

*Media Advisory – For Immediate Release*

**Bill C-78 Must Recognize: Children Need Both Parents!**

TORONTO, ONTARIO — (November 1, 2018)

Canadian Association for Equality (CAFE) stands for the long overdue implementation of the rebuttable **presumption of equal shared parenting** into the Canadian Divorce Law. Bill C-78 is currently changing the Canadian Divorce Law on a federal level but forgot about equal shared parenting of our children. Canadians support for decades the presumption of equal shared parenting and shared parenting with an overwhelming majority of over 70%. Worldwide it is recognized - children need both parents and should have access to both mother and father – before or after a divorce or separation. Why is Canada falling behind?

CAFE endorses the presumption of equal shared parenting as an evidence-based policy. Recent studies <sup>6,7,8,9</sup> confirm that shared parenting means happier, healthier, and more successful children. For example, children who have similar access to both parents are performing better in school, and are less likely to drop out of college, face addiction, be involved with crime, or commit suicide <sup>10,11</sup>.

Currently, misguided laws and family court practices often eliminate one parent from children’s lives after family breakups. Usually it is the fathers who are alienated, but mothers also are also affected, with half of these parents becoming weekend visitors. Unnecessary separation results in needless suffering of children, mothers, and fathers.

Therefore, in the absence of abuse, neglect or abandonment, the Canadian Family Law needs to presume equal shared parenting after separation or divorce. Let us create a better future for our children and families!

Please sign the petition and discuss it with friends and family.

Let’s build a better future for our children!

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The Canadian Association for Equality is committed to achieving equality for all Canadians, regardless of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, family status, race, ethnicity, creed, age or disability.

## References

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