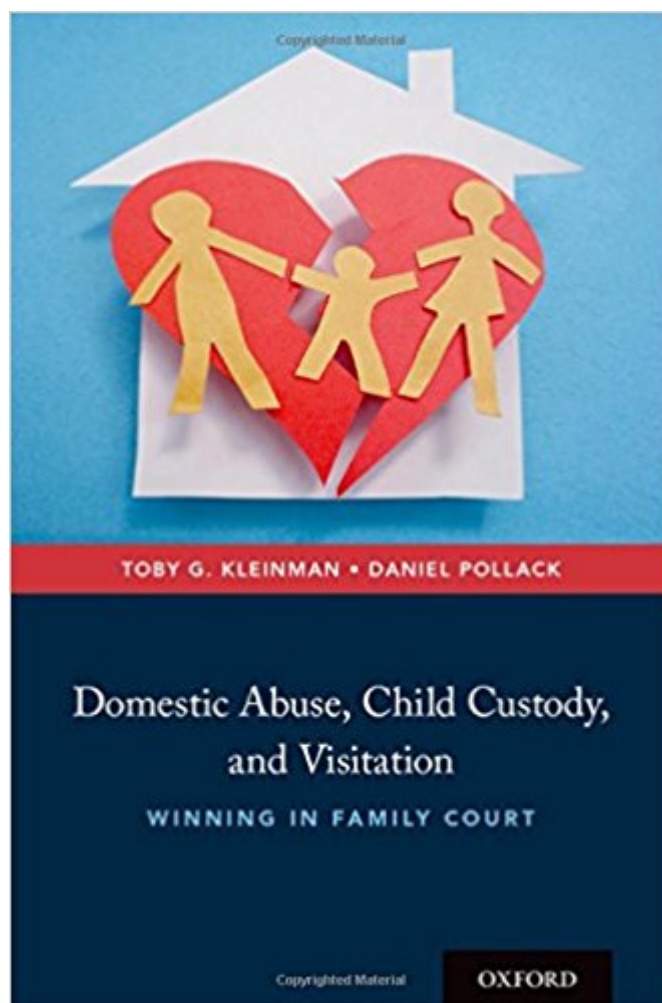


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# Domestic Abuse, Child Custody, And Visitation: Winning In Family Court



## Synopsis

When domestic abuse and children are involved, divorce and custody can be the epitome of high-stakes conflict and frustration and all too frequently protective parents lose custody of their child to a named abuser. *Domestic Abuse, Child Custody, and Visitation* helps mental health professionals, attorneys, and lay readers navigate the judicial process so that decisions are truly made in the best interest of children. The text reveals how all the puzzle pieces of the judicial process fit together -- judges, attorneys, mental health experts, children, spouses -- and how to overcome many of the obstacles they will confront along the way. This runs the gamut, from the selection of a lawyer and experts, to setting necessary groundwork for an appeal. *Domestic Abuse, Child Custody, and Visitation* is an essential read for mental health professionals and lay people involved in divorce and custody, family court judges, family law attorneys, and mental health professionals involved in domestic abuse and custody matters.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"In this courageous expose of the family court legal arena, Toby Kleinman and Daniel Pollack combine their decades of study and practice to craft a powerful book, one that provides cutting-edge, authoritative guidance to lawyers representing battered women in child custody litigation involving an abusive ex-partner. Equally important as its sage legal advice is its profound validation of the harrowing experiences facing battered women forced to navigate a hostile legal landscape as they try to protect themselves and their children. The book is a must-read for legal and other professionals involved in these cases, and it ought to be given as a gift to every woman facing

child custody litigation." -- Mo Therese Hannah, PhD, Professor of Psychology, Siena College; Licensed Psychologist

"Toby Kleinman and Daniel Pollack have provided THE roadmap in litigating child custody cases where domestic violence is present! Their book - particularly their explanation of the 'Great Judicial Fallacy' - should be required reading for all who are engaged in the judicial process involving these cases: lawyers, mental-health professionals, custody evaluators, and especially judges. If you are one of those professionals, then do yourself - and the children you are charged to help protect - a favor and read this book!" -- Paul Griffin, JD, Legal Director, Child Justice, Inc.

"Toby Kleinman and Daniel Pollack have given us the missing piece of the puzzle for child custody cases in the U.S. Courts. Calling out the lack of protection for children, especially for those subjected to homes where domestic violence reigns, they provide desperately needed strategies to protect them. No one, not a professional nor a consumer, should step one foot into family court without reading this fantastic book." -- Lenore Walker, EdD, MS, Professor, College of Psychology, Nova Southeastern University

"Toby Kleinman is a leading expert on representing abused parents and children in custody litigation. This book clearly and eloquently explains the realities of custody litigation and translates what some have called the 'oz-like' quality of such cases into terms anyone can understand. Most importantly, she conveys the ways abuse in the family impacts every family member and, most of all, court personnel, who need to know what is in this book in order to avoid being snowed into not protecting at-risk children." -- Joan S. Meier, JD, Professor of Clinical Law, George Washington University Law School; Founder and Legal Director Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment and Appeals Project (DV LEAP)

Toby Kleinman, JD, is a New Jersey attorney and a partner in the law firm of Adler & Kleinman. She has litigated domestic violence, child custody and abuse cases and has been a consultant in legal cases dealing with domestic violence and child abuse in over 45 states. Daniel Pollack, JD, MSW, is Professor in the School of Social Work at Yeshiva University. He has been an expert witness in more than 25 states. Case subject matter includes child abuse and neglect, and abuse and wrongful death of children in foster care, residential care, and day care.

I wish I had had this information when I began working with survivors of domestic violence embroiled in custody disputes with their children's father. Enormously helpful contribution to a field that operates too often with myths and misconceptions.

This is the book protective mothers have been waiting for. This is a clear, concise guidebook every

mental health professional and attorney needs to read, to keep close at hand for reference and to recommend to colleagues. This is a roadmap through the minefield of family law where intimate violence, child abuse or coercive control are part of the picture. This is the book that could finally open the eyes of family court professionals (and then open the conversation) about what passes for "best interest of the child" in a system that privileges parental "rights" over child safety. The authors have used their expertise and years of experience to reframe accurately the plight of protective mothers attempting to keep our children safe from further harm.

"Toby Kleinman and Daniel Pollack have provided THE roadmap in litigating child-custody cases where domestic violence is present! Their book - particularly their explanation of the "Great Judicial Fallacy" - should be required reading for all who are engaged in the judicial process involving these cases: lawyers, mental-health professionals, custody evaluators, and especially judges. If you are one of those professionals, then do yourself - and the children you are charged to help protect - a favor and read this book!"-- Paul Griffin, JD, Legal Director, Child Justice, Inc.

Wow! I've been reading this book and am so impressed! What an amazing blend of the personal informing the professional and back again. That's such a powerful loop for helping others connect with the teaching that's occurring in the pages. What an awesome legacy presented for others to gain from.

This is an eye-opening book. It vindicates much of what I say to people. I've seen so many people broken by the system and I never understood exactly why. Now I do. Read this book!

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