

SMILE Program

The Judges of the Second Judicial Circuit, Lincoln and Minnehaha Counties, have adopted a general requirement that all parents in divorce, custody, and visitation (parenting time) cases complete a short online class communicating the effects of divorce or parental conflict on children. In this Circuit, the judges have chosen to use the SMILE Program, which stands for “Start Making It Livable for Everyone”. SMILE was originally developed by a group of Michigan courts and “Friend of the Courts” programs (called Court Appointed Special Advocates, or CASA, here in South Dakota). SMILE is now used by many states and jurisdictions across the United States.

The SMILE Program is offered online. The program usually takes less than two hours to complete and involves a video and information booklet. There is no fee. If you have questions, please call Court Administration at 605-367-5920.

With the links below, you will find (1) the video, (2) the booklet, and (3) a verification form that must be signed by you and one other person to verify that you watched the entire video and reviewed all the pages of the booklet. Once completed, please email a scanned copy of the completed verification form to ujswb2nd@uj.s.state.sd.us.

(1) [SMILE Video](#)

(2) [SMILE Brochure](#)

(3) [Online Verification Form](#)

Our special thanks to the Friend of the Court Program in Oakland County, Michigan, for allowing us to use this program and to post the video and booklet on the web.