Frequently Asked Questions

*About UW-Extension’s*

*Co-Parenting Classes for divorcing / separated parents*

***Why is this class required?***

 The separation of parents can be very hard on children, but some children come through this period in fine shape despite all the changes and stress. By studying these children and their parents, researchers have identified things you can do, as co-parents, to really help your child in the months ahead. This is a chance to learn from the experience of others.

 This class is good for the parents too. In fact, an experimental test of a class like ours found that lawsuits between the ex-spouses (over custody or support payments) were cut in half by the class. That is a lot of grief (and financial expense) avoided.

***Can I really be ordered to take this class?***

 Yes. If you are a divorcing parent, state law allows judges to require you to pay for and attend up to 4 hours of co-parenting education.

 People are often unhappy with this requirement, but most are really pleased with the class after they take it. These kind of comments are surprisingly common:

 “Seemed like a senseless waste of time until I (we) attended the class. Thanks for being

 there.”

 “At first it was a ‘check the box’ for me – a requirement. Now I see this class as a MUST

 for all divorcing / separating families.”

***How is the class taught?***

 The class meets once for three hours. It includes video tapes of other families, activities in which you practice some key co-parenting skills, and lots of time for discussion.

***To sign up for the class:***

 Contact your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_County Extension Office at

 Telephone:

 Email: