

LAW & MEDIATION!

A good friend of mine is a family law specialist. He shared with me what I thought was a profound insight of our human condition in these words; *“whenever a couple comes to me about a marital dispute there is often 3 sides to the dispute, they being his side, her side and somewhere in between is the truth.”*

I was once a part time prison chaplain, and it was a memorable experience! When I look back on this time after speaking to many prisoners, I detected that many of them had the same problem in that it was hard for them to accept personal responsibility for their actions.

It's true that conflict and grievances with people is very much part of our human condition it always has been, and it will always be. The real key is to try and resolve conflict in an honest and peaceful way. This is where personal humility and wisdom needs to be stronger than one's ego and self-interest. I recently read that in the USA and I'm sure it would be the case also in Australia over the last decade civil case loads between people increased 33% while the national population only increased 7%. This statistic reveals a sad disturbing reality.

Jesus of Nazareth makes the point; *“If someone brings a lawsuit against you and takes you to court, settle the dispute while there is time, before you go to court.”* (Matthew Chapter 5 verse 25-26) *Fr Martin R Maunsell*