

THE BRIDGE

*What matters unequivocally is for parents to restore a parental alliance that is secure enough to support the weight of their developing child.
(McIntosh 2004).*



MEDIATION

Why not
just talk to
parents?



Parents and Litigants



Giving kids a voice



Attachment and Caregiving

How secure are the kids?

No worries!



**Can you two take it outside?
Pleeeeee!**



Staying focussed



**In screening for
suitability – 3 Issues to
consider:**

There needs to be
some intent to better
manage or resolve the
dispute

Each parent needs to
have adequate ego-
maturity

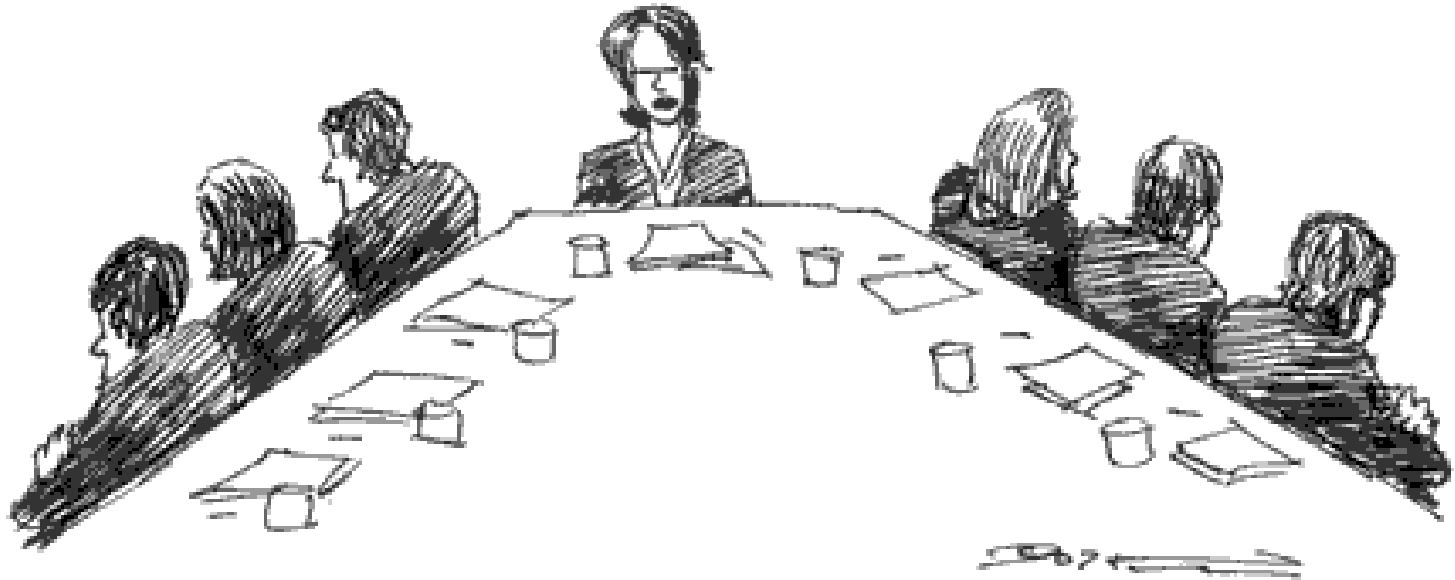
Each parent needs an
adequate child-focus
and some capacity for
reflective functioning



Co-parenting : Future Options Court?



Co-parenting: Future Options Mediation



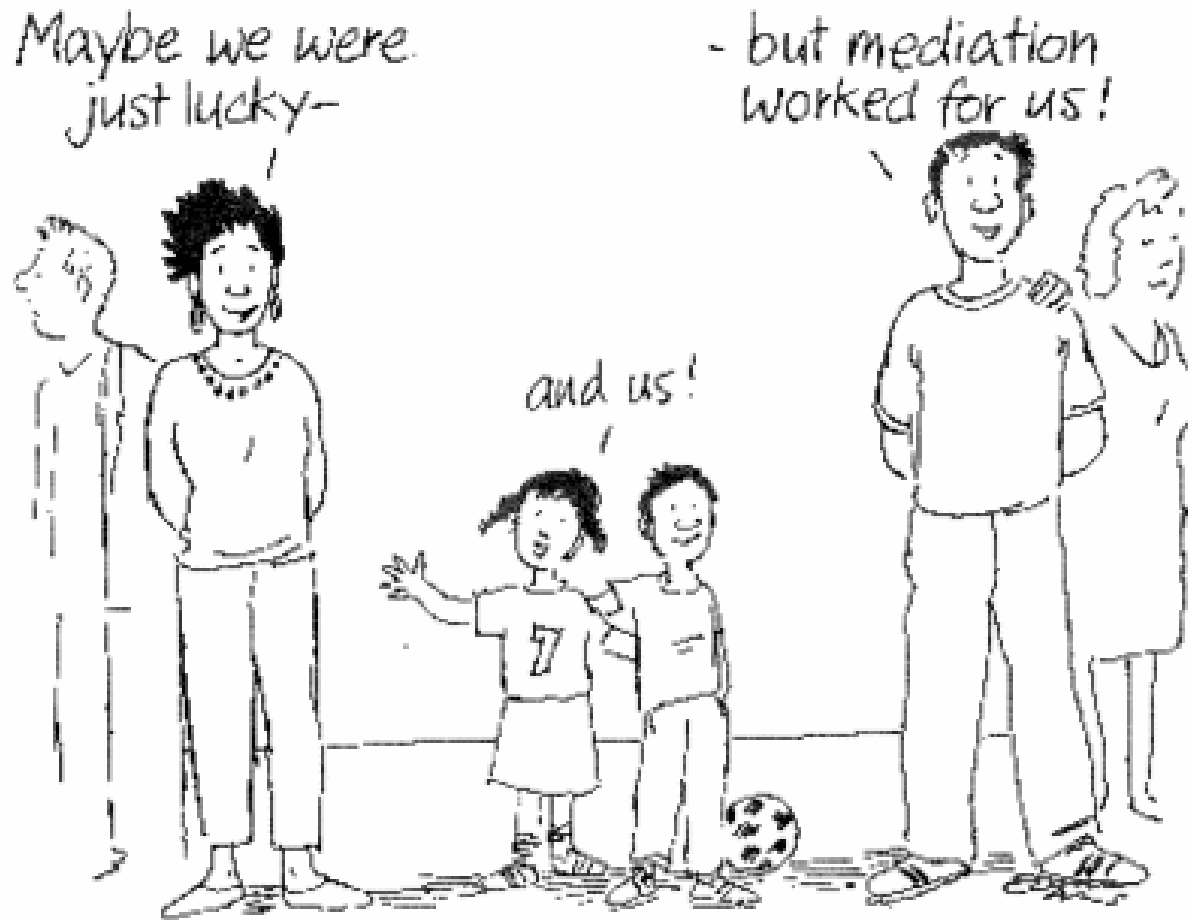
Judith sensed that the mediation would take more time than the half-day that it had been scheduled for.

Co-parenting: Future Options Collaborative



Co-parenting: Future Options

Child Informed Mediation



Maybe the future looks like this

Offering a range of services including:

- Parent education
- Counselling
- Mediation/child informed mediation
- Collaborative
- Litigation
- Something like parent coordination

When all else fails?



“A mediator hasn’t worked, so I brought in everyone’s moms.”