

## Why PAS Children Could Pass a Lie Detector Test

By Linda Gottlieb, LMFT, LCSW-r

PAS children **BELIEVE** the frivolous, malicious, deprecating accusations they concoct against their targeted/alienated parent. I am absolutely convinced that they can pass any lie detector test without batting an eyelash. Just observe them and you will agree.

Why is this so? To begin with, these children must create accusations in order to justify their unwarranted deprecation and rejection of their targeted parent. Because it is so anti-instinctual to hate and reject a parent, a rationale must be invented. The rationale becomes a delusional system that justifies how they maltreat, marginalize, and reject their alienated parent. This is just one reason why alienation is such a terrible form of psychological child abuse: creating a delusional system is a form of psychosis! Think about it: would it not be palatable for a child to reject an abusive parent? But to the contrary, how do you justify rejecting a competent, loving, supportive, and involved parent?

The question then becomes why PAS children are so susceptible to the brainwashing of the alienating parent. This is also a no-brainer: it is virtually impossible for a child to reject and contradict a parent upon whom they are so dependent. Sometimes the alienating parent is the nonresidential parent. In those situations, these children are bribed for their allegiance. What child can resist the offer for all sorts of electronic goodies, the biggest being YOUR OWN AUTOMOBILE!

Let us not forget the sagacious comments of Christopher Barden, Ph.D., J.D., LP, (2006) psychologist and attorney, having received two national research awards in psychology and a law degree with honors from Harvard Law School:

“There can be no credible controversy about the power of parents to influence children.”

Dr. Barden further challenged every professional who intervenes in child custody cases to recognize their

“critical obligation to carefully review the influence of parents, therapists or other adults on the attitudes, beliefs and memories of children.”