

q book: with MARY LOUISE III

Girl VS Divorce by Ken Harrip LL.B Available now where all good books are sold.

Ken Harrip is a former lawyer who studied his bachelor of law at the Queensland University of Technology. Ken practiced in family law for a number of years and is now a member of the family law section of the law council of Australia.

Although the title suggests that the book is aimed at women facing divorce, this is not actually the case. It's an insightful book about various topics when facing divorce, but for the purpose of this review, I will be focusing on a chapter specifically written for same sex couples (the book also outlines this term to include all members of the LGBTIQA+ community).

Aimed at same sex couples, chapter nine is incredibly accurate when describing the challenges that same sex couples face when facing divorce. It also highlights that when dealing with divorce within our community, it is still relatively new within the world and not everyone is on board with accepting same sex marriage and divorce. Homophobia and transphobia is still very much alive within the world, and sadly within law enforcement (not always the case, the law enforcement within Australia are incredibly diverse and deserve due credit).

Ken highlights issues such as the homophobia and transphobia still in the world and explains that even members of our own community can be judgemental towards couples going through divorce. The legal advice and suggestions within this chapter are amazing for members of our community because Ken is correct, marriage equality is still new, and has not yet been perfected, so naturally the divorce proceedings and processes have not yet been perfected.

The chapter also provides comfort for those who do not know a lot about legal rights and procedures within same sex marriage, along with providing a chapter on children within the marriage, and what to do when you want to start again.

Perhaps most importantly, he provides information on what to do and where to go and who to turn to (LGBTIQA Friendly law officials) when being faced with domestic violence issues. I cannot stress enough that domestic violence affects EVERYONE, regardless of gender identity and/or sexuality! And is NOT OK!

I am very happy to read the advice and steps and contacts in relations to all things divorce specifically catering to our community. Ken has really taken the time to think carefully about this chapter and speaks on issues that affect us specifically. It was a refreshing change to see a taboo subject being written about in such a careful, kind, respectful and knowledgeable context.

The other chapters within the book were indeed wonderful to read. If you, someone you know, or someone you think could benefit from a friendly read about divorce, I highly recommend Girl VS Divorce. Let's face it, nobody ever gets married with the intention to become divorced, but sadly it does happen, and when it does, not everyone has the ability to be cool, calm and collected about it, let alone knowledgeable about divorce. This book will help many people, from all walks of life who face divorce.

Disclaimer: always seek legal advice with appropriate sectors when dealing with legal issues.

