

# Co-parent Friendly Vocabulary

| DO SAY  | DON'T SAY   |
|---|---|
| Your other home,<br>House with you                                      | Visit   |
| Both raising the children   | Custody, Possession   |
| The child's other parent  | Your "Ex"   |
| Children growing up in two homes  | Children "from broken homes" or "of divorce"                          |
| Your family   | Your "divided" family   |
| Co-parenting Plan   | Custody Arrangement   |
| Periods of Responsibility   | Periods of Possession   |
| Time with mom/dad   | Visitation  |
| What is the schedule? <i>or</i><br>What do you want the schedule to be? | Who does the child live with? Who do you want the child to live with? |
| "In your care" <i>or</i> "period of responsibility"                     | "During your possession"  |
| "Our child" phrasing  | "My child" phrasing   |

Try your best to remove the words "primary," "possession," and "visitation" from your vocabulary when you are trying to empower clients to make co-parenting plans. These outmoded terms come from the adversarial process, and even there are destructive to healthy parenting relationships.

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