

Newsletter # 10

My wife and I recently returned from a vacation in southern Africa. If any of you want tips on where to go for an unforgettable safari adventure, just drop me a line.

Over breakfast one morning we met a delightful family of four from Aix-en-Provence, France. The two children were remarkably well mannered and behaved. By the way, they all found it quite humorous that we refer to my favourite breakfast as “French” toast. As we then found out, they don’t call it that in France. Who knew?

The parents told us they were both lawyers. He works as in-house counsel for an aeronautics company, and she as a family court judge. When I responded that I too work as a lawyer and practice family law, her reaction was at best - ho hum. When I then told her that I’m also a mediator, she became much more interested in my experience, and went on, at length, to opine as to how, in her view, litigation has at best a marginal place in family law. As far as she was concerned, mediation is by far the way to go to resolve family law disputes.

I couldn’t have agreed with her more.



HOWARD E. WARREN is a lawyer and has been in the practice of family law and civil litigation since 1977. Howard studied mediation at Harvard, has been certified as a family law arbitrator, and can mediate/arbitrate any dispute. He serves as a Dispute Resolution Officer in the Newmarket Superior Court.

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