**REASONS FOR CHOOSING THE COLLABORATIVE PROCESS:**
**(sometimes known as Anchor Statement or Mission Statement)**

**Before our first collaborative meeting, I am asking you to spend a quiet five minutes considering the answers to the questions listed below and then to summarize your reasons for the decision that collaborative practice represents the best way forward for your family at this difficult and uncertain time.**

- **What are you hoping to achieve**
- **What is the best possible outcome you could hope for**
- **What do you really want to avoid**
- **What really matters to you**
- **What do you think is most important for you and your family**
- **What are you most worried about**
- **What would the perfect outcome look like in 18 months time**

**Your statement is important since it is usual to hit bumps during our collaborative process when it can be difficult to find common ground or to reach agreement. At such times it can be very helpful to spend some time revisiting why collaborative process was the chosen route at the outset. It is incredibly important that you make a positive and informed choice that this is the right process for you and that, even when the going gets tough, you will think positively and creatively to find common ground again and continue to seek shared solutions in order to fulfil your collaborative aims.**

**ANCHOR/MISSION STATEMENT:**

**I have chosen the collaborative route**
**because.....**
**.....**
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