

~~(2) may issue an injunction to protect any party to the action from physical harm or harassment.~~

~~(b) Unless the court expressly provides otherwise, the filing of an action for an annulment, a limited divorce, or an absolute divorce does not constitute lis pendens with respect to any property of a party.~~

~~(c) In an action for alimony, annulment, or divorce, a final decree may not be entered except on oral testimony by the plaintiff in a hearing before an examiner or a master or in open court.~~

~~(d) [An equity court] THE FAMILY COURT shall hear and determine a case for alimony in as full and ample a manner as a case for alimony could be heard and determined by the Ecclesiastical Courts of England.~~

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~~(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

~~(b) (1) "Abuse" means any of the following acts:~~

~~(i) an act that causes serious bodily harm;~~

~~(ii) an act that places a person eligible for relief in fear of imminent serious bodily harm;~~

~~(iii) battery or assault and battery;~~

~~(iv) rape or sexual offense as defined by Article 27, §§ 462 through 464C or attempted rape or sexual offense;~~

~~(v) false imprisonment;~~

~~(vi) abuse of a child, as defined in Title 5, Subtitle 7 of this article; or~~

~~(vii) abuse of a vulnerable adult.~~

~~(2) Nothing in this subtitle shall be construed to prohibit reasonable punishment, including reasonable corporal punishment, in light of the age and condition of the child, from being performed by a parent or stepparent of the child.~~

~~(c) "Cohabitant" means a person who has had a sexual relationship with the respondent and resided with the respondent in the home for a period of at least 90 days within 1 year before the filing of the petition.~~

~~(d) "Court" means the [District Court or a circuit court in this State] FAMILY COURT.~~

~~[(c)](F) "Emergency family maintenance" means a monetary award given to or for a person eligible for relief to whom the respondent has a duty of support under this article based on:~~

~~(1) the financial needs of the person eligible for relief; and~~