

**Set Children FREE  
From Parental Conflicts  
Don't Allow Parental Bullying**

## What is Parental Alienation?

Parental alienation is what happens when a parent, without a valid reason, manipulates a child into rejecting their relationship with their other parent and other family members.

*"Your mom doesn't care about you."*

*"Your dad cheated on us."*

Parental alienation often happens in a separation or divorce. In a nutshell, the child is being put in the middle of adult problems & used as a weapon causing emotional harm to an ex-partner.

## Alarming Stats



- Many children of divorced parents are subjected to parental alienating behaviors. Some of them become alienated from one of their parents.

## FACTS

**Parental alienation causes devastating short & long-term consequences for children, which include:**

- Low self-esteem
- Lack of confidence
- Alcohol & substance abuse
- Sleeping/eating disorders
- Suicidal ideation
- Inappropriate sexual behaviors
- Future relationship issues
- and more



# Parental Alienation is Child Abuse

## Signs To Look Out For



- A child appears to have only one parent and another parent is missing from the child's life;
- A step-parent or someone else, instead of a biological parent, is being listed as the emergency contact;
- Denigration of a parent, especially in front of the child;
- Attempt to block a parent from having access to the child or the child's information, including grades and extra curriculum schedule and activities;
- A child enrolling in the school under a name not matching the government documentations or sudden/recent change of name; and
- A child referring to a parent by their first name or a nickname instead of "mom" or "dad."

### What to know

- **The science:** Children need both parents and to be loved by them.
- It is counterintuitive, but an abused child often will not reject the abusive parent but any child can be manipulated into rejecting a non-abusive parent without a legitimate reason.
- Parental alienation is psychological abuse. Research has shown that psychological abuse of children is just as damaging as physical or sexual abuse.
- **The law:** Even when only one parent has custody of the child, both parents have legal rights to access the child's school records – unless there is a current court order specifying otherwise.  
**Check for this written court order** before denying a parent access to the child's information.

### What Teachers & Staff can do

- Do NOT take sides. Believing one parent's stories about how abusive or unfit the other parent is, without knowing all the facts, could lead to you inadvertently participating in alienating the child from a loving parent;
- Do NOT allow a parent to talk negatively about the other parent in front of the child;
- Be sensitive to children of separated/divorced parents, for example, by offering 2 different parent-teacher conference time slots and having 2 primary contact phones and emails for school communication, so both parents can be included;
- Ask to see the court order if one parent demands that the other parent is to be blocked from the child's information;
- Encourage the child's critical thinking and to ask questions; and
- **Get informed about parental alienation.**



As an educator, you can truly save a child's future  
For more information: [PASG.info](http://PASG.info) and [VictimToHero.com](http://VictimToHero.com)