



# Family Law

CALL US - BEFORE  
YOUR EX DOES!

## A

Good question! The purpose of a separation agreement is to settle all issues between you, such as property equalization, spousal and child support, and important issues such as where the children are going to live.

A separation agreement also provides a roadmap to avoid disputes down the road – for example, who is paying for college, what happens when one of you wants to take the children out of school on a trip and who gets Christmas morning each year with the children. These events- which may not have been considered when a homemade separation agreement is made, are precisely the issues that can cost a great deal in stress and money down the line. You and your spouse want to stop fighting and focus on coparenting, not start fighting all over again.

In particular, if your plan is to have your children live with your spouse, you do not want to discover the heartache that awaits when you realize that no access schedule in your agreement, means no access. A separation agreement drafted by a lawyer deals with these issues and protects you and the children.

If buying a car which doesn't work, is no deal, then a kitchen table separation agreement which later on, does not stand up in court and is not legally enforceable when the going gets rough, is no deal. The pennies you save now will cost you much more later. Have an agreement that both you and your wife can rely on. Let a family lawyer help you with this important contract.

Your friends at Shank Law.



Roxanne C. Shank  
LAWYER

## Q

My wife wants to do our own separation agreement and save money. My cousin says this is a really bad idea. How can it be bad to save money?



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