



# My Divorce Story

By Shelly Bloom

After 38 years of marriage, and over 30 years of abuse, I decided life was too short to stay in a bad marriage. I had no idea what the next chapter of my life was going to look like, but it had to be better than the past 38 years. Grateful that we had three wonderful daughters and four grandchildren, but there had to be something better for me in my personal life.

I divorced fairly quickly. I won't say it was equitable, but it was completed. I think I spent a full year eating, sleeping and breathing the divorce. It was time to move on, find a rental, start getting social (after 40 years of not dating-that is an experience) and making a living.

Many have been told they will live in poverty for the rest of their lives after divorce. DON'T BELIEVE IT. If you will, it will happen.

My life is very interesting right now.

- I own my home
- I have a good, not perfect, relationship with my children and grandchildren.
- I run a few businesses and I am actually making a living and my income is increasing every year.
- Except for my mortgage, I will be debt free by the end of the year.
- I have an online show and I am writing my book (It should have been completed already!)
- I did on-line dating for a few years. That has been quite an experience BUT I have met a lovely, kind and giving man and we have been together for a year.

The pieces are fitting together. Nothing is perfect but is as close as it is going to get at this age (63). I am working hard for my financial well being and future retirement. I still don't talk to my Wasband, but I prefer it that way. We see each other at family gatherings and I say hello, but that is as far as I choose to take it. Whatever my financial outlook is, I can say that getting up every morning with a smile on my face is PRICELESS!