

# Child Custody vs Child Welfare



- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ It is a fine line between child custody and child welfare, however, child custody is not always a child protection case and LDF ICW staff cannot cross that line.</li><li>❖ Child custody cases are heard in family court. For example, child support, divorce, marital, and grandparents' rights cases.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Most child custody cases determine custody between two people such as parents, partners, even a relative.</li><li>❖ LDF ICW staff cannot interfere in family court disputes. If the child(ren) are not in IMMEDIATE risk, LDF ICW cannot remove from parent. One must follow the proper legal procedures for that to occur through the court that ordered the custody arrangement.</li></ul> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## There are different types of custody

**Joint Physical Custody:** Often worked out between the parents, according to their schedules, allowing the child(ren) to stay with the parent when he or she is available to take care of their needs. Joint custody also includes both parents' rights to make any necessary legal, medical, and educational decisions for their child(ren) together.

**Sole Physical Custody:** May be ordered in cases which one parent is seen to be unable to provide a healthy and stable living environment for the child(ren). Sole custody allows only one custodial parent to make all legal, medical, and educational decisions for the child without the other parents' consent.

