

COPE CLASS

The mandated Family Court "Cope" class, formerly known as "Helping Children Cope With Divorce," is an educational program that focuses on the needs of children during times of stress. Local court rules require separating parents to attend a parenting seminar, which is designed to teach parents how to help their children handle the separation. The seminar must be completed within 45 days of service of the initial complaint or petition upon the defendant.

There are three different COPE Seminar Providers in Clark County, Nevada:

- 1) Family Solutions, 8440 W. Lake Mead Blvd., Suite 206, Las Vegas, NV 89128, Telephone: 702-395-8417, Website: <http://www.familysolutionslv.org/>
- 2) Palo Verde Child & Family Services, Inc., 2801 South Valley View Blvd., Suite #10, Las Vegas, NV 89102, Telephone: 702-243-4357, Website: <http://www.paloverdechild.org/>
- 3) The Center for Divorce Education, <http://online.divorce-education.com/> **ONLINE COURSE ONLY**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Who must attend the "Cope" class seminar?
All separating parents involved in any of the following cases: Annulment; Custody; Divorce; Paternity; Separate Maintenance.
2. How to register for this seminar:
A. By Telephone
B. Online
3. What do parents need to do to take this seminar?
Photo Identification and \$40 cash or money order. It is a good idea to pre-register, but not necessary. Walk-ins are welcome. If the Seminar is completed online, the parent will need an email address.
4. Are both parents required to complete this seminar?
Yes. Both parents must complete this seminar unless the judge does not require completion of the seminar or the judge waives the class (because one of the parents resides in another state or is out of the country).
5. Do both parents have to take this seminar together?
A. No, parents are not required to attend this seminar together (although parents may choose to complete the seminar together).
B. If there is a TPO in place or a parent is fearful of seeing the other parent, let staff know when a parent pre-registers and staff will assure that parents do not attend the same session.
6. What happens if one of the parents will not attend this seminar?
The court may hold that parent in contempt of court and even withhold visitation until the seminar is completed.
7. What if a parent cannot attend the seminar?
Local court rules allow the judge to waive the attendance requirement for "good cause." The judge will decide what constitutes good cause.

This seminar is *not* a counseling session to discuss individual issues, but is an opportunity for separating parents to receive valuable information to help and guide them in a positive direction.