

COVID-19 : SHARED CUSTODY AND BLENDED FAMILIES

In these times of social restrictions due to the COVID-19 crisis, parents who have the shared custody of their children or are in a blended family situation ask themselves many questions... Should they interrupt the exchange of their children to prevent the risks of contamination? If one of the two parents still has to go to work on a daily basis, shouldn't it be the parent who is able to work from home who should have the full custody for a while? Does it represent a risk to keep sharing custody of siblings among a blended family while the children of your partner are also in a shared custody? How can one make sure that the other parent respects the instructions and directives from Public Health Officials?

For the time being, there is no specific instruction concerning the best practices or behaviours for single parent or blended families. One can only rely on the good judgment of individuals or the will of parents.

FAFMRQ thinks that this may represent a potential public health issue. Therefore, we invite you to communicate with the minister of Justice, the minister of Health and the Prime minister to ask that specific directives are put forward to better protect children in shared custody and blended families.

ministre@justice.gouv.qc.ca

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<https://www.premier-ministre.gouv.qc.ca/premier-ministre/joindre-pm/courriel/index.asp>

FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE

You can also get free legal assistance by contacting the new COVID-19 LEGAL AID CLINIC:

<https://www.justice.gouv.qc.ca/en/coronavirus>