

## MISINFORMATION REGARDING PARENTAL ALIENATION – 1998

### Article Containing Misinformation

Kathleen Coulborn Faller (1998). The parental alienation syndrome: What is it and what data support it? *Child Maltreatment*, 3(2):100–115.

**Abstract.** This article describes the parental alienation syndrome, its proposed characteristics and dynamics, and the methods used to document its presence. Research related to various tenets of the parental alienation syndrome is then reviewed. Finally, the syndrome’s utility for mental health professionals and courts in explaining allegations of sexual abuse in situations of divorce is evaluated.

### Article Refuting Misinformation

Richard A. Gardner (1998). Letter to the editor. *Child Maltreatment*, 3(4):309–312.

**Abstract.** In your May 1998 issue, you published an article by Kathleen Coulborn Faller titled, “The Parental Alienation Syndrome: What Is It and What Data Support It?” On one hand, I was quite flattered that Faller saw fit to dedicate herself so assiduously to write about the parental alienation syndrome (PA), a disorder about which I have written so extensively in the last 13 years, a disorder with which my name has become closely associated. On the other hand, the article is so filled with misrepresentations and misperceptions that it is a disservice to the reader to take much of it seriously, especially because many of the things Faller says have absolutely nothing to do with anything I have ever written or said. I enumerate some of the most egregious examples.