

Are you afraid of your partner?

Don't go through this alone

Free legal help

(03) 9783 3600

The laws about family violence and families are complicated. We can help you and your family stay safe and protect your legal rights.

Family law myths busted!

MYTH: Kids should live 50/50 with each parent

TRUTH: The law does not say that children automatically spend equal time with their parents. This might work for some families but not for all - especially if one parent is violent. The court makes decisions about children's living arrangements based on what is in the children's best interests.

MYTH: I have a right to see my children

TRUTH: Parents do not have a legal right to see or live with their children. The court decides whether parents can see their children based on what is in the children's best interests.

MYTH: My child's dad doesn't pay child support so I don't have to let him see the child

TRUTH: While this may sound unfair, you cannot deny your child's other parent time with the child because he or she does not pay support.

MYTH: We have to be divorced to have a property settlement

TRUTH: It is not necessary. You can negotiate and formalise a property settlement at any stage after you separate.

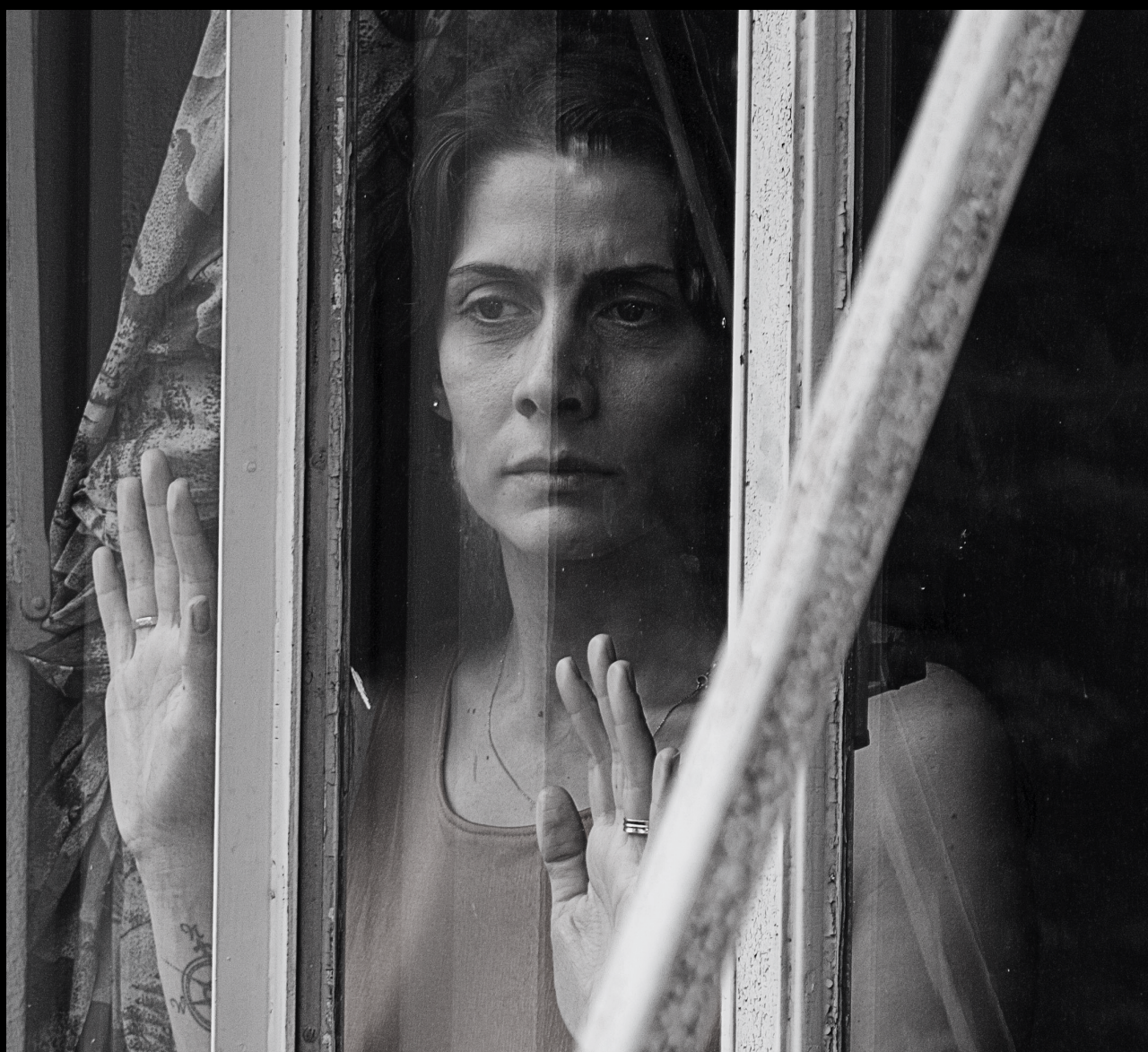
MYTH: My partner owns the houses so I have to leave

TRUTH: The financial contributions of each partner are not the only factors that are assessed in deciding property matters. Other non-financial contributions, such as care of the children and the home and unpaid work in a family business, are also taken into account.



How a lawyer can help

- help you understand all of the legal problems that might be connected to family violence and all of your legal options
- explain how to apply for a family violence intervention order
- help you with legal paperwork and filling in forms (eg intervention order applications, divorce applications)
- represent you at court
- work on your case and represent you after your court hearing with ongoing problems.



**Call us for free legal advice
(03) 9783 3600**

**Peninsula Community Legal Centre
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