

**WHO AM I (AND WHO AM I NOT?):** For the record, I am not a court-connected professional, lawyer, licensed psychologist, certified public accountant, etc. NOTHING in this blog constitutes legal advice. I am writing as an individual with certain life experience who has taken the initiative to look up specific types of information, which I am reporting (as much as possible with links to and clear labeling of where I found it) and commenting on that information.

I am a woman, a parent (mother) and domestic violence survivor who as a human being (and mother, and survivor, *and* U.S. citizen) demanded (better, more believable) answers why as a non-abusive parent in an allegedly progressive metropolitan area of an allegedly “developed” country, I should not be and like many in my situation – some who became “roadkill” on the way out – was not allowed to safely exit a volatile and nearly lethal relationship, with children, and just move on, retaining a livelihood when one existed and was on the table at the time.

**WHY BLOG?** I wanted to know (after the fact “slapped me in the face”) why the family court system was effectively, subliminally through its availability and existence, UNdoing protections that the criminal court system (and penal codes) would seem to provide, at least in stating behaviors and acts X, Y, and Z were crimes. Under the family court systems – they aren’t REALLY; “it depends” and while many parents don’t know this, it seems law enforcement certainly does – “if you don’t want to prosecute or don’t have an easy win, defer to family courts.” **These answers weren’t and still aren’t offered in the usual places, so I had to go get them.** In the process of “going and getting them” I also made sure to blog it. Part of the process is not wasting major time and effort on known dead-ends (except to notice where they continue to be promoted and propagated).