


# PASG<sup>2023</sup>

JUNE

5<sup>th</sup> International Conference



Fort  
Collins

## Welcome to PASG 2023: Fort Collins, CO!

### *A message from your host*

On behalf of the Parental Alienation Study Group (PASG) Board of Directors and as your local conference host, I am pleased to welcome you to Fort Collins and the Colorado State University Campus! This 5<sup>th</sup> international conference promises to be an exciting time for scientists, legal and mental health practitioners, advocates, students, and family members affected by parental alienation to come together and share their knowledge and experiences. The conference committee was astounded by the quality of submissions for the program, and we are excited at the diverse array of topics and perspectives that are featured.

This conference could not come at a better time. While we have been making many scientific and practical advances in this field, we have also been increasingly faced with fierce challenges to these advances by critics in the form of science denial and ad hominem attacks. One of the goals of the conference committee was for the program to provide content for attendees to better face and overcome these challenges. A second goal was to provide many opportunities for attendees to network, form and enhance professional relationships, build capacity for future endeavors, and of course, have some fun. This is no small task to accomplish over the course of a weekend, but if we are even partially successful in reaching these goals, we will be satisfied.

I hope you enjoy the conference and our time together, as well as the campus and beautiful little city I call home. A virtual visitor guide can be found here! <https://issuu.com/rmparent/docs/vfc2022-summer>

**Jennifer J. Harman, PhD**

### *A message from the current PASG President*

A hearty welcome to friends and colleagues! Many of us, who are now in Ft. Collins, Colorado, attended previous PASG conferences: Washington DC (2017); Stockholm, Sweden (2018); Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (2019); and Brussels, Belgium (2021). Over these few years, there has been an important shift in the content and tone of the presentations. In the past, the presenters were more hesitant and cautious; now they have become assertive and authoritative. In the past, the research papers were tentative and somewhat speculative; this year you will hear research results that are more robust and definitive. In the last two years, important papers have been published regarding parental alienation theory in highly regarded, peer-reviewed journals. Also, the membership of PASG has grown, and we continue to welcome the exciting synergy created by practitioners, researchers, parents, grandparents, and formerly alienated children. Please enjoy this weekend and stay in touch after you return to your homes and families.

**William Bernet, M.D.**

## Sponsors

The **Domestic Abuse and Violence International Alliance (DAVIA)** is non-profit Human Rights organization. DAVIA's organizational members subscribe to the principles of domestic violence and abuse policies that are *science-based, family-affirming, and sex-inclusive*. Domestic *violence* consists of actions or threats of violence directed towards an intimate partner. Domestic *abuse* includes the use of coercive control, false allegations, and parental alienating behaviors. <http://endtodv.org/davia/>



**The John Mast Foundation's mission**, is to provide a platform of support for parents and others that are the targets of false allegations and parental alienation. Their aim to be an educational resource as well as provide access to vetted professionals such as attorneys, experts, coaches, and others that are well versed in these areas. John Mast's life was destroyed through false allegations and for just loving his kids. Their goal is to provide trusted resources for anyone who is fighting to be in their kids' lives for all the right reasons and needing support. The foundation is sponsoring the screening of a documentary about John Mast, *I Stand with John*, at the conclusion of the conference on Sunday evening.



The **Parental Alienation Awareness Organization (PAAO)** was founded to provide support for anyone experiencing this family bond obstruction. They are a social network providing supportive services, and they raise awareness and provide education about this epidemic of mental and emotional child abuse through Bubbles of Love and other projects. Their mission is to educate the general public, judges, schools, police, mental health counselors, religious leaders, and any perpetrators who may be unaware of the disastrous effect of their alienating behavior on the children they purport to love.



**CONTEMPORARY FAMILY MAGAZINE** is proud to sponsor the 5th Annual PASG 2023 Conference! This publication serves as a flagship for Preserving Family Ties Media, a global resource providing family research and addressing the complex issues of child custody, parental alienation, and intervention. Our podcast, **CF DIGITAL!** brings exclusive conversations with family professionals, researchers, and policymakers from around the globe who are family professionals and child advocates in their communities across disciplines who bring new options to improve child outcomes when parents separate. Visit [www.contemporaryfamilymagazine.com](http://www.contemporaryfamilymagazine.com).

**ContemporaryFamily**  
GLOBAL RESOURCES FOR EFFECTIVE COPARENTING

**Brian Ludmer, Kyle Ludmer, and the team at LudmerLaw** are proud to sponsor the 5th Annual 2023 PASG Conference and its Printed Program. We look forward to meeting and renewing relationships and sharing knowledge with everyone in Fort Collins.



*Creative, effective, and efficient solutions*

## Acknowledgments

Aside from the conference sponsors, PASG would like to thank a number of people who have helped to make this conference possible. First, we thank all the contributors of the talks, workshops, and other conference events, as without you, we would not have been able to put on such a spectacular program. We would also like to thank the committee that reviewed submissions and worked on the schedule, as it was a very time-consuming task. This committee consisted of PASG members Yvonne Parnell, R. Devyn Mullis, Jennifer Harman, Alan Blotcky, Lisa Rothfus, and Sandra Feitor.

We extend a very special thank you to Marcin “atoli” Podlasiak for donating his time to develop the logo for this conference, the cover for this program, and other promotional materials. Marcin is a Polish graphic designer living in England. He graduated as a Graphic Designer at Gloucester College in 2022, and he specializes in shorts, animation, social media materials, flyers. He is dedicated to using graphics to draw attention to the problems of humanity overlooked by the mass media. Contact: [designatoli@gmail.com](mailto:designatoli@gmail.com) Portfolio: <https://marcinpodlasiak1.myportfolio.com/>

## Schedule-at-a-Glance

Note: Not all co-authors of talks will be in person at the conference, and a small number of the presentations will be pre-recorded and played during the conference. These individuals will be signified by an asterisk in the biography section of the program, and most plan to attend virtually and will be available to answer questions live after their presentations have been shown. No unauthorized audio or video recordings will be allowed.

### Friday, June 16th

Time	Event	Location	
5-9 pm	Registration	The Pavilion at Laurel Village	
6-9 pm	<b>Networking event: Refreshments and lite fare will be served</b>	The Pavilion at Laurel Village	
	Welcome address		Demosthenes Lorandos, PhD, JD
	Memoria for Drs. Steven Miller & Richard Sauber		Demosthenes Lorandos, PhD, JD
9 pm on	After hours on-campus housing registration	The Pavilion at Laurel Village	

### Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>: MC'd by Lawrence DeMarco

Time	Event	Location	
8-10 am	Registration	Lobby, LSC	
9-9:30 am	<b>Opening Address</b>	Ballrooms C/D	
	Milestones: Where Have We Been? Where Are We Headed?		William Bernet, MD Demosthenes Lorandos, PhD, JD
9:30-11:00 am	<b>Scientific Advances in Understanding Parental Alienation, Domestic Violence, and Child Abuse</b>	Ballrooms C/D	
	Lack of Gender Bias in 16 Years of Judicial Decisions Regarding Abuse and Parental Alienation		Jennifer J. Harman, PhD Christine Giancarlo, PhD Demosthenes Lorandos, PhD, JD, Brian Ludmer, LLB
	Abused and Rejected: The Link Between Intimate Partner Violence and Parental Alienation		Gena Rowlands, PhD Richard Warshak, PhD Jennifer J. Harman, PhD

	Is there an illusory correlation between the “dismissal” of abuse allegations and parental alienation?	Hesam Varavei, BS Jennifer J. Harman, PhD					
	Findings of Abuse in Families Affected by Parental Alienation	Amanda Sharples, PhD Jennifer J. Harman, PhD Demosthenes Lorandos, PhD, JD					
<b>Morning Concurrent sessions</b>							
11:15-12:00	Advances in Memory Research and Applications to Criminal and Family Law	Matthew Rhodes, PhD	Ballroom C/D	Who's Meeting Our Children's Needs - Avoiding Pitfalls When Parenting Reluctant Children	Loretta Maase, LPC-S Sandra Aguilar, LPC	Longs Peak	
12-1:30 pm	<b>Lunch</b>					The Foundry	
1:30-3:00 pm	<b>Scientific understanding of the impact of PA on the family</b>						
	"Like burying my relationship with my children:" Relational turning points experienced by both alienated parents and adult children of parental alienation	M. Devyn Mullis, PhD			Ballrooms C/D		
	Lost Dads: Results from the Fathers and Family Breakdown, Separation, and Divorce (FBSD) Project	Ben Hine, PhD Eilish Roy					
	The Alienation of Grandparents After Parental Separation: A Widespread but Overlooked Phenomenon	Edward Kruk, PhD					
	Understanding the Alienated Child	Mandy Matthewson, PhD Amanda Sillars					
<b>Afternoon Concurrent Sessions</b>							
3:00-3:45	Parent-Child Contact Problems & Parental Alienation: Orders, Options, and Interventions	Monika Logan, LPC, LSOTP Judge Lyda Ness Garcia	Ballrooms C/D	Interactive Session on Enhanced Regulation and Empowerment	Jayna Haney, MS, LPC, EMDR	Longs Peak	
3:45-4 pm	<b>Coffee Break</b>						

4-5:15 pm	<b>Protecting families from extreme outcomes associated with Parental alienation</b>			<b>Panel of Family Members Affected by Parental Alienation</b>		
	The John Mast Case - What We Can Learn from This Tragedy	Kevin Hickey	Ballrooms C/D	Opening Presentation: From Alienated Child to Alienation Researcher: An Autoethnographic Analysis of Men's Experiences of Parental Alienation and IPV	Ben Hine, PhD Ian Hine	Longs Peak
	Homicides, Murder - Suicides, Abductions. Why Threat Assessments and Safety Plans are Necessary in PA Cases	Catherine W. MacWillie		Other Panelists	M. Devyn Mullis, PhD & M. Ryan Mullis, JD  Jason & Victoria Flowerday	
Applicability of PA to International Child Abduction Cases	Andrew Bossory, JD	Carolyn MacCloud & Caitie Coyle				
5:15-6 pm	A Real Life Parental Alienation (PA) Case: Avoiding Sins of Omission and Commission			Kelley A. Baker, PhD Michael Bone, PhD Robert Evans, PhD Amy Eichler, PhD	Ballrooms C/D	

## Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>: MC'd by incoming PASG President, Virginia Griffin Donnell, Esq.

Time	Event			Location		
<b>Morning Concurrent Sessions</b>						
7:30-9 am	Surviving the Witness Stand as a PA Expert	Brian Ludmer, LLB Demosthenes Lorandos, PhD, JD Alissa Sherry, PhD	Ballrooms C/D	Father's Day Support Group	Cindy Hirsch, International Support Network for Alienated Families	Longs Peak
9-10:45 am	<b>Parental Alienation: Law and Practice</b>			<b>Advances in Abuse and Custody Evaluation Practice</b>		
	Parental Alienation case law analysis from the Irish High Court and European Court of Human Rights	Andrew Doyle	Ballrooms C/D	Using the PARQ in Custody Evaluations When Parental Alienation is Alleged	Ken Lewis	Longs Peak
	Parental Alienation in Portugal - between evolution and convictions by ECHR	Sandra Feitor, PhD		Use of timelines to refute false allegations of abuse	Alan Blotcky, PhD	
How to Manage and Present the Legal Case Responsive to PA Dynamics	Brian Ludmer, LLB	Reliability of the Five-Factor Model for		Stephen Morrison, PhD Robyn Ring, PhD		



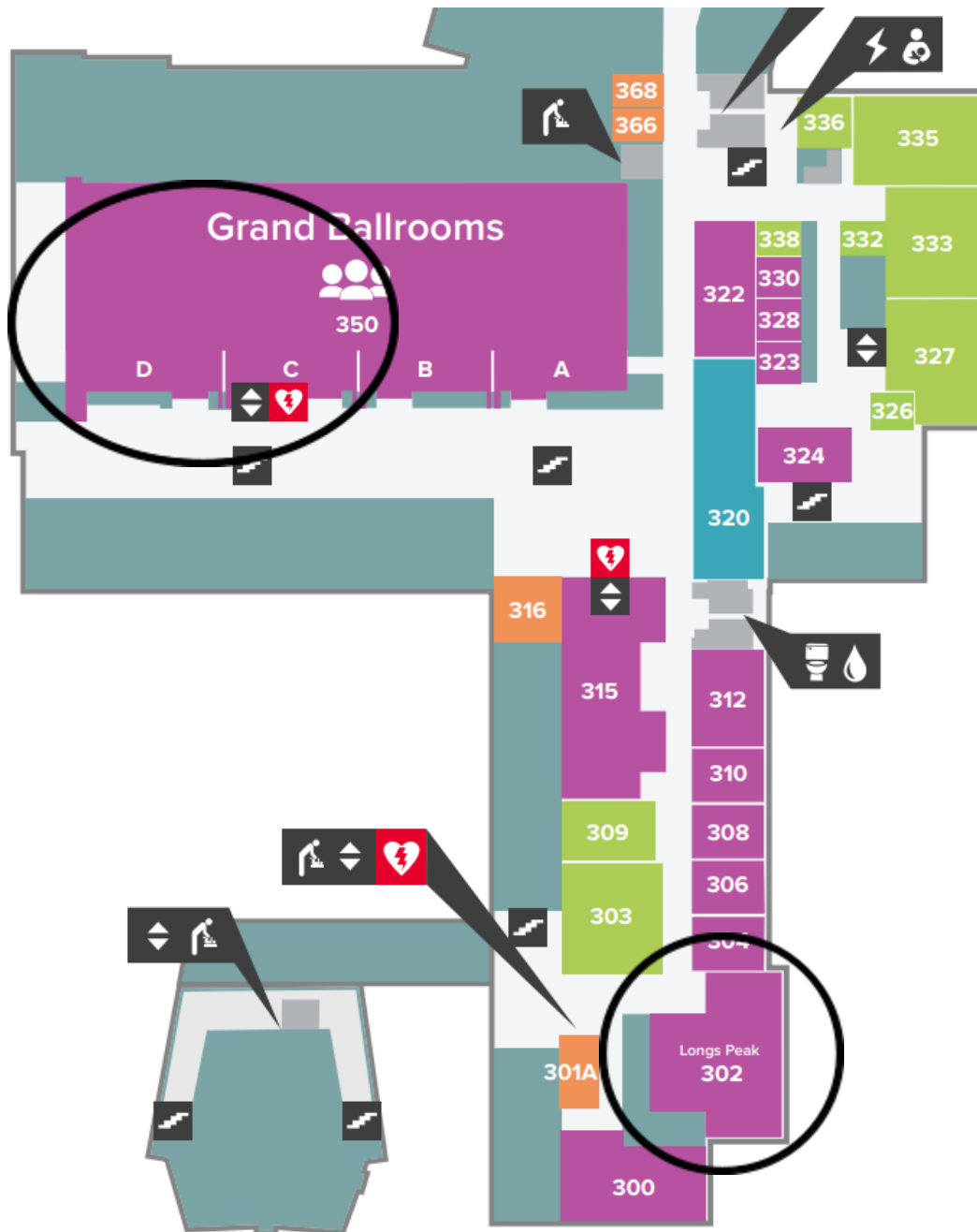
				Determining Parental Alienation		
	Researching PA as a guardian ad litem in the Netherlands	Heleen Koppejan-Luitze		Conducting Scientifically Informed Child Custody Evaluations When Parental Alienation and Domestic Violence Have Been Alleged	Shawn Wygant, PhD	
	The child's hearing and its importance for the definition of the custody regime in parental alienation cases	Miriam Afonso Brigas, PhD		The evaluation of accusations of child sexual abuse in Brazil - evolutions, setbacks and difficulties.	Andreia Soares Calcada Alexandra Ullman	
11-12 pm	<b>Poster Session &amp; Refreshments</b>			<b>Ballrooms C/D, LSC</b>		
Posters will also remain up all day	<i>Invitation to Provide Feedback on a Proposed Social Psychology Experiment that Examines Possible Human Bias in Identifying Parental Alienation</i> Howie Dennison					
	<i>Identifying and combating mis/disinformation about parental alienation (in science, the court, media, and publishing)</i> William Bernet, MD Shenmeng Xu, PhD.					
	<i>Executive Functioning and Resilience</i> Joan Kloth-Zanard Keith Kosierowski					
	<i>Global Alienation Starts Small</i> Vesta Spivakovsky - Chandler					
	<i>Pathway to Parental Alienation: The Child's Journey</i> Tina Mayer					
	<i>A Game Changer: Digital Products can help Alienated Parents Effectively and Inexpensively</i> Lawrence DeMarco					
	<i>Parental Alienation, Suicide, and Medical Assistance in Dying</i> Kelsey Green					
	<i>How bad is bad? Perceptual differences in the communication of severity in intimate partner violence</i> Sverker Sikström, PhD					
<b>Late Poster Submissions will be considered</b>						
12-1 pm	<b>Lunch</b>			<b>The Foundry</b>		
<b>Afternoon Concurrent Sessions</b>						
1-2:30 pm	<b>Evidence based intervention for parental alienation</b>					
	Supervised Visitation, A Court ordered Intervention	Mark Roseman, PhD	Ballrooms C/D	Preventing PA, Identification and Early Intervention: Why, How, and Who Does It?	Philip Leon Marcus Mary Alvarez, PhD Chris Turner, JD, MSW	Longs Peak
	Safe and Effective Treatment for Moderate and Severe Cases of Parental Alienation	Linda Gottlieb, LMFT Loretta Maase, MA, LPC-S				

		Caitlin Burgess, LMFT, JD				
	Family Bridges Aftercare Protocol - working with alienating parents	Yvonne Parnell, PhD		Combatting misinformation about parental alienation reunification programs	Virginia Griffin Donnell, Esq. Brian Ludmer LLB	
2:30-4	<b>Working with alienated parents: Mental health and legal services</b>			<b>Alienated Parent's Panel</b>		
	Parental Alienation Signs to Identify During the Custody Evaluation	Merle Lewis	Ballrooms C/D	Matt Peloquin Amanda Ngyuen Josh Gonze Joy Fuhrman		Longs Peak
	Staying Focused in PA Litigation: Making Economical Use of Litigation Resources	Cory Sprunger Natalie Williamson Brayton Conley, JD				
	The Catch 22's and Common Mistakes of Targeted Parents in Parental Alienation	Randy Flood, MA, LLP				
	The psychological consultation in the divorce	Cathia Chumbo				
4-4:15	<b>Coffee Break</b>					
4:15-5:45	<b>Parental Alienation: State of Knowledge and Handling Misinformation</b>			<b>Advocacy: Building Capacity and Having an Impact</b>		
	Quality of Research on Parental Alienation	Joshua Marsden	Ballrooms C/D	Lessons from the Netherlands: Translation of research to advocacy	Heleen Koppejan-Luitze, MSc.	Longs Peak
	Characterization of the interdisciplinary nature of the parental alienation concept as reflected by professional journals	Sophie Roswall Bjorn Cedervall		The Brazilian parental alienation law 12.318/2010 - advances and setbacks	Andreia Soares Calcada	
	Publishing about parental alienation: How to overcome challenges and disseminate knowledge	Jennifer J. Harman, PhD William Bernet, MD		Networking and advocacy action planning: Addressing Kayden's Law and similar legislation. With Advocates Rael Lapenta and Claudia Ovalles	Julie Grayson, JD Joan Kloth-Zanard, MFT	
	Handling misinformation and future research priorities	Panel Discussion, including Stanley Korosi, PhD				
5:45-6 pm	<b>Closing Remarks: These Trying Times: The Future of PASG</b> Virginia Griffin Donnell, Esq.			Ballrooms C/D		
6:30-8:00 pm	<b>Screening of <i>I Stand with John</i> followed by Q &amp; A</b>			Longs Peak		



## Lory Student Center

Below is a section of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor floorplan of the Lory Student Center. The black circles indicate where the scheduled presentations will be held. Not included are rooms in the north wing of the building that are currently under renovation. The registration and sponsors' tables will be located in the hallway outside of the ballrooms.



## Food and Beverage Information

Included in all regular registration packages are lunches (Saturday and Sunday), as well as lite faire and two drink tickets for the Friday night networking event, as well as limited beverages and snacks in the Lory Student Center during breaks.

### Friday Networking Event: The Pavilion

Catering of this event will include a variety of light options to accommodate many diets. All food items will be clearly marked. Registrants will have two drink tickets that can be used for non-alcoholic beverages and/or wine and beer.

### Breakfast Options

Registrants who are staying in on-campus housing have breakfast included as part of their stay. Breakfast for these individuals is available at the Foundry (see below) starting at 7 am. If any attendees not staying on campus would like to purchase breakfast tickets, this can be done at the entrance to the Foundry itself.

### Lunch: The Foundry, Saturday and Sunday

The Foundry is a short walk from the Lory Student Center, and it is a food service center on campus that houses eight distinct micro-restaurants. With your lunch ticket that comes with your in-person registration, you can eat all you want. Options include:

**Theory:** A food truck inspired theme

**Piatto:** Italian cuisine

**Root:** Healthy salad and grain bowls

**Passport:** Rotating selection from 16 different cuisine types

**The Creamery:** An ice cream shop

**Kosher Bistro:** This the only certified kosher kitchen in all of Northern Colorado

**1870:** Comfort food

**Comido con Sabor:** Mexican themed cuisine

**How to get there:** Exit the west side of the Lory Student Center, and walk west past the lagoon, and then along W. Plum Street. The Foundry is in the Corbett and Parmelee Halls, on the north side of the street (see campus map).

### Local Restaurants, Bars, Breweries, and Distilleries

Fort Collins has a wide variety of dining options across the city, ensuring there is something for everyone. The city is also known as the “Napa Valley of Beer” because of the number of craft breweries that are spread across the city’s neighborhoods. You can visit here to explore options:

<https://www.visitftcollins.com/restaurants/?locale=en-US>. A few options within walking distance of the Lory Student Center are Café Vino, Nick’s Italian, Rainbow Café, Dam Good Tacos, The Mayor of Old Town, and Bawarchi Indian Cuisine.

# Specific Program Details

## Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup>

<b>The Pavilion at Laurel Village</b>		
5-9 pm	<b>Registration</b>	
6-9 pm	<b>Networking event</b>	The Networking Event is an opportunity for PASG conference attendees to socialize over cocktails and lite fare.  A memorial for late PASG members Dr. Richard Sauber and Dr. Steven Miller will also take place.
9 pm +	<b>After-hours Registration</b>	For attendees arriving after 9 pm and who need to check-in to their on-campus lodging reservations, you will go to the Pavilion, where details will be posted on the door on who to call/where to go to obtain your keys.

## Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>

<b>Lory Student Center</b>		
<b>Registration</b>	7-10 am	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor lobby, Lory Student Center
	After 10 am	A volunteer will be seated at the back of the Ballroom who can assist late attendees to obtain their name-tags and other materials.

## Ballrooms C/D: Opening Address

9:00 to 9:30 am

<b>Milestones: Where Have We Been? Where Are We Headed?</b>	William Bernet, MD Demosthenes Lorandos, PhD, JD	<p>Of course, parental alienation phenomena were described centuries before the famous paper published by Richard Gardner in <i>The Academy Forum</i> in 1985. Over many years, there have been numerous steps—and a few missteps—in the growth and evolution of our understanding of the identification of parental alienation, its etiology, and its diagnosis, as well as interventions for and ultimately the prevention of this mental condition. This presentation identifies twelve important milestones in the history of PA theory and answers the following questions: Where have we been? Where are we headed?</p>
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## Ballrooms C/D: Scientific Advances in Understanding Parental Alienation, Domestic Violence, and Child Abuse

9:30 to 11 am

<b>Lack of Gender Bias in 16 Years of Judicial Decisions Regarding Abuse and Parental Alienation</b>	Jennifer J. Harman, PhD Christine Giancarlo, PhD Demosthenes Lorandos, PhD, JD Brian Ludmer, LLB	<p>Recently, there have been national legislative efforts to control how child custody decisions are handled in family courts where allegations of abuse and of parental alienation (PA) are levied. The “findings” reported in such legislation have been largely based on an unreviewed, internet archived paper (Meier et al., 2019) that has not received support in the research of numerous scientists. In furtherance of this research, this study served as a second conceptual replication of the Meier et al. (2019) conclusions, this time using trial level court decisions from Canada. Six hypotheses designed from the Meier et al.’s (2019) conclusions were pre-registered on the Open Science Framework (OSF). Five-hundred cases where PA was found to have occurred in the family were sequentially selected from 4,889 Canadian trial court decisions. Independent coders who were blind to the study’s hypotheses coded all cases for details about custody and allegations of abuse. Once again, Meier et al.’s (2019) conclusory statements could not be replicated or verified. Some variability from the previous hypotheses testing with appellate case samples (Harman &amp; Lorandos, 2021) was observed. The results of this study confirm the unverifiability and non-replicability of the Meier et al. (2019) findings used to support legislative efforts to control custody decision making and judges’ discretion in courts. The negative impact of failing to base legislation on a comprehensive consideration of the full scope of scientific evidence available (e.g., Kayden’s Law in the reauthorized Violence Against Women’s Act, 2022) is discussed.</p>
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<p><b>Abused and Rejected: The Link Between Intimate Partner Violence and Parental Alienation</b></p>	<p>Gena Rowlands, PhD Richard Warshak, PhD Jennifer J. Harman, PhD</p>	<p>This presentation will review a recent study which assessed the presence of an Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) history (verbal and physical aspects) among parents who identify as targets of their children’s unreasonable rejection and the associations between the form of IPV and manifestations of a child’s alienated behavior, parent’s gender and type of IPV, and parent’s gender and degree of the child’s alienation. Previous studies have demonstrated a connection between IPV and a child’s alienation from the abused parent, but little is known about the relationships between the type of IPV, aspects, and severity of a child’s alienation, and the target parent’s gender. This knowledge may assist in earlier identification of the alienation process and greater recognition, legitimacy, funding, and opportunities for enhanced collaboration among stakeholders. This, in turn, may lead to improvements in prevention, intervention, and accountability, thus helping to interrupt alienation processes.</p>
<p><b>Is there an illusory correlation between the “dismissal” of abuse allegations and parental alienation?</b></p>	<p>Hesam Varavei, BS Jennifer J. Harman, PhD</p>	<p>There has been considerable public discourse around courts “dismissing” mother’s allegations of domestic violence and child abuse when a father alleges that he is being alienated from his children by their mother. This discourse has driven international public policy to prohibit the recognition of parental alienation due to its potential for misuse against mothers by allegedly abusive fathers. The purpose of this project is to test whether this discourse is based on an illusory correlation. We hypothesized that if mothers are not more likely to a) lose custody of their children or b) have their claims of abuse “dismissed” if a father only claims to have been alienated rather than found to have been alienated, then this discourse is based on an illusory correlation. Published court orders entered since March of 2020 from 200 family court cases in Canada were sequentially selected if they met the following criteria: 1) parental alienation was alleged by or found to have happened to the father by a court or court-appointed third party (e.g., custody evaluator), and 2) abuse allegations (domestic violence, child physical, and/or child sexual abuse) were made by the mother to have been perpetrated by the father. Independent coders recorded numbers of abuse allegations made by mothers and their third-party investigative outcomes (founded versus not founded/substantiated) and whether the mother lost custody. A contingency table and chi-square analysis were conducted to test our hypothesis. Discussion will center on the results of this analysis, along with implications for policy and practice.</p>
<p><b>Findings of Abuse in Families Affected by Parental Alienation</b></p>	<p>Amanda Sharples, PhD Jennifer J. Harman, PhD Demosthenes Lorandos, PhD, JD</p>	<p>Parental alienating behaviors (PABs) are conceptualized by scholars as a form of family violence. Nonetheless, some critics have argued that it is the parent that is claiming to be the target of PABs that is the abusive parent. We explored this debate by comparing claims of abuse made against alienating and alienated parents. We predicted that perpetrators of PABs would have a history of co-occurring forms of abuse as part of a pattern of coercive control. To test our question, trained coders, unaware of the study’s pre-registered hypotheses, identified claims of abuse from 492 US appellate case reports in which parental alienation was found have occurred. Allegations of abuse were raised in 58.54% (288) of cases where parental alienation occurred, with 1,112 claims of abuse raised overall. Parents who were found to have</p>



		alienated their child(ren) by the court or a court-appointed professional had an 81.62% greater probability of having a substantiated claim of abuse against them than parents alienated from their children. Moreover, alienated parents had an 86.05% greater likelihood of having an unsubstantiated abuse claim made against them compared to alienating parents. These findings lend additional support to the theory that PABs are part of a pattern of coercively controlling abuse and these behaviors must be recognized and addressed to ensure victims of abuse are provided with appropriate protection and treatment.
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**Break: 11 to 11:15 am**

### Concurrent Morning Sessions

11:15 am to 12:00 pm

<b>Ballrooms A/B</b>	<b>Advances in Memory Research and Applications to Criminal and Family Law</b>	Matthew Rhodes, PhD	Eyewitnesses provide crucial evidence and many investigations depend on the memory of witnesses, including children. Accordingly, for those whose work must rely on memory, a knowledge of conditions that do or do not promote accurate memory is essential. The last decade has been characterized by significant changes in perspectives among many researchers on eyewitness memory, from a predominant focus on the malleability and unreliability of eyewitness memory to a greater consideration of those conditions most likely to promote accurate memory and accurate assessments of confidence when remembering past experiences. In this talk, I will provide an overview of the latest research and policies on best practices in investigations in which information about memory is collected. Among the most prominent trends, a growing body of research suggests that memory can be quite accurate when collected under optimal conditions that minimize the opportunity for contamination and that witness confidence may be predictive of accuracy when collected under such optimal conditions. In addition to discussing these practices, I will touch on research related to the suggestibility of children's memory and best practice recommendations when interviewing children about a memory. In all, I argue that a fuller understanding of memory is a crucial asset for law enforcement, therapists, advocates, parents, and all other parties whose work within the justice system depends on the accuracy of memory.
<b>Longs Peak</b>	<b>Who's Meeting Our Children's Needs - Avoiding Pitfalls</b>	Loretta Maase, LPC-S Sandra Aguilar, LPC	Parenting for target parents. One of the most complex and heartbreaking problems that parents face when responding to their children's rejection is the no-win double bind: Parents fail to set appropriate boundaries and are called deficient parents -

	<b>When Parenting Reluctant Children</b>		Parents discipline their over-empowered child and face allegations of child abuse. Too often this disempowers the rejected parent as he or she makes compromises out of fear of pushing the child further away. The result - Parents lose what little control they had. Sound familiar? This workshop focuses on effective strategies for parenting the rejecting, defiant child and effectively handling no-win double binds.
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**Lunch:** 12 to 1:30 pm The Foundry

### **Ballrooms C/D: Scientific understanding of the impact of PA on the family**

1:30 to 3:00 pm

<b>"Like burying my relationship with my children:" Relational turning points experienced by both alienated parents and adult children of parental alienation</b>	M. Devyn Mullis, PhD	Parental alienation (PA) is a form of nonvoluntary family distancing wherein one parent employs maladaptive communication patterns to sever the relationship between the other parent and child(ren). Typically identified in separated or divorced families, PA alters the course of the parent-child bond across the lifespan. While multidisciplinary research has identified PA behaviors in families, little communication scholarship has examined this process, especially from a lifespan perspective. Alienated parents and adult children who experienced PA and chose to reinitiate contact were recruited to participate in retrospective interviews. This study uncovers turning points encountered across their PA relational trajectory from the alienated parent and adult child perspectives. Findings contribute significant insight into the distinct relational communication and developmental trajectory of PA parent-child bonds. Presentation can include highlight on field of communication has important discipline of PA research.
<b>Lost Dads: Results from the Fathers and Family Breakdown, Separation, and Divorce (FBSD) Project</b>	Ben Hine, PhD Eilish Roy	Current research suggests that men have an elevated risk of suicidality following separation and divorce compared to women. Studies have also begun to highlight the susceptibility of men to post separation abuse, including how children can be used to enact abuse and control towards men who are fathers (i.e., parental alienation), including through systems (i.e., family court). The present study utilized an online qualitative survey to examine father's experiences of family breakdown, separation, and divorce (FBSD), including post-separation abuse. 140 fathers who had experienced FBSD in the last five years completed the survey, which asked open questions about their experiences of the breakdown event, experiences of abuse within and after the relationship, the impact of the breakdown and related abuse on their mental and physical health, their help and support seeking behaviours, and thoughts for the future. Several major themes and subthemes have emerged. Men reported experiencing significant levels of emotional and

		controlling abuse, particularly after the breakdown, and involving children. This was particularly the case when establishing parental responsibility through family court. The impact of the breakdown and associated abuse on mental health was also widely prevalent, with men describing severe depression, suicide ideation, anxiety, and PTSD. Results therefore strongly suggest that men experience immense struggles following relationship breakdown, particularly in relation to abuse involving control of their children. They also report that particularly systems are unhelpful and, in some cases, actively working against them.
<b>The Alienation of Grandparents After Parental Separation: A Widespread but Overlooked Phenomenon</b>	Edward Kruk, PhD	Grandparent alienation is the unjustified rejection of a grandparent by a child, in which the child's views of the grandparent are almost exclusively negative, to the point that the grandparent is demonized and seen as evil, resulting from a campaign of denigration or "brainwashing" by the alienating parent(s) in which the child allies with the parent(s) (adapted from Harman, 2018). The two main features of grandparent alienation are the child's unjustified rejection of and refusal of contact with the grandparent, and the parents' abusive strategies to denigrate the grandparent (adapted from the Parental Alienation Study Group, 2022). Although there has been a dearth of research on the subject, a plethora of studies have emerged in recent years that have concluded that grandparent alienation is much more widespread and harmful than previously assumed. Research has established that grandparents experience the same breadth and depth of losses resulting from alienation from their grandchildren as do alienated mothers and fathers (Golly, 2016). Yet grandparents play a unique and vital role in the lives of their grandchildren, as elders and the purveyors of family traditions, and ruptured grandparent-grandchild relationships can have profoundly negative repercussions on the well-being of children as well. This presentation examines grandparental alienation from the perspective of grandparents themselves, comparing results of research on grandparents in forced estrangement situations (Kruk, 1995) with the experiences of grandparents who have never met their grandchildren (Kruk, 2023). There are four primary circumstances associated with grandparental alienation: parental separation, conflict with both parents, death of an adult child, and stepparent adoption following remarriage. This presentation will focus primarily on grandparent alienation subsequent to parental separation, when the either the father or mother is also targeted. Implications for legal policy and therapeutic practice will be highlighted.
<b>Understanding the Alienated Child</b>	Mandy Matthewson, PhD Amanda Sillars	This presentation will incorporate key information from lived experience, practice experience and science to describe the experience of the alienated child. How and why alienated children contribute to their alienation will be discussed by explaining the psychosocial processes involved when children are exposed to parental alienating behaviours. We will also describe the short- and long- term consequences of exposure to parental alienating behaviours on children. This presentation will also offer key information to practitioners on how to work with alienated children and with adults who were exposed to parental alienating behaviours in childhood.

## Concurrent Afternoon Sessions

3:00-3:45

<b>Ballrooms A/B</b>	<b>Parent-Child Contact Problems &amp; Parental Alienation: Orders, Options, and Interventions</b>	Monika Logan, LPC, LSOTP Judge Lyda Ness Garcia	This workshop provides a judge's perspective, while exploring the options and challenges that mental health professionals encounter with regards to parent-child contact problem interventions. The path to effective family-focused and evidence-based informed interventions begins with having a referral source for judges that includes mental health professionals who have a solid foundation of education and experience. Attendees will learn about the crucial importance of having a well-defined and comprehensive Appointment Order. This presentation will walk attendees through a view from the bench, initial case conceptualization, treatment planning, as well as explore various key roadblocks that may serve as barriers to a family's progress. In addition, the workshop will provide practical solutions for interventions with parent-child contact problems when and where a team approach for interventions may not be feasible.
<b>Longs Peak</b>	<b>Interactive Session on Enhanced Regulation and Empowerment</b>	Jayna Haney, MS, LPC	Anyone with past trauma or who has ongoing traumatic stress may feel they are living in perpetual survival mode. In this interactive session, get more than breathing exercises. Learn enhanced resources (several related to EMDR trauma protocol), experience proven tools, and practice coping skills designed to create safety, relaxation, calm, and enlightenment. By accessing internal resources and learning to do these skills on your own, you can better manage intense emotions and triggers while creating positive feelings of empowerment and compassion for self. This workshop is designed for parents in high conflict or alienation situations and anyone who wants to know how to bring more safety, calm, and strength into their lives successfully. ***To clarify, while several tools taught are used to stabilize and prepare for EMDR trauma processing, we will not be processing trauma.

**Coffee Break:** 3:45 to 4:00 pm

## Concurrent Afternoon Sessions: Part 2

4:00-5:15

### Ballrooms C/D: Protecting Families from Extreme Outcomes Associated with Parental Alienation

<p><b>The John Mast Case - What We Can Learn from This Tragedy</b></p>	<p>Kevin Hickey</p>	<p>John Mast was the target parent in one of the worst PA cases I've ever seen. I was brought in as co-counsel and handled the custody portion of his trial. It spanned 3 states and several different agencies. Ultimately John was killed at a visitation exchange by his ex-father-in-law (awaiting trial). Attorneys, counselors, and other professionals can learn important information from John's case and how it was handled by the Court and the agencies involved. I think a 15-20 minute overview of the case will give plenty of information to generate a panel discussion and/or Q&amp;A.</p>
<p><b>Homicides, Murder - Suicides, Abductions. Why Threat Assessments and Safety Plans are Necessary in PA Cases</b></p>	<p>Catherine W. MacWillie</p>	<p>Headlines around the country and internationally have certainly taught us the hard lesson in underestimating the safety of parents and children involved in PA and high conflict cases. When are things said in anger just that and when are they warnings? When are the words "You will never see the child again" an idle threat spoken in anger and frustration? When is it a warning that a parent intends to abduct or harm a child or the other parent? When one parent texted the other "How does it feel not to have your child when I have not seen mine for three months?" The parent thought that their two year old daughter might be late for the exchange. They never imagined the other parent would murder their daughter. The Office of Juvenile Justice Department in 2000 identified six profiles for early identification of risk factors on abduction. These risk factors are applicable to homicides as well as murder-suicides and should be utilized in assessing whether a threat assessment and safety plan are applicable to a case. But there is little understanding of what a safety plan or threat assessment looks like by the courts and divorce professionals alike. In some cases that means a parent wears a bulletproof vest to and from court and entry points vary. What do conversations with the children look like without frightening them and more. This is the first time this important information is being presented to divorce professionals, the courts and families in this context.</p>
<p><b>Applicability of PA to International Child Abduction Cases</b></p>	<p>Andrew Bossory, JD</p>	<p>What is the impact on parental alienation in international child abduction cases when considering the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction? After all, the Convention specifically states that the courts are jurisdictional only and do not make any substantive determinations on custody of a minor child. Is that not where trial courts are tasked with considering the best interest of a child (including the impact of parental alienation)? While this is generally true, evidence of parental alienation may become relevant on multiple fronts, including arguing against habitual residence in the case of wrongful-retention cases, disputing a well-settled in the new environment defense, or even raising an affirmative defense that allowing the child to remain with the alienator would cause emotional or psychological harm. This</p>

		presentation will provide a brief outline of where and how evidence of parental alienation may be used in petition for return of a child Hague case (and caution where it should not).
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## Longs Peak: Panel of Family Members Affected by Parental Alienation

\*Note, this panel will not be live-streamed or recorded to protect the confidentiality of the panel participants

Opening Presentation:	Ben Hine, PhD Ian Hine	Purpose: To provide a synthesis of research and lived experience in relation to the experiences of fathers who alienated in the context of wider abuse. Background: PA is described as a psychological condition in which a child allies himself or herself strongly with an alienating (or preferred) parent and rejects a relationship with the alienated (or targeted) parent without legitimate justification, enacted through so-called "alienating behaviours". The existence and impact of PA is now robustly empirically supported, and recent research suggests that, for men in particular, such behaviours as commonly enacted within a broader context of intimate partner violence (IPV). Indeed, there is increasing recognition that PA is, in and of itself, IPV. Methods: This literature review is conducted from an autoethnographic approach, where the personal experiences of the author are related to the phenomenon at hand. It explores current understandings of alienation, and of men's experiences of alienation within an IPV context and engages in theoretical discussions surrounding the relationship between PA and IPV. Conclusions: Findings reveal an increasingly clear picture of PA as a form or avenue for IPV, with implications for both theory and practice, which are explored.
<b>From Alienated Child to Alienation Researcher: An Autoethnographic Analysis of Men's Experiences of Parental Alienation and IPV</b>		
Other Panelists	M. Devyn Mullis, PhD & Ryan Mullis, JD Jason & Victoria Flowerday Carolyn MacCloud & Caitie Coyle	

## Ballrooms A/B: Panel Discussion on the intersection between clinical and legal practice

5:15-6:00 pm

<b>A Real Life Parental Alienation (PA) Case:</b>	Kelley A. Baker, PhD Michael Bone, PhD	This panel discussion among forensic mental health professionals (FMHPs) will use a composite, yet very specific example, as a vehicle to explore this
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<b>Avoiding Sins of Omission and Commission</b>	Robert Evans, PhD Amy Eichler, PhD	potentially problematic intersection between clinical mental health practice and the legal arena of a case. The presenters will provide a detailed case description and draw from their combined decades of experience as evaluators, clinicians, and expert consultants to discuss a severe case of parental alienation. The overlap of these legal and clinical models will frame the discussion of the complex family dynamics found in PA cases. The discussion will seek to understand the breakdown of parent child relationships, with an eye towards appropriate treatment. Topics that will be addressed by the panel are the areas of potential risk to clinicians; the missed opportunities to help the family; decisions that helped the process; and decisions that interfered with progress. The panel will allot time for audience participation by responding to questions and comments.
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# Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>

## Lory Student Center

### Early Morning Concurrent Sessions

7:30- 9:00 am

#### Ballrooms C/D: Workshop for Legal and Mental Health Professionals

<p><b>Surviving the Witness Stand as a PA Expert</b></p>	<p>Brian Ludmer, LLB Jennifer J. Harman, PhD Demosthenes Lorandos, PhD, JD Alissa Sherry, PhD</p>	<p>Critics of parental alienation (PA) have written many articles and books recently describing strategies to “discredit” and undermine the testimony of PA experts in court. The purpose of this workshop is to: a) provide examples of deposition and cross-examination questions and legal challenges that have been raised against PA experts; b) review legal strategies to combat these challenges; c) provide details on the empirical support for PA and related issues that experts can use to weather these challenges during their testimony, and d) review useful tips for experts on how best to answer challenging questions. Supplemental materials will also be provided.</p>
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#### Longs Peak: Father’s Day/Parent Support Group

<p><b>Father’s Day Support Group</b></p>	<p>Cindy Hirsch of the International Support Network for Alienated Families</p>	<p>ISNAF will present on the topic of Grief/ Healing, Triggers and Coping Tools. Targeted parents are often triggered by holidays, birthdays, milestones, or a simple song on the radio. This can cause emotions to unexpectedly arise and leave them feeling alone. We will discuss the stages of grief, triggers and what can be done to cope with these challenging times. Understanding grief and how it impacts you can be empowering. Having healthy coping tools allows for processing grief in a healthy and non-destructive manner. The intention for this program is to support targeted parents on Father’s Day and empower them on this day of honor.</p>
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9:00-10:15 am

**Ballrooms C/D: Parental Alienation: Law and Practice**

<b>Parental Alienation case law analysis from the Irish High Court and European Court of Human Rights</b>	Andrew Doyle	Analysis and lessons from the position of parental alienation in a decade of Irish case law with reference to two decades of European Court of Human Rights cases and contemporary developments in the Irish Department of Justice research and open consultation on parental alienation.
<b>Parental Alienation in Portugal - between evolution and convictions by ECHR</b>	Sandra Feitor, PhD	Portuguese jurisprudence has focused on several cases of alienation despite the controversy, the phenomenon has been recognized as a mistreating conduct for the child, for example, Ac. of 09/07/2014, Ac. tre, 11/04/2012, Ac. of 08.05.2015, Ac. TRE, from 25/06/2015, Ac. 22/10/2013, among others. However, along with the growing acceptability of parental alienation in Portuguese courts that have been pioneers in addressing the issue, given the lack of a law on parental alienation in Portugal, there are also cases of serious inertia and inadequacy of judicial decisions, giving place for the intensification of alienating conduct and causing the rupture, sometimes irreparable, of family relationship and affective bonds, leading to several convictions of Portugal by the ECtHR, for breach of Article 8 of the ECHR, namely ECHR of 22.11.2005 (Ramos v Portugal), ECHR de (Maire v. Portugal) No 48206/99, ECHR of 13/07/2021 (Pinto v. Portugal) No. 28443/19, ECHR of 22/05/2012 (Nunes v. Portugal) No. 61173/08, ECHR of 22/02/2022 (Manteigas c. Portugal) no. 22179/15. In the context of the fundamental right to family coexistence provided for in Article 8 of the ECHR, it results as positive obligations of states to undertake all means to ensure the restoration of family life. As a result of lack of parental cooperation and undermine of compliance with judicial decisions aimed at restoring ties and conduct stemming from obstruction of family life, they are not substantiated to exempt States from their positive obligations under Article 8 of the ECHR.
<b>How to Manage and Present the Legal Case Responsive to PA Dynamics</b>	Brian Ludmer, LLB	The jurisprudence and strategies involved in managing a parental alienation case and refuting false allegations have evolved at a rapid pace. I would propose to give a plenary conference presentation on how to succinctly prove a parental alienation case and get effective remedies in place. This will draw on jurisprudence from Canada, the United States, the U.K. and Ireland. Relatedly, jurisprudence and practical insight regarding family therapy mandates and how they are properly and improperly used in these cases will be canvassed, since various interventions are always attempted before structural interventions are implemented in the family system. That this continues in the face of rampant failure of such therapeutic

		<p>interventions requires an understanding, which will be discussed, of how to properly structure those for the most likely positive outcome using the authorizing Court Orders. Where applicable, the Wilson v. Sinclair Trial, where Prof. Harmon was an expert witness, will be used as a case study to highlight the legal and practical issues discussed in this presentation. The participants will also be provided with various precedential materials, including a full case study on a previous case that had completed the full cycle, including the successful reconnection of the children [Bors v. Beleuta, 2009, 2021], which has been used as a case study in the Parental Alienation UK Postgraduate Practitioner Course conducted by Brian O'Sullivan [Ireland] and Charlie Azzopardi [Malta], of which I am a faculty member.</p>
<p><b>Researching PA as a guardian ad litem in the Netherlands</b></p>	<p>Heleen Koppejan-Luitze</p>	<p>After divorce, some parents find it difficult to formalize and execute a parenting plan. Each case may look alike on the outside: a child proclaiming that it wishes to stop seeing one of the parents. However, as the dynamics in each case may differ, it is eminent to perform a thorough research to determine the underlying cause. In the Netherlands it is not the judge that performs such research, but it is customary to assign guardian ad litem. To perform such research methodologically, to discover the reasons hindering the follow up of the parenting plan, essential research questions require answering. Does the child have justified reasons (like abuse, often referred to as parental estrangement) to stop executing the parenting plan? Or instead, does the child suffer from a loyalty conflict, and can we establish the process of parental alienation? Or is it a mixed case? When parental alienation is established, we need to know which behavior of the parent (or both parents) results in a loyalty conflict and how the child responds to this influence; does the child show (some of) the eight typical eight alienated behaviors? Finally, we need to know how parents and their children may be helped to solve the underlying (personal) issues in order to restore the bond between the child and the rejected parent. Heleen Koppejan explains how she performs this research methodologically; how she speaks with parents, the child, and the social and professional network and how she derives her conclusions.</p>
<p><b>The child's hearing and its importance for the definition of the custody regime in parental alienation cases</b></p>	<p>Mariam Afonso Brigas, PhD</p>	<p>Our presentation will focus on the theme of the child's hearing, given its relevance in terms of defining parental responsibilities and parental alienation specifically. In this respect, we will analyze the legal regime foreseen for this subject, framing it with the principles in force at the international level, very relevant to have a broader view of this subject. The compatibility of the child's hearing with the child's best interest will also be addressed in situations of separation and divorce of the child's parents, involving parental alienation. We will also be concerned to highlight how the jurisprudence of the family courts has applied the existing legal regimes, thus allowing a greater clarification about the way in which the hearing of the child</p>

		has been understood by the practice of the courts. The contribution that other areas of knowledge such as Psychology and Medicine have given to the improvement of legal regimes will also deserve our attention.
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### Longs Peak: Advances in Abuse and Custody Evaluation Practice

<b>Using the PARQ in Custody Evaluations When Parental Alienation is Alleged</b>	Ken Lewis, PhD	This presentation will describe how I use the Child PARQ in my custody evaluations when parental alienation is alleged. The PARQ provides relevant data for evaluating the strength or weakness of the alleged alienation; and beyond that, it can produce data regarding two of the Colorado statutory "best interests" custody factors in CRS § 14-10-124 which are also found in many other jurisdictions. Additionally, a short video presentation will demonstrate how the PARQ can be utilized to siblings at the same time.
<b>Use of timelines to refute false allegations of abuse</b>	Alan Blotcky, PhD	False allegations of abuse are quite common in parental alienation cases. One parent lodges a false allegation of abuse in order to sabotage the other parent's relationship with their child. Sometimes the false allegation ends up as a criminal charge. False allegations of abuse are weapons in these cases. Indeed, nothing turns a custody case upside down more than an allegation of abuse against one parent. This presentation will discuss the use of timelines to refute false allegations of abuse. Several examples will be shown. Timelines are effective in family, domestic relations, and criminal courts. False allegations can be effectively refuted with timelines that are incorporated into courtroom testimony. Both mental health experts and attorneys can use timelines successfully.
<b>Reliability of the Five-Factor Model for Determining Parental Alienation</b>	Stephen Morrison, PhD Robyn Ring, PhD	During February 2021, invitations to participate in an inter-rater reliability study were sent by email to 1,116 potential respondents, who identified themselves as MHPs. Lists of email addresses were obtained from Parental Alienation Study Group (PASG) members or lists obtained from the Parental Alienation Study Group webpage itself, the American Psychological Association, the Professional Academy of Custody Evaluations, and an Internet search seeking child custody evaluators. Respondents were selected if they had a present role in determining if PA was occurring. A global audience was approached with emails going to MHPs from six of the seven continents. The invitation requested the MHP use the Five Factor Mode to evaluate 6 different vignettes for the occurrence of PA. The intended purpose of the study was to assess the reliability of the Five-Factor Model (FFM) which is asserted to test for PA. The FFM contains five criteria; Yes, responses to each of the five criterion is asserted to indicate PA is occurring. The Intraclass Correlation

		<p>Coefficient indicated reliability with an average of 0.923 for all vignettes. The Cronbach Alpha values indicate consistency, with an average of 0.926. The results of the study suggest the FFM is a reliable assessment tool for PA. The results of this study was published in the <i>American Journal of Family Therapy</i>, in December of 2021.</p>
<p><b>Conducting Scientifically Informed Child Custody Evaluations When Parental Alienation and Domestic Violence Have Been Alleged</b></p>	<p>Shawn A. Wygant, PhD</p>	<p>The practice of conducting child custody evaluations has not been well defined in the literature. This has led to a lack of standards for how to accurately evaluate allegations of parental alienation and domestic violence. Child custody evaluators tend to rely on methodological approaches that exclude the application of scientific principles to data analysis, report writing, and expert testimony. They also frequently utilize psychometric instruments that are incapable of measuring the phenomena of interest. These problems and their solutions will be explored. Parental alienation and domestic violence assessment in the context of conducting a scientifically informed child custody evaluation will be explicated through a series of de-identified vignettes. Both scientifically reliable and unreliable evaluations will be examined to allow participants the opportunity to see what it looks like when a child custody evaluation is scientifically informed and what it looks like when it's not. Since many high-conflict custody evaluations result in a trial where the evaluator is called to testify, a portion of this presentation will be devoted to examining the good, the bad, and the ugly of expert testimony. After attending this workshop, participants will be able to (1) distinguish between experts whose reports and testimony were scientifically informed and experts whose reports and testimony were not, (2) describe the psychological tests that do and do not accurately assess for parental alienation and domestic violence, and (3) summarize the steps involved in conducting a scientifically informed custody evaluation.</p>
<p><b>The evaluation of accusations of child sexual abuse in Brazil - evolutions, setbacks, and difficulties.</b></p>	<p>Andreia Soares Calcada Alexandra Ullman</p>	<p>The evaluation of accusations of sexual abuse are challenges for professionals who work with children and adolescents and the protection of their rights. The search for improvement in these assessments is an imperative need in view of what we see mainly in family litigation. In an informal survey carried out in 27 family litigation cases between 2003 and 2013, through data collection, involving accusations of sexual abuse, as acting as a forensic technical assistant, or providing opinions and also as a forensic psychologist expert. The cases studied obtained an acquittal court decision, that is, the accusations of sexual abuse were judged and considered false. Some data indicated the need to improve the work of professionals involved in the investigation, legal assessment and treatment of false and real accusations of sexual abuse and parental alienation. Through the survey, it was concluded that only a few professionals made adequate use of techniques and psychological resources in the investigation process; In legal practice nowadays in Brazil, professionals linked to</p>

		this area are more attentive over time to the evaluated criteria, differing from professionals who work in other areas as clinical psychology or even in police stations and criminal courts. Professionals in the criminal areas continue to base their diagnosis solely on the child's report. A case study evaluated in a family court, in a police station and in a criminal court reflects these differences.
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### Poster Session & Lunch: 11 to 1:00 pm LSC Ballrooms C/D and the Foundry

Poster boards will be organized at the back of C and D Ballrooms for the full day on Sunday. From 11 am until 12 pm, the authors of the posters will be standing by their posters to interact with conference attendees and discuss their presentations with them. We encourage all attendees to visit posters during this time or to stop by and see them at some point during the day. After visiting the posters, lunch is available at the Foundry. Below are the titles and abstracts of the posters that will be on display.

<b><i>Invitation to Provide Feedback on a Proposed Social Psychology Experiment that Examines Possible Human Bias in Identifying Parental Alienation</i></b>	Howie Dennison	Is there a human bias in assessing parental alienation situations? Anecdotally, some alienated parents claim that they are misunderstood by society, and published papers have noted that parental alienation is counterintuitive. We plan to conduct a psychological experiment to assess for bias and quantify any found. This poster provides an opportunity for feedback and suggestions. We propose an Amazon Turk survey that presents various parental alienation scenarios that align with current models and ask the respondent if the child's behavior is primarily the result of actions by the favored or unfavored parent, a combination, or unknown. Responses identifying the unfavored parent would be indicative of bias. The validity of the parental alienation models will be assumed axiomatically. Additional questions will probe the respondent's belief in the logical validity of ad hominin attacks, and the respondent's sympathy with a child or oppressed underdog. One study challenge is obtaining IRB pre-approval for academically independent workers. Any human bias found would be a clinical and legal issue because social workers, mental health care workers, lawyers, and judges rely on their own human judgment, as well as the judgement of others.
<b><i>Identifying and combating mis/disinformation about parental alienation (in science, the court, media, and publishing)</i></b>	William Bernet, MD Shenmeng Xu, PhD.	Misinformation regarding parental alienation frequently occurs in journals, books, and presentations. The purpose of this study was to identify recurrent publication of the same misinformation, i.e., variations of the statement: "Parental alienation theory assumes that the favored parent has caused parental alienation in the child simply because the child refuses to have a relationship with the rejected parent, without identifying or proving alienating behaviors by

		<p>the favored parent.” The recurrent misinformation reported here is not trivial; these statements are significant misrepresentations of parental alienation theory. The authors searched for examples of misinformation in published papers, conference presentations, book chapters, government documents, and legal briefs. Relevant documents were identified through Google Scholar and Web of Sciences. Ninety-four examples of the same misinformation were published or presented between 1994 and 2022. The publications and presentations were subjected to citation analysis using Gephi software. Thus, the genealogy of this recurrent misinformation is clearly portrayed visually. This recurrent publication of the same misinformation suggests that a systemic flaw has occurred among the authors, peer reviewers, editors, and publishers of mental health and legal literature. There are plausible explanations for this trail of misinformation: pertaining to the psychological mindset of the authors (i.e., confirmation bias); and pertaining to their writing skills (i.e., persistent use of secondary sources for their information).</p>
<b><i>Executive Functioning and Resilience</i></b>	Joan Kloth-Zanard, MFT Keith Kosierowski	<p>How children’s brains work and why sometimes things just seem out of sorts and jumbled or just plain hard to do. There are professionals out there who will claim children are resilient. Resilience is the ability to regain or recoup quickly from a difficult situation. New research shows this is not true for all children. In other words, not all children are resilient. Much of this is due to a lack of Executive Functioning skills.</p>
<b><i>Global Alienation Starts Small</i></b>	Vesta Spivakovsky - Chandler	<p>Personal view on alienation in a global sense with an example of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The basis of Alienation is always a deep torn, and splitting conflict. The internal conflict inevitably develops into an external one. When a child is captured, there is always a polarization within family, society, colleagues, and friends. In the same way, the war in Ukraine is now polarizing Russian society. Russian people are faced with a choice “on what side are you? Are you a patriot or a traitor?” Choose one and reject the second. This choice reminds me of a child's interview in court, “do you want to live with mom or dad?” Every Russian citizen has a friends or family ties in Ukraine. Choosing between Ukraine and Russia in this conflict is like choosing between Mom and Dad. May I not choose?</p>
<b><i>Pathway to Parental Alienation: The Child's Journey</i></b>	Tina Mayer, LMHC	<p>The journey to becoming an alienated family can be described as intensely incalculable and distinctly predictable at the same time. This project could be an oral/written presentation also but is designed as an exhibit. Much like a museum experience. With the 'walls' of the walk through being posters with basic information from actual cases. These are submitted by targeted parents with their specific information. The informational stops along the way provide</p>

		examples and experiences common to the child, target parent, favored parent, lawyers, agencies, investigators, therapists, Judges, etc. The purpose is to educate and highlight HOW this happens in a methodical way. It will also provide the correct/necessary responses required to combat the alienation effectively. The hope is that this display can be put up in various locations: court houses, conferences, legislative buildings, etc.
<b><i>A Game Changer: Digital Products can help Alienated Parents Effectively and Inexpensively</i></b>	Lawrence DeMarco	A problem for many alienated parents without substantial resources is that family court professionals use an antiquated, inefficient business model of communicating one-to-one with clients, rather than the new, technology-driven, efficient model of communicating “one-to-many,” facilitated by online digital products. Technology enables legal and mental health professionals to produce online, digital educational content that can reach an unlimited number of clients with the same effort as the one-on-one interview. At the time of submitting this presentation, I am in production of a Family Court Custody Bootcamp, designed for low-to-middle income individuals, with the aim of giving access to justice to alienated parents and out-of-custody family court litigants. The time required to produce this project will be limited. Once I have completed the program development and uploaded it, the only additional time expense required is for marketing, but the course/materials/program will continue forever on the internet. Because the product was less expensive to produce and more efficient than one-on-one counseling, I can offer a proportionally lower price to the consumer because internet technology enables me to reach an exponential number of paying customers, increasing my hourly income related to my time expense. The mental health profession, which is likewise traditionally limited to the costly, inefficient one to one interaction model. My presentation will give a blueprint for legal and mental health professionals interested in producing online programs to transform their professional services into an efficient, effective, and affordable online digital “evergreen” program.
<b><i>Parental Alienation, Suicide, and Medical Assistance in Dying</i></b>	Kelsey Green	The impacts of parental alienation can be severe, frequently leading to chronic depression, anxiety, PTSD/CPTSD, and suicidal ideation, in some cases suicide. Suicide attempts in targeted parents occur at a substantially higher (7X) than the general population and there is evidence to show that alienated children have a higher rate of suicide over their lifetime as well. Research into both subjects are limited. Canada is implementing changes to their Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) expected before March 17, 2023. These changes are expected to allow access to MAID for not only those experiencing a serious and incurable illness, but also to those with only a mental health illness as the sole underlying reason for the request. Given the higher mental health challenges faced by targeted

		<p>parents and alienated children, there is a risk that there may be applications to MAID from both groups during their lifetime. There remain many questions around how Courts will view targeted parents who apply for MAID, only to change their mind. While efforts should be made to divert and protect targeted parents and alienated children from utilizing MAID, this is also an opportunity for further study these unique populations. This presentation will consider MAID and the Alienated family.</p>
<p><b><i>How bad is bad? Perceptual differences in the communication of severity in intimate partner violence</i></b></p>	<p>Sverker Sikström, PhD</p>	<p>Accurate communication of the severity of violence in intimate relations is essential for the appropriate evaluation of offenders and victims in contexts such as court trials, custody cases, and the continuation of relationships. Using a new paradigm, this study quantifies discrepancies in how the severity of violence is communicated in texts written by offenders, victims, and bystanders who witness violence. The study was conducted in two phases, where participants were randomly sampled from the same population to participate in either Phase 1 or Phase 2. In the first Phase, witnesses (narrators) provided nine narratives about self-experienced intimate partner violence and rated the violence's severity; then in the second Phase non-witnesses (recipients) read all the narratives and rated the severity of the violence. Four types of perceptual differences (calibration, accuracy, gender, and role perceptual differences) were identified when rating the severity of three types of violence (psychological, physical, and sexual) as communicated by three types of witnesses (victims, offenders, and bystanders) of violence in heterosexual, romantic relationships. Several novel findings were made related to a strong perceptual difference in calibration, i.e., a tendency for the recipient to rate the violence more severely than the narrator, where this effect was mainly found for victims and bystanders, but not for offenders. Also, the calibration effect was largely seen in the sexual and physical, but not psychological, narratives. The recipients' accuracy was considerably lower for psychological rather than sexual violence. Finally, the validity of the method was confirmed by replicating earlier findings on perceptual differences in roles where witnesses rated violence more severely than victims or offenders and women were rated more severely than men, which was especially true for male raters. These results suggest systematic perceptual differences in severity ratings and may have substantial implications for victims and offenders in real-life settings. These findings may potentially be used to ameliorate the negative effects of perceptual differences.</p>



## Concurrent Afternoon Sessions

1:00-2:30 pm

### Ballrooms C/D: Evidence-Based Intervention for Parental Alienation Cases

<b>Supervised Visitation, A Court ordered Intervention</b>	Mark Roseman, PhD	This presentation offers how parents embroiled in “high conflict” child custody issues can pursue orders for supervised visitation and utilize these services to mitigate escalation of co-parenting challenges and alienation. It will focus on the commonly used supervised visitation process and how all parties benefit from a practical approach to restoring the natural attachment between child and parent.
<b>Safe and Effective Treatment for Moderate and Severe Cases of Parental Alienation</b>	Linda Gottlieb, LMFT Loretta Maase, MA, LPC-S Caitlin Burgess, LMFT, JD	The three of us will present on unusual issues and treatment options that have arisen in our interventions with families who had participated in the Turning Points for Families Therapeutic Vacation since the peer-reviewed 4/2021 research study was undertaken under the auspices of Jennifer Harman. Having been informed by the additions of Loretta and Caitlin as Turning Points for Families program providers, much has been learned from their professional experiences, knowledge, and treatment styles. We have now helped approximately 160 children reconnect safely to their alienated parents. We would like to share the new insights we have been gained regarding transition options, treatment interventions, and expectations of the alienating parent in treating these additional children and their families.
<b>Family Bridges Aftercare Protocol - working with alienating parents</b>	Yvonne Parnell, PhD	The Family Bridges Aftercare Protocol is an innovative educational and experiential program designed primarily for the severely alienating parent and their negative advocates. It is conducted throughout the Court ordered minimum 90-day No Contact period between the alienating parent and their children. The Protocol is grounded in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and is based upon child protection, emergency intervention and behavioral change models. It is designed to help alienating parents understand, acknowledge, and demonstrate learning about parental alienation; demonstrate responsibility for their alienating behaviors that constitute psychological maltreatment; learn to meet their children’s emotional and psychological needs post-divorce, and learn to parent using the parallel parenting model. The ultimate goal of the Aftercare Protocol is to give the children the best chance at having a loving and healthy relationship with both parents, when possible. The Protocol is also designed to protect the repaired relationship between the children and the Target Parent as a result of their participation in Family Bridges: A Workshop for Troubled and

		<p>Alienated Parent-Child Relationships and to provide the Court with a fresh body of post-litigation behavioral data as they continue to case manage the case. The foundational principles, goals and unique aspects of the methodology will be presented. Outcome data from a consecutive series of 27 Family Bridges cases will be presented and discussed. Implications for future research will also be discussed.</p>
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### Longs Peak: Evidence-Based Prevention for Parental Alienation

<p><b>Preventing PA, Identification and Early Intervention: Why, How, and Who Does It?</b></p>	<p>Philip Leon Marcus Mary Alvarez, PhD Chris Turner, JD, MSW</p>	<p>In recent years, alongside the recognition of alienating behaviors by parents as child psychological abuse, there is a substantial body of research demonstrating the potential psychological and neurodevelopmental consequences for abused children and potential mental health consequences for now-adults who were previously alienated from a parent. There is also increasing interest in the psychopathology of alienating parents. The presentation will examine the research and propose further avenues for investigation. The research has led to a realization of the importance to children of prevention, alongside early identification of such behaviors and of children who are affected by them. Professionals who work with children and their parents should be trained about alienating behaviors and dynamics and their effects on children, since they have a central role in educating parents about their effects on children. They should also work together in multidisciplinary teams to identify children who might be affected by alienating behaviors, and situations which endanger children. The 60 minute presentation will describe models of training and effective collaboration between professionals for early identification and interventions. Lawyers and courts have a vital role to play in identification and prevention, by diverting parents away from adversarial proceedings which exacerbate disputes. The presentation will describe protocols for multidisciplinary work before proceedings in court begin, and in the course of such proceedings, and the importance for prevention of sanctioning alienating behaviors and disobedience to court orders.</p>
<p>Combatting misinformation about parental alienation reunification programs</p>	<p>Virginia Griffin Donnell Brian Ludmer</p>	<p>This 30 minute presentation will discuss recent attempts via media campaigns and legislation to disallow existing reunification programs for severely alienated children, and strategies that can be used to combat this issue.</p>

2:30- 4:00 pm

### Ballrooms A/B: Working with Alienated Parents: Mental Health and Legal Services

<b>Parental Alienation Signs to Identify During the Custody Evaluation</b>	Merle Lewis	<p>For both the parent and the evaluator. For the evaluator, what are some behavioral signs that identify mild, moderate, and severe parental alienation. For the one parent, how to get your evaluator to look for parental alienation behaviors on the other side of the case. For the other parent, how to get your evaluator to assess the parental alienation allegations from the other side of the case. Examples will be provided from the presenter's case files.</p>
<b>Staying Focused in PA Litigation: Making Economical Use of Litigation Resources</b>	Cory Sprunger Natalie Williamson Brayton Conley, JD	<p>One of the most consequential, yet most neglected components to a parental alienation legal dispute is the expense required to successfully litigate. Often, victims of parental alienation are forced to choose between expending their lifesavings or abandoning the fight for their children. While there is nothing we would not sacrifice for reunification with our children, what can be done to alleviate the extreme financial hardship that a lengthy court battle so often inflicts on already victimized families? More importantly, without a clear financial strategy, an alienated parent may be forced to abandon the fight prematurely, simply because resources run out. Together, we will explore a variety of litigation strategies to effectively and efficiently extend an alienated parent's ability to sustain the rigors of litigation and to remain legally engaged as long as necessary to free their children.</p>
<b>The Catch 22's and Common Mistakes of Targeted Parents in Parental Alienation</b>	Randy Flood, MA, LLP	<p>While we know targeted parents can't independently stop parental alienation, this workshop focuses on building their resilience. Parental alienation is like a riptide: hidden and forceful, powered by sometimes synergistic forces. Targeted parents can find themselves struggling against a powerful force pulling them further from the relationship with their children. They feel the children's resistance to connection and fight against it in pursuit of the relationship. But the more they fight, the more exhausted they become. It seems as if there's no one to appreciate how difficult it is to stay buoyant in these deceptively calm, but forceful waters. They search for someone anyone to throw them a lifeline. The stress and trauma of being rejected and hated by your own children and fearing that you'll never see them again are like witnessing children die a slow death. While their children remain physically alive, they become increasingly emotionally dead to them. In the turbulence and tumult, average range parents can suffer fatigue, panic, and desperation. In my work with targeted parents, I've often witnessed rejected parents being tragically seduced into making mistakes while they are in the throes of paralyzing dilemmas in parental alienation dynamics. This isn't because they're hopelessly flawed human</p>

		<p>beings, but because they're in unknown and turbulent waters. Targeted average-range parents often flounder in vexing quandaries and their mistakes can become fatal sinking their chances of reconciliation with their children. By highlighting the common mistakes made by targeted parents, and describing their confounding dilemmas, participants in this workshop will better understand the turbulent waters and be better positioned to strategically intervene and enable targeted parents to be more keen, nimble, and resilient when interacting and coping with alienated children, and the mental health and legal professionals.</p>
<b>The psychological consultation in the divorce</b>	Cathia Chumbo	<p>Parental Alienation is characterized by a set of behaviors of disapproval and denigration of one parent about the other, through unjustified criticism. So, is extremely important to analyze, from an early stage, the behavior that parents reveal, not only in the therapeutic process but in the legal divorce process. In most cases, how the legal process takes place is reflected in the emotional and psychological behavior of the family. So, the analysis involves the evaluation of the two parts (marriage and parental issues), in the sense of being able to achieve a reorganization of the same as a whole, to assume the child's feeling of belonging to a family nucleus as a priority. As a response to these needs, the divorce consultation arises, presupposing the analysis of the child and the parents as a whole, but also as parts with different needs. Thus, in this consultation, we intend to analyze the psychological as well as legal factors that directly influence children involved in divorce proceedings: 1) Parents' beliefs and expectations regarding divorce; 2) Moment when the parents tell the child that they are going to divorce; 3) Psychological evaluation of the child; 4) Direct intervention in the child and in the new concept of family. The role of Psychology in this type of process is not assumed as necessary only in the child intervention, but in a joint vision. If the parental system does not favor the child's ability to adapt, we must rethink the type of intervention to assume.</p>

### Longs Peak: Alienated Parents Panel

\*Note, this panel will not be live-streamed or recorded to protect the confidentiality of the panel participants

<b>Panel Participants:</b>	<p>Matt Peloquin Amanda Ngyuen Josh Gonze Joy Fuhrman</p>	<p>This panel presentation will involve four parents who will share their experiences of being alienated from their children.</p>
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**Coffee Break: 4:00- 4:15 pm**

## **Concurrent Afternoon Sessions 2**

4:15- 5:45

### **Ballrooms C/D: Parental Alienation: State of Knowledge and Handling Misinformation**

<p><b>Quality of Research on Parental Alienation</b></p>	<p>Joshua Marsden</p>	<p>Parental Alienation (PA), a form of family violence, has negative outcomes for children and parents. Despite being a generative field of science, some critics contest the validity of PA research. In 2022, Harman et al. (2022) published a comprehensive literature review evaluating the literature on PA. While their study demonstrated that the field of PA is not methodologically flawed, the scope of their project did not assess the quality of individual empirical studies. Expanding on the methodology of their paper, this author seeks to appraise the quality of empirical PA research using the Mixed Methods Appraisal Tool (MMAT). Building off the Harmen et al. (2022) search methodology and database, by including research published up to the end of year 2022, 155 articles have been identified that will be evaluated using the MMAT. The aim of the project will be to test the hypotheses that empirical PA research is not only of a high quality but that the quality of empirical PA research has increased over time. By addressing concerns regarding the legitimacy of PA research meeting scientific rigor, evaluating the quality of empirical PA research will provide further insight regarding the scientific validity of the field.</p>
<p><b>Characterization of the interdisciplinary nature of the parental alienation concept as reflected by professional journals</b></p>	<p>Sophie Roswall, MSSc Bjorn Cedervall, PhD</p>	<p>The field of parental alienation, PA, now shows several criteria of a maturing science (Harman <i>et al.</i>, 2022). This is also manifested by the types of peer-review journals which publish articles about the concept. We have identified 167 such journals which clearly show the interdisciplinary character of the field. The aim of this work is to give an overview of the corresponding journals which focus on areas such as psychology, developmental biology, medicine including psychiatry in the context of family dynamic. This is not meant to dismiss the importance of legal aspects – indeed we found 43 peer-review journals which have dealt with legal aspects of the PA concept. The legal process, however, is dependent on the first step which is recognition of PA as a biological and medical issue. Therefore, it is of interest to analyze to what extent the PA concept has entered the area of medicine</p>

		and biology: The total number of journals from the areas of biology and medicine we found sums up to 104. The number of journals we found which clearly intersect between the medical sciences and law are 8. We found 14 journals which cover social work or sciences and have published articles on the PA concept, 6 of these journals in turn overlap with medical or legal issues. In summary, we find PA standing on a solid scientific ground. We believe that PA in most cases should be regarded as medical emergencies and therefore dealt with promptly whenever detected
<b>Publishing about parental alienation: How to overcome challenges and disseminate knowledge</b>	Jennifer J. Harman, PhD William Bernet, MD	We will discuss the publication process for peer-reviewed journals, challenges we have faced throughout the peer-review process due to politics and ideology of reviewers and editorial boards, and strategies to overcome them.
<b>Handling misinformation and future research priorities</b>	Open Discussion: All presenters and Stanley Korosi, PhD	This open discussion will cover science denial techniques and the spread of misinformation about parental alienation, and strategies that have been used to try and combat them. Future research priorities will also be explored.

### Longs Peak: Building Capacity and Having an Impact

<b>Lessons from the Netherlands: translation of research to advocacy</b>	Heleen Koppejan-Luitze, MSc.	Many countries struggle with parental alienation. In some countries the opposition against this what is often called “junk science” is fierce, undermining the opportunities to help children and their parents when they struggle with the parenting plan. This was also the case in The Netherlands. For years PA has not been acknowledged and the paradigm was to leave the child be, hoping that when it would be an adult, contact with the rejected parent would be restored. However, thanks to some politicians The House of Representatives (the lower house of the bicameral parliament of the Netherlands) ordered an interdisciplinary team of experts to give insight in what PA is (and is not), how to recognize it, and what professionals should do (and avoid) when PA occurs. The team existed of a judge, two general remedial educationalists, one psychiatrist, one professor, and Heleen Koppejan (a psychologist) In 2021 the team presented an extensive report which currently is the basis for court to judge in these cases. Heleen will explain the essentials of the report that has resulted in a paradigm shift, in her talk.
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<p><b>The Brazilian parental alienation law 12.318/2010 - advances and setbacks</b></p>	<p>Andreia Soares Calçada</p>	<p>In August 2010, Law number 12.318, known as the Parental Alienation Law, was enacted in Brazil, amid the demand of fathers and mothers away from their children or with fragile bonds due to parental alienation. The law brought to the legal system important preventive mechanisms for reserving the coexistence between parents and their extended families, addresses acts of parental alienation rather than talking about the child's symptoms. It changed the way the judiciary saw the subject and many interesting and protective decisions for children and their affective bond were made. The law number 12.318 is a law to protect family life, the rights of children and adolescents. In parallel to the law, important points need to be improved for its effectiveness. Also fundamental is the elaboration of fundamental public politics for the acquisition of information and parental education for the population. On May 18, 2022, Law 14.340 appears, which amends Law 12,318, of August 26, 2010, to modify procedures related to parental alienation, aiming to improve the law in its procedures, as a guarantee of minimum assisted visitation, the speed of the biopsychosocial study, to enable the appointment of experts from outside the courts, in case the technical teams are not available, and to also enable the quality of the expertise through monitoring, initial, and final report.</p>
<p><b>Networking and advocacy action planning: Addressing Kayden's Law and similar legislation</b></p>	<p>Julie Grayson, JD, CFM Joan Kloth-Zanard, MFT</p>	<p>Legislative reform is imperative in the best interests of children as well as to all stakeholders who intersect with and/or are in the family court system. Every child deserves the right to have access to a parent, and to love and be loved by a parent. Fit parents also have the right to play active, continuous, ongoing role in their child(ren)'s education and upbringing. This session will cover topics such as: Parental Alienation Legislation, Domestic Violence Laws such as Kayden's Law, Jennifer's Law, stalking, etc., Shared Parenting Legislation, Educational Legislation, and GAL Legislation</p>

## Ballrooms A/B: Closing Remarks

5:45- 6 pm

<p><b>These Trying Times: The Future of PASG</b></p>	<p>Virginia Griffin Donnell</p>	<p>This year, as our 5<sup>th</sup> international conference closes, we recall that we have explored and learned more about parental alienation – its history, current status, and what the future holds regarding many of the issues surrounding parental alienation. As we turn our eyes away from the rearview mirror and look through the expansive front windshield toward the future of PASG, we anticipate that PASG will not only continue its successful educational endeavors, but also begin its period of fierce advocacy for those afflicted by this insidious global problem.</p>
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## Post Conference Events

7 pm to 9 pm, **Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>**: Longs Peak, Lory Student Center

**Screening of *I Stand with John* documentary**

7:30 to 10 am, **Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**: Horsetooth Falls Loop Trail

**Participant led hike by Kate Ellis** (contact [elliska@bu.edu](mailto:elliska@bu.edu))



# Closing Remarks

## *A message from the incoming PASG President*

Welcome All!

As president-elect of the Parental Alienation Study Group (PASG), taking office in January 2024, I am looking forward to the conference this June. I am so happy to have an opportunity to share my thoughts about the future of this great organization.

PASG is embarking on a new era because the time has come for a “tidal wave” of education, advocacy, and action to envelope the whole world! Now is the time for our global effort to increase awareness regarding the phenomenon of alienating behaviors that affect 22 million Americans.

As you know, we are not stopping with the United States. Sixty-four (64) countries participate in the Parental Alienation Study Group, and each individual attendee at this conference can play a vital role in the expansion of our educational, advocacy, and actionable efforts.

Please be thinking of what talents and gifts you personally and individually bring to our organization to support this cause. As an attorney based in Los Angeles, California, USA, and a 20-year licensed school psychologist, I’m excited to embark on this new era with each of you and will call YOU to action. I would like to know more about you: your passion, your commitment, and your expertise; so that together, we can achieve the stated objectives of the Parental Alienation Study Group.

**Virginia Griffin Donnell, Esq.**

# Save the Date!



SEPTEMBER 5 - 6, 2024

WELCOME TO OSLO, NORWAY

6<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Parental Alienation Study Group

## PROMOTING THE CHILD'S BEST INTERESTS

Confirmed speakers :

Anders Bøhn, LL.M.; Eivind Meland, Professor Emeritus, MD, PhD; William Bernet, M.D.; Jennifer J. Harman, PhD; Philip Marcus, LL.M. and Brian O'Sullivan, systemic family psychotherapist

# Biographies of Program Contributors

(In alphabetical order)

*Not all co-authors of talks will be in-person at the conference, and a small number of the presentations will be pre-recorded and screened during the conference. These individuals will be signified by an asterisk (\*) after their names below. They have been included in this list because their contributions to the program are significant, whether they are able to be physically present or not.*

<b>Mary Alvarez, PhD*</b>	Dr. Alvarez, a licensed psychologist for twenty-five years in Texas, has both a forensic practice and a clinical practice and she specializes in evaluating and treating high conflict families. As a former custody evaluator in family law matters, and as a current reunification clinician, Dr. Alvarez has evaluated and treated the devastating psychological effects on children whose parents are involved in chronic high conflict, including the negative effects of parental alienation. Mitigating the negative effects of parental alienation by prevention and early intervention is Dr. Alvarez' current focus.
<b>Sandra Aguilar, LPC</b>	Sandra Aguilar, LPC is an expert in working with high conflict, family law parents. Sandra has worked as a Guardian ad Litem, therapist, and family law consultant for over 10 years. Sandra is a contributor to the Parenting for the Future program for target parents and currently works on staff as a consultant to attorneys on parent alienation cases.
<b>Kelley A. Baker, PhD</b>	Dr. Baker has provided services to families in divorce for over 20 years, specializing in parent-child contact issues for the last 13 years. She has served as an individual and family therapist, parent and coparenting coach, guardian ad litem, custody evaluator, conducted parental alienation assessments, and managed complex reunifications. She provides training to mental health and legal professionals on parental alienation. Dr. Baker was educated at Texas State University and the University of Texas, receiving a B.A. in psychology, a M.A. in counseling and guidance, a M.Ed. in program evaluation, and a Ph.D. in social, developmental, and personality psychology.
<b>William Bernet, MD</b>	William Bernet, M.D., a professor emeritus at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, has testified as an expert in forensic psychiatry about 300 times in 24 states. In 2007, Dr. Bernet and Judge Don R. Ash published <i>Children of Divorce: A Practical Guide for Parents, Therapists, Attorneys, and Judges</i> . Dr. Bernet edited <i>Parental Alienation, DSM-5, and ICD-11</i> (2010). Dr. Bernet and his colleagues edited <i>Parental Alienation: The Handbook for Mental Health and Legal Professionals</i> (2013). Dr. Bernet and Demosthenes Lorandos also edited <i>Parental Alienation: Science and Law</i> (2020). He was the founder and first president of the Parental Alienation Study Group.
<b>Alan D. Blotcky, PhD</b>	Alan D. Blotcky, PhD, is a clinical and forensic psychologist in private practice in Birmingham, Alabama. He is also Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Alabama at Birmingham. Dr. Blotcky is a frequent expert witness in false allegations of abuse and

	parental alienation cases. He is Co-Editor of Parental Alienation International, the newsletter of PASG.
<b>Michael Bone, PhD</b>	Michael Bone, PhD has been involved in the field of Parental Alienation for the better part of three decades, having worked with many if not most national level experts. He currently has a consultative practice wherein he works closely with the legal team as well as with the unfavored parent, in an effort to give the Court what it needs to make a proper intervention. While his practice is located in Florida, his practice covers the Unites States and Canada.
<b>Andrew Bossory, JD*</b>	Andrew M. Bossory is a senior associate attorney at Joshi   Attorneys + Counselors. For over a decade, Mr. Bossory's practice has focused on parental alienation and high conflict divorce matters. He has published and presented on parental alienation on the local and national levels, including prior presentations during PASG conferences.
<b>Mariam Afonzo Brigas, PhD*</b>	Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Lisbon since 2012, with a PhD in the area of Historical-Legal Sciences at the same university, with a dissertation on the theme "Power relations in the construction of Portuguese Family Law (1750-1910). Elected member of the Scientific Council of the Faculty of Law of the University of Lisbon from 2012 to 2022. Also served on the Pedagogical Council of the Faculty of Law of Lisbon. She is currently a researcher at IURIS Center for Interdisciplinary Research. She also taught at the Military Academy. She is a speaker in several post-Graduate and master's courses in the areas of Roman Law, History of Portuguese Law, History of Private Law and Family Law. Among the various areas of research, matters relating to research in the area of the History of Portuguese Law, and, in particular, of legal and family institutes, namely related to the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Published several articles and communications on historical-legal issues, more specifically on matrimonial law, filiation, parental authority, and adoption.
<b>Caitlin Burgess, JD, LMFT, MA</b>	Caitlin R. Burgess, J.D., MA, LMFT is both a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in California and Washington and a licensed California attorney for 25 years. She maintains a private practice in counseling psychology, law, and forensics with offices in the San Francisco Bay Area and Seattle. Her special interests include domestic violence, child alignment, parental alienation, realistic estrangement, reconnection/reunification therapy, court-involved therapy, child custody evaluations, mediation, and expert witness services in domestic violence and parental alienation in family law cases. As one might expect from a therapist who is also an attorney, her practice is evidence-based and interdisciplinary.
<b>Andreia Soares Calcada*</b>	Andreia Soares Calcada is a clinical and forensic psychologist, expert of the Court of Justice of the State of Rio de Janeiro - Brazil in family courts and Forensic technical assistant in family and criminal courts throughout Brazil. She has a masters in conflict resolution systems from the Federal University Lomas de Zamora in Argentina, is the author of books and articles in the Forensic area, and is co-author of the first book in Brazil on false accusations of sexual abuse in family contexts in 2001. She is also the author of the book Perdas irreparáveis (irreparable losses) - parental alienation and false accusations of sexual abuse which is

	already in its third edition, and she is a member of the Brazilian Institute of Family Law – IBDFAM
<b>Bjorn Cedervall, PhD</b>	Over a period of about 50 years, Bjorn Cedervall worked and studied interdisciplinary problems where physics, chemistry and biology meet and sometimes also intersect with society and politics. As an alienated uncle, he first encountered the concept of parental alienation in 2019 and soon became involved in national and international networks dealing with challenges relating to PA. He has had contact with over 200 Swedish adults who have been affected by the tragedies of PA. In 2019 he launched the PA awareness website ompa.se which now has had visitors from more than 100 countries.
<b>Cathia Chumbo</b>	Clinical and justice psychologist - 2009/2010 - master's thesis about Parental Alienation - creation of the divorce consultation in 2012 - scientific articles published about parenting and divorce - participation in several congresses in the field of divorce and parenting - postgraduate degree in couple therapy, focusing on intervention in the divorce couples.
<b>Brayton Conley, JD*</b>	Brayton Conley is an attorney from Toledo, Ohio. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Toledo and his Juris Doctorate from the Robert H. McKinney School of Law at Indiana University. He worked for American Family Insurance in their litigation defense department in Indianapolis before joining Sprunger & Sprunger, where he currently practices family and criminal law throughout northeastern Indiana.
<b>Caitie Coyle</b>	Caitie Coyle is the oldest of Carolyn MacCloud's three children, and for more than six years, she was completely alienated from her mother, along with her younger sister and brother. Today she has a relationship with her mother but is now completely cut off from her younger brother and sister. As an adult alienated child, she has been able to help others with her unique perspective. Caitie and Carolyn recently shared their story on the Let's Red Table That Podcast.
<b>Larry DeMarco</b>	Larry DeMarco, the Founder of The Law Center and partner at DeMarco & DeMarco, P.C., is one of the few lawyers with an advanced law degree in trial advocacy from Temple University School of Law. Larry has been a sole practitioner in the Philadelphia 5 county area for 30 years and has a litigation firm and general practice. He served as a Judge Pro-Tem for the Court of Common Pleas Court system, a board member for the Justinian Law Society, and as a custody mediator. He also operates The Law Center YouTube Channel, a free video library for self-represented litigants in family court.
<b>Howie Dennison</b>	Howie Dennison has a master's degree in Electrical Engineering. He worked in commercial computer software and hardware development and support for 40 years, before retiring. He organized Central Ohio Parental Alienation.

<b>Virginia Griffin Donnell</b>	Virginia Griffin Donnell, Esq., founded the family law firm of GRIFFIN DONNELL and ASSOCIATES, APC, based in Los Angeles, California. In addition to being a lawyer, Virginia is an experienced licensed school psychologist specializing in litigating complex custody disputes including those involving parental alienation. Virginia understands the subtleties (and full picture) of an alienation case, in order to best advocate for the best interests of the relationship between a child and targeted parent.
<b>Andrew Doyle</b>	Andrew is a postgraduate researcher in University College Cork, Ireland in children's rights in high conflict family separations. He has presented on parental alienation at European conferences, and university symposiums. He holds the Governance Chair on the Irish NGO Alienated Children First support and lobbying group and has led submissions on their behalf to the Irish Department of Justice, Tusla (the Irish Child and Family Agency), The Joint Committee of the Oireachtas on the Family Court Bill, the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child and the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Child Protection and is an Irish member of the PASG.
<b>Amy Eichler, PhD</b>	Amy Eichler, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Psychology on the faculty of the University of Mary Hardin – Baylor. She maintains a practice as a clinical psychologist, specializing in work with children and families in high conflict divorce situations, parental alienation, depression, grief, anxiety, and making positive changes. She is also trained in motivational interviewing and is a New Ways for Families therapist and has testified in family court as an expert witness in the areas of child sexual abuse and parental alienation.
<b>Robert Evans, PhD</b>	Dr. Evans' forensic psychological services include expert testimony in family law cases with a focus on Parental Alienation (PA), including allegations of parental rejection, child abuse, sex abuse, and estrangement. He coauthored the book, <i>The Essentials of Parent Alienation Syndrome</i> , and a number of articles. He has testified as an expert on PA in numerous courts across the U.S. and has conducted approximately 400 child custody evaluations. He has been approved by many legal bar associations to conduct continuing legal education on <i>Litigating Family Law Cases with Parent Alienation</i> and other topics.
<b>Sandra Feitor, PhD*</b>	Sandra Feitor, PhD is an attorney with a PhD in law, and her legal scholarship focused on the topic of parental alienation. She has been an invited lecturer in postgraduate classes at the Faculty of Law of Lisbon and has taught specific classes at the European University and has been on the Faculty of Law of the New Lisbon Faculty. She is currently an assistant professor at Law Faculty of Lusofona Lisbon University, an ICFML Family Mediator, member of the mediation committee of the Brazilian Institute of Parental Alienation and serves on the Board of Directors for the International Counsel on Shared Parenting.
<b>Randy Flood, MA, LLP</b>	Randy Flood, MA, LLP has specialized since 1992 in providing psychological services for individuals and families involved in family courts by providing evaluations, parenting coordination, and parent-child reunification counseling at the Fountain Hill Center in Grand Rapids, particularly when resist and refuse dynamics (RRD's) are present on the spectrum of parent-child contact problems including cases of

	parental alienation. Flood offers testifying and non-testifying expert consultation for attorneys and coaching for rejected/targeted parents as well as helping parents cope and navigate the world of custody and parenting time litigation. As director of the Men's Resource Center of West Michigan, he recently launched a parental alienation support group for targeted fathers. He is the co-author of two books, host of Revealing Men Podcast, a speaker and trainer, and a media consultant in his areas of expertise.
<b>Jason Flowerday</b>	Jason Flowerday is the proud father of three children and the step-father to two additional children through his recent second marriage. Jason and his family live in Toronto, Canada where he works as the CEO of a private health-technology company that is focused on commercializing brain performance software.
<b>Victoria Flowerday</b>	Victoria Flowerday is Jason Flowerday's eldest daughter. She has just completed her 3 <sup>rd</sup> year of University where she is studying psychology and is the captain of the varsity swim team. Victoria is also the founder and president of her University's Pre-Law Society. Victoria has recently completed her LSAT and will be applying to law school in the US over the coming months for commencement in September 2024.
<b>Joy Fuhrman, DVM</b>	Joy Fuhrman began her career as a Certified Public Accountant. After 15 years of working in corporate America, she went back to school to become a veterinarian. For the first few years after their divorce, she and her son's father were able to co-parent their son extremely well. However, when her ex-husband entered into a new relationship and chose to move to another state, the campaign of parental alienation began. She now lives and works in Arizona. Her alienated son who is now 15-years old, lives in Florida with his father.
<b>Lydia Ness Garcia</b>	Lyda Ness Garcia is the Presiding Judge for the 383 <sup>rd</sup> Judicial District (Family Law) Court in El Paso County, Texas. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan (BA), the University of Texas School Of (JD) and is licensed in the State of Texas, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia. Judge Lyda Ness Garcia was one of the first licensed Child Welfare Law Specialists (CLWS) in the State of Texas and is philosophically committed to ensuring that the most vulnerable have a voice. She has served on the Supreme Court of Texas Children's Commission as an advisory attorney and currently serves on the Texas Council on Family Violence (TCFV) Public Policy Committee for the current Texas Legislative Session. Most importantly, she is the proud mother of Ysa, Sofia and Benji as well as a menagerie of dogs, cats and a skunk.
<b>Christine Giancarlo, PhD</b>	Christine Giancarlo is a socioevolutionary anthropologist, with expertise in patriarchal ideology, cognitive bias in decision-making and child social development. Her ethnographic research includes international women academics, social justice for marginalized indigenous and northern Vietnamese populations, and the effect of parental alienation on human ontogeny and health. Dr. Giancarlo is a senior lecturer at Mount Royal University and was nominated for its Community Impact Research Award in 2018 and 2019.

<b>Joshua Gonze*</b>	Joshua Gonze, 60, a father with two children, has been litigating custody of his now 16-year-old daughter for the last 14 years. Despite court findings of alienation by mother; four custody evaluations by two psychologists; more than 1,000 motions filed; and five different judges assigned, the case remains unresolved. After a 29-year career in finance and investments, Father now works as a bartender and real estate investor in New Mexico.
<b>Linda Gottlieb*</b>	Linda J. Gottlieb, LMFT, LCSW-R practices as a marriage and family therapist primarily using the structural family therapist model in which she had been trained by child psychiatrist, Salvador Minuchin. Ms. Gottlieb has been working with children and families for more than 50 years in various settings. She began specializing in high conflict custody cases in 1994 and began to further specialize in parental alienation in 2003. In 2014, she developed her specialized treatment intervention known as Turning Points For Families (TPFF) for severely alienated children. TPFF is currently the primary focus of her practice.
<b>Kelsey Green</b>	Mr. Green is a professional engineer who has become involved in the advocating for and providing peer supporting targeted parents and family members. He is currently undertaking PA Studies at IFT-Malta and is a co-founder of Complex Trauma Canada a non-profit that advocates for and educates those working with survivors of complex and childhood traumas well as supports survivors themselves. As a targeted parent, he is also aware of the significant challenges that families experience.
<b>Julie Grayson, JD*</b>	Julie Grayson, JD, CFM is a Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children and a Certified Family Mediator with specialized training in trauma-informed survivor skills. She is a legislative advocate for family law reform and has testified in hearings throughout the United States. She sits on numerous state, national, and international committees regarding constitutional rights and criminal and family law issues. She also produces and co-hosts a podcast on CF Digital!, The Voice of Contemporary Family, a broadcast service of Preserving Family Ties Media, LLC. She can be reached at info@parentchildfocus.com
<b>Jayna Haney, MS, LPC</b>	Jayna Haney, MS, LPC is EMDR certified and works in private practice with adults, couples and families in single parent and stepfamilies and specializes in attachment, crisis, trauma, and conflict/alienation. She is also the clinical coordinator for the non-profit Children 4 Tomorrow's Complex Family Assessment and Treatment (CFAT) program for family courts. Jayna and her husband, Mike, have been married for 20+ years and have four grown children.
<b>Jennifer J. Harman, PhD*</b>	Jennifer J. Harman, PhD. is an Associate Professor of Psychology at Colorado State University. Her research focus is on the study of family conflict and violence, particularly on the topic of parental alienation. She has published over a dozen peer-reviewed, scientific studies and reviews on the topic of parental alienation, has served as an editor and reviewer for many scientific journals, and has served as an expert witness on cases involving family conflict in 17 states, the District of Columbia, and the province of Ontario. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of PASG.



<b>Kevin Hickey</b>	Kevin Hickey has been a practicing attorney licensed in Arkansas and the District of Columbia for over 22 years. The vast majority of his practice involves child custody, and often severe parental alienation cases. He has worked on parental alienation cases in several states as co-counsel, including at trial. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the John Mast Foundation ( <a href="http://www.johnmastfoundation.org">www.johnmastfoundation.org</a> ) which has its mission to educate parents and grandparents being harmed by parental alienation.
<b>Ben Hine, PhD</b>	Ben Hine, PhD, is a Professor of Applied Psychology at the University of West London, researching intimate partner violence (with a focus on 'hidden' groups), parental alienation, and family breakdown.
<b>Ian Hine*</b>	Ian Hine is father to Professor Ben Hine and a sportswriter for Premier League club Brighton and Hove Albion. He has extensive lived experience of post-separation abuse and coercive control, including experiences with the family justice system in the UK.
<b>Cindy Hirsch</b>	Cindy Hirsch is the CEO of International Support Network for Alienated Families (ISNAF) a support group for those dealing with the dynamics of PA. She is a targeted parent who understands firsthand the multiple challenges of recovering from the trauma caused by PA. ISNAF has created and facilitated the first PA Grief Program for parents. ISNAF's mission is to support, educate, advocate and bring about awareness.
<b>Joan Kloth-Zanard, MFT</b>	Joan T. Kloth-Zanard MFT, ADA Advocate, GAL, RSS, ABI, LC, PA Expert & DCF Certified Founder, Board President of PAS Intervention, a 501c3 nonprofit dedicated to education and training of professionals and survivors of psychological abuse. She has a Masters in Marriage & Family Magna Cum Laude, a BS in Health and Psychology, minor in business, associates in exercise science, and extensive training in Reunification, Psychological Abuse, Child Psychology and other aspects related to Dysfunctional Family Processes. Joan is an expert in the fields of Parental Alienation, psychological abuse, intervention strategies, and techniques and strategies for moving forward and rebuilding a life after a traumatic event, or series of traumatic events. Joan is also a trained GAL, Owner/Moderator of several online support groups with over 2 Decades of experience working with Parental Alienation (PA). She has been vetted and qualified as an expert witness and testified in the capacity of an expert and factual witness. She is also an ADA advocate. And lastly, as the author and co-author of two books, both in their 2nd Editions of publications, she continues to pursue the education and training of professionals and parents on a daily basis. She has also created tools and programs to assist in recognizing the patterns and dealing with them in court.
<b>Heleen Koppejan, MSc.</b>	Heleen Koppejan, MSc. is a psychologist who has graduated cum-laude on research on Parental Alienation. She had her own practice in which she helps parents and their children in complex divorces. She is often assigned by court, either as guardian civil or as an expert, to research the dynamics underlying contact stops between a child and a parent after divorce. She shares her knowledge on complex divorces with professionals in all disciplines working with complex divorces in her

	training-institute and has been assigned by the government to join formal platforms researching solutions for complex divorces and PA.
<b>Stanley A. Korosi, PhD</b>	Stanley (Stan) A. Korosi PhD is a professional clinical sociologist and counsellor. He is researching parental alienation as a significant social and public health issue and how to address structural social, psychological, and legal reforms. He chairs the Society and Ethics Working group under the international Change for Children organization and is the principal investigator for a study of parental alienation dangerousness. Stan is the principal consultant of Dialogue in Growth Pty. Ltd in Australia., specializing in providing consulting services, assessment and remediation of parental alienation.
<b>Keith Kosierowski</b>	Keith Kosierowski is a family therapist, divorce mediator and parent coach in private practice, Hingham, MA (Remote meetings nationally). He offers specialties including supporting couples, youth, trauma, narcissism, resist/refusal, executive dysfunction. His approach is affirmative strengths based systems focused, reduces stress, improves relationships, wellness and productivity at home school and career. He can be reached for consultation and speaking at <a href="mailto:keithkos1@gmail.com">keithkos1@gmail.com</a>
<b>Edward Kruk, PhD*</b>	Edward Kruk, MSW, PhD, is Professor Emeritus at the University of British Columbia, specializing in child and family policy, who also practices family mediation in Vancouver, B.C. His recent research projects have focused on parenting after separation, family mediation, and parental alienation. He has over 40 years of clinical and community work experience as a professional social worker. He received his BA and MSW degrees from the University of Toronto, and his doctorate from the University of Edinburgh, where he studied as a National Welfare Fellow. His professional experience also includes a faculty appointment with the University of Calgary Faculty of Social Work, family practice with Catholic Family Services in Calgary, medical social work practice with the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Edinburgh, school social work practice with the Toronto District Catholic School Board, and child protection work with the Metro and Catholic Children's Aid Societies in Toronto. He is author of <i>Divorce and Disengagement: Patterns of Fatherhood Within and Beyond Marriage</i> (Fernwood, 1993), <i>Mediation and Conflict Resolution in Social Work and the Human Services</i> (Nelson-Hall, 1997), <i>Divorced Fathers: Children's Needs and Parental Responsibilities</i> (Fernwood, 2011), <i>The Equal Parent Presumption</i> (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2013), and <i>The Routledge International Handbook of Shared Parenting and the Best Interest of the Child</i> (Routledge, 2022). He has published widely in a variety of academic and professional journals. Edward is the father of two boys, Stephan and Liam.
<b>Rael Lapenta*</b>	Rael is a family advocate trained in Relationship Development Intervention. She founded Behavioral & Sensory Solutions. She works with clients to support their families in the treatment & management of behavioral concerns due to sensory processing disorder. Through her personal experience with her children, she worked with Victim to Hero. She has been working tirelessly to bring nationwide awareness and support regarding Custodial Interference and addressing concerns in Kayden's Law.

<b>Ken Lewis, PhD</b>	Ken Lewis, PhD was an associate professor of social work; now he is a full-time custody evaluator. He has been court-appointed in 27 States, Canada, and Belize. His publications include peer-reviewed articles on parental alienation, other custody-related topics, and a book: <i>Child Custody Evaluations by Social Workers</i> . (NASW). He is on the editorial boards of the Journal of Forensic Social Work (National Organization of Forensic Social Workers) and The Chronicle (International Association of Family Judges and Magistrates).
<b>Merle Lewis</b>	Merle has been a child advocate for over twenty years, first as a visitation supervisor, then as a custody evaluator. Being familiar with different state protocols, she also critiques reports from other evaluators. She has participated throughout the United States and worldwide at a variety of conferences regarding children. Her activities internationally have helped produce three United Nations resolutions on behalf of the global protection of children. She is Director of Children of Divorce and Separation (CODA).
<b>Monika Logan, LPC, LSOTP</b>	Monika Logan, LPC, LSOTP is the owner and Managing Director of Texas Premier Counseling Services, PLLC (Texas PCS) located in Frisco, Texas. Ms. Logan's practice primarily entails forensic counseling with a focus in family law. Ms. Logan specializes in working with families who have damaged and/or strained parent-child relationships. Ms. Logan also provides counseling and psychoeducational services for parents and their children in conflict, and those struggling with issues related to separation and/or divorce. Ms. Logan services include Parenting Facilitation, Child Custody Evaluations, and Reunification Therapy. Additionally, she has provided Expert Testimony for various courts throughout Texas. Ms. Logan's past experience includes the treatment of both juveniles and adults with Sexual Behavior Problems, evaluations for the criminal courts, and treating survivors of intimate partner violence.
<b>Demosthenes Lorandos, PhD, JD</b>	Demosthenes Lorandos, Ph.D., J.D. studied science at the New School for Social Research. A psychologist for 50 years, he trained in law with the Jesuits at the University of Detroit. He has been a litigator for 30 years and is member of the bar of New York, California, Michigan, Tennessee, Washington, D.C.; the Second, Sixth, Ninth and Eleventh federal courts of appeal as well as the Bar of the United States Supreme Court. A Thomson-Reuters WEST "Key Author", his two-volume set <i>Cross Examining Experts in the Behavioral Sciences</i> is in its 20 <sup>th</sup> year of annual updates. He is the executive editor of <i>The Litigator's Handbook on Forensic Medicine, Psychiatry and Psychology</i> .
<b>Brian Ludmer, LLB</b>	Brian Ludmer is a skilled attorney in business and family law. His practice focuses on high conflict divorce, parental alienation and high net worth property and income disputes. Having fostered a successful resolution to parental alienation for his own family, Brian is actively sought out as lead or strategic counsel by clients on matters where this devastating and poorly understood form of child abuse hurts children and parents alike. Working with organizations such as the Parental Alienation Awareness Organization and International Support Network for Alienated Families, Brian has been the keynote speaker at numerous events around the world.

<b>Loretta Maase, LPC-S</b>	Loretta Maase, LPC-S provides the Turning Points for Families program in Austin, Texas. She has provided parent education for family law and high-conflict families for more than 25 years. Loretta is the author of the Parenting for the Future program for target parents.
<b>Catharine W. MacWillie</b>	Catharine MacWillie is a retired law enforcement officer with 24 years of service responding to radio calls dealing with family law, a first responder to child abuse investigations and other specialized units also impacted by family law. She possesses a unique background, training, experience, and approach having testified in multiple court venues etc. She conducted ten years of research into family law and parental alienation identifying that family law may be responsible for 25% of all crime. Homicides, suicides, abductions, child abuse, domestic violence, violation of court orders, violation of restraining orders, stalking and more. The past 18 years as a custody consultant and divorce coach, she specializes in false allegations, restraining orders, PA and high conflict cases, threat assessments and safety plans.
<b>Carolyn MacCloud</b>	Carolyn MacCloud is the mother of 3 children and is fortunate to have reconnected with her oldest child after six years of alienation. Carolyn has been dealing with parental alienation for more than ten years. She is a Parental Alienation Advocate, Domestic Violence Advocate, and public speaker. She started Parental Alienation Consultants, LLC. She has worked with Dr. Harman for the past three years working with parents, and she has worked with over 1,000 parents in 15 different countries. Carolyn is also the Public Relations & Community Outreach Director with NPO-CO and has worked with Colorado State Legislatures and other stakeholders to protect victims and children.
<b>Phillip Leon Marcus</b>	Philip Marcus was appointed a Judge of the Jerusalem Magistrates Court in 1995 and served as a Judge of the Family Court from its opening in 1997. For five years he served as Chief Judge of the Jerusalem Family Court. He retired from the Bench in 2012. He is consulted by governments and organizations around the world about family law and family court system reform, therapeutic jurisprudence, and prevention and handling of child psychological maltreatment, including parental alienation. He also directs courses and seminars for training of professionals and students with a view to multidisciplinary prevention programs, early identification of possible problems and immediate remedial intervention, and speedy and effective court action when needed. <a href="http://www.philip-marcus.com">www.philip-marcus.com</a> , <a href="mailto:philipmarcusjurist@gmail.com">philipmarcusjurist@gmail.com</a>
<b>Joshua Marsden</b>	Joshua Marsden is currently a PhD student in the Applied Social and Health Psychology program at Colorado State University. His current studies are in family relationships, forms of family violence, and Parental Alienation. His foci are in accessing the quality of research methodology in scientific publications as well as applications of research in policy reform and legislation regarding various forms of family violence. Having served as both contributor and project coordinator on grant funded projects, and as a member of various diversity committees, Joshua seeks to bridge the gap between research literature and real-world problems.

<b>Mandy Matthewson, PhD*</b>	Dr. Matthewson is a senior lecturer in the school of psychological sciences at the University of Tasmania and a senior clinical psychologist in private practice. She is the lead researcher in the Family and Interpersonal Relationship Research Lab at UTAS. She is on the Board of Directors of the Eeny Meeny Miney Mo Foundation and the Parental Alienation Study Group. Both organizations are not-for-profit organizations raising awareness of parental alienation and parental alienating behaviours. Dr Matthewson's work focuses on the fields of family relationships, family violence, parental alienation, and psychological trauma.
<b>Tina Mayer, LMHC*</b>	Tina Mayer is a LMHC, GAL, PC, Mediator, and dedicated advocate for children/families. She works primarily with PA cases in investigative or remedial roles. It is her goal to support children and educate anyone who may be a case 'contact point' about parental alienation signs and symptoms, as well as the responses needed to remedy these situations. She describes herself as a frontline warrior, not a researcher or academic, but she is constantly reading, questioning, and looking for more information and methods that will make her better at her work.
<b>Stephen Morrison, PhD</b>	Stephen Lee Morrison has a PhD in the Administration of Justice from the University of Southern Mississippi and completed in 2006. His dissertation was on Parental Alienation and is titled Parental Alienation Syndrome: An Inter-Rater Reliability Study. Alienating Behaviors - Related Justice System Issues. He has been in law enforcement for over 45 years, working first for the Houston Police Department for 41 years and now as a Captain in the Reserve Division of Harris County Precinct 4 Constables Office. He is assigned to Training Division. He has been an adjunct instructor for over 20 years and is presently adjunct teaching at the University of Houston Downtown and Sam Houston State University.
<b>M. Devyn Mullis, PhD</b>	Dr. M. Devyn Mullis is a current post-doctoral research associate in the Family-Health-Lifespan Communication Lab and Communication in Healthcare Lab at the University of Florida. She is a family communication and health scientist, with a specialization in family communication through transitional phases across the lifespan, including divorce/separation, disease diagnosis, and cancer survivorship. Her dissertation focused on the relational communication experiences of alienated family members. She is also a child of parental alienation, using her own experiences to further her research endeavors to support families.
<b>M. Ryan Mullis, JD</b>	M. Ryan Mullis is a Senior Associate family law attorney with Anene Farrey & Associates in Atlanta, Georgia. She earned her Juris Doctorate in 2014 and was admitted to the State Bar of Georgia that same year. She has spoken on multiple Continuing Legal Education panels on topics of parental alienation and LGBTQ+ issues in family law. She is a child of divorce and parental alienation and uses those experiences to help further her practice as an attorney and develop closer relationships with her clients.
<b>Amanda Nguyen</b>	Amanda Nguyen is an avid hobbyist baker who turned her passion into a profession. After 30 years with her former partner, she found the courage to leave an abusive relationship. She has three sons and is

	alienated from their two oldest. After three years of a protracted custody case where she had to defend against false accusations, she concluded that the courts couldn't help protect their boys or allow for a joint custody arrangement.
<b>Claudia Ovalles*</b>	Claudia is the National Parents Organization (NPO) Veteran Advocate for the State of Texas and Florida. She is currently the Interim Chair for the state of California's NPO Chapter. As part of her advocacy on custodial interference. She successfully filed companion bills HB 969 & SB 431 - relating to local regulations to enforce child custody orders, authorizing a civil penalty. Claudia also established Servicemembers for Children's Rights aka, Heroes for Children's Rights, in honor of recognizing our servicemember's sacrifice in protecting our children. Her advocacy primarily focuses on ensuring that children are protected from abuse.
<b>Yvonne M. Parnell, PhD</b>	Dr Yvonne M Parnell is a clinical neuropsychologist, clinical psychologist, and adult psychoanalyst in private practice in Toronto. She completed The Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics Training Certification through Phase 1 level. She is a Family Bridges workshop leader and trains professionals wishing to learn FB methodology. She developed what is now the standardized FB Aftercare Protocol used in all FB cases and trains other professionals to use it.
<b>Matt Peloquin*</b>	Matt Peloquin began his career studying psychology at the University of Massachusetts. After a career in broadcast and then marketing, 15 years of running a consulting firm, he founded Support Fathers Rights LLC ( <a href="http://supportfathersrights.org">http://supportfathersrights.org</a> ), a non-profit focused on supporting fathers who are victims of parental alienation, with mental wellness support and legal assistance.
<b>Robyn Ring, PhD</b>	Robyn Ring obtained her Ph.D. from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2006. She has worked in law enforcement and is currently a full-time professor at San Jacinto College in Pasadena, Texas. She has also worked as a dissertation mentor at Capella University from 2008 to 2019.
<b>Matthew Rhodes, PhD</b>	Matthew Rhodes is a Professor of Psychology at Colorado State University. His research focuses on memory, metacognition, and evidence-based approaches to learning and training. He is an author of a recent book on learning, <i>A Guide to Effective Studying and Learning: Practical Strategies from the Science of Learning</i> (2020; Oxford University Press) and has published numerous articles on learning and memory. Dr. Rhodes serves on several editorial boards for journals focused on research in memory and also occasionally provides expert consultation on a wide variety of issues related to memory.
<b>Mark Roseman, PhD</b>	Dr. Mark Roseman is founder and CEO of the Toby Center for Family Transitions, one of the largest providers of supervised visitation in Florida. He brings more than twenty years in child access and visitation program management and is an international speaker on this subject.
<b>Sophie Roswell, MSSc*</b>	Sophie Roswall has a BA in transcultural communication from Austria, where she lived for 20 years. Back in her native Sweden, a BA in criminology and a MA in gender studies followed. Her MA thesis about

	two fathers (one Austrian, one Swedish) experiencing parental alienation in the wake of false allegations of sex abuse, almost got turned down because of the controversy around the PA concept. For her, this was a powerful incentive to carry on researching parental alienation in her free time.
<b>Gena A. Rowlands, PhD*</b>	Gena A. Rowlands, Ph.D., LCSW, CCTP-II, CAP, has worked in the field of social work for over 25 years. Her professional background includes clinical practice, community education & training, strategic project planning & implementation, federal grant administration, and university instruction. She is a member of multiple, interdisciplinary working groups created to address complex community challenges, e.g., mass violence, human trafficking, interpersonal violence, and the intersection of criminal justice, mental health, and trauma. Her research interests include parental alienation, family violence, and trauma.
<b>Elish Roy*</b>	Eilish Roy is an analyst with the National Crime Agency, UK. She has previously completed work looking at morality in police officers, and most recently worked with Professor Ben Hine on the fathers and family breakdown project.
<b>Alissa Sherry, PhD</b>	Alissa Sherry, PhD, is a forensic psychologist with over 15 years of consulting experience, including 450 cases as either an expert witness, trial consultant, or forensic evaluator (both court appointed and individually hired). She is also a former tenured university professor at the University of Texas at Austin. Her practice balances practice and research to provide the best possible consultation experience. Expert witness topics include attachment, child abuse (including both true and false allegations of childhood sexual abuse), PTSD/trauma, professional ethics, memory and cognitive issues, false confessions/interrogation issues, domestic violence, infant/toddler visitation schedules, personality disorders, cultural issues of race, gender, and sexual orientation, psychological/forensic assessment and practice, competency, testamentary capacity, to name a few.
<b>Amanda Sharples, PhD*</b>	Amanda Sharples is an Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream at the University of Toronto. Her research has focused on intergroup relations. Recently, she has started studying interpersonal relations, focusing on interparental conflict following separation or divorce and how this may impact their children.
<b>Sverker Sikström, PhD</b>	Sverker Sikström is the chair of cognitive psychology at Lund university. He is interested in how the severity of violence is communicated from people present at violent event to people reading about this violence. He has also done work on how open-ended questions analyzed by AI can be used instead of rating scales to assess mental states with high validity.
<b>Amanda Sillars*</b>	Ms Amanda Sillars is the founding director of the Eeny Meeny Miney Mo Foundation, a world-leading not-for-profit charity dedicated to educating, raising awareness, research and providing resources on parental alienating behaviours. Ms Sillars has lived experience of being alienated from her mother during childhood and then alienated from her children in adulthood, now reunified. She has helped countless

	individuals affected by parental alienating behaviours through her support group and advocacy.
<b>Vesta Spivakovsky - Chandler</b>	Vesta Spivakovsky-Chandler was born in St. Petersburg, Russia. She is psychotherapist, published author, and alienated mother. Vesta's first nonfiction book, "Louder Than Silence" narrates her personal story of her daughter's abduction and fight against the broken and corrupt system that doesn't recognize Parental Alienation. Louder Than Silence has been translated into English and Ukrainian, and acknowledged as the first book about Parental Alienation in Russia. Vesta initiated the public discussion about this invisible pandemic in post-soviet countries. Currently Vesta is living in the US and working on screenplay for documentary series about PA. All of Vesta's books can be found at <a href="http://spivakovsky-chandler.com">http://spivakovsky-chandler.com</a> and <a href="https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BPW3BKF">https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BPW3BKF</a>
<b>Cory Sprunger</b>	Cory Sprunger is the managing partner of Sprunger & Sprunger, a firm with 6 offices throughout central and northeastern Indiana. Cory attended law school at Pepperdine University School of Law in Malibu, California, before returning home to Indiana to found Sprunger & Sprunger. He has experience litigating PA matters in Indiana, Ohio and Tennessee.
<b>Chris Turner, JD, MSW*</b>	Chris Turner has combined her degrees in Social Work and Law to develop a practice as a Family Law Mediator in Houston Texas. Chris has worked extensively in the field of parental alienation as a trained workshop facilitator for severely alienated children, and a case manager in Family law cases with findings of parental alienation. The focus of her current work has focused on early intervention and prevention of alienation in families through research, workshops and education of parents, schools and other professionals working with children. She, along with Dr. Mary Alvarez, are the founders of Resetting the Family.
<b>Alexandra Ullman*</b>	Alexandra Ullman is a lawyer and psychologist trained at PUC-RJ, and is a specialist in family law, mainly in cases of parental alienation and false allegations of sexual abuse. She is a speaker at events in Brazil and abroad. She participated in the documentary <i>A Morte Inventada</i> , and was an important voice for drafting the parental alienation law. She is also a forensic expert and has extensive experience in lawsuits involving shared custody and false allegations. She is the author of "Everything Dobro or by half?", which addresses the separation from the child's perspective and with playful language for the children's universe and beyond and is author of several articles published in other national and international works as a collaborator.
<b>Hesam Varavei, BS</b>	Hesam Varavei is a graduate student at Colorado State University in the Applied Social and Health Psychology Program. His graduate advisor is Dr. Jennifer Harman, and the focus of their studies are on the concept of parental alienation. Throughout his undergraduate years at the University of Texas at Austin, he was interested in the development of the social behaviors of humans which led him to working at the children's research center. That experience, as well as his interests eased him into wanting to research parental alienation, as it is an important



	field of study that affects many families around the world. He hopes that throughout his professional career, he is able to contribute to the expansion of research directly looking at parental alienation and ultimately help as many people as possible.
<b>Richard Warshak, PhD*</b>	Richard A. Warshak, Ph.D. is a graduate of Cornell University, a past Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, and one the world's most respected authorities on divorce, child custody, and the psychology of alienated children. His groundbreaking studies appear in 18 books and more than 90 articles in eighteen languages, including a consensus report on parenting plans for young children that was endorsed by 110 researchers and practitioners and published by the American Psychological Association. Dr. Warshak's work on relocation has influenced decisions in two Supreme Courts and his studies are cited in international caselaw and legislation. Dr. Warshak's book, <i>Divorce Poison: How to Protect your Family from Bad-Mouthing and Brainwashing</i> , is widely regarded as a classic. His video, <i>Welcome Back, Pluto: Understanding, Preventing, and Overcoming Parental Alienation</i> , is used in every state in the U.S. and 31 foreign countries.
<b>Natalie Williamson*</b>	Natalie P. Williamson is an attorney from Hagerstown, Indiana. Natalie attended Hanover College for her undergraduate studies. After graduating, she returned home and taught 7th Grade English for three years while pursuing her law degree at Robert H. McKinney School of Law at Indiana University. During law school, Natalie completed an externship with Indiana Department of Education and served as a legal assistant for the WINGS Project. Following law school, she began working at Sprunger & Sprunger, practicing family and criminal law throughout east-central Indiana.
<b>Shawn A. Wygant, PhD</b>	Shawn Wygant is a highly skilled forensic psychologist, child custody evaluator, family therapist, and expert witness. He specializes in the diagnosis and assessment of parental alienation as well as other complex forms of child psychological maltreatment. For the past nine years, he has worked with Demosthenes Lorandos on parental alienation cases throughout the United States as a forensic evaluator, consultant, and expert witness helping courts make the best possible decisions concerning the best interests of the child.
<b>Shenmeng Xu, PhD*</b>	Dr. Shenmeng Xu is the Librarian for Scholarly Communications at Vanderbilt University. She earned her Ph.D. degree in Information and Library Science from UNC-Chapel Hill. Her research interests lie in the intersection of scholarly communication, scientometrics, and altmetrics.