



THE PROS AND CONS OF MEDIATION OR GOING TO COURT

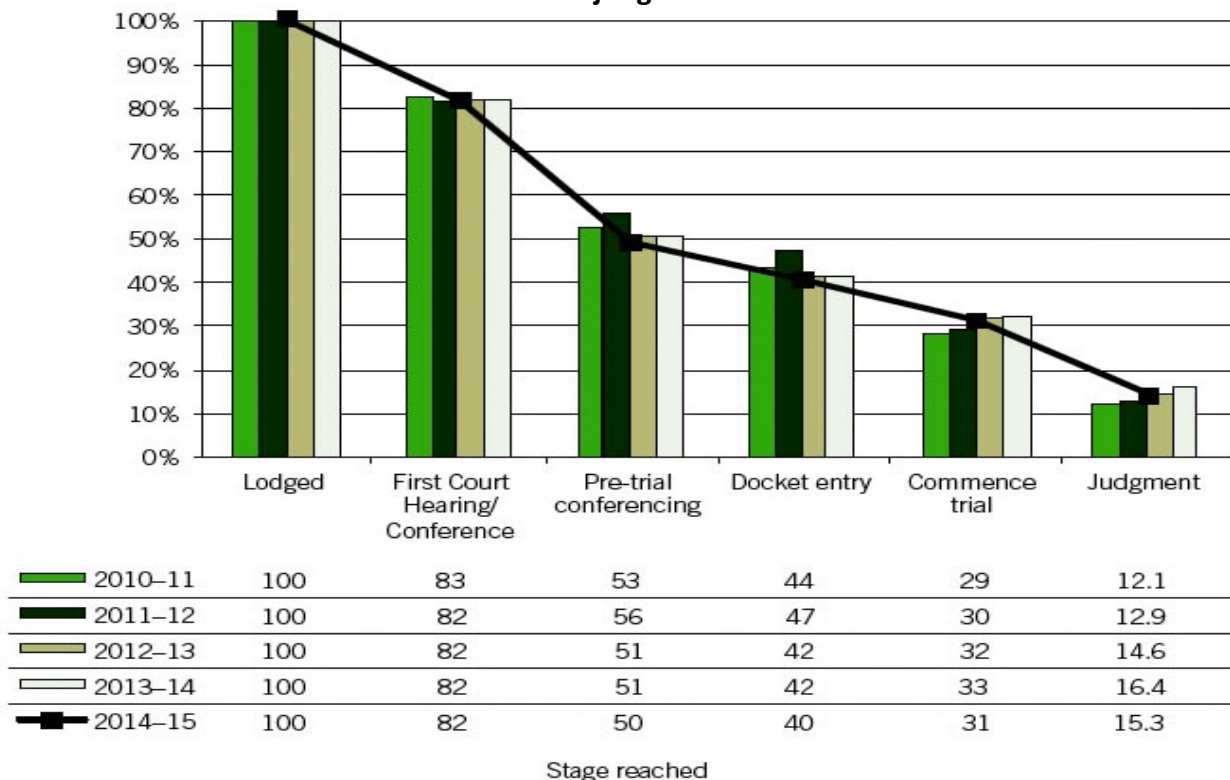
FAMILY DISPUTE RESOLUTION (MEDIATION)

- 1) A negotiated settlement with less antagonism
- 2) A structured process that promotes communication
- 3) Costs can be controlled.
- 4) A child focused process to minimised impact on children
- 5) Confidential process, no public scrutiny.
- 6) Flexible, individual outcomes for both parenting and financial agreements
- 7) Non-threatening, impartial negotiation rooms
- 8) Timely resolutions to your family's pressing issues
- 9) Encourages good-will and honest reflection for all involved

GOING TO COURT

- 1) A "win at all cost" adversarial system
- 2) Continuing conflict and aggravation
- 3) Legal costs can get out of control.
- 4) As the conflict escalates, children suffer.
- 5) All proceedings & judgments are public
- 6) Standardised judgments arbitrarily administered by strangers
- 7) Crowded, intimidating court rooms
- 8) Lengthy court dates and delays
- 9) Leaves participants disenfranchised & unresolved

The graph below shows the number of Australian Family Law matters that actually make it to a final judgement



Family Law matters can take 12 months or more to finalise