

Why Your 50/50 Split Myth is Hurting Your Wallet



There is a persistent myth in family law that if you have 50/50 custody, nobody pays child support. At Jos Family Law, we are here to challenge this dangerous misconception and show you how the 2026 K-Factor update makes equal-time support even more common. Comparing the old "equal time means zero support" logic to the reality of the 2026 "income shares" model proves that a disparity in income will almost always result in a payment. If you are basing your legal strategy on this myth, you are setting yourself up for a financial shock in the courtroom.

The 2026 formula is designed to ensure the child enjoys a similar standard of living in both homes. When searching for a [Top Child Custody Lawyer in North tustin](#) is a leading spot for those who need to challenge the assumption that equal time equals zero cost. By comparing a household earning \$150,000 to one earning \$50,000, it is mathematically impossible—under the new K-Factor—to have zero support and still maintain the child's "best interests." The higher earner will pay support to bridge the gap, ensuring the child isn't moving between a luxury lifestyle and a subsistence one.

We also challenge the traditional "default" of splitting medical and childcare costs down the middle. Comparing the old 50/50 add-on split to the new 2026 proportional split shows a clear move toward fairness. Why should a parent earning 30% of the total income pay

50% of the costs? The new law challenges this unfair standard, mandating that "extra" costs be divided based on actual earnings. This comparison highlights how the legal system is finally prioritizing economic logic over simple, but flawed, arithmetic.

Finally, we must challenge the idea that child support is a static obligation. By comparing your current order to a potential 2026 recalculation, we often find "significant changes in circumstances" that the law now recognizes. If you haven't reviewed your order since the K-Factor bands were updated, you are likely living with a financial plan that the state itself has deemed obsolete. It is time to challenge the status quo and demand a support order that reflects the actual economic world of 2026.

In conclusion, the "50/50 split myth" is a relic of the past. Challenging these old ideas is the only way to ensure you are not being financially drained by an outdated order. By embracing the new, data-driven reality of child support, you can protect your income and your child's future simultaneously.

To see how to challenge your current support arrangement, contact the team at Jos Family Law. Visit: <https://josfamilylaw.com/>.