

This information sheet outlines the support available to those intending to represent themselves in court on family issues, which is often referred to as being a 'litigant in person'.

Books

Family Courts Without a Lawyer: A Handbook for Litigants in Person, written by Lucy Reed, a barrister at St John's Chambers, Bristol, and the author of the PinkTape blog.

Websites

Law Society - www.lawsociety.org.uk

- [Litigant in Person practice note](#)

Family Court Support - <http://www.familycourtsupport.co.uk/litigation.htm>

- There are also a number of books advertised on this website like 'Family Courts without a lawyer: a handbook LIPs'; 'The infighters guide to Divorce', 'Advocacy in Family Proceedings' and 'Do your own divorce – a practical guide on divorce without a lawyer'.
- This organisation also provides training specifically to become a McKenzie friend.
- This organisation also provides training to court service staff, lawyers and the judiciary on how to deal with those representing themselves in court.

Families Need Fathers - www.fnf.org.uk

- [Factsheets](#) for the self-representing available through Families Need Fathers costs between £1 and £2 for members and £2.50 for non-members
- They also have an article on their website about [representing oneself](#) which includes a FAQ section with the following four Q&A:
 - Could you do a decent job?
 - Why might you want to represent yourself
 - What other considerations are there
 - Where can I obtain practical help (includes info on McKenzie friends, FNF volunteers, pro-bono solicitors and CAB's. Also Personal Support Unit at the Royal Courts of Justice and PRFD offers people to accompany Litigants in Person to hearings but offers no legal advice).

Wikivorce - www.wikivorce.com

- Articles on preparing court bundles and how to cross-examine. Client will be required to sign up to Wikivorce in order to access these and other resources from the website.

Rights of Women - www.rightsofwomen.org.uk

- [DIY guides](#) for those self-representing in court including one on obtaining a Non-Molestation Injunction and representing yourself in Children Act Proceedings.

Gingerbread - www.gingerbread.org.uk

- Fact sheets available for separating parents and a community site and support which can be downloaded or emailed in separate packages dependant on support required

Direct.gov - www.direct.gov.uk

- [Step by step guide](#) for completing forms when filing for divorce:

Citizens Advice Bureau - www.citizensadvice.org.uk

- Some bureau's assist with completing forms by appointment

Shared Parenting Information Group (SPIG) UK - www.spig.clara.net

- [Miscellany](#) – a selection of articles about accessing the courts
- [A friend in court](#) – information about being accompanied in court
- [Litigant in person letter to the court](#)

Resolution - www.resolution.org.uk

- Resolution's [Good practice guide](#) on dealing with litigants in person
- Useful resources including [fact sheets](#) to provide those self-representing with some legal background, hints and tips.