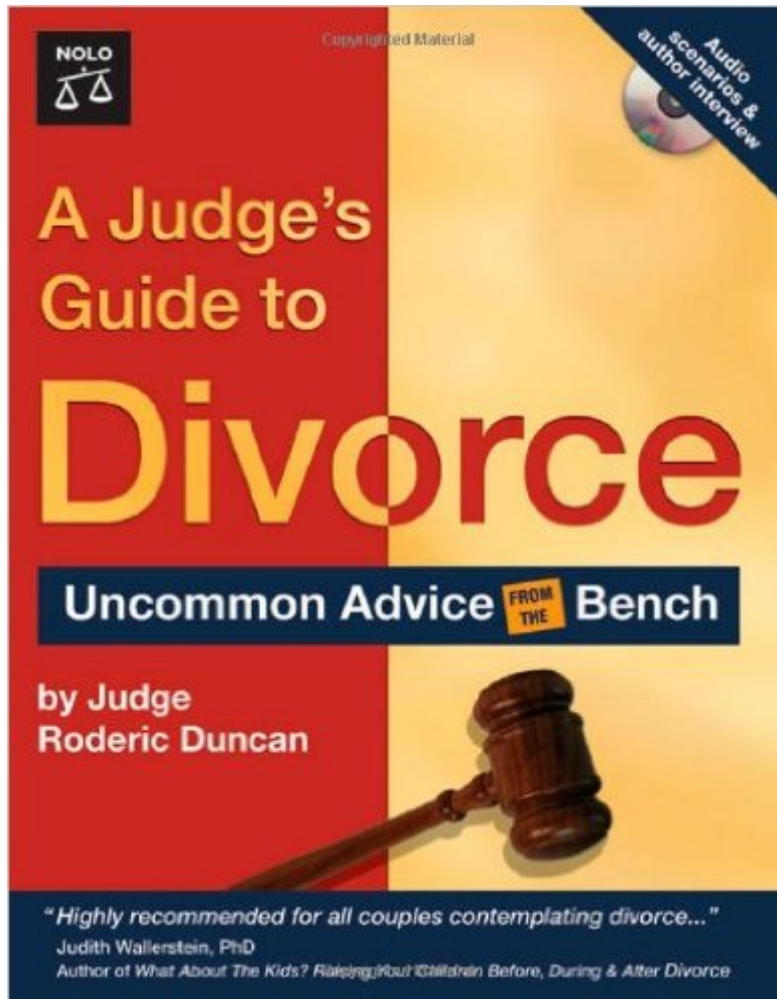


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# A Judge's Guide To Divorce: Uncommon Advice From The Bench



## Synopsis

The inside scoop on divorce, from the judge who's seen it all! "Whatever you do, try to keep your case out of divorce court." These key words set the stage for *A Judge's Guide to Divorce*, which exposes a system in which everyone loses -- especially the kids. Fortunately, there's hope: *A Judge's Guide to Divorce* shows you how to reach your own agreements outside the courtroom, in the most civil manner possible. But if court is unavoidable, this book will help you at every step. Find out about: the alternatives to divorce court courtroom etiquette how and where to get legal help dividing property fairly determining alimony and child support settling custody and visitation issues enforcing court orders getting on with your life Plus, the book comes with a CD-ROM that features an interview with Judge Duncan and audio scenarios that can help you get through divorce without court. (Note: Audio files are not included with the eBook) *A Judge's Guide to Divorce* delivers straight talk from someone who has witnessed the war zone of divorce court firsthand. Find out how to avoid it -- and what to do if you can't.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

After reading Judge Roderic Duncan's book, I was compelled to track him down by phone just to thank him for a book that needed to be written. While mothers, fathers, lawyers, mediators, collaborative professionals, counselors and mental health providers all have varied opinions about what divorcing couples should and should not do, it is easy to forget that in court only "One Person's" opinion really matters. When such a qualified and well respected judge shares all, in such a frank and candid manner, you know you are in for a good read. I think that the tone of the book is

set out well in the foreword where Judge Duncan states: The disturbing thing that I learned as a divorce court judge is that most people getting divorced know very little about the legal side of the process that often controls their finances, the custody of their children, and the ownership of their homes, their automobiles, and their investments. And very many of these people - some represented by lawyers, some not -- stumble through the divorce maze, making mistakes that cause the process to be more expensive, time-consuming, and painful than it need be. Not surprisingly, most come away unhappy with their experience."As a family law attorney, mediator, collaborative lawyer and author of *Stop Fighting Over the Kids: Resolving Day-to-Day Custody Conflict in Divorce Situations*, I can certainly attest to those observations. One message from *A Judge's Guide to Divorce: Uncommon Advice from the Bench* is that you really "win" your case by avoiding contested litigation except as a true last resort. Since well over 90 percent of contested cases settle before trial, usually right before trial, why is all the nonsense leading up to trial necessary.

This book is spot-on for a realistic idea of what will happen. Judges follow Family Law, but there is a lot that they can do that is totally up to them as to how they want to go....and you had better have FACTS to show them, with clear documentation and a logical argument for asking for what you need and \*why\* it's best for the children, especially if it's a detail just not covered in family law. Watch "Divorce Corp" on netflix or video if you want to know more; I am not kidding. Judges tend to go with cookie-cutter traditional practices if no one requests otherwise. Documented time spent with either parent is critical. See below for what I mean by "documented"....Judges do not like to guess, and they act upon facts that they see, not what you say. Judges are going to make a decision based upon what is best for the children, and I learned that from this book. This book helps ordinary people understand what they need to do to influence a judge's decision....and I am not talking about bribing, manipulation, or other non-factual means. Find a lawyer who is familiar with the judges in the court you will be in. Find out what court a divorce in your area would take place, usually by county, and that lawyer should be familiar with what each judge think is good or bad (e.g., one judge in my county court house dislikes home schooling with a passion, so mentioning that as a SAHM you would continue the home schooling would not be a positive point in this particular judge's consideration as to what is best for the children.) This book lets you know that judges are just people, and they try hard, but they have limited time for each case and good judges don't like to make decisions based on sheer intuition.

I read this book as research to prove or disprove a theory. A couple of year's ago I read the book

the Matrix as it is. In it David E Robinson explained that as in the case of Van Kote v Van Kote a marriage license is a license issued by the state. That in the case of divorce, all the court cares about is that someone will look after the child and the other will pay for the child. That, that's what the parents will do while they are married and while they are divorced, look after and pay for the child. I thought that reading a book written by a divorce judge would be the way to get proven and reliable facts, on this theory. So here's what I found. In the first chapter the judge explains, how if you can settle without going to court it will save you mud slinging each other, plenty of time, and plenty of money. In the 2nd chapter the judge explains that there are different ways to go about divorce without a court. However, realistically some people will want to go to court, so the judge goes about explaining some guidelines to go by to get the divorce done in your favor. He talks about the courts rules on alimony and child support. That if the earner can give the custodian of the child enough to live on comfortably, as comfortable as when they were together, with the provider earning enough to live on comfortably than the judge will impose that. However, if doing that would leave the payer, with little disposable income, than the judge will reduce the amount the provider will pay. The alimony and child support rules are based on a formula, based on income, and based on different rules that differ from state to state, but that is the general idea.

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