

The **SMILE Program** was created by the Honorable Edward Sosnick, Judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court, Oakland County, Michigan, and Family Law attorney Richard S. Victor, senior partner of the Law Offices of Victor and Victor, PLLC, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, in 1989.

The program was designed to help provide education to parents going through divorce so they are better able to understand how to help themselves and their children during a most difficult time in their lives. The underlying theme of SMILE is to teach parents that the greatest gift they can give their children is the right to love the other parent. Through SMILE, parents learn the needs of their children and how they can fill the void, which exists for children when a family faces separation and ultimate divorce. Parents learn that even though they may no longer be marriage partners, they will always be parent partners for their children.

The SMILE Program could not have been possible without the aid and support of the Oakland County, Michigan Friend of the Court and the Family Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan.

SMILE was named by Denise Victor, as a positive acronym for this project, which is now provided, in some form, in every state in the United States.

A portion of book sales will benefit the **VICTOR SMILE FOUNDATION**, a non-profit organization created by SMILE Co-founder, Richard S. Victor.

VICTOR SMILE FOUNDATION

"Helping children and parents make the divorce and separation process livable." The mission is to provide education and guidance to children, parents and families, who are going through separation and divorce, in order to help them understand the changes which occur to the family when divorce becomes a life choice for parents. The Foundation will provide support, through its programs and teachings, which will help families, otherwise in dysfunction, learn to cope with each other and how parents can both work together to help their children through this most difficult time in their lives. For more information on the **VICTOR SMILE FOUNDATION** visit:

www.victorsmilefoundation.org

Sometimes Kids
need a special friend
to talk to
when divorce happens
in their families.
I'm **B.B.the Bear**,
and I am here to be
your special friend
now that your Mom and Dad
have decided to live in
separate homes.



Even though you may not all live in the same home, **both** your parents still love you just as they always have. I will be a reminder of how much your Mom and Dad love you.

When you take me to your Mom's
you and me make three.

And when you take me to your Dad's ...
you and me make three too!



B.B.'s SMILE Tip For Parents

(Start Making It Livable For Everyone)

Divorce is confusing for children. They may be afraid of abandonment or that they will have nowhere to live. Sometimes children return to, or need security items. Encouraging them to take B.B. or another security item with them to both parents' homes will help provide comfort, security and consistency.