ABSTRACT: Parental authority is a set of rights and duties that concern both the person and the property of the child and belong equally to both parents. As regards the exercise of parental authority, the rule is that established by Article 503, paragraph 1 of the Civil Code, in the sense that parents exercise together and equally parental authority. This study aims to analyze the institution of parental authority, with emphasis on situations where parental authority can be exercised exclusively by one of the parents, as reflected in current legislation as well as in judicial practice.

KEYWORDS: parental authority; the minor; the guardianship court; the best interests of the child.

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