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Tips on how to survive the witness box

Confidence in Court:

Practical skills in coping with cross examination

Presented by

Shefali Shah

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KEY CHANGES TO FAMILY JUSTICE ENGLAND
Shefali Shah

KEY CHANGES TO FAMILY JUSTICE (ENGLAND)
This guide is an invaluable resource for all those involved in the family justice process.

COMING SOON: OUR LATEST E-BOOK ON ENHANCING YOUR COURT SKILLS
Sign up now to be the first to receive it.

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We offer legal advice, assistance and management support.

Take the fear out of the court work and attend one of our best-selling courses...

Find out more about Kingsley Knight & watch a video of Shefali Shah on the BBC News.

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Why are you here



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Tip 1- Do not remain silent



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Do you have to go to court?



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Surviving the witness box



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Helping you to stay up to date in the ever changing world of social care.

Surviving the Witness Box

Does the mere thought of attending court make you fearful or anxious? Come and get some tips on how to become an impressive witness.

Does the thought of having to go to court feel like an exciting prospect or does it make you feel uncomfortable, nervous or perhaps frightened,

Are your feelings of anxiety because:

- You may not know what will be expected of you
- You may not know what your duties are to court
- You may not know what you will be asked
- You may not know what to say, or when to say it
- You may not know who else will be at court
- You may not know how to address the Judges

As social care professionals, you undertake a very difficult job and yet the mere thought of having to go to court can raise such anxieties and fears even in the most experienced professionals. One of the main reasons for this is because you are entering an environment that is not familiar to you.

The reality is that however, challenging, attending court is part of the social care professional's job and not attending court can lead to dire consequences.

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TOPICS

Tip 2 – Demystify the court process

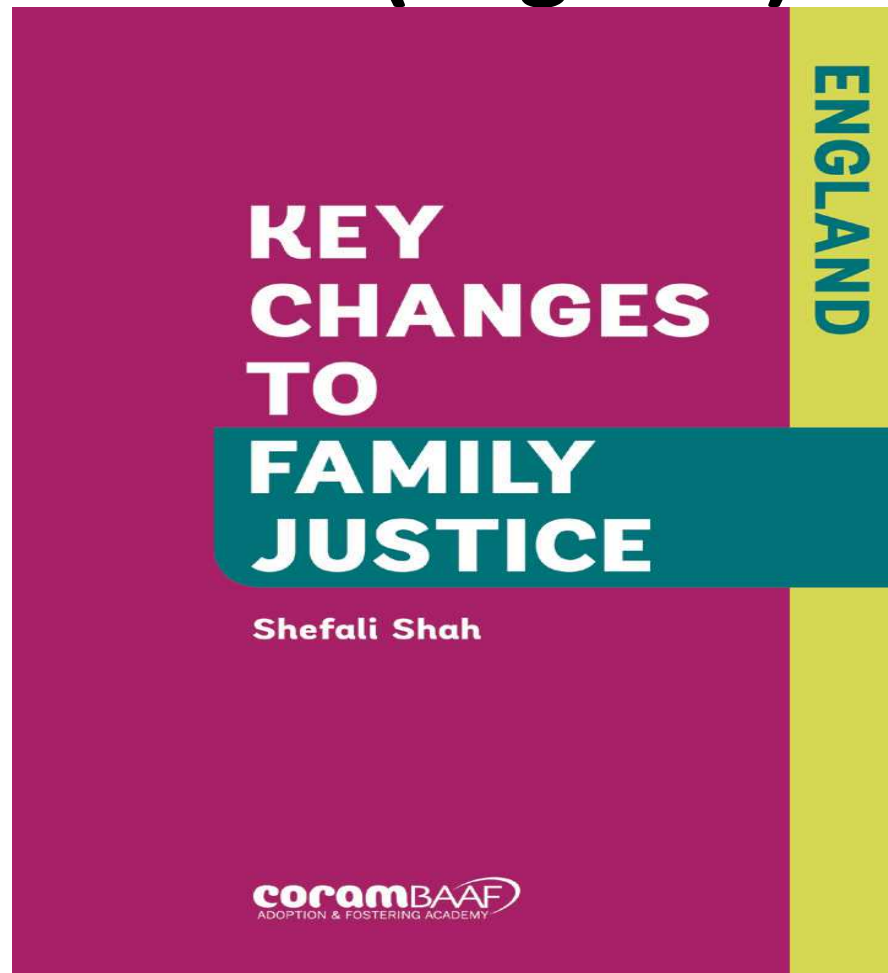


Key Changes to Family Justice (England)



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In the witness box



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preparation

produce robust written evidence

File preparation

Personal presentation



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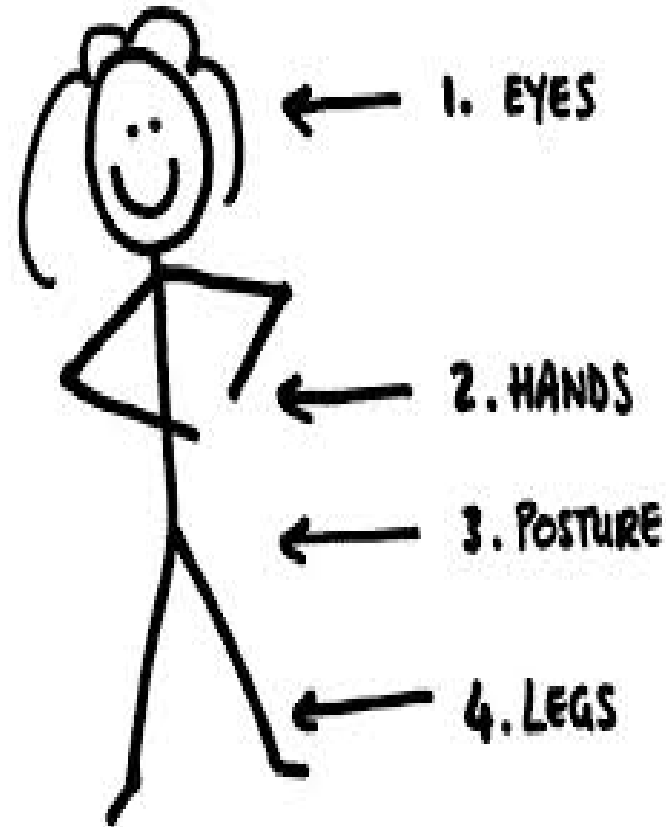
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Body language and dealing with nerves



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Your duty as a witness



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- Promising to tell the truth



Final tip



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10. accept that you will be nervous and



Social Workers you are experts

**Sir James Munby, President
of the Family Division**



- “One of the problems is that in recent years too many social workers have come to feel undervalued, disempowered and de-skilled.If the revised PLO is properly implemented one of its outcomes will, I hope, be to re-position social workers as trusted professionals playing the central role in care proceedings which too often of late has been overshadowed by our unnecessary use of and reliance upon other experts. “

The Impressive Witness



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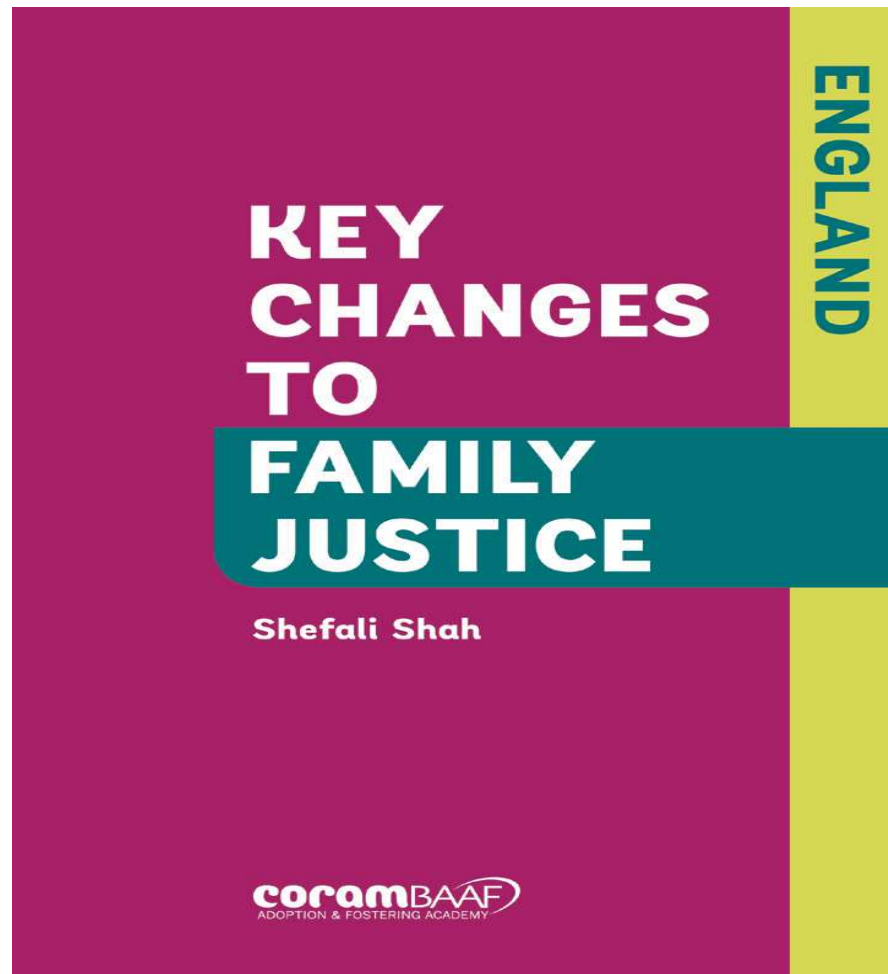


Book Signing



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Questions



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Thank
you!



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- Questions
- Review
- Thank you for your participation

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