

Child's Name

[REDACTED]

Dad and Stepmom

10/26/15

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] 10 min

Remembers discussions and tries to use skills **Father's**

Says he feels bad for his mother upon returning [REDACTED] home

Questions regarding ADD

Worries about mom

Feels sorry for mom

Continues to be included in adult discussions with mom regarding parental alienation

[REDACTED]

10/26/15

Therapist's Signature

Sample Therapy Note

Child's Name

[REDACTED]

Dad and Stepmom

10/26/15

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] 10 min

Remembers discussions and tries to use skills **Father's**

Says he feels bad for his mother upon returning [REDACTED] home

Questions regarding ADD

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Feels sorry for mom

Continues to be included in adult discussions with mom regarding parental alienation

[REDACTED]

Therapist's Signature

10/26/15

Meeting with only one parent

- Avoiding target parent

Specific details?

- Discussion with target parent?

Throwing around "parental alienation"

- Training?
- Behaviors in alienated child?
- Strategies of a target parent?

[REDACTED]
Limited Licensed Psychologist
[REDACTED]

July 27, 2016

Re: [REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am worried about [REDACTED]. He continues to be put in adult situations and positions. He is troubled by this and has requested again on this day that I write a letter to the judge so "this stuff will stop. I'm still in the middle. I feel sad when mom cries. I worry about her feeling sad and it makes me cry." This 8 year-old youngster reported that his mother called him a liar and that she would be joining him for his session so he can tell [REDACTED] that he lied. She said she would be at all of his sessions. [REDACTED] was extremely anxious regarding her being in session with him. At this time, I feel the ethical thing to do is to honor [REDACTED] feelings regarding his therapy sessions.

Also, [REDACTED] has continued to suffer from sadness, anxiety, and crying spells. He said that his mother ([REDACTED]) has been instructing him to tell his father and step-mother that he wants to spend more time with her. He has been quiet and tearful in his therapy sessions (which has increased in frequency and duration).

Next, after speaking with [REDACTED], I was hoping that she would gain some insight regarding co-parenting and how important it is for [REDACTED] not to be involved in divorce, parenting time, and/or custody issues. [REDACTED] continues to report his mother ([REDACTED]) bad mouthing his father and step-mother. "She says they are horrible people and that they are trying to steal him away from her."

Furthermore, as [REDACTED] advocate and primary therapist, I have strongly recommended that he not be included in discussions and/or planning of custody and/or parenting time arrangements. It is also strongly recommended that [REDACTED] mother does not make disparaging remarks regarding his father and/or step-mother. These recommendations have not been followed by [REDACTED] as of yet (per [REDACTED] report). This information was discussed with [REDACTED] but her involving him in such previously mentioned discussions has not ended. She reported that her son is lying and that we needed to find out why he is lying. He explained that he was nervous all day about coming to therapy. He is worried about being confronted by her in sessions.

PL - 000133

Letter used by Alienating Parent

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Limited Licensed Psychologist
[REDACTED]

July 27, 2016

Re: [REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am worried about [REDACTED]. He continues to be put in adult situations and positions. He is troubled by this and has requested again on this day that I write a letter to the judge so "this stuff will stop. I'm still in the middle. I feel sad when mom cries. I worry about her feeling sad and it makes me cry." This 8 year-old youngster reported that his mother called him a liar and that she would be joining him for his session so he can tell [REDACTED] that he lied. She said she would be at all of his sessions. [REDACTED] was extremely anxious regarding her being in session with him. At this time, I feel the ethical thing to do is to honor [REDACTED] feelings regarding his therapy sessions.

Also, [REDACTED] has continued to suffer from sadness, anxiety, and crying spells. He said that his mother ([REDACTED]) has been instructing him to tell his father and step-mother that he wants to spend more time with her. He has been quiet and tearful in his therapy sessions (which has increased in frequency and duration).

Next, after speaking with [REDACTED], I was hoping that she would gain some insight regarding co-parenting and how important it is for [REDACTED] not to be involved in divorce, parenting time, and/or custody issues. [REDACTED] continues to report his mother ([REDACTED]) bad mouthing his father and step-mother. "She says they are horrible people and that they are trying to steal him away from her."

Furthermore, as [REDACTED] advocate and primary therapist, I have strongly recommended that he not be included in discussions and/or planning of custody and/or parenting time arrangements. It is also strongly recommended that [REDACTED] mother does not make disparaging remarks regarding his father and/or step-mother. These recommendations have not been followed by [REDACTED] as of yet (per [REDACTED] report). This information was discussed with [REDACTED] but her involving him in such previously mentioned discussions has not ended. She reported that her son is lying and that we needed to find out why he is lying. He explained that he was nervous all day about coming to therapy. He is worried about being confronted by her in sessions.

Why write letter?

- Whose request
- For what purpose
- Not shared with target parent

Relies solely on reporting of child (during sessions dropped off by alienating parent)

Disbelieves target parent

- Frequency bias
- Recency bias

Obligation to believe client reporting

Not job to make recommendations to Court! (this is done on next page)

17 **QUESTIONS BY MR. SPRUNGER:**

18 Q. So basically why you're here today is we're
19 just trying to learn a little bit more about

20 [REDACTED].

21 **A. Uh-huh.**

22 Q. Trying to decide what to do with parenting
23 time and custody and all of that. So we're
24 just trying to learn a little bit, see what
25 you might know, if you can help us and the

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1 judge and everybody decide eventually what
2 needs to happen here.

3 If you have any questions about what I'm
4 saying, if it's confusing, just stop me. We
5 are on the record. It's under oath, so I want
6 to get it right. So just feel free to ask if
7 something doesn't make sense.

Example 1: Exposing Lack of Knowledge of PA

2 Q. What's your understanding to what knowledge
3 you do have of what parental alienation is?

4 **A. I believe it's the thought that a parent is**
5 **identified that they're not to be involved**
6 **with the other part of the family, that**
7 **they're -- that there's not contact. I**
8 **don't -- that's about all I kind of think I**
9 **have knowledge of. I'm not a hundred percent.**
10 **I've never went and looked what the whole**
11 **meaning of it is.**

12 Q. Have you ever done any research or read up on
13 any research as to what parental alienation
14 is?

15 **A. No, because if I had, I'd probably tell you**
16 **more than what I just said, so I apologize.**

Example 1: Exposing Lack of Knowledge of PA

4 **Q Are you familiar with the term "parental**
5 **alienation"?**

6 A I've heard the term, but I can't tell you I know
7 the exact definition.

8 **Q So would you say you have a limited knowledge of**
9 **what parental alienation is then?**

10 A Yes.

11 **Q From the limited knowledge that you do have, what**
12 **would you attempt to classify it as?**

13 A I mean, I would assume, from the wording, that it
14 means something foreign or isolated.

20 **Q Okay. With the limited knowledge of parental**
21 **alienation that you've said that you have, would**
22 **you have any way of knowing if parental alienation**
23 **was occurring with these children?**

24 A Can you give me a definition of that? I don't want
25 to answer a question that I don't even know what it

1 means.

2 **Q Which I think is the point, that I don't think --**
3 **is it possible that you would have been able to**
4 **identify and diagnose parental alienation if you're**
5 **not sure what it is?**

6 MR. WELCH: Objection on
7 speculation. She doesn't even know
8 what it is.

9 MR. SPRUNGER: Which I think is
10 the point; so we can leave it at
11 that.

Ethics Rule Regarding PA Knowledge/Competency Association of Family and Conciliation Courts

3.3(a)7, it's "maintaining familiarity with current research relating to psychological issues in the areas including, but not limited to, high-conflict dynamics, including risk to children from exposure to parental conflict, parental undermining, alienation, and estrangement."

Ethics Rule Regarding Consideration of Multiple Hypothesis Association of Family and Conciliation Courts

4 Q. Rule 2.4(b) says, "When children are involved
5 in treatment, a court-involved therapist has
6 an enhanced obligation to consider multiple
7 hypotheses, to seek information and
8 involvement from both parents and avoid the
9 biasing effects of onesided or limited
10 information."

Example 2: Wrong Way - Never Get the Gotcha You Want

13 Q. Going back to the Association of Family and
14 Conciliation Courts that define what
15 competency is, and it says in competency Rule
16 3.3(a)7, it's "maintaining familiarity with
17 current research relating to psychological
18 issues in the areas including, but not limited
19 to, high-conflict dynamics, including risk to
20 children from exposure to parental conflict,
21 parental undermining, alienation, and
22 estrangement."

23 So do you believe that you would have been
24 able to correctly identify parental alienation
25 if it were occurring in this case?

1 **A. I believe I would have been able to. But from**
2 **the symptoms and behaviors presented to me, I**
3 **didn't have knowledge that that was occurring.**

4 Q. And that's despite having said earlier you've
5 never read up on this, you've never heard of
6 it, it's not something that you're familiar
7 with?

8 **A. Well, I don't know what the dynamics of**
9 **parental alienation. I know what a parent not**
10 **involved is.**

11 Q. But the clinical term parental alienation, not
12 generically but the term parental alienation,
13 is a defined term that you've said that you're
14 not incredibly familiar with, but yet you're
15 saying you still think you would have been
16 able to identify the symptoms of that clinical
17 term; is that correct?

18 **A. I'm not sure.**