

Lesson #34: *General Comparison of Mothers and Fathers in Court**

**Divorced Fathers Network
Advocates Of Shared Parenting
'Because Children Love Both Their Parents'**

Mothers and Fathers in Court:

1. Bring a complete record, including canceled checks, for all child support payments.
2. Be clear, logical and assertive, but not aggressive, when speaking or defending your position.
3. Mothers usually come to court with a friend, while fathers tend to be alone.
4. Fathers tend to be casually dressed, while mothers appear to put thought into their appearance.
5. Mothers are generally soft spoken and tend to mention how they feel. Fathers are often louder, and talk less about their feelings.
6. Mothers often request restraining orders. Fathers rarely ask for protection from their ex-wives.
7. Mothers will frequently talk about their children's needs when they discuss child support. Fathers seldom ask for financial assistance for their children.
8. Mothers rarely interrupt judges. Fathers sometimes do.
9. Mothers often do not assume responsibility for mistakes, while fathers sometimes sound like martyrs.
10. Mothers often ask for the court's help, while fathers tend to tough it out.

*from "Fathers Are Forever" by Steven Ashley, 2006

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