

CONSENT TO TREAT CHILDREN OF DIVORCED PARENTS

Children whose parents have divorced or who are undergoing divorce are often in need of psychological services. Treating such children is complicated by the fact that custodial and noncustodial parents are treated as having different privileges and responsibilities under law. In Oregon the pertinent statute is ORS 107.154, which reads as follows:

107.154 Authority of parent when other parent granted sole custody of child. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, an order of sole custody to one parent shall not deprive the other parent of the following authority:

- (1) To inspect and receive school records and to consult with school staff concerning the child's welfare and education, to the same extent as the custodial parent may inspect and receive such records and consult with such staff;
- (2) To inspect and receive governmental agency and law enforcement records concerning the child to the same extent as the custodial parent may inspect and receive such records;
- (3) To consult with any person who may provide care or treatment for the child and to inspect and receive the child's medical, dental and psychological records, to the same extent as the custodial parent may consult with such person and inspect and receive such records;
- (4) To authorize emergency medical, dental, psychological, psychiatric or other health care for the child if the custodial parent is, for practical purposes, unavailable; or
- (5) To apply to be the child's conservator, guardian ad litem or both. [1987 c.795 §3]

Dr. Bacon treats children of divorced parents under the following conditions (unless otherwise ordered by the court):

- 1) If you are the noncustodial parent of the client, the custodial parent will be contacted by our office and asked to sign an authorization to treat the child. Treatment may not proceed without legal custodian authorization.
- 2) If you are the legal custodial parent of the client, and the child has visitation with the noncustodial parent, Dr. Bacon may consult with the noncustodial parent as needed to maintain continuity of care of the child during treatment.
- 3) Spouses of remarried parents of the client are considered agents of the child's parents and may also be care providers for the child during custodial times. Thus they may bring the child to appointments, provide updates of the child's behavior, and relay information to the child's parents.
- 4) Appointments made by the legal custodian for a child during the child's visitation times with a non-custodial parent should be arranged with the noncustodial parent's informed consent.

My signature indicates that I have read, understand, and agree to these provisions for treatment of my child.

Signature_____

Date_____