

Ways to resolve disagreements

Compare who helps and who decides

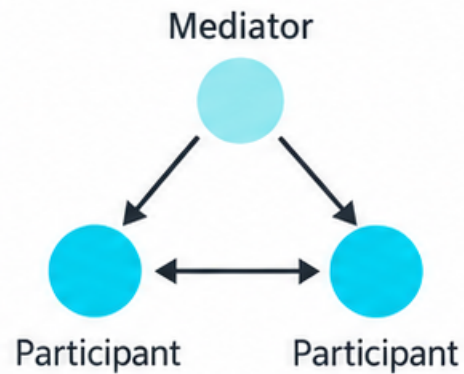
Negotiation



Participants

The participants decide whether to agree.

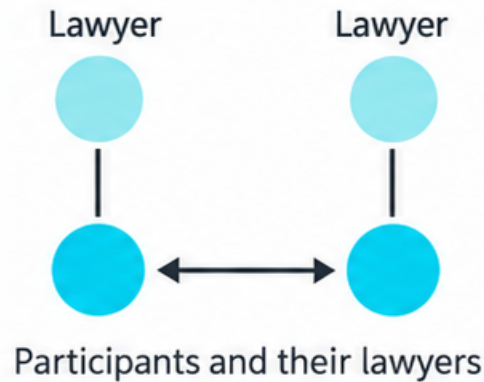
Mediation



Participant Participant

A neutral mediator helps. The participants decide whether to agree.

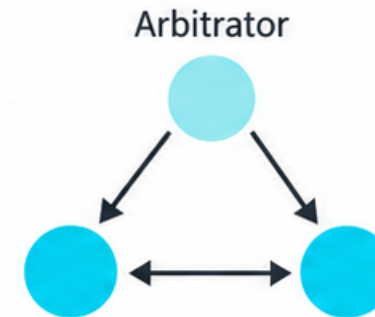
Collaborative practice



Participants and their lawyers

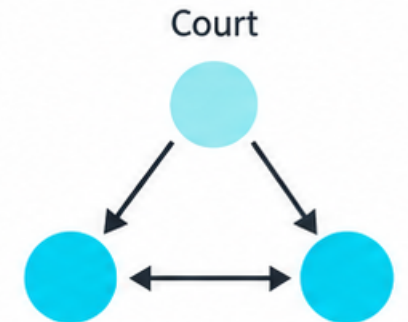
Each participant has a collaborative lawyer. The participants work toward agreement.

Arbitration



An arbitrator decides specified issues. Legal effect depends on the arrangement and law.

Litigation



A judge may decide unresolved issues. The participants may also settle.

Fees, time and legal effect vary. These are options, not required steps.

Adapted for Fast Divorce from a Breer Law educational reference.