

Shared parenting in Switzerland

Herzlich willkommen





Shared parenting in Switzerland

- About me
- Shared parenting in Switzerland ??? Ain't no nothing
- Organisational overview (NGO and Parties)
- Legal situation in Switzerland under current law
- Currently known models in Switzerland
- Social environment for new family models
- Legal situation in Switzerland with new law (>2014)
- Effects of law-changes to shared parenting
- chances / risks / Next steps
- Questions?



About me



Oliver Hunziker, 47

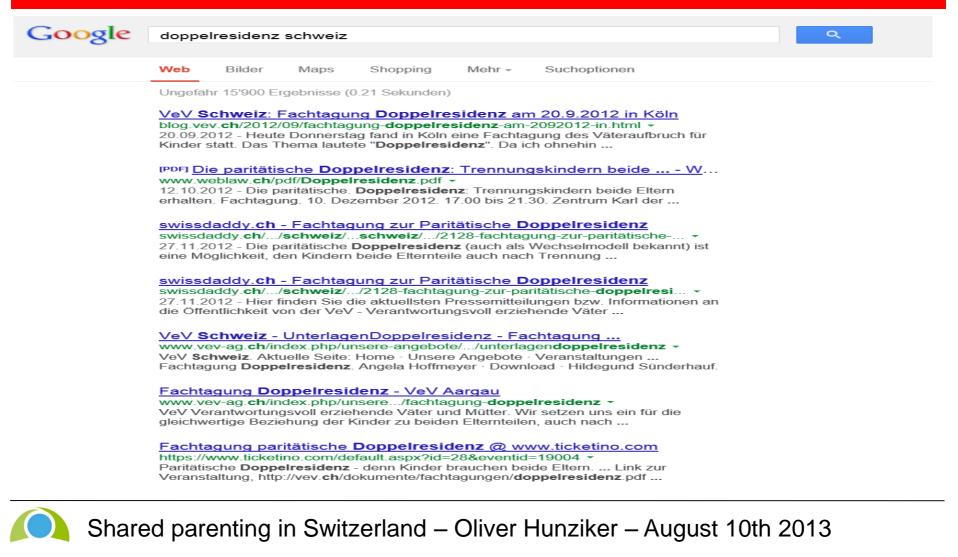
- IT-Consultant
- President VeV Schweiz
- President GeCoBi
- Columnist in «Männerzeitung«
- Founder of ZwüscheHalt
- Gov. Round table Joint Custody
- Steering comittee PDR

Father of two sons (18 + 19) separated 2003, divorced 2009 since 2005 since 2008 since 2008 in 2009 since 2011 since 2012





Shared parenting in Switzerland ??? Ain't no nothing





Organisations attitude on shared parenting

Positive attitude on shared parenting*	Critical attitude on shared parenting*
 GeCoBi 19 member organisations of GeCoBi other organisations for fathers Männer.ch 	 Swiss lawyers association Swiss association of single parents Swiss association of femal lawyers Alliance F – umbrela Org femal org.
 Children's lawyers Mediators Child psychologs Association of rainbow families Pro Familia – umbrella org for families 	
* not a complete list	

* not a complete list





Political Organisations attitude on shared parenting

Left parties	Center parties	Right parties
Heavily against joint custody.	Rather positive on changes in family law, towards shared parenting	Positive on joint custody (fighting for men's rights)
Rather critical on shared parenting. Still defending women's rights.	and joint custody. Positive on the need of	Rather conservative on shared parenting. Mostly defending traditional family role models.
Positive on external child care and part time working	both parents in family affairs and in work scenarios. Positive on external child	Rather critical on external child care and other family support systems (costs)
	care and part time working	Rather critical on part time working for men





Legal situation in Switzerland under current law

Maried couple	joint custody, joint residence
non maried couple	custody with mother only, Possibility to have joint custody on joint request
separated but still maried	joint custody, residence assigned by court (usually to mother >80%)
divorced	custody and residence assigned by court, Possibility to have joint custody on joint request (currently ~45%)





Known models for separated parents

Single residence with mother

- Most common model (> 85%)
- With or without joint custody

Single residence with father

• Very rare (< 10 %)

Nestmodell

Both parents have their flat – children live in the original appartment Parents share responsability by coming to the flat for a certain time

- Very rare
- Very expensive





Known models for separated parents

Single residence but extended contact with other parent

- Growing model.
 In everyday's life very similar to shared parenting, but usually all rights with one person (usually mother)
- Only works as long as no difficulties.
- Can be cancelled with no notice (because all rights in one hand)

Shared parenting

- Very very rare. Legally almost impossible.
 Reason: A child cannot have to residences according to swiss law.
- Usual solution for shared parenting, if parents agree: 49 / 51 % residence



Social environment for new family models

- Number of divorces / separations > 50%
- Number of well educated women growing.
- Economy needs the power of the well educatec women
- One income is not enough for a large part of the population
- Men start to think different about work/life balance
- Companies still remain in old thinking (men work 100%)





Legal situation in Switzerland under new law (> 2014)

Maried couple joint custody, joint residence

non maried couple

separated but still maried or divorced

custody with mother only, Father can easily request it, even if mother disagrees.

joint custody, term of «residence» is not used any more – basically shared residence

Possibility to claim at court if one parent wants to move away **with** the children *«if the move would affect the relation between child and the other parent»*





Effects of law-changes to shared parenting

- With current law shared parenting is almost impossible
- New law allows any form of shared parenting
- Questions about money have to be cleared as well. New law is in progress
- Society is changing shared parenting is starting to become trendy
- Still difficulties in part time work for men. Political effort still necessary.





chances / risks / next steps

Chances

- Law is changing time for changes in society's attitude
- Good moment to develope new concepts and handling procedures
- New praxis, based on new understanding. Generation change in authority offices

Risks

- Misuse of the new law to maintain current thinking (by judges / lawyers)
- Loosing focus on the best interest of child

Next steps

- Organisations like ours are in the best place to develop new praxis
- Make shared parenting known to authorities, judges, lawyers etc
- Spread information, network and connect in Switzerland and abroad
- Launch scientific work on shared parenting in Switzerland and abroad



Shared parenting in Switzerland







Shared parenting in Switzerland

Thank you for your attention

Oliver Hunziker

www.gecobi.ch / www.vev.ch / www.zwueschehalt.ch

