

SEVENTY-FIVE IMPORTANT BOOKS AND BOOK CHAPTERS REGARDING PARENTAL ALIENATION BY MENTAL HEALTH AND LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

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This annotated bibliography regarding parental alienation includes books from fourteen countries—Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the U.S.—which indicates the international scope of this serious form of child maltreatment. Most of these books were published within the last ten years. Most of the authors listed here are members of the Parental Alienation Study Group.

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Jose Manuel Aguilar (2013). *SAP. Síndrome de Alienación Parental*. The author (from Spain) describes the process of one parent’s manipulation of a child to reject the other parent without justification. This was the first book to explain this phenomenon, parental alienation, in Spanish.

Jane Appell (2006), *Divorce Doesn't Have to Be That Way: A Handbook for the Helping Professional*. This is a comprehensive guide to divorce counseling. Written specifically for helping professionals, the emphasis is on a family-centered, non-adversarial approach. One chapter is titled “Parental Alienation.”

Niles-Göran Areskoug (2013). *Parental Alienation: A Swedish Perspective*. The author (from Sweden) described a multigenerational case of parental alienation and how government authorities responded to it.

Amy J. L. Baker (2007). *Adult Children of Parental Alienation Syndrome: Breaking the Ties That Bind*. Baker was one of the first psychologists to conduct systematic research regarding parental alienation syndrome and parental alienation. In this research project, Baker collected the life stories of adults who had previously experienced parental alienation syndrome as children.

Amy J. L. Baker, Paul R. Fine, and Alianna LaCheen-Baker (2020). *Restoring Family Connections: Helping Targeted Parents and Adult Alienated Children Work through Conflict, Improve Communication, and Enhance Relationships*. Broken relationships between adult children and their parents are a widespread phenomenon. This book is a guide for therapists who aim to help their clients deal with those situations, especially when the cause was parental alienation.

Amy J. L. Baker and S. Richard Sauber (Eds.) (2013). *Working with Alienated Children and Families: A Clinical Guidebook*. Baker, Sauber, and their colleagues explained various interventions for families that experience parental alienation.

Amy J. L. Baker and Mel Schneiderman (2015). *Bonded to the Abuser: How Victims Make Sense of Childhood Abuse*. The authors explain how most abused children strive to maintain a

“traumatic bond” with their abusive parent. In contrast, alienated children—who were never abused by their alienated parent—strongly reject those parents.

Siegfried Bäuerle and Helgard Moll-Strobel (Eds.) (2001). *Eltern sägen ihr Kind entzwei. Trennungserfahrungen und Entfremdung von einem Elternteil (Parents Saw Their Child in Two. Separation Experiences and Alienation from a Parent)*. The editors (from Germany) invited several chapter authors to discuss psychological, social, and legal aspects of parental alienation.

William Bernet (Ed.) (2010). *Parental Alienation, DSM-5, and ICD-11*. In this book, Bernet and his colleagues methodically laid out the arguments that parental alienation should be recognized as a serious mental condition experienced by thousands of children and adolescents.

Wilfrid von Boch-Galhau (2013). *Parental Alienation and Parental Alienation Syndrome/ Disorder: A Serious Form of Psychological Child Abuse*. The author (from Germany) relates the letters, case histories, and interviews of victims of parental alienation, which describe their life experiences and problems that persisted into adulthood.

Wilfrid von Boch-Galhau, Ursula Kodjoe, Walter Andritzky, and Peter Koeppel (Eds.) (2003). *Das Parental Alienation Syndrome (PAS)*. The editors (from Germany) organized and published the proceedings of an important conference regarding parental alienation syndrome that took place at Frankfurt (Main), Germany, in 2002.

José Ignacio Bolaños Cartujo (2008). *Hijos alineados y padres alienados: mediación familiar en rupturas conflictivas (Aligned Children and Alienated Parents: Family Mediation in Conflicted Divorces)*. The author (from Spain) applies mediation in cases of conflicted separation and divorce, describing through theoretical concepts and numerous examples a model, a method, and techniques that facilitate intervention with these families. There is special attention to families whose members may be involved in a contentious judicial procedure.

José Maria Bouza (2015). *Obstrucción del vínculo de los nietos con sus abuelos (Obstruction of the Bond of Grandchildren with Their Grandparents)*. The author (from Argentina) explains common questions and doubts regarding these relationships. The book discusses relevant modifications in the law in Argentina. It provides a typical schedule for visitation with grandparents.

Barry Bricklin (1995). *The Custody Evaluation Handbook: Research-Based Solutions and Applications*. The book explains psychological tests—such as the Bricklin Perceptual Scales and the Perception-of-Relationships Test—which may be helpful in identifying parental alienation in the context of a child custody evaluation.

Roland Broca and Olga Odinetz (Eds.) (2016). *Séparations Conflictuelles et Aliénation Parentale: Enfants en Danger (Conflicted Separations and Parental Alienation: Children at Risk)*. The editors (from France) present a collection of authors who addressed clinical and legal aspects of parental alienation, as well as interventions. The book includes extensive literature reviews and case histories.

Janelle Burrill (2001). *Parental Alienation Syndrome in Court Referred Custody Cases*. This was an early quantitative research study regarding parental alienation. It found that the more negative behaviors a child exhibits toward an alienated parent, the more severe were the alienating parent's symptoms and behaviors.

Michael R. Bütz (2020). *Parental Alienation and Factitious Disorder by Proxy beyond DSM-5: Interrelated Multidimensional Diagnoses*. The author provides a new diagnostic framework for conditions such as factitious disorder by proxy and parental alienation.

Giovanni Battista Camerini, Marco Pingitore, John Lopez (2016). *Alienazione Parentale: Innovazioni Cliniche e Giuridiche (Parental Alienation: Clinical and Legal Innovations)*. The authors (from Italy) highlight the contributions of various writers allowing for scientific and methodological comparison, even with different points of view. They explain psychosocial solutions to be taken to counter parental alienation.

Adele Cavedon and Tiziana Magro (2010). *Dalla Separazione All'Alienazione Parentale: Come Giungere a Una Valutazione Peritale (From Separation to Parental Alienation: How to Reach an Expert Assessment)*. The authors (from Italy) explain how to identify or diagnose parental alienation with detailed case examples.

Craig Childress (2015). *An Attachment-Based Model of Parental Alienation: Foundations*. The author used established constructs and principles of psychology to describe the mental and interpersonal processes that constitute parental alienation.

Stanley S. Clawar and Brynne V. Rivlin (1991, 2013). *Children Held Hostage: Identifying Brainwashed Children, Presenting a Case, and Crafting Solutions*. In this research, which was commissioned by the Family Law Section of the American Bar Association, Clawar and Rivlin summarized their observations on 1,000 children from divorced families.

Brian L. Cutler and Patricia A. Zapf (Eds.) (2015). *APA Handbook of Forensic Psychology*. This is an encyclopedic, two-volume work published by the American Psychological Association. Marc J. Ackerman and Jonathan W. Gould contributed the chapter "Child Custody and Access," which has a section on "Child Alienation."

Douglas Darnall (2010). *Beyond Divorce Casualties: Reunifying the Alienated Family*. This book explains reunification therapy in detail, including: how to prepare for reunification; how to work with attorneys, mediators, and parenting coordinators; and even how to say "goodbye" if reunification is not possible.

J. Louise Despert (1953). *Children of Divorce*. Despert, a child psychiatrist, described the phenomenon of parental alienation more than 30 years before Richard Gardner introduced the term "parental alienation syndrome."

Robert A. Evans and J. Michael Bone (2011). *The Essentials of Parental Alienation Syndrome (PAS): It's Real, It's Here, and It Hurts*. The authors explain the manifestations of parental alienation and how to distinguish mild, moderate, and severe levels of this condition. They address controversies regarding parental alienation in an even-handed manner.

Leslie Drozd, Michael Saini, and Nancy Olesen (2012, 2016). *Parenting Plan Evaluations: Applied Research for the Family Court*. In this book, Michael Saini, Janet R. Johnston, Barbara Jo Fidler, and Nicholas Bala contributed the chapter "Empirical Studies of Alienation," which summarized and reviewed 58 published papers and doctoral dissertations regarding parental alienation.

Elizabeth M. Ellis (2000). *Divorce Wars: Interventions with Families in Conflict*. When parents divorce, children are the biggest losers. This book gives both mental health and legal professionals the information they need to help families navigate this grave ordeal and improve the outcome for hurting children. The author addresses the identification of parental alienation.

Sandra Inês Feitor et al. (2014). *Olhar analítico e subjetivo sobre as carências da intervenção e valências existentes no Sistema Português no âmbito da Alienação Parental (Analytical and Subjective Look at the Shortcomings of Intervention and Existing Valences in the Portuguese System in the Scope Of Alienation)*. The authors (from Portugal and Brazil) address legal aspects, clinical features, and interventions for parental alienation in their respective countries.

Francisco José Fernández Cabanillas (2017). *Manual del Síndrome de Alienación Parental: claves para comprender el maltrato psicológico infantil en casos de divorcio: la situación en España (Manual of the Parental Alienation Syndrome: Keys to Understand Psychological Child Abuse in Divorce Cases: The Situation in Spain)*. The author (from Spain) explores the hypothesis that children can be manipulated by one of their parents to hate and reject the other parent. This text is intended for magistrates, lawyers, doctors, psychologists, and educators who daily find themselves with these situations.

Barbara Jo Fidler, Nicholas Bala, Rachel Birnbaum, and Katherine Kavassalis (2008). *Challenging Issues in Child Custody Disputes: A Guide for Legal and Mental Health Professionals*. The authors (from Canada) discuss many clinical and legal aspects of disputes regarding parenting time for children of divorce. The book features a chapter "Understanding Child Alienation and Its Impact on Families."

Barbara Jo Fidler, Nicholas Bala, and Michael A. Saini (2012). *Children Who Resist Postseparation Parental Contact: A Differential Approach for Legal and Mental Health Professionals*. The authors (from Canada) provide an empirically based review of parental alienation, which integrates the best research evidence with clinical insight from interviews with leading scholars and practitioners.

Richard A. Gardner (1992). *The Parental Alienation Syndrome: A Guide for Mental Health and Legal Professionals*. In this seminal work, Gardner described in a comprehensive manner

parental alienation syndrome, the mental condition that he had previously conceptualized and named in 1985.

Richard A. Gardner (2001). *Therapeutic Interventions for Children with Parental Alienation Syndrome*. The purpose of the book was to provide therapists with techniques to reintegrate alienated children with their rejected parents. It is only by deprogramming and other therapeutic interventions that there is any hope for the child's rapprochement with the alienated parent.

Richard A. Gardner, S. Richard Sauber, and Demosthenes Lorandos (Eds.) (2006). *The International Handbook of Parental Alienation Syndrome: Conceptual, Clinical and Legal Considerations*. At the time of its publication, this was the most wide-ranging book available regarding parental alienation syndrome. It included 34 chapters written by 31 authors from eight countries.

Carla B. Garrity and Mitchell A. Baris (1994). *Caught in the Middle: Protecting the Children of High-Conflict Divorce*. The authors emphasize that early intervention is important in cases of parental alienation. They explain how parenting coordination and other interventions may be very helpful.

Christine Giancarlo (2018). *Parentectomy: A Narrative Ethnography Of 30 Cases of Parental Alienation And What To Do About It*. The author says children come first and need both parents. Based on a peer-reviewed research study, this book relates, in their own voices, the stories of thirty loving, capable, and dependable parents who were removed from their children's lives.

Linda J. Gottlieb (2012). *The Parental Alienation Syndrome: A Family Therapy and Collaborative Systems Approach to Amelioration*. Gottlieb explains how techniques from structural family therapy can be used to heal the relationship between the child and the alienated parent. The book includes case vignettes and many quotations from alienated children, favored parents, and rejected parents.

Lyn R. Greenberg, Barbara J. Fidler, and Michael A. Saini (Eds.) (2019). *Evidence-Informed Interventions for Court-Involved Families: Promoting Health Coping and Development*. The authors (from Canada) explain a variety of interventions that can be used with families that manifest resist/refuse dynamics.

Guglielmo Gullotta, Adele Cavedon, and Moira Liberatore (2008). *La sindrome da alienazione parentale. Lavaggio del cervello e programmazione dei figli in danno dell'altro genitore (Parental Alienation Syndrome. Brainwashing and Programming Children to Harm the Other Parent)*. The authors (from Italy) provide a systematic description of parental alienation and its manifestations, with a discussion of the differential diagnosis and related topics such as false memories and factitious disorder by proxy.

Linda Gunsberg and Paul Hymowitz (Eds.) (2005). *A Handbook of Divorce and Custody: Forensic, Developmental, and Clinical Perspectives*. The editors collected chapters from many authors

regarding clinical and legal aspects of divorce and child custody. Moisy Shopper contributed the chapter on parental alienation.

Janet Haines, Mandy Matthewson, and Marcus Turnbull (2020). *Understanding and Managing Parental Alienation: A Guide to Assessment and Intervention*. The authors (from Australia) delivered a comprehensive look at how parental alienation begins, develops, and resists attempts at intervention.

Jennifer Jill Harman and Zeynep Biringen (2016). *Parents Acting Badly: How Institutions and Societies Promote the Alienation of Children from Their Loving Families*. The authors addressed how parenting stereotypes, gender inequality, and social institutions (such as family courts) sanction and even promote the problem of parental alienation.

Lena Hellblom Sjögren (1997). *Hemligheter och minnen: Att utreda tillförlitlighet i sexualbrottmå (Secrets and Memories: Investigating Reliability In Sexual Offenses)*. The author (from Sweden) explained how psychologists can investigate allegations of child sexual abuse. In two of the case examples, the analysis involved parental alienation. Those comments were the first explanations of parental alienation published in Swedish.

Lena Hellblom Sjögren (2013). *Barnets rätt till familjeliv: 25 svenska fallstudier av föräldraalienation (The Child's Right to Family Life: 25 Swedish Case Studies of Parental Alienation)*. The author (from Sweden) explained that in some cases the alienating parent enjoyed support from social authorities and from the legal system. Parental alienation violates the child's legal right to family life. Twenty-five Swedish cases of severe parental alienation were presented.

Marie-France Hirigoyen (2012). *Abus de Faiblesse et Autres Manipulations (Abuse of Weakness and Other Manipulations)*. The author (from France) explains how manipulation is the abuse of influence over another person, the targeting and exploiting of another's emotional and mental weaknesses. One of the manipulation vignettes in the book pertains to parental alienation.

Daniel J. Hynan (2014). *Child Custody Evaluation: New Theoretical Applications and Research*. The author, who has conducted many child custody evaluations, described his methodology in detail. The book includes a chapter on "Parental Alienation and Gatekeeping."

Janet R. Johnston and Vivienne Roseby (1997). *In the Name of the Child: A Developmental Approach to Understanding and Helping Children of Conflicted and Violent Divorce*. The authors explain parental alignments and alienation among children of high-conflict divorce, and how children of different developmental periods may be affected.

Ashish Joshi (2020). *Parental Alienation: A Handbook for Family Law Practitioners*. This book helps family law attorneys and court-appointed professionals understand the phenomenon of parental alienation. It provides tips on effectively litigating parental alienation and related issues.

Abigail M. Judge and Robin M. Deutsch (Eds.) (2017). *Overcoming Parent–Child Problems: Family-Based Interventions for Resistance, Rejection, and Alienation*. The chapter authors addressed conceptual, clinical, and empirical views of parental alienation. They explain a particular intervention called Overcoming Barriers.

Florence W. Kaslow (2013). *Divorced Fathers and Their Families: Legal, Economic, and Emotional Dilemmas*. Kaslow—an important leader of the American Psychological Association—related the stories of divorced fathers who were forced out of the lives of their children. They addressed both common and unusual problems that fathers face, including parental alienation.

Joan Kloth-Zanard (2009). *Where Did I Go Wrong? How Did I Miss the Signs? – Dealing with Hostile Parenting and Parental Alienation*. This book, which was written without technical jargon, is intended for parents and also for mental health and legal professionals who deal with high-conflict relationships. The author included many clinical vignettes from her work with alienated families.

Edward Kruk (2013). *The Equal Parent Presumption: Social Justice in the Legal Determination of Parenting After Divorce*. The author (from Canada) emphasizes that it is vitally important for children to maintain meaningful relationships with both parents after divorce. This book presents an evidence-based framework of equal parental responsibility as the most effective means of shielding children from ongoing parental conflict and family violence.

Jay L. Lebow (2018). *Treating the Difficult Divorce: A Practical Guide for Psychotherapists*. The author describes strategies for therapists on how to calm individuals, couples, and families in acute distress, and help ease the transition to a new family structure. Chapters offer adaptations for different types of divorce, including high-conflict cases involving parental alienation.

Ken Lewis (2009). *Child Custody Evaluations by Social Workers: Understanding the Five Stages of Custody*. The profession of social work has played a critical role in conceptualizing and implementing child custody evaluations. This work by a veteran social worker is intended for social work practitioners and legal professionals seeking guidance for best practices in conducting mental health evaluations that serve the goal of promoting the optimal development of children and families.

David L. Levy (1943). *Maternal Overprotection*. This book—based on research at the Institute for Child Guidance in New York City in the 1930s—includes the earliest description in the clinical literature of parental alienation phenomena.

Demosthenes Lorandos and William Bernet (Eds.) (2020). *Parental Alienation – Science and Law*. This book develops three themes: guidance for clinicians and forensic practitioners on how to identify and treat parental alienation; detailed analysis on how the concept of parental alienation fulfills *Daubert* and *Frye* criteria for testimony in court; and rebuttal of misinformation regarding parental alienation.

Demosthenes Lorandos, William Bernet, and S. Richard Sauber (Eds.) (2013). *Parental Alienation: The Handbook for Mental Health and Legal Professionals*. The editors developed the most comprehensive book published up to that time regarding parental alienation. It contained chapters on the phenomenology of parental alienation, the assessment of contact refusal, interventions for various levels of parental alienation, legal strategies, and international aspects of parental alienation.

L. F. Lowenstein (2007). *Parental Alienation: How to Understand and Address Parental Alienation Resulting from Acrimonious Divorce or Separation*. The author (from the United Kingdom) provides an overview of parental alienation and parental alienation syndrome. There are sections on the role of the judiciary and treatment methods for parental alienation syndrome.

Doménech Luengo and Arantxa Coca (2007). *Hijos manipulados tras la separación – cómo detectar y tratar la Alienación Parental (Children Manipulated After Separation – How to Detect and Treat Parental Alienation)*. The authors (from Spain) explain how parental alienation and familial conflict affect each family member—especially the children—over time. The book also explores the most common causes of alienation and healthy, effective ways for the alienated parent to recover their bond with their children.

Homer B. Martin and Christine B. L. Adams (2018). *Living on Automatic: How Emotional Conditioning Shapes Our Lives and Relationships*. The authors introduced the concept of emotional conditioning, including how it occurs and becomes entrenched in our minds. They used parental alienation as an example of a maladaptive outcome of emotional conditioning.

Alejandro Mendoza Amaro and Alejandro Heredia Ávila (Eds.) (2020). *Alienación e Interferencia Parental (Alienation and Parental Interference)*. The editors (from Mexico) assembled chapter authors from several Latin American countries to create a comprehensive book regarding parental alienation. The text addresses human rights and legal rights, domestic violence, judicial approaches, manifestations of alienation, the forensic evaluation, transgenerational features, legislation, and other topics.

Monica K. Miller, Jared Chamberlain, and Twila Wingrove (Eds.) (2014). *Psychology, Law, and the Wellbeing of Children*. This book is part of the American Psychology-Law Society Series. R. Brian Howe and Katherine Covell contributed the chapter “Parental Alienation and the Best Interests of the Child.”

Asunción Molina Bartumeus, Asunción Tejedor Huerta, et al. (2013). *Programa de intervención para víctimas de interferencias parentales (PIVIP) (Intervention Program for Victims of Parental Interference)*. The authors (from Spain) described a program, the PIVIP, that aims to preserve children from conflict and parental alienation, offering them adaptive and protective strategies, while helping parents be aware of the harm they can cause to their children and offering them resources to improve their parental role.

Marco Pingitore (2019). *Nodi e snodi nell'alienazione parentale: Nuovi strumenti psicoforensi per la tutela dei diritti dei figli (Knots and Joints in Parental Alienation: New Psycho-forensic Tools for the Protection of Children's Rights)*. The author (from Italy) dealt with parental alienation through a new point of view: that of the child and how it perceives itself, the father, and mother. Two innovative themes are addressed: psychological support for parents rejected by their children; treatment programs for the recovery of the broken relationship between the child and the rejected parent.

Gérard Poussin and Elizabeth Martin-Lebrun (1997). *Les Enfants du Divorce: Psychologie de la Separation Parentale*. The authors (from France) explained the psychological consequences of parental separation on the child and how family mediation and individualized aid may attenuate those consequences. The book also included a comparison of the results of studies conducted over the last 12 years.

Ronald P. Rohner and Abdul Khaleque (Eds.) (2005). *Handbook for the Study of Parental Acceptance and Rejection*. This book explained a psychological test, the Parental Acceptance–Rejection Questionnaire, which has been 99% accurate in distinguishing severely alienated children from nonalienated children.

Mark D. Roseman (2018). *Preserving Family Ties: An Authoritative Guide to Understanding Divorce and Child Custody, for Parents and Family Professionals*. The author's goal was to give a clearer understanding of the complexity in child custody when parents separate. This book offers parents and professionals the context in which the new reality unfolds.

Asunción Tejedor Huerta (2015). *El Síndrome De Alienación Parental: Una Forma De Maltrato*. The author (from Spain) exposed parental alienating behaviors as a form of child abuse with detrimental psychological consequences. She also suggested methods of intervention to prevent further psychological strain on the children.

Fuat Torun (2017). *Ebeveyne Yabancılaşma Sendromu (Parental Alienation Syndrome)*. The author (from Turkey) addressed this book to divorce lawyers, family court judges, social workers, forensic experts, scholars, psychological counselors, guidance experts, and psychiatrists. The book explains how a child who is programmed may develop parental alienation.

Núria Vázquez Orellana, Asunción Tejedor Huerta, et al. (2018). *Manual de coordinación de parentalidad: Abordaje de las familias con hijos atrapados en rupturas conflictivas (Parenting Coordination Manual: Addressing Families with Children Caught in Conflictive Ruptures)*. The authors (from Spain) explained how parenting coordination, a novel intervention in their country, may help parents who have been blinded by pain or anger become good mothers and fathers.

Judith S. Wallerstein and Sandra Blakeslee (1989). *Second Chances: Men, Women, and Children a Decade after Divorce*. The authors used the “Medea syndrome” to describe parents who want

revenge on their former wives or husbands, and to accomplish it by destroying the relationship between the other parent and the child.

Richard A. Warshak (1999). *Parental Alienation Syndrome in Court*. This monograph, originally prepared as a chapter for a manual on expert witness testimony published by the State Bar of Texas, examines parental alienation syndrome from a social science and legal perspective. Though written for attorneys, expert witnesses will also find it valuable in preparing for testimony and anticipating cross-examination.

Karen Woodall and Nick Woodall (2017). *Understanding Parental Alienation: Learning to Cope, Helping to Heal*. The authors (from the United Kingdom) intend this book for both parents and practitioners. The book discusses the causes of parental alienation, the manifestations of this serious mental condition, and interventions that are likely to be helpful in the short-term and the long-term.

Nelson Zicavo Martinez (Ed.) (2016). *Parentalidad y divorcio: (des)encuentros en la Familia latinoamericana (Parenting and Divorce: (Dis)encounters in the Latin American Family)*. A group of professionals (from Argentina and other Latin American countries) unravel the progress, conflicts, and limitations regarding parenting and divorce. The book addresses domestic violence and the mistreatment suffered by those children that often get caught up in conflicts of parents who aspire to win a battle.