

open adoption

a situation in which there is communication and contact between adoptive parents and birth parents, made by agreement between them

parental responsibility

all the duties, powers, responsibilities and authority which, by law, parents have in relation to children

parental responsibility contract

a contract entered into by a child's carers which contains provisions aimed at improving parenting skills

parenting order

an order made by the Family Law Courts about the care of and responsibility for children

parenting plan

an agreement made by parents about the child, dealing with parental responsibility, living arrangements, maintenance etc, signed by both parents

polyandry

a situation in which a woman has more than one husband at any one time

polygamous marriage

a marriage in which a person has more than one spouse at any one time

polygyny

a situation in which a man has more than one wife at any one time

property

a term used in the Family Law Act 1975 to describe all the possessions owned by both parties, regardless of whose name the possession is in

restoration plan

a plan setting out the circumstances under which a child, removed into temporary care by Community Services, will be returned to his or her parents

same-sex couple	two people of the same gender living together in a relationship
significant harm	harm to a child which is sufficiently serious to warrant a response by an authority irrespective of the family's consent
single-parent family	a situation in which there is one parent raising children
social father	a man who acts as the father of a child born as a result of sperm donation
stalking	behaviours including following a person, spying on them and frequenting a place where that person works or lives

substantial and significant time

the time a child should spend with the parent under a parenting order

succession

the transfer of property to the relatives of a deceased person

surrogacy

when a woman agrees to become pregnant and bear a child on behalf of a couple who are unable to have children of their own

temporary care arrangement

an arrangement made with Community Services for a child to be placed in the care of someone besides his or her family for a period of up to 3 months

will

a document drawn up by a person to state how his or her property is to be divided upon death