



# Accreditation Policy

*for Families Need Fathers (FNF) committee and media representatives*

*FNF needs people to speak officially on our behalf, especially locally. The local press and radio have an enormous following, and offer opportunities to get our message across, to tell people of our ability to help, and to promote membership.*

If you think you can help us in this way, please let us know. It will strengthen the rights of children to have the involvement of both their parents.

Listed below are several points we would ask you to consider:

1) That there is nothing about your character, conduct or parenting that would bring discredit to our cause if it became publicly known. Examples would be any criminal convictions that might reflect badly on you, us or our cause if known. If in doubt, approach a trustee or our Chief Executive in confidence.

2) That you will always speak in support of the values of the charity. The National office holds papers detailing such values, which can be sent to you on request. To summarise, we are a charity that exists to promote one aspect of child welfare; the right of children to a full and free relationship with both of their parents, even if they live apart. Our first task is personal support, to help parents first to get and then to use for the best, enough time with their children. Our second task is lobbying, of the sort charities have always done, to prevent the problem at source by the full recognition of the rights of children. We are an equal opportunities charity that respects diversity and rejects prejudice against any section of the population.

3) That you will always endeavour to keep informed of the developing policy of the charity, and to support that publicly. Papers, such as policy statements and press releases will be published periodically on the website and may be sent to you. There can inevitably be lively debate within the charity over policy matters; this is healthy and you are welcome to contribute. However, our public stand must be consistent.

4) We are a one-issue charity, although that issue has many facets. We are internally divided, as one would expect, on every other matter except the rights of children to both their parents. Please do not express views on other matters in the name of FNF.

5) You are asked to seek advice from the national office or a trustee if there are any areas which are unclear to you.

6) You are asked to report back on your activities as and when you can, but not less than four times a year.

7) Please attend national events such as the AGM, the volunteers' conference or other ad hoc events as you can, and please keep your nearest branch fully informed.

*Do you think you can help?*

If so, please contact our national office and they will put a trustee or known local officer in touch with you. All being well we will give you 'our badge' and then we will look forward to YOUR creative input, for example taking the initiative to contact your local media, and other means of communicating our message as broadly as possible.

*Thank you again.*