

## Separation and divorce advice

A separation or divorce often puts families in a difficult situation. If you are looking for help and support, various agencies in Bremen can help you.

### Competent Department

- [Amt für Soziale Dienste Sozialzentrum 1 - Nord](#)
- [Amt für Soziale Dienste Sozialzentrum 2 - Gröpelingen / Walle](#)
- [Amt für Soziale Dienste Sozialzentrum 3 - Mitte/östliche Vorstadt/Findorff](#)
- [Amt für Soziale Dienste Sozialzentrum 4 - Süd](#)
- [Amt für Soziale Dienste Sozialzentrum 5 - Vahr/ Schwachhausen/ Horn-Lehe](#)
- [Amt für Soziale Dienste Sozialzentrum 6 - Hemelingen/ Osterholz](#)

### Basic information

Numerous counseling services are available to people affected by separation or divorce. A distinction is made here between individual counseling, group offers for parents or parents' parts, group offers for children, mediation and information events.

Individual counseling for mothers, fathers or children, couples as well as individual families is offered when,

- it is uncertain how to proceed with a separation for the persons concerned and the children,
- the parents can no longer talk to each other,
- there are concerns about whether the children will be able to cope with the separation or if the children have changed in a conspicuous way
- support is needed with parenting arrangements
- those affected feel overwhelmed by the entire situation.

The special advantage of group offers is the exchange with other affected persons. Group offers are available for the following affected persons:

- Single parents
- Fathers after separation and divorce
- Mothers who are separated from their children

In group offerings for children between the ages of 5 and 12, children can exchange their experiences with each other. The offers usually take place once a week over a period of 5 months.

Mediation is an extrajudicial procedure that helps to objectify disputes between parents. The mediator helps to work out the interests and motives of the parents and to find objective and fair solutions for the whole family.

Information events of the Cooperation Workshop Separation and Divorce address topics that can affect people in separation situations in two to three events each year.

## Procedure

If people and families are facing separation or divorce, they can turn to one of the many counseling services.

Those who do not yet know which counseling service is best for them or their family, contact one of the following signpost counseling services:

- Houses of Families in 11 city districts
- Social service for young people in the social centers
- Child Protection Center Bremen
- family network Bremen

Those affected can receive targeted advice on a variety of topics from these offices:

- Caritas Erziehungshilfe gGmbH
- Family and life counseling of the Bremen Protestant Church
- House of the Family Mitte
- House of the family Walle
- ITS - Interdisciplinary Separation and Divorce Counseling Center Bremen
- Child Protection Center Bremen (Deutscher Kinderschutzbund LV Bremen e.V.)
- Open Door Bremen (Counseling / Catholic Community Association)
- rws-family workshop
- vakir - space for father and child e.V.
- Association of binational families and partnerships, iaf e.V.
- community center Weserterrassen e.V.
- Counseling center for children, adolescents and parents
- Social Service for Young People (Office for Social Services)
- Marriage-Family-Life Counseling Diocese of Hildesheim
- family network Bremen
- Mediator Iris Virkus

Interested parties can find all addresses, phone numbers as well as the respective counseling focuses in the attached brochure "What helps Bremen families with separation and divorce?" of the Cooperation Workshop Separation and Divorce.

It is usually necessary to make an appointment in advance.

For some services, an application must be submitted to the Office for Social Services. Those affected should inquire in advance at the respective offices.

## Legal bases

- [§17 Beratung in Fragen der Partnerschaft, Trennung und Scheidung](#)

## What are the costs?

Many information, counseling and group services are free of charge. Offers such as mediation, for example, are associated with costs. Information about the specific costs can be obtained from the Wegweiser counseling centers.