**What Does Mediation Really Mean?**

It starts as friendship, grows warmer and blossoms into love. In a couple of years, you become such an item that marriage becomes inevitable. Unfortunately, the marriage doesn’t work out as expected and at some point you decide to part ways by divorce, citing “irreconcilable differences”. Do you lock horns in a court of law or part ways amicably through mediation? This article addresses the merits liaise divorce mediation California offers and everything it entails for couples seeking divorce.

**Is Mediation Always the Better Way?**

Although there are no guarantees that you or your spouse will not go to court after mediation, it’s always worth trying. It’s rare for couples to choose to confront each other publicly in a court of law if mediation is offered as the friendlier alternative. Thus, if you’re seeking divorce, you should try mediation first, unless your spouse insists on bringing a gun to the negotiation table!

**How does Mediation Work?**

Firstly, mediation comes up as result of mutual consent by parties to a divorce or separation process. A trained and impartial mediator (experienced in divorce issues and law) facilitates orderly deliberations until husband and wife reach a consensus. As such, you don’t see each other as adversaries.

**Where does Mediation take Place?**

Most certainly, not the courts! A neutral ground, preferably the mediator’s office may suffice in this regard. If comfortable, face to face meetings in the presence of the mediator will make the process quicker and easier.

**What Transpires in the Mediation Process?**

A mediator uses their experience in law and emotive issues around divorce to help you identify certain issues that emanate from a divorce, such as distribution of marital property and debts. You’ll discuss parenting responsibilities such as child support, custody and visitations. Spousal maintenance is also a matter around which a mediator will help you build consensus.

**Mediation is a Time and Money Saver**

If you go for mediation, you avoid a potentially protracted court battle and save time. Additionally, you avoid the expense of having two separate divorce attorneys, mediation not being a contest.

**Parties to Mediation Own the Process and its Outcome**

Unlike divorce litigation, no one forces either spouse to agree on anything. You take control of the mediation process in a private and comfortable atmosphere, under the guidance of a sensitive professional. Thus, if you come to a mutual agreement in the end, honoring it won’t be difficult.

**The Court Remains an Option**

Mediation does not preempt possible divorce proceedings in a court of law, should you fail to agree on your own.

**How Binding is the Outcome of Divorce Mediation?**

After all differences have been settled, you can ask your attorneys to draw a consent order. This makes any agreement reached legally binding and enforceable by law. Your attorneys may then proceed to formalize the divorce through courts.

Thus, liaise divorce mediation California couples prefer, is the high road when marriage stops to work. It means choosing diplomacy as opposed to confrontation to resolve divorce issues. Mediation entails sparing yourself and family unwarranted agony, stress and emotional anguish associated with adversarial divorce proceedings in a court of law. You get to save time and money, and having parted ways on mutually acceptable terms, you might just as well do business together in the future!