

The changing landscape of divorce

Vandana Chitroda, partner and head of family law at London law firm RIAA Barker Gillette, explains how divorce is evolving to meet modern demands and synchronise with the way people want to end relationships

The first thing most clients tell RIAA Barker Gillette is that they don't want to go to court. The good news is that they don't have to. Now, more than ever, lawyers are coming up with innovative ways to assist their clients in reaching an amicable financial settlement, particularly since the introduction of 'no-fault' divorce in April of this year.

Kitchen table arguments are no longer spilling in to lobbies of court buildings and it's no longer the norm for the court to decide divorce settlements. It's still possible, however, for both parties to have their fair slice of cake.

Clients want their lawyers to have a human touch and guide them through negotiations and processes amicably and to combine expertise with empathy.

Divorcing on an amicable footing will inevitably help clients' mental health and help them maintain a peaceful relationship with their ex, which is particularly important when they need to co-parent children moving forward. The family lawyers at RIAA Barker Gillette

RIAA Barker Gillette works with experts and professionals to achieve the best result for their clients, in a friendly and non-confrontational manner.

recognise this and have adopted several methods to help clients reach an agreement. Clients usually prefer to settle out of court, so the team tries their best to negotiate a settlement first. Arbitration and early evaluations of a couple's finances by a neutral private judge are rising. Many mediators now qualify as psychotherapists to help people reach financial settlements with the benefit of therapeutic understanding. Divorce coaches can help clients navigate their



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relationship through the legal process and solicitors are starting to use methods to advise both the husband and wife, and negotiate a settlement jointly, where there are no conflict-of-interest issues.

For more information

Contact Vandana Chitroda to learn more about the changing landscape of divorce and how RIAA Barker Gillette can help. Visit: riaabarkergillette.com/uk/our-expertise/for-individuals/family-law

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