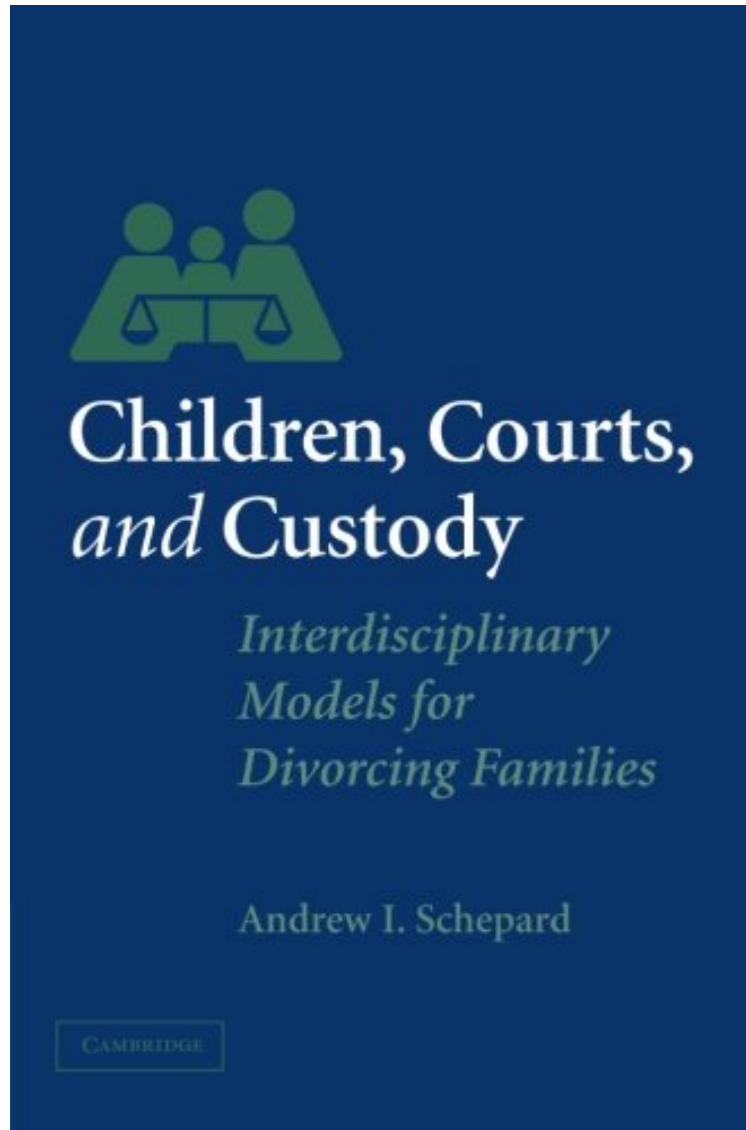


Children, Courts, and Custody: Interdisciplinary Models for Divorcing Families

Andrew I. Schepard

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Andrew I. Schepard : Children, Courts, and Custody: Interdisciplinary Models for Divorcing Families before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Children, Courts, and Custody: Interdisciplinary Models for Divorcing Families:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. OK bookBy FrankSo-So book. I don't like that it recommends that one parent remove themselves it things are bad. You might as well say the guy should just go away and all the

problems would be solved. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Roadmap for the Future By Hugh McIsaac Andy Schepard has written one of the most important books on court reform published to date. The recommendations in the final chapter are excellent and track with the most progressive reforms in family courts in the world, such as those reforms exemplified by the Oregon Task Force on Family Law and the very progressive New Zealand and Australian family courts. We are witnessing a paradigm shift in the way courts, attorneys, and mental health professionals work with families. Prof. Schepard describes the new language which more accurately depicts the changes occurring within the social fabric of our time. This shift requires interdisciplinary cooperation and recognizes family law is a process and not an event. Through his connections as the Editor of the Family Courts Review and an active member of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Prof. Schepard has written a very forward thinking text, which should be required reading for anyone involved in family law in the world. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An excellent book By Philip Stahl Professor Schepard has done an excellent job of integrating the legal, psychological, and social science research in this book. Drawing on the findings of the Wingspread Foundation conference focusing on the needs of high conflict families in the courts, he recommends changes in the way that attorneys, courts, and mental health experts work together to help families changed by divorce. Focusing on the problems of litigation, he points out that the win-lose style of the courts does more harm than good for families and children in the family courts. He encourages mediation, with the hope that families can reach a win-win solution. He criticizes attorneys who are more focused on winning the case than helping the family. He urges attorneys to maintain the focus on the needs of families and children and set a role model of cooperation for the parents. He discusses the relative risks and benefits of using mental health experts to assist the judge, urging judges to be smart consumers of expert testimony and urging experts to avoid pitting one parent against the other. He supports the use of attorneys for children when conflict is high and parent education for parents to focus on the needs of children. This book should be required reading for judges, family law attorneys, mediators, and mental health professionals who work with high conflict families in the court.

The level of conflict between parents is the key factor in how children overcome the challenges divorce creates. This book provides an overview of relevant trends in law, conflict resolution and mental health and the empirical research that supports them. It analyzes the principal challenges facing the child custody court of today which entails assuring the safety of parents and children from violence and providing access to justice and services. Concluding with an agenda for reform of the child custody court, the volume advocates interdisciplinary collaboration to help courts meet the needs of twenty-first century parents and children.

"This solid, well-written, and comprehensive book is aimed at the gamut of divorce professionals, policymakers, and the public interested in getting educated about the entire contemporary custody domain. I would also highly recommend it as an excellent basic textbook for law schools and social science programs focused on families, divorce, and social policy... A clear and thorough introduction to the myriad issues of utmost importance to our children's future." Family Mediation News "An incredibly well-researched book on the subject of child custody....scholarly but very practical....a clarion call to all of us who recognize our obligation to do more to protect our children." New York Law Journal "Provides valuable background information for any parent and legal or mental health professional interested in this unique area of law....Well written and provides an excellent review of issues related to the functioning of child-custody courts. In addition, important suggestions for change are made....A great starting place for thinking about change in the child custody courts." Contemporary Psychology