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# **What Happens to the Family Home**

When Couples Separate or  
Divorce?

# The 5 “W’s” and How

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1. What is MRP – Matrimonial Real Property?
2. Why Develop a Six Nations Law?
3. Who will it Apply to?
4. When will this Law begin to Apply?
5. Where will this law apply?
6. How will this Six Nations law be developed?

# What is MRP?

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- MRP refers to Matrimonial Real Property.
- MRP Matrimonial real property is often viewed as the "family home." This is the home that the spouses lived in at the time they separated or that was intended to be occupied by them as the family home. This type of "real property" is permanent and can also be described as real property or "immovable". Matrimonial real property includes land held by one or both spouses and used by the family, as well as houses, sheds and any other property that is securely attached to the land.
- Matrimonial real property does not include other kinds of movable family property like vehicles, furniture, or cash.

# Why a Six Nations Law

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- There is no law currently protecting our citizens on MRP
- We are exercising our Inherent Jurisdiction.
- Federal Gov't will impose its law if we don't

# Who will the law apply to?

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- It will apply to all Six Nations members who currently reside or own property on the reserve.

# When will this law apply?

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- This law will apply once it is fully developed and ratified/supported by Six Nations members through a process we have to determine.
- It could take a year or longer to develop our MRP law.

# Where will the law apply?

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- The Six Nations MRP law will apply on the Six Nations reserve.
- If and how it may apply to the larger Six Nations territory will have to be determined later on in the consultation process.

# How will the law be developed.

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- Through a community process at a pace set by the community.
- Community consultation processes to be decided by community and can include community meetings, focus groups, district meetings, large family meetings & surveys, etc.
- Will encourage fullest participation

# How...2

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- Seeking community input
- Involve confederacy & 2 comm. Reps on Planning Committee
- Use staff expertise
- Use existing models for ideas
- Recording input – use rolling draft