



## DIRECTOR, ACCREDITED SPECIALIST IN FAMILY LAW, COLLABORATIVE FAMILY LAWYER & MEDIATOR

Clarissa Rayward, is the Director of Brisbane Family Law Centre and is also known as the 'Happy Family Lawyer'. As a Divorce Lawyer, Clarissa specialises in helping separating families stay out of the Family Courts and stay friends as she believes that a divorce can be a positive end to a marriage.

Over the past 14 years Clarissa has worked as a specialist family lawyer and in that time, has helped over 2,000 Australian families through their divorce. That experience has only reinforced her belief that traditional legal processes do little to help separating families find a positive future after divorce. It takes more than lawyers and Courts to help families through divorce and separation in a way that ensures a positive end to a marriage. For this reason Clarissa established Brisbane Family Law Centre, a multidisciplinary practice where lawyers work alongside counsellors and financial planners to ensure that clients receive the holistic support they need at this challenging time.

Clarissa is determined to change the way Australian families experience divorce and separation for the better. She is the author of the successful 'Happy Family Lawyer' blog, providing weekly commentary and tips on issues relating to life, love, relationships and divorce. Clarissa has also started an online education series ensuring separating families all over Australia can share in her knowledge on how to experience a dignified and positive divorce.

Clarissa is also the Author of the book, ' Splitsville - How to separate, stay out of Court and stay friends.'

In 2015 Clarissa was awarded the Lawyers Weekly 'Thought Leader of the Year' Award for her work in opening a dialogue for better ways to support families experiencing

divorce and separation. Clarissa is also the immediate past President of the Family Law Practitioners Association of Qld- the representative body for over 900 Family Law Professionals throughout Queensland.

In 2016 Clarissa launched her new venture 'Happy Lawyer, Happy Life' in response to the growing number of lawyers and other professionals reaching out to her looking for ways of finding 'Happiness' in their careers. Clarissa's podcast and book both titled 'Happy Lawyer, Happy Life' offer insights and resources for legal professionals seeking fulfilling careers and happiness both in law and in their life outside of the law.

Due to the overwhelming response to her book and podcast, Clarissa has also launched two new initiatives to support and assist lawyers in their professional lives: "The Course" and "The Club". Clarissa was recently recognised for this innovative platform, receiving the 2017 LexisNexis and Janders Dean Legal Innovation Index Award for "The Club", an online community for entrepreneurial lawyers looking to make the best out of their business while making the best of their lives outside of the law.

For her continuing groundbreaking innovative ideas and projects, Clarissa was recently further acknowledged by the legal profession, receiving the 2017 Women Lawyer's Association of Queensland's Inaugural Trailblazer Award.

Clarissa Rayward is a family lawyer, wife and mum who is passionate about relationships, people and family. Clarissa uses her industry knowledge and skill to change the way Australian families experience divorce and separation. She is known as 'The Happy Family Lawyer' as she believes that your divorce can be something that you can look back on with some pride.



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