

Hello,

My name is Ashlee and below is my story of my parents divorce;

My parents divorced when I was 10 years old, my brother was about 6. In the beginning of the separation phase my mother left my brother and I in the home that we all resided in and rented her own apartment, only having us on the weekends. I later became a battle and my mother came to school and removed my brother and I, we went to what was now my fathers house and removed all of mine and my brothers belongings moving them into her apartment. This lasted approximately a month and my parents decided that agreeing on things with my brother and I would be in our best interests. My mother moved back to the small town which my father lived in so that we could share time in between both homes equally and/or as we pleased.. They agreed that they both needed to be equally responsible for things except for housing, food, clothing at their individual homes, and utilities. My brother and I grew and developed well because of our parents agreeing that having both of them in our lives equally was the best practice.

Equal parenting time for children really is in their best interest, children learn so much from each parent. I feel that limiting the amount of time one child has with either parent makes the internally miserable, children need love and they need it from both parents.

I support SB 318 I feel equal parenting would help so many of our youth mentally, and emotionally.

Ashlee