**WE SEPARATED & NOW MY CHILD WONT SEE ME**

Does this sound familiar? You get married to someone with whom you believe that you can raise a family. Sure enough, a child is born to the marriage. Over time, love fades, arguments take place and the relationship hits rocky times. Perhaps, infidelity has reared its ugly head and you cheated on your spouse. The marriage begins to crumble and all hell breaks loose when your spouse becomes vindictive and calls the police on you, alleging physical assault. The next thing you know, you have been removed from the house by the police, charged with an assault offence that you did not commit. You are not allowed to return to the house or communicate with your spouse because of a recognizance of bail. You have a serious problem in that your young child is left in the home and you have no way to see your child. You cannot communicate about your access rights with your spouse (who now hates you and will do anything to keep you out of the picture). Even if you are permitted to communicate with your spouse, your spouse may refuse to communicate with you.

You are emotionally overwhelmed. You haven't brought a court Application for access and or custody of the child, and no one on your behalf has intervened to set up a visitation schedule. Before you know it, communication between yourself and your child (if your child is old enough to independently communicate with you) is declining. The once beautiful parent/child relationship is disintegrating before your very eyes and you don't know what to do.

Either you retain a lawyer first or your spouse does, and the legal process is underway. Hopefully, you “got to the courthouse first” to file your papers. The weeks and months are ticking away and you have not seen your child since the police escorted you from the home. Before long, your child refuses your phone calls and will not reply to your text messages. You are convinced that your spouse is saying things about you to the child (or within earshot of the child) to negatively influence your relationship with your child. ***You may be right!*** Your spouse may be telling your child that you “cheated” or even worse that “**daddy/mommy left *US***”. You previously enjoyed a very close relationship with your child. You received handmade cards from your child on Mother's Day or Father's Day saying that you are the *best parent ever*. You have photographs of you and your child sharing a loving bond. Your spouse says that he or she is doing nothing to negatively influence your child, and the child independently wishes to have nothing to do with you. **You fear that foul play is afoot**. What are you to do in such a circumstance when the court process is barely underway, your spouse is trying to delay the court process, and each day matters in the disintegrating relationship between your child and you? The solution is clear. Your next step is to see **Marlene Kazman** for an assessment of your legal rights.

**Marlene Kazman of Garfin Zeidenberg LLP has recently changed the law in Ontario to help parents such as those described above.** In September, 2016, Marlene won a hearing for **REUNIFICATION THERAPY** in favour of a father who had been denied access with his 13-year old child for over 1 year. Now, on the strength of this case, under appropriate circumstances, the Court need not rely upon its *parens patriae* (“parental”) jurisdiction to create an order aimed at quickly rehabilitating a shattered parent/child relationship. Now, the court can rely on the case won by Marlene Kazman to order the needed REUNIFICATION THERAPY and hopefully rebuild the shattered parent/child relationship.

If any of this sounds familiar, you should contact **Marlene Kazman at** **kazman@gzlegal** or at **416-642-5416 (direct dial**) for more information and an assessment of how she can assist you to obtain an order for **REUNIFICATION THERAPY** under appropriate circumstances.