



NOTE: Space is limited and we expect a large turnout, so please register early.

Please send checks, payable to "**NYSCDM**", by November 28, along with this portion of the form (completed), to: **Sydell S. Sloan**  
**17-26 215th Street, Bayside, New York 11360.**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

I am paying for \_\_\_ (#) members, @ **\$55\***.      I am paying for \_\_\_ (#) non-members, @ **\$70\***.

*\* NOTE: There is a **\$10 surcharge** for people who pay after November 28 or at the door.*

I am sending **a separate check** for CLE credit for \_\_\_ (#) people, @ **\$25/person**.

**PLEASE NOTE:** NYSCDM or FDMCGNY membership entitles attendees to pay the member price. If you are not currently a paid-up member of either organization, you may join or renew your membership on-site.

If you become a member on-site, you may pay the member price for this Mini-Conference.

***If you have questions, please contact Sydell Sloan at [dellsy@aol.com](mailto:dellsy@aol.com).***

**For more details on the program, please see the following page below:**

### **Building, Growing and Maintaining Your Mediation Practice**

Whether one has just completed mediation training or has been mediating for a number of years, we all need a little kick-start to get out there and market our businesses. But marketing means much more than merely having business cards, brochures and a website at the ready. Where do you go from there? While there is no single magic formula, there is your intention, commitment and just plain getting out of your comfort zone to make success happen.

Against all odds, Ms. Hasloecheer and her business partner dismissed the naysayers and built a thriving practice. In this presentation, Ada will reveal what they did to double their practice every year since they started their mediation business. She will share their successes and failures -- and, she notes, there have been some doozies -- their mistakes and lucky breaks, many tips and tricks, and -- above all -- *inspiration* to just get out there and do it!

### **How Mediators Can Promote Effective Parenting During & After Divorce**

We all know about the harmful effects of divorce on children. Good mediators spend time with their couples on how to minimize the damage to their children resulting from the family breakup. Unfortunately, in many cases, people do not have the ability to be good parents together for their children as they work through getting divorced.

In this workshop, family therapist Dr. Patricia Dowds will teach us how to set a foundation to maximize divorcing couples' parenting skills, even as they go through the process of mediating their separation and divorce.

Some topics that Dr. Dowds will cover include: spotting the signs of bad parenting; how to inquire into this touchy subject without alienating clients; maintaining the boundary between mediating and becoming the parties' therapist; and how to stay neutral while shoring up people's parenting skills.

Attendees will come away with tools to help clients parent effectively during these tense, upsetting transitions.

### **"What Would a Judge Do?"**

At one time or another, most mediators have been asked by clients during a mediation -- particularly at an impasse -- "What Would A Judge Do?"

As mediators, we have choices about how to respond. We can say, "It depends on whether the judge has had a good night's sleep"; we can indicate from our experience what a given judge has actually done in a specific case; we can say that it would be a shame if the parties were unable to resolve the issue between themselves and therefore had to litigate the issue in court to find out what that judge will do.

Our presenter, a Supreme Court Matrimonial Judge, will reveal to us what is done in the courtroom by sharing case law and her personal experiences in issues such as relocation, modifying child support when the payor loses his/her job, visitation involving a child who refuses to see a parent, setting income caps for child support, etc.

### **Mediating Divorce in a Down Economy**

Many people think that the U.S. is in -- or headed towards -- its worst economic crisis since the (not-so-) Great Depression. The severe financial downturn is affecting us all in various ways. Therefore, it's no surprise to hear that many divorcing couples are being hit especially hard by our current harsh economic conditions.

This timely session will feature financial research and observations from the front line of divorce financial planning, on recession-based trends in mediated and negotiated agreements. The audience will learn how this economy is causing separating and divorcing couples to, for example: alter their parenting plans, decide to co-habitate, rethink decisions about the marital residence, rework child and spousal support arrangements, and indefinitely defer divorcing.

Our presenter will go on to discuss researchers' financial predictions for couples divorcing in 2009 and after. Emphasis will be placed on how we, as mediators, can and should work with couples in this new financial reality.