

# A Kinder, Gentler Way to Part: Collaborative Practice Benefits Divorcing Couples in Hard Economic Times

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An innovative divorce process is finding increased favor in these troubled economic times, an approach that transforms an expensive and contentious struggle into an economical and civilized process.

Collaborative attorneys — and often divorce coaches (mental health professionals), a financial specialist and a child specialist — assist divorcing spouses in minimizing conflict and stress, protecting children and saving money.

Moreover, people are finally beginning to realize the hard way the lasting damage to their children that a bitter divorce can cause, according to White Plains Divorce Attorney Arnold D. Cribari, who, for the past five years, has concentrated in collaborative divorce practice.



“Unlike most divorce lawyers, collaborative attorneys support and empower their clients, who fully express their interests and concerns about the issues at settlement conferences,” Cribari said. “The lawyers then brainstorm options and solutions with the clients to help them make a settlement agreement that works for them in the long term.”

This represents a paradigm shift from the traditional adversarial system in which lawyers often put pressure on their opposition and can be disrespectful, exchanging insults and accusations that polarize the clients, escalate their conflict and generate monumental legal fees. The goal is never to see a courtroom; but rather, to make an economical settlement that meets everyone’s needs, and to preserve the family’s income and assets,” Cribari said. For more information, visit [www.westchesterdivorcelawyer.com](http://www.westchesterdivorcelawyer.com).