



DAWSON

FAMILY LAW

PAUSE BEFORE YOU POST!

The risks of posting on social media during family law proceedings.

Separation is an emotional time and a major life event. In today's digital age, many people take to social media to share life events. Posting certain content during separation and particularly during Court proceedings can carry significant risks and consequences.

➤➤➤ Evidence against you

It is very common for posts, photos, comments or other content posted on social media to be used as evidence in Court proceedings. Usually, this content is used as evidence against the person who posted it. 'Venting' on social media about your ex-partner can reflect poorly on your character and be seen as an inability to control your emotions.

➤➤➤ Safety concerns

If you are a victim of domestic and family violence, carefully consider what information you share on social media. If your posts can identify where you and your children live, or places you frequent, refrain from posting that content. Even if your security settings mean your former partner cannot see your posts, someone who can may disclose that information, even inadvertently.

➤➤➤ Criminal implications

The Family Law Act states it is a criminal offence with a penalty of 1 year imprisonment to communicate to the public an account of proceedings that identifies a party, witness or other relevant person.

Pause before you post and better still, don't.

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A fresh start