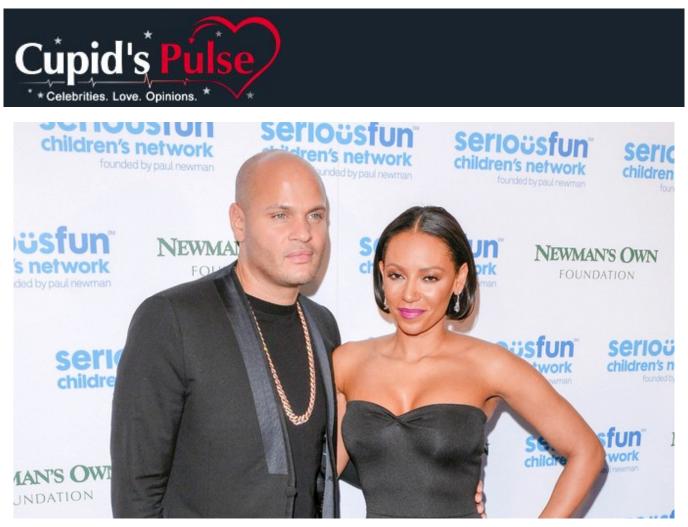
Celebrity Divorce: Mel B & Stephen Belafonte Reach Partial Divorce Settlement



By Karley Kemble

<u>Celebrity exes</u> Mel B and Stephen Belafonte have reached a partial divorce settlement. While the exact terms have not been disclosed, <u>UsMagazine.com</u> has confirmed that they have also agreed to a partial custody settlement of their six-yearold daughter Madison. Mel B announced her <u>celebrity divorce</u> in March, with allegations that Belafonte had an affair with their nanny. In a heartbreaking statement, Mel B stated, "I am in fear of my safety, and I am in fear of being irreparably harmed." She was allowed a temporary restraining in May, and still awaits a domestic violence restraining order to be

finalized.

This celebrity divorce is partially settled, but not all the way. What are some ways to make your divorce proceedings more efficient and civil?

Cupid's Advice:

Sometimes when it comes down to it, divorce is the right decision for you and your partner. There certainly is potential for drama to fester within divorce proceedings, but if you want to avoid the added stress of a long and messy battle, check out these tips from Cupid:

1.Don't be defensive: When you're going through a rough divorce, a defensive guard might be your first instinct. Emotions are high, and maybe things aren't going your way. You are entitled to your feelings, though it is important to refrain from a "you started it" mentality. Be as mature as you can – it will make your divorce run a lot smoother.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Divorce: Mel B Makes Fashion Statement</u> <u>About Her Ex At The VMA's</u>

2. Nix the disses: While it's okay to vent to a close friend or your immediate family, you shouldn't let the hostility saturate. Don't trash talk your ex to everyone you meet. When you do that, you're making your private business a public ordeal. If you only have negative thoughts about your ex, consider keeping them out of the conversation. As hard as that may be, you'll find a positive mindset is beneficial to your mental well-being. **Related Link:** <u>Celebrity Divorce: Mel B's Sister Slams Her Ex</u> <u>Stephen Belafonte After Abuse Claims</u>

3. Stay out of court: If you two can manage, try and come to an agreement without the help of lawyers. Not only is it easier on your bank accounts, it'll save you both a lot of time. It also will prevent a load of drama – we've all seen how messy divorce proceedings can get on T.V.!

Have you or has somebody you know gone through a rough divorce? How did you cope? Let us know below.