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Plan on post-prep divorces

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Memo to Manhattan parents applying to the city's prestigious prep schools: hold off on that divorce.

Divorce lawyers and private school consultants are advising clients to keep their crumbling relationships together until their kid's application is in -- because the city's top private schools frown on broken homes.

"I advise my clients to hold off on the divorce if they can," said lawyer Nancy Chemtob, whose firm is currently handling more than 100 cases in which families have applications pending at top kindergartens like Trinity, Riverdale, Chapin, Brearley, Dalton and Spence.

All of them plan to get divorced as soon as they receive acceptance letters in February or March, Chemtob said.

"I'll say, 'What's another few months?' "she said.

Amanda Uhry, founder of Manhattan Private School Advisors, charges her clients \$15,000 to guide them through the admissions process to elite academies that charge upward of \$25,000 in annual tuition -- for kindergarten.

Uhry said it was also a financial calculation on the part of the posh campuses, which depend on hefty contributions from wealthy parents.

"A divorced dad is not so quick to give millions to a school as a married dad," said Uhry. "Married people are also often richer than divorced people."