

## MISINFORMATION REGARDING PARENTAL ALIENATION – 2001

### Article Containing Misinformation

Carol S. Bruch (2001). Parental alienation syndrome and parental alienation: Getting it wrong in child custody cases. *Family Law Quarterly*, 35(3):527–552.

**Abstract:** As American courts and legislatures continue their enthusiastic ventures into family law reform, they make frequent use of theories and research from the social sciences. This essay focuses on developments in child custody law stemming from Parental Alienation Syndrome (PAS), a theory propounded in 1985 that became widely used despite its lack of scientific foundations. The discussion highlights theoretical and practical problems with PAS, provides a similar discussion of more recent proposals labeled Parental Alienation (PA), and concludes with recommendations for lawyers and judges who must evaluate these and similar developments.

### Article Refuting Misinformation

Richard A. Gardner (2001). Rebuttal to Carol S. Bruch’s article, “Parental alienation syndrome and parental alienation: Getting it wrong in child custody cases.” Available at <http://richard-agardner.com/ar17>.

**Abstract:** With regard to my submitting this rebuttal to *Family Law Quarterly*, I received this response from Robert G. Spector, the Acting Editor-in-Chief: “Since we are not a magazine, we do not have a procedure for rebuttals or letters to the editor.” Because submission to another journal would not be reasonable or appropriate, this rebuttal is unpublished.

Although the article appears in the reputable *Family Law Quarterly* and is written in a scholarly style, it is not a balanced article. Bruch makes consistent choices by quoting professionals and articles with only one point of view, and does not vary from this. She does not consider documents advancing a point of view that opposes her own, despite the widespread availability of these numerous articles and cases. Courts of law must deal with two sides of an issue. This article does not.