

FACTORS FOR AWARDING CUSTODY

1. The age and sex of the children;
2. The characteristics and needs of each child, including their emotional, social, moral, material and educational needs;
3. The respective home environments offered by each party;
4. The characteristics of those seeking custody, including age, character, stability, mental and physical health;
5. The capacity and interest of each parent to provide for the emotional, social, moral, material and educational needs of the children;
6. The interpersonal relationship between each child and each parent;
7. The interpersonal relationship between the children;
8. The effect on the child of disrupting or continuing an existing custodial status;
9. Preference of the child, if the child is of sufficient age and maturity;
10. The report and recommendation of any expert witness or other independent investigator;
11. The available alternatives; and,
12. Any other relevant matter which may be present.