



Jewish Unity for Multiple Parenting

Campaigning for Improved Relationships Between Divorced Parents & Children in the Jewish Community

Press Release

20 September 2005

JUMP Invited to House of Lords to Input into Children & Adoption Bill Discussions

Jewish Unity for Multiple Parenting (JUMP) have continued their successful lobbying to become the only ethnic minority parent support group to be invited to meet with Baroness Morris and Lord Howe to discuss proposed amendments to the Children and Adoption Bill in the House of Lords on 29 September 2005 which are due to be discussed before the House of Lords Grand Committee in October 2005.

JUMP has also been actively providing responses to the following Government initiatives this year:

- Draft Children & Adoption Bill - February 2005
- DfES Parenting Plan Documents - April 2005
- House of Lords Review of Children & Adoption Bill - June 2005

The aim of this lobbying is to achieve fundamental changes to family law in this country which will help to ensure that children are able to maintain a loving,



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nurturing and meaningful relationship with both parents and their families following separation or divorce.

These changes include:

- A conscious move to transform the culture of parenting for separated and divorced parents to meet the needs of 21st century family life
- A legal presumption of shared parenting together with a minimum acceptable amount of parenting time for children to spend with both parents following separation/divorce
- An early intervention programme prior to Court proceedings together with the use of parenting education and formalised parenting plans
- Greater sanctions on parents who do not abide by Court Orders relating to parenting time arrangements

A JUMP spokesperson said, "We are very encouraged by this invitation to the House of Lords as we believe JUMP's views are being taken very seriously at the highest Government levels now. Our first hand awareness of the problems experienced by both mothers and fathers trying to secure an ongoing loving, nurturing and involved relationship with their children has clearly been heard and struck a chord both inside and outside of our Community. We will continue to do everything possible to ensure all children from separated and divorced families are able to share quality time and important social and Jewish events with each parent and their extended families."



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JUMP's key initiative for 2006 will be the further development of a Jewish Parenting Plan in conjunction with the Chief Rabbi's Office and the Board of Deputies with the aim to achieve Community endorsement of this Jewish Parenting Plan which would be annexed to the updated DfES Parenting Plans due to be published at the end of 2005. The hope is that in the future Jewish parents forced to turn to the Courts to resolve parenting difficulties when their marriage sadly comes to end will have clear and supported Community guidelines as to what is expected of them in sharing precious time with their children and thus avoid the significant pitfalls and difficulties other Jewish parents have experienced in the past.

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Background Information on Jewish Unity for Multiple Parenting (JUMP)

JUMP (www.jump-parenting.co.uk) was formed in December 2001 to raise awareness of parenting time problems children and parents face following marital separation and divorce in the Jewish community, and to try and effect a real change in perceptions and attitudes within a religion which is so family orientated but is not really reacting to the increasing rate of divorce and these associated problems. JUMP aims to achieve essentially the opportunity for both mothers and fathers to be equal parents that would be fully supported throughout all areas of the Jewish community.

JUMP has developed close links with Rabbis and Jewish social, medical and legal representatives and has an ongoing dialogue with the Chief Rabbi's Office and the President of the Board of Deputies.

Although JUMP's focus is clearly to support Jewish parents who experience these post-divorce parenting difficulties, the group has also established positive links with other national parenting groups including Coalition for Equal Parenting (**CEP** - <http://coalition.equalparenting.org/>) Equal Parenting Council (**EPC** - <http://www.equalparenting.org/>), Families Need Fathers (**FNF** - <http://www.fnf.org.uk/>), Mothers Apart From Their Children (**MATCH** - <http://www.matchmothers.org/>), **ManKind** (<http://mankind.org.uk>), the



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Grandparents Action Group and Parent and Abducted Children Together

(PACT - <http://www.pact-online.org/>).

Important Note

As many members of JUMP are still involved in legal proceedings involving contact arrangements with their children post-separation/divorce it is important for their children's sake that their identity is protected.

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