

# **AUSTRALIAN DISPUTE RESOLUTION ASSOCIATION**

Presents a lunchtime talk by

**KAREN BARKER**

on

**Mediation and the Family Court**

**Are Two Heads Better Than One?**

Karen is the Mediation Co-ordinator for the Family Court of Australia, Sydney. She has a Master of Social Work degree and has been working as a Family Court Mediator since 1995. Karen has written a number of papers in relation to children and child abuse issues.

The Family Court amongst many other family law mediation services began by offering couples a co-mediation team in all issues. This was seen as the best service to offer clients based on anecdotal evidence and on our understanding of the dynamics that occur when couples separate.

The Court has reviewed its mediation services recently and had to examine whether "two heads" were really warranted. Amongst a number of changes the Court is looking to provide a single mediator in some matters.

**When: Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November, 1999**

**Time: 12.30pm – 2 .00pm**

**Where: ADRA  
Level 4, 147a King St  
Sydney**

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