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The Newsletter keeping you up to date on all the fun stuff at the **Brisbane Family Law Centre**

Brief

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AMENDMENTS RELATING TO FAMILY VIOLENCE

A bill has recently been passed which has made a number of amendments to the Family Law Act, in particular relating to Family Violence. Changes have been made to broaden the definitions of both abuse and family violence—thus widening the scope where such issues need to be considered. BFLC welcomes these changes and feels it will provide families with a greater level of protection than previously.

Abuse (in relation to a child) now includes assault (including sexual assault), sexual exploitation, causing the child to suffer serious psychological harm (including the child being subjected to or exposed to family violence), or serious neglect of the child. The new definition of abuse also no longer requires the assault to be one which is enforceable under the relevant State or Territory legislation.

For the purposes of the Act, family violence means violent, threatening or other behaviour by a person that coerces or controls a member of the person's family, or causes the family member to be fearful. Examples include assault, stalking, repeated derogatory taunts, intentionally damaging or destroying property, unreasonably denying financial autonomy, unreasonably withholding financial support, preventing the person from making or keeping connections with family friends or culture, or unlawful deprivation of liberty.

WELCOME TO LEITH



This month BFLC is welcoming Leith Sinclair to the team!

Leith comes to us with several years of experience as a Family Lawyer & as such we are very excited to have her on board.

She has had vast experience appearing before and instructing Counsel in the Family Court of Australia, Federal Magistrates Court of Australia and the Supreme Court of Queensland.

We look forward to introducing Leith to our clients and contacts in the coming weeks and months.

STOP PRESS!
the BFLC Pantomime
is fast approaching -
Saturday 10 December!
MORE INFO ON TICKET SALES
AND HOW TO BE A SPONSOR SOON!
WATCH THIS SPACE

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