



# Shared Parenting Polling Washington, August, 2021

In January, 2021 National Parents Organization commissioned an independent poll, conducted by Researchscape International, of the attitudes of those in Washington concerning shared parenting when parents live apart. Below are highlights of that poll. For details and a complete report, please contact the Chair of the NPO Chapter in Washington, Jim Clark at [jimclark@sharedparenting.org](mailto:jimclark@sharedparenting.org).

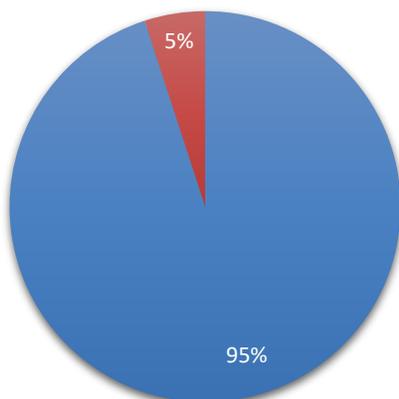
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## In instances of divorce or separation:

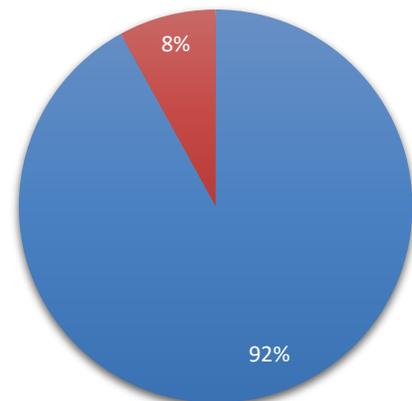
**95% of those in Washington believe *it is in the child's best interest ... to have as much time as possible with each parent;***"

**92% of those in Washington expressed a commitment to vote their beliefs being "more likely to vote for a candidate who supports children spending equal or nearly equal time with each parent ...when both parents are fit and willing to be parents."**

### Best Interest of Children



### Influence on Voting

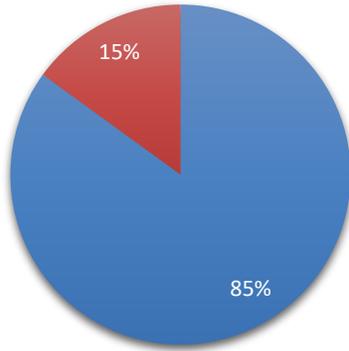


- It is in the child's best interest to have as much time as possible with each parent.
- It is in the child's best interest to spend as much time as possible with just one parent.

- More likely
- Less likely

85% of those in Washington indicated they would support a change in Washington law that awards children as much time as possible with each parent after divorce or separation.

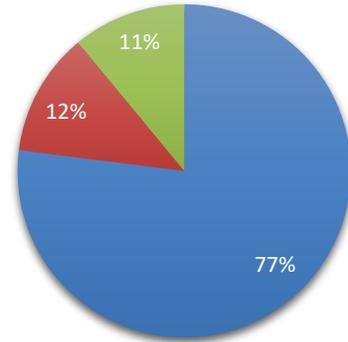
Change in Washington Law



■ Support ■ Oppose

77% believe that when there is conflict between parents, awarding sole custody to one parent increases conflict.

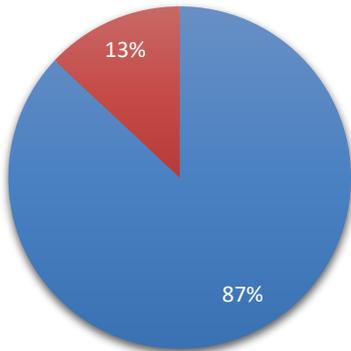
Parental Conflict and Sole Custody



■ Increases conflict ■ Decreases conflict  
■ Has no impact

87% believe that Washington should promote shared parenting for all children with separated parents.

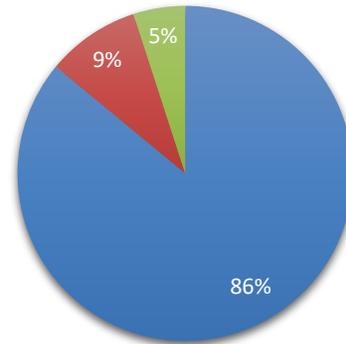
Promotion of Shared Parenting



■ Agree ■ Disagree

83% believe that both parents should have equal rights and responsibilities following divorce or separation.

Rights and Responsibilities



■ Both parents should have equal parental rights and responsibilities.  
■ Mothers should have greater parental rights and responsibilities.  
■ Fathers should have greater parental rights and responsibilities.

Data based on a professional poll conducted by [Researchscape International](https://www.researchscape.com/) from August 25 through 27, 2021. The sample size of 601 respondents, representative of Washington adults with respect to race, gender, age, income, political alignment and more, provides an estimated credibility interval of plus or minus 6%. Details available from National Parents Organization at [parents@sharedparenting.org](mailto:parents@sharedparenting.org).