



Compliance with and Enforcement of Family Law Parenting Orders

Information sheet for surveys of family law system professionals

An overview of the research

We are the Australian Institute of Family Studies. We have been commissioned by Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) to research parenting orders dealing with post-separation living and parenting arrangements.

Our research will investigate how parenting orders from the family law courts work in practice. It will look at whether parents comply with parenting orders, how the enforcement regime in the *Family Law Act 1975 (Cth)* operates, and how well the legal options for responding to non-compliance with parenting orders work.

The research will involve multiple studies, including studies drawing on surveys of family law professionals and of parents with parenting orders. The research will enable greater understanding of the enforcement regime and the factors that affect compliance with parenting orders.

About the survey of family law professionals

The purpose of the survey of family law professionals is to understand compliance and enforcement from the perspective of professionals working in the system. All family law system professionals from a legal or non-legal background are invited to participate.

This invitation extends to legal professionals (e.g. judicial officers, barristers and solicitors) and non-legal professionals including: FDR practitioners and professionals working in post-separation support services including parenting order programs and family violence sector professionals.

If you would like to participate, please open the online survey [here](#).

Your privacy and safety

We take your privacy and personal security very seriously, and safeguards are in place to protect it.

Participation in this research is confidential and completely voluntary. Your decision to participate is confidential and will not affect your professional relationships or entitlement to services in any way. You are free to stop the survey at any time, to not answer any questions, and to delete your answers prior to submitting your survey responses.

Data collected in this research will be held securely in accordance with the *Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)* and the information that you provide will not be used in any way that may identify you. You may access our privacy policy at aifs.gov.au/aifs-privacy-policy. The measures put in place in line with this policy will include the storage and maintenance of data on the AIFS password-protected computer server, with restricted staff access and password protection of all data files. The confidentialised datasets and de-identified data will be retained and managed indefinitely at AIFS, in accordance with AIFS policy and record management obligations. The data may then be used for future research to contribute to policy development.



Contacts

This research is being conducted by the Institute's family law research team. If you would like to speak to a member of the team, please call 1800 720 142 or email us at parentingorders@aifs.gov.au. If you have a concern relating to the project ethics, please contact the AIFS Ethics Committee Secretariat via ethics-secretariat@aifs.gov.au or 03 9214 7888.

Publication

The final research report and any accompanying publications will be available on the ANROWS and AIFS websites.

The Australian Institute of Family Studies and ANROWS thank you for your contribution to this important research.

About the Australian Institute of Family Studies

The Australian Institute of Family Studies is based in Melbourne. It is an independent statutory agency, established by the Commonwealth Government in 1980. It aims to help in the development of better policies for the future of Australian families.

More detailed information about the Institute can be obtained from our website: aifs.gov.au