## FLOW OF PERSONAL STATUS CASES

SUPREME COURT	Appellate Jurisdiction Only	
	PETTY BENCHES All cases (Some are referred to the GRAND BENCH)	GRAND BENCH Cases referred by the PETTY BENCHES
	Final appeal (called <i>Jokoku</i> appeal)	
HIGH COURT	Appellate Jurisdiction Only	
	by a THREE-JUDGE PANEL	
Appeal to the Court of Second Instance (called <i>Koso</i> appeal)		
FAMILY COURT	Original Jurisdiction	
	by a THREE-JUDGE PANEL or a SINGLE-JUDGE COURT depending on the nature and importance of the case involved.	

Note: An appeal to the court of second instance may be filed against the final judgment of the family court, which is the court of first instance, when the appellant claims the fact-finding or legal determination by the family court to be unreasonable. A final appeal may be filed against the final judgment of the high court, which is the court of second instance, when the appellant claims the judgment to be unconstitutional or otherwise in violation of law.