

THE RESOLUTION TO HELPING A CHILD WHO EXPRESSES HATRED AND FEAR OF A PARENT IS AMELIORATION----NOT ALIENATION

In what situations other than the PAS would parents, therapists, attorneys for the child, child protection staff, and judges condone a child's expression of anger, sanction the child's tenacity in remaining wedded to hatred, and validate the child's disrespectful and abusive treatment of another human being? Why has society reached a consensus that we do not want our citizens walking around like a volcano waiting to erupt, but yet the professionals in the systems which impact the family turn a blind eye to a child's explosive expressions of hatred and anger for a parent? Why do we send children to "anger management" therapy in every other situation of out of control anger, but we do not recognize the importance of healing the unsurpassed meaningful parent/child relationship in cases of the PAS? Why do we sanction the severing of that relationship when in all other cases of alienation between intimate parties we encourage atonement, resolution, and healing through therapy, mediation, or the peace table?

We know that parents regularly bring their children to therapy to help them overcome "their anger issues;" that teachers require that angry students get fixed in therapy or face expulsion; that judges admonish the delinquent children who come before them that they must learn how to sublimate their anger or suffer penalties. Society does this because we recognize that carrying around anger is unhealthy and often leads to anti-social behaviors, if unchecked.

When it comes to the PAS, however, all too many mental health professionals determine to rescue their child patients from their allegedly abusive parent instead of helping them to resolve their perceived or misperceived perceptions of their targeted/alienated parent and encourage healing and reunification through use of the therapeutic visits. The child protective worker empowers PAS children by allowing them to terminate the visit early if they express fear of their targeted parent, merely because the parent imposes discipline and limits; the attorney for the child merely mimics the words of the child client who is the puppet of the ventriloquist alienating parent; and the judge cowardly fails to enforce visitation due to the child's spurious expressions of fear for the targeted parent.

Society must recognize that children cannot grow up healthy carrying around a 50 pound bowling ball of anger and hatred for a parent---especially because these feelings are spurious, so the PAS child becomes alienated from herself/himself. Resolution of the child's feelings must be ameliorated in therapy with the alienated parent. Allowing the severing of the relationship between a parent and child due to brainwashing is detrimental to the child.

TOO MANY OF US PROFESSIONALS HAVE BEEN COMPLICIT IN FACILITATING THE PAS----A MOST SERIOUS FORM OF EMOTIONAL CHILD ABUSE.

And that is what the PAS is----a serious form of emotional child abuse----because the hole left in the child by the expunged parent is not filled with good things. It is filled with drugs and alcohol; eating disorders; defiance of authority; emotional disturbances; criminal activities; and all the behaviors from Dante's Inferno.

WHY SHOULD WE CARE ABOUT PARENTAL ALIENATION SYNDROME?
BECAUSE IT IS CHILD ABUSE OF THE WORST KIND.