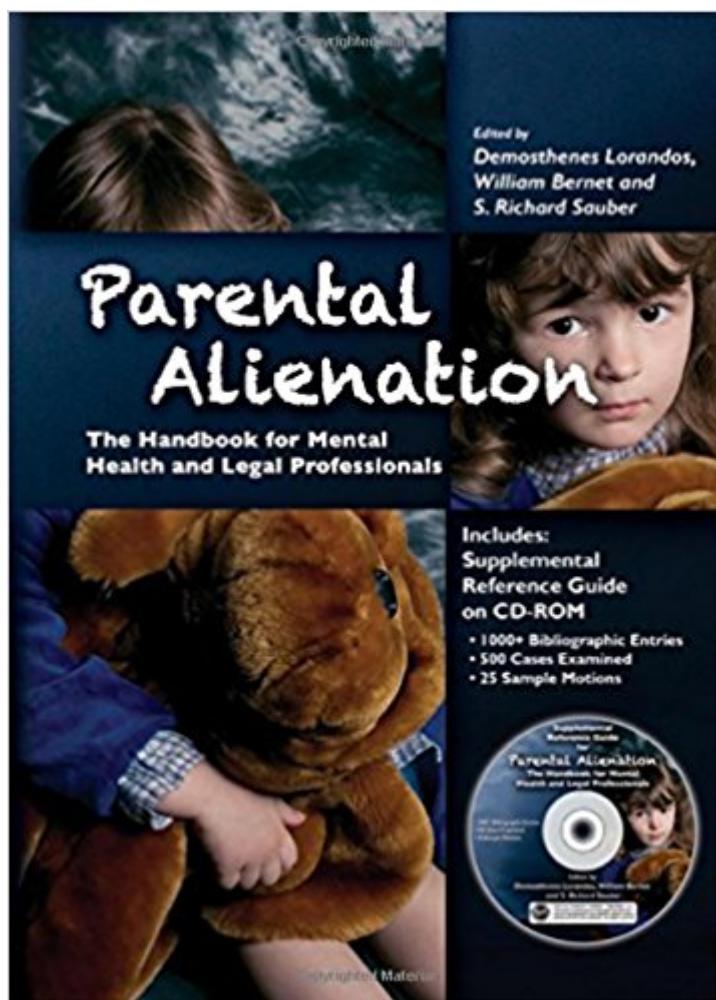


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# Parental Alienation: The Handbook For Mental Health And Legal Professionals (Behavioral Science And Law)



## Synopsis

Parental Alienation: The Handbook for Mental Health and Legal Professionals is the essential how to manual in this important and ever increasing area of behavioral science and law. Busy mental health professionals need a reference guide to aid them in developing data sources to support their positions in reports and testimony. They also need to know where to go to find the latest material on a topic. Having this material within arm's reach will avoid lengthy and time-consuming online research. For legal professionals who must ground their arguments in well thought out motions and repeated citations to case precedent, ready access to state or province specific legal citations spanning thirty-five years of parental alienation cases is provided here for the first time in one place. Includes: Supplemental Reference Guide on CD-ROM Carefully vetted reference material in the behavioral sciences and in law has been included on a separate CD-ROM found at the back of the book. This is very important material, and the authors have spent over two years gathering these sources, researching over two thousand U.S. and Canadian cases citing to parental alienation and have chosen more than five hundred cases in which an expert testified about parental alienation, the judge found parental alienation or both. Each of these cases has been described in a very brief memo drawn directly from the case and in a carefully checked exact legal citation. The book is also interspersed with vignettes of actual cases to offer practical significance through-out many chapters and to complement the presentation. It is the basic text for mental health and legal professionals, and the how to aspect of the Handbook will be invaluable to the lay reader as well.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"This book marks the current summit of scholarship regarding parental alienation (PA). ... [Chapters 3, 4, and 5] amount to a tour de force illustrating the use of a detailed conceptualization of the phenomenology of PA. ... The volume winds down with a fascinating account of the exhaustive efforts applied to assure inclusion of PA in some form in the DSM-5 and their satisfactory results." - Journal of Forensic Sciences

"The three editors of this book have an amazing pedigree. Their chapter contributors are eminently qualified. Common sense and good authorship directed standardization of definitions and terminology from chapter authors. Vignettes are used to complement theory. There is a Supplemental Reference Guide CD-ROM with 500 parental alienation (PA) cases from the U.S. and Canada. It has over 1,000 bibliographic entries with 25 sample motions." - American Journal of Forensic Psychology

Perusal of this book is a wise use of professional time when we consider the breadth of services required by youth and their families who face multiple degrees of conflict associated with separation and divorce. It is an essential read for health and human service workers, legal professionals, and the Court. Whether we must consult or testify; simply provide consultation, assessment, and care; or understand a judicial decision, the book exposes readers to ... perspectives that we as professionals should understand and utilize ...." - Journal of Clinical Psychiatry

Dieses Buch ist die derzeit aktuellste Publikation zu Parental Alienation und lesenswert fur alle Professionen, die mit Kindern in konflikthaften Scheidungssituationen zu tun haben - weltweit! - Neuropsychiatrie

More therapists/attorneys/judges need to read this book to understand what really happens during divorce. You can not be so naive as to expect that both sides will take the high road and keep the kids out of it. There is a lot of money to lose when a separation occurs and some want a windfall and will do anything including damaging the relationship with the other parent. Parental Alienation is serious and is typical of what a narcissistic parent would do to get as much control and child support as possible.

Valuable information.

great book

Lots of great research and thoughtful opinions. Very good reading.

Excelente

The reactions to Parental Alienation has been highly divided, but the scientific data is now abundant. When I first wrote about Parental Alienation (syndrome) in 1998, there was very little empirical research. People often weighted in based on their subjective issues. The nay-sayers' basic argument was that they simply did not believe it no matter how much data. Such people will always be around, but for the objective minds, we now have the definitive scholarly text with over 1000 references. I heard from mothers and fathers and grandparents world-wide about the psychological child abuse caused by Parental Alienation, but they often did not have psychologists or attorneys who knew enough about it to help them. Now they have this book which is an excellent source for anyone involved in child custody issues and Parental Alienation. I highly recommend it.

While there are actual cases of parental alienation, the parental alienation industry finds it almost anytime a child strongly prefers one parent over the other. The parental alienation industry does untold harm to large numbers of children, frequently placing children with parents who mistreat them and keeping them from their primary attachment figure. As a child psychiatrist I have reviewed the reports of many PA devotees. PA devotees use the elements of Parental Alienation Syndrome, to claim that a child is alienated from a parent as a result of the machinations of the other parent. Parental Alienation Syndrome has never been shown to be valid and the research of many qualified researchers shows that its basic tenets are false. The elements of PAS do not differentiate between mistreatment and alienation. I see the same unscientific methods in report after report of PA devotees. The evaluator simply accepts the statements of the rejected parent, declares that the preferred parent and child are lying, claim that "parental alienation syndrome" is valid (although it is widely rejected as junk science), and claim that it is widely accepted (when it is not). Bernet has written that children do not reject abusive parents. Therefore, if the child rejects a parent it must be alienation. This is absurd. Many children have one parent who is warm, supportive, has done most of the parenting, and is the primary attachment figure, and another parent who is somewhat cold, harsh and has not been a major caretaker. When the latter parent suddenly demands the child be in his house for half of the week, often only to be with sitters, the children become upset. Then the PAS devotees come in and claim parental alienation because the child objects to being away from her primary attachment figure for much of the week. The child's rejection of the not so good parent arises as a result of the false allegations of alienation and insistence the child be away from her primary attachment figure. A review of the literature shows numerous well qualified child researchers

who have done actual research showing that the basic tenets of parental alienation devotees are wrong. These researchers are not paid for their research and are not focused on making money testifying against PAS. Then there are a small number of PA advocates who write books (for money), sell their articles, focus their career on testifying in court making large amounts of money saying a child is rejecting a parent because of alienation. The "research" of the parental alienation group generally consists of individual case reports or showing that different reviewers using the same criteria agree on the finding. They have yet to do the key research showing that PAS differentiates between estrangement (rejection of a parent because of the parent's behavior) and alienation. One of the big names in PA does her evaluations by reading the emails between the parents, and does not interview anyone.

While Lorandos et al are adding helpful and definitive information regarding parental alienation by providing this book and resources, they fail to remove the "mother as primary alienator" from their information, particularly their vignettes. Parental Alienation is not gender specific and their vignettes harken to a time when negative father's rights movement began a diabolical attack on mothers in the early 80's as primary care givers in order to reduce child support payments and as a backlash for the equal rights movement in the 60's and 70's. The stories of the overly anxious "hysterical" parents, leads the readers to falsely embed the anti-mother, mother as the bitter-angry-vengeful-bitch or post-pardum harmful narrative. A bias that is all too prevalent and harms the family court systems as a whole. Same with the no-good-dead-beat-dad-stories. While, yes, fathers for a time had more difficulty in gaining custody, we forget for as long as humanity and governments have existed, thousands of years, mothers and their children were the property of the husbands and fathers. Only until the 1950's did women start gaining rights to parent and raise their children. Only until the 1970's did women start to gain primary custody status. Then by the 1980's the backlash ensued, where by the 2000's an epidemic of false allegations of "parental alienation syndrome" took hold causing good and healthy mothers to lose custody and contact with their children, to now we are seeing a massive epidemic of good mother's losing custody particularly when evidence of domestic violence and abuse is provided to the court. And the resulting backlash is mother-hating, father-hating, gender divide, where parents should be uniting to reform family courts world wide, as family courts (and it's professionals) routinely get custodial decisions completely wrong when faced with an overly aggressive, high income parent with pathogenic parenting and abuser tendencies. In the next version we implore you to be more gender neutral in your stories and be mindful of the adjective and objectifying that runs rampant in this handbook.

Start paying attention to family law symposiums and how many times they use the pronoun "She" when describing the negative parent, in their stories.

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