

We have been asked to update you regarding current research being undertaken and about the recent findings of the Post-Separation parenting study. You will find the relevant summaries and links below.

Relationship property survey

The University of Otago Children's Issues Centre is currently undertaking a study on how separating couples divide their property and resolve any disputes over it. This research will inform a review of the Property (Relationships) Act 1976. The CIC are inviting separated people who have finalised their property division in the last five years in New Zealand to complete an anonymous online survey, with the option of then taking part in an individual telephone interview. If you know of clients or others (family members, friends, colleagues) who might be interested in participating in the survey, this can be completed at: www.rpdnz.co.nz or the research team can be contacted on our Freephone 0800-472 776 or by email: rpdnz-study@otago.ac.nz. The survey will be open until October this year.

Children's Issues Centre – research

The University of Otago Children's Issues Centre, with the generous funding from the New Zealand Law Foundation has completed a study on parenting arrangements after separation and the impact of the 2014 family justice system reforms. The response comprised over 1,000 participants including 364 family justice professionals (many of whom were lawyers) and 655 separated parents and caregivers who completed an online survey and 100 professionals and 180 parents and caregivers who took part in an interview. This research project has been the largest independent study undertaken about post-separation parenting arrangements in New Zealand and the 2014 family law reforms. The preliminary findings of the research informed the final report and extensive

recommendations of the Independent Panel appointed by the Minister of Justice in 2018 to review the 2014 reforms. Click on the following links to access a summary of perspectives of [family justice professionals](#) and of [parents and caregivers](#) which outline the key findings of the research.

The full reports can be accessed by clicking on the links below:

[Taylor, N.J., Gollop, M.M., & Liebergreen, N. \(2019, Sept\). *Parenting Arrangements after Separation Study: Evaluating the 2014 family law reforms – Family justice professionals’ perspectives.* \(443p\)](#)

[Gollop, M.M., Taylor, N.J., Cameron, C., & Liebergreen, N. \(2019, Oct\). *Parenting Arrangements after Separation Study: Evaluating the 2014 family law reforms – Parents’ and caregivers’ perspectives - Part 1.* \(513p\)](#)

[Gollop, M., Taylor, N., & Liebergreen, N. \(2020, April\). *Parenting Arrangements after Separation Study: Evaluating the 2014 family law reforms – Parents’ and caregivers’ perspectives – Part 2.* \(241p\)](#)

Mediation – research on how men experience the FDR process

The University of Auckland Law School is seeking male participants who have been to FDR in the past two years for a study that examines how men experience the FDR process. The study involves a one-hour interview with student researcher Nurit Zubery that will examine various aspects of the mediation process. Nurit Zubery is a Master of Laws student at the Auckland Law School. Born and raised in Israel, Nurit studied law at Tel-Aviv University and worked as a lawyer in the areas of litigation, commercial and employment law, prior to moving to New Zealand in 1999 where she has owned and managed two successful businesses. In more recent years, Nurit has studied at the Massey University Dispute Resolution Programme, before beginning an LLM at the University of Auckland. If you would like to know more about the research or know of people who would be willing to participate in this research, please ask them to email Nurit at nzub343@aucklanduni.ac.nz.

Caroline Hickman
FLS Chair