taken by child? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the health of the child(ren): \_\_\_\_\_

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**RELIGION**

1. What religion, if any, has the child been reared in?
2. If the child has been reared in a religion, is this religion the same as yours?
3. If you do not share the child's same religion, how do you plan to address this issue if you become custodian of the child?

4. Would you, as custodian of the child, be willing under any circumstances to influence the child to change their established religion or allow any other person with whom you may be associated to change the course of the child's established religion?
  
5. Give an outline of your religious training as you grew up and your present attitude and practices:
  
6. How does this differ from the other party (what are his/her religious practices):

**RELATIONSHIP HISTORY**

<u>Present Relationship/Marriage</u>	<u>To Whom:</u>	<u>Date of Relationship</u>	<u>Date of Separation/Divorce</u>
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<u>Previous Relationship/Marriage:</u>	<u>To Whom:</u>	<u>Date of Relationship</u>	<u>Date of Separation/Divorce</u>
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Has anyone (parents, relatives, friends) ever interfered in your marriage, occupation or relationship (describe):

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Who are the most important people in your life and why: \_\_\_\_\_

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Does any member of your family suffer from alcoholism, drug abuse, epilepsy, or anything that can be described as a mental disorder (describe):

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Describe your alcohol and drug use: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the alcohol and drug use of the other party: \_\_\_\_\_

Did alcohol or drugs play a part in the relationship problems (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

Was there any physical violence in this relationship (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

When the family was together, which parent was responsible for the bulk of the direct parenting responsibilities (cooking, cleaning, clothes shopping, doctors & dentist appointments, laundry, etc) (explain):

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Briefly describe the nature of your relationship with each child: \_\_\_\_\_

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Briefly describe your parental characteristics:

a. Positive Characteristics:

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b. Negative Characteristics:

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How do you think a randomly selected group of your close friends, or extended family members, would react to your statements above about your characteristics?

a. Strongly agree – agree – somewhat agree – somewhat disagree – disagree – strongly disagree (Circle one)

b. Explain your selection above:

Do you believe it is important for you to promote a close and continuing parent/child relationship between the child(ren) subject to this proceeding and their other parent?

Why or why not:

Who provides or would provide child care for your child(ren):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Licensed: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ / No \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

How Long have you used this child care provider: \_\_\_\_\_

In the event that the court awards custody to the other parent, set forth your requests for a proposed parenting time schedule for your time with the child(ren) as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

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The likelihood of your moving from the general area where you now reside? Where to? When? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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In what respect will you now carry out your parental role in the future, as you did during the course of the marriage. For example, changes, if any, the children will face regarding religion, education, discipline, health care, etc. The focus here should be on major, not, for instance, a 15 percent increase in allowance or a ½ hour change in bed times.

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In the hypothetical event you become incapacitated as parent to the child(ren), in whose custody do you believe the court should place the children. If not the other parent, please be specific as to why:

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Please rate yourself as a parent for the following categories:                      above average                      average                      below average  
(place a check mark under one category only)

Giver of comfort:

Giver of Love Affection:

Advisor on Life/Values:

Helper with Education:

Homemaker (cooking, cleaning, etc):

Disciplinarian:

Sympathetic Listener:

Please rate yourself as the other parent for the following categories:                      above average                      average                      below average  
(place a check mark under one category only)

Giver of Comfort:

Giver of Love/Affection:

Advisor on Life/Values:

Helper with Education:

Homemaker (cooking, cleaning, etc):

Disciplinarian:

Sympathetic Listener:

Do you provide special help for activities regarding a specific child? (i.e., piano lessons, sign language for deaf or muted child, etc)

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If you have requested sole physical custody of the child(ren), and the court rejects that request, which of the following custody arrangements do you feel would be in the child(ren)'s best interest? (Check one below)

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Sole physical custody with the other parent and parenting time for you.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ Sole physical custody to a third party custodian with parenting time for both you and the other parent.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ Joint physical custody where the child(ren) spend somewhere near equal time with each parent.
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ Split the custody of where one or more of the children is in the custody of one parent and one or more of the children are in the custody of the other parent.

If you have selected item (d) above, set forth a parenting time proposal for each child with the proposed non-custodial parent.

Do any of the children have special educational or emotional needs?

Do any of the children have special health needs?

Do any of the children have a physical health problem?

How often does the other parent engage in parenting time with the child(ren)? Is there a current order for parenting time and is it followed?

How would you describe the attitudes of the minor children toward the other parent?

Would you like to describe the effect of the divorce on the minor child(ren)?

What shared/joint custody arrangement might be workable in your case?

Please list below advantages and disadvantages from your perspective of joint custody:

References: (Please list the name, address, phone number of three references who can discuss the best interest of your child(ren)):

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Please bring along a current photo of yourself and your child(ren) to give to the Friend of the Court. This photo will not be returned.

I declare that this information is true the best of my information and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature