.aw panel: Men do better in divorce

By Tom Ferguson staff writer

"I would rather represent five men than one woman," said Michigan's best.known divorce lawyer, "because it's easier . . Women do not do well in divorce."

Henry Baskin was one of the stars on la list that spilled over both ends of last week's hearing schedule for the Michigan Supreme Court Task Force on Gender Issues in the Courts.

The panel seeks to answer the questions: Are state courts sexisf.

BASKIN, acknowledging there had been progress since "the time when you couldn't get a man out of the bouse unless he murdered her," said: "I've had a circuit judge in this

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HASKIN, acknowledging there had been progress since "the time when you couldn't get a man out of the bouse unless he murdered her," said: "The had a circuit judge in this very building regale me with how he cheated his wife out of his judicial pension plan."

The solution, Baskin said, lies in "the educational process for circuit uluges . . . and practicing lawyers should do it."

The task force is examining gending the state of t

looker, she'll be able to get another husband."

BASKIN, acknowledging there

with a leg up. It lan't just the woman that suffers; it's the children."

• A male single parent urged that divorce "be taken out of the adversarial arena. The only person who made any money in my divorce was the lawer."

who made any money in my divorce was the lawyer."

• A divorced man who said that

in 1983 I saw my kids for 15 hours, in 1984 for six hours, in 1985 for 10 hours. Mind you, in all this time, I never missed a child support payment. I met my obligations. The state has never met its obligations."

NUMEROUS WITNESSES spoke of financial inequilies for women in divorce cases, principally in child support but beginning with a typical wife's lesser financial resources for waging the legal battle in the first place.

Baskin wenter.

Baskin wryly noted that "the at-torney for the woman, who might have two or three children, is aud-denly representing three or four peo-ple." Ellen Hayse, of the Michigan Coa-lition Against Domestic Violence, testiffed that "many women in pris-on are there because of gender bias.



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and Cally Sollman have been sharing their discover-ies with contioners. The couple travels to Mexico's best-known craft regions here is year in search of handcrafted consta-tat, of Clausas, hand seven Zapoles wooler craft, clot lost, levely and Other become species with re-lock lost, levely and Other become species with re-lock lost, levely and Other become species the country's long laction of lob art. Also feltered as crafts from Guatemala, El Sah-dor, Colomba, Escador, Paru, the Domitican Re-poble, Parayuay and other countries.

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Washington Square Mazz. In the Control of Interesting and unusual people, noyal tomes to a creative atmosphere full of Interesting and unusual people, noyal tolk can't be beat!"
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