

Exhibit No. 1

Date Jan 13, 2023

Bill No. SB 115



Ladies and Gentlemen,

There are many pseudo-diagnosis used in the Montana court system but perhaps none more insidious than "Parental Alienation". This is the assertion that a parent, generally a severely abusive parent, is denied access to the child/victim, because the safe and healthy parent is causing the child to fear the abusive parent. "Doctors" such as Richard Gardner, Craig Childers, Lynn Steinberg and other, many of which have lost their medical licenses, promote the idea that a child is better off being sodomized by dad than being safely with mom, away from dad. (Yes, you can watch Lynn Steinberg say that on youtube.) By promoting their false-logic they maintain an extremely lucrative niche market in court sanctioned child trafficking.

Parental Alienation has been rejected and denounced as a medical/psychological diagnosis by:

The World Health Association

The DSM-5

The ICD-11

The United Nations

The American Medical Association

The American Psychiatric Association

The American Psychological Association

Multiple US States

Multiple Nations of the world.

How it works

The abusive parent hires a known "specialist" in "re-unification practices" resulting in a false diagnosis, a court case championed by this same "specialist" and a child is removed from a safe and loving home to be placed in the care of the abuser. This is no more than child trafficking with the unsuspecting, or aligned judge as a participant and the child as the victim of atrocities as severe as death. That's where the national "Kaiden's law" came from.

Re-unification camps, such as Family Bridges in Bozeman Mt have a 98.5% failure rate at re-programming (brainwashing) the child to believe the abuse never happened.

Evidence

[Reunification Camp: Maya and Sebastian Laing — One Mom's Battle \(onemomsbattle.com\)](http://onemomsbattle.com)

This link above is to a story and a video of a 15 year old girl and her little brother's forced removal from her safe parent (father) in route to a "reunification camp" owned and operated by Lynn Steinberg. I would beg you to watch this short video. This is what a child removal looks like, not all, but many if not most. This is what it looks like when a child is torn from a healthy parent. We cannot accept this as a "treatment" of innocent children.

PLEASE VOTE YES ON THIS BILL!

Dave Kesler III

Dave@MTSCOJA.org

406-491-2650

31st



U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
Children's Bureau

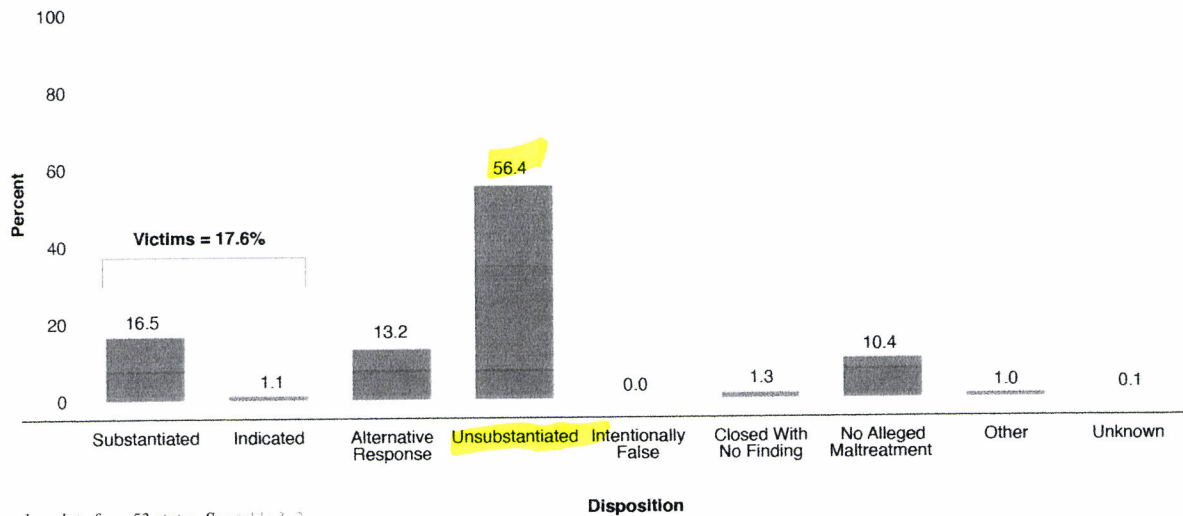


Children Who Received an Investigation or Alternative Response by Disposition (duplicate count of children)

For FFY 2020, approximately 3.8 (3,798,038) million children (duplicate count) are the subjects of reports (screened-in referrals). A child may be a victim in one report and a nonvictim in another report, and in this analysis, the child is counted both times. More than 17.0 percent of children are classified as victims with dispositions of substantiated (16.5%) and indicated (1.1%).¹¹ The remaining children are not determined to be victims or received an alternative response. (See [table 3-2](#), [exhibit 3-B](#), and related notes.)

Exhibit 3-B Children Who Received an Investigation or Alternative Response by Disposition, 2020

More than 17 percent of children received a disposition of substantiated or indicated and are counted as maltreatment victims



Number of Child Victims (unique count of child victims)

In NCANDS, a victim is defined as:

- **Victim:** A child for whom the state determined at least one maltreatment was substantiated or indicated; and a disposition of substantiated or indicated was assigned for a child in a report. This includes a child who died and the death was confirmed to be the result of child abuse and neglect. A child may be a victim in one report and a nonvictim in another report.

For FFY 2020, there are nationally 618,000 (rounded) victims of child abuse and neglect. This equates to a national rate of 8.4 victims per 1,000 children in the population. The national number of victims for 2020 is an 8.7 percent decrease from the 2016 national estimate of 677,000 victims.¹² While the 2020 decrease may be due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of victims has fluctuated during the past 5 years. (See [exhibit 3-C](#) and related notes.) States have different policies about what is considered child maltreatment, the type of CPS responses (alternative and investigation), and different levels of evidence required to substantiate an abuse allegation, all or some of which may account for variations in victimization rates. Readers are encouraged to read Appendix C, State Characteristics and Appendix D, State

¹¹ North Carolina recoded the dispositions of children who would have received alternative response victim to indicated.

¹² The national percent change was calculated using the national estimate of victims for 2016 and the national rounded number of victims for 2020.

Table 3–2 Children Who Received an Investigation or Alternative Response by Disposition, 2020 (continues next page)

State	Substantiated	Indicated	Alternative Response	Unsubstantiated	Intentionally False
Alabama	12,029	-	-	27,205	-
Alaska	3,684	-	-	15,160	-
Arizona	10,452	58	-	49,062	-
Arkansas	9,734	-	6,161	27,624	-
California	64,001	-	-	256,903	-
Colorado	12,513	-	13,717	26,047	-
Connecticut	6,759	-	-	9,342	-
Delaware	1,227	-	-	7,566	-
District of Columbia	1,699	-	-	4,901	-
Florida	29,599	-	-	197,436	-
Georgia	8,884	-	45,407	42,321	-
Hawaii	1,371	-	-	4,002	-
Idaho	2,000	-	-	13,196	784
Illinois	40,282	-	-	92,464	279
Indiana	24,219	-	-	166,585	-
Iowa	12,705	-	11,602	25,864	-
Kansas	2,519	-	-	36,045	-
Kentucky	18,260	-	-	57,544	-
Louisiana	7,100	-	-	17,299	-
Maine	5,220	-	-	13,275	-
Maryland	4,675	3,104	18,306	6,746	-
Massachusetts	24,958	-	-	23,346	-
Michigan	16,082	12,572	-	91,488	6
Minnesota	6,934	-	23,802	9,892	-
Mississippi	8,784	-	-	30,785	-
Missouri	4,558	-	49,178	20,217	-
Montana	4,085	37	-	14,681	-
Nebraska	2,472	-	2,069	17,694	-
Nevada	5,231	-	726	18,021	-
New Hampshire	1,214	-	-	13,256	-
New Jersey	3,821	-	-	79,988	-
New Mexico	8,242	-	-	26,249	-
New York	67,660	-	13,130	160,554	-
North Carolina	6,982	17,139	84,038	16,503	-
North Dakota	1,657	-	-	4,484	-
Ohio	18,513	7,613	52,621	43,354	-
Oklahoma	15,439	-	1,222	45,331	-
Oregon	12,384	-	-	40,348	-
Pennsylvania	4,770	-	-	31,095	-
Puerto Rico	3,804	24	-	6,081	56
Rhode Island	2,905	-	-	6,267	-
South Carolina	15,109	-	2,774	40,584	-
South Dakota	1,656	-	-	2,739	-
Tennessee	8,091	820	55,605	30,046	-
Texas	67,462	-	39,133	164,838	-
Utah	10,234	-	-	18,332	30
Vermont	562	-	1,447	1,605	8
Virginia	5,836	-	36,602	7,646	-
Washington	4,583	-	33,701	20,473	60
West Virginia	6,411	-	-	33,679	-
Wisconsin	4,372	-	6,580	27,460	-
Wyoming	1,050	-	3,286	345	-
National	624,793	41,367	501,107	2,143,968	1,223
Reporting States	16.5	1.1	13.2	56.4	0.0
National States	52	8	21	52	7

Table 3–8 Maltreatment Types of Victims (Categories), 2020 (continues next page)

State	Victims	Medical Neglect	Neglect	Other	Physical Abuse	Psychological Maltreatment	Sexual Abuse	Sex Trafficking	Unknown	Total Maltreatment Types
Alabama	11,663	86	5,033	-	5,800	21	2,212	4	-	13,156
Alaska	3,212	112	2,295	-	689	1,071	297	-	-	4,464
Arizona	9,954	-	9,127	-	836	5	382	-	-	10,350
Arkansas	9,241	221	6,407	32	1,806	180	1,787	12	-	10,445
California	60,317	47	53,680	343	4,132	5,422	3,258	65	-	66,947
Colorado	11,615	144	9,692	-	1,169	216	1,039	-	28	12,288
Connecticut	6,346	165	5,410	-	350	1,942	376	-	-	8,243
Delaware	1,200	-	381	116	199	455	149	-	-	1,300
District of Columbia	1,568	-	1,402	-	208	-	36	25	2	1,673
Florida	28,268	950	16,884	11,818	2,361	284	2,318	-	-	34,615
Georgia	8,690	246	5,317	-	1,108	2,239	763	39	-	9,712
Hawaii	1,294	10	279	1,135	124	27	90	16	-	1,681
Idaho	1,958	6	1,064	-	846	-	160	2	-	2,078
Illinois	35,437	667	27,184	61	6,134	68	4,785	-	-	38,899
Indiana	22,648	-	19,622	-	1,596	-	2,542	32	-	23,792
Iowa	10,600	81	9,222	-	1,098	93	670	11	-	11,175
Kansas	2,386	66	1,036	1	601	380	492	10	-	2,586
Kentucky	16,748	304	15,631	-	1,226	37	710	-	-	17,908
Louisiana	6,859	-	6,032	10	781	20	410	2	-	7,255
Maine	4,726	-	2,926	-	1,336	1,811	382	1	-	6,456
Maryland	7,242	-	4,271	-	1,420	16	2,059	-	-	7,766
Massachusetts	22,538	-	21,195	-	1,765	-	732	273	-	23,965
Michigan	26,932	590	23,405	-	4,036	166	1,197	28	-	29,422
Minnesota	6,647	-	4,629	-	922	174	1,641	16	-	7,382
Mississippi	8,136	377	5,737	17	1,279	1,510	1,088	11	-	10,019
Missouri	4,449	108	2,249	-	1,398	647	1,456	10	-	5,868
Montana	3,777	13	3,683	6	187	24	107	1	-	4,021
Nebraska	2,376	1	1,917	-	323	10	253	11	-	2,515
Nevada	5,016	76	4,146	-	1,034	18	365	-	-	5,639
New Hampshire	1,182	28	1,010	-	83	45	119	-	-	1,285
New Jersey	3,655	79	2,592	-	525	46	640	3	-	3,885
New Mexico	7,050	219	5,770	-	952	1,982	258	-	-	9,181
New York	59,126	3,301	56,595	16,851	5,289	577	2,170	12	-	84,795
North Carolina	22,399	970	19,916	193	1,104	158	999	4	-	23,344
North Dakota	1,614	34	1,241	-	137	462	50	-	-	1,924
Ohio	23,691	371	10,311	-	11,319	1,580	4,240	25	-	27,846
Oklahoma	14,685	257	10,684	-	1,956	5,010	792	4	-	18,703
Oregon	11,487	69	5,558	6,053	1,381	220	769	27	-	14,077
Pennsylvania	4,582	169	437	12	2,036	45	2,060	43	-	4,802
Puerto Rico	3,572	457	2,340	32	847	1,808	92	1	-	5,577
Rhode Island	2,743	37	1,562	67	366	1,031	132	-	-	3,195
South Carolina	14,263	321	8,216	4	6,434	1,041	741	28	-	16,785
South Dakota	1,570	-	1,423	-	152	40	84	1	-	1,700
Tennessee	8,687	129	2,198	-	5,096	463	2,307	100	-	10,293
Texas	65,116	983	55,117	3	7,422	323	6,580	36	1	70,465
Utah	9,694	53	2,567	142	3,708	3,536	1,651	14	-	11,671
Vermont	530	11	4	-	396	2	126	-	-	539
Virginia	5,658	131	3,800	3	1,562	95	714	3	-	6,308
Washington	3,967	-	3,050	-	859	-	464	33	-	4,406
West Virginia	6,116	332	2,513	-	4,905	3,983	239	-	-	11,972
Wisconsin	4,177	63	2,774	-	645	24	934	50	-	4,490
Wyoming	992	3	763	5	23	345	46	-	-	1,185
National	618,399	12,287	470,297	36,904	101,961	39,652	57,963	953	31	720,048
Reporting States	52	41	52	21	52	47	52	35	3	52

Table 3–8 Maltreatment Types of Victims (Categories), 2020

State	Medical Neglect Percent	Neglect Percent	Other Percent	Physical Abuse Percent	Psychological Maltreatment Percent	Sexual Abuse Percent	Sex Trafficking Percent	Unknown Percent	Total Maltreatment Types Percent
Alabama	0.7	43.2	-	49.7	0.2	19.0	0.0	-	112.8
Alaska	3.5	71.5	-	21.5	33.3	9.2	-	-	139.0
Arizona	-	91.7	-	8.4	0.1	3.8	-	-	104.0
Arkansas	2.4	69.3	0.3	19.5	1.9	19.3	0.1	-	113.0
California	0.1	89.0	0.6	6.9	9.0	5.4	0.1	-	111.0
Colorado	1.2	83.4	-	10.1	1.9	8.9	-	0.2	105.8
Connecticut	2.6	85.3	-	5.5	30.6	5.9	-	-	129.9
Delaware	-	31.8	9.7	16.6	37.9	12.4	-	-	108.3
District of Columbia	-	89.4	-	13.3	-	2.3	1.6	0.1	106.7
Florida	3.4	59.7	41.8	8.4	1.0	8.2	-	-	122.5
Georgia	2.8	61.2	-	12.8	25.8	8.8	0.4	-	111.8
Hawaii	0.8	21.6	87.7	9.6	2.1	7.0	1.2	-	129.9
Idaho	0.3	54.3	-	43.2	-	8.2	0.1	-	106.1
Illinois	1.9	76.7	0.2	17.3	0.2	13.5	-	-	109.8
Indiana	-	86.6	-	7.0	-	11.2	0.1	-	105.1
Iowa	0.8	87.0	-	10.4	0.9	6.3	0.1	-	105.4
Kansas	2.8	43.4	0.0	25.2	15.9	20.6	0.4	-	108.4
Kentucky	1.8	93.3	-	7.3	0.2	4.2	-	-	106.9
Louisiana	-	87.9	0.1	11.4	0.3	6.0	0.0	-	105.8
Maine	-	61.9	-	28.3	38.3	8.1	0.0	-	136.6
Maryland	-	59.0	-	19.6	0.2	28.4	-	-	107.2
Massachusetts	-	94.0	-	7.8	-	3.2	1.2	-	106.3
Michigan	2.2	86.9	-	15.0	0.6	4.4	0.1	-	109.2
Minnesota	-	69.6	-	13.9	2.6	24.7	0.2	-	111.1
Mississippi	4.6	70.5	0.2	15.7	18.6	13.4	0.1	-	123.1
Missouri	2.4	50.6	-	31.4	14.5	32.7	0.2	-	131.9
Montana	0.3	97.5	0.2	5.0	0.6	2.8	0.0	-	106.5
Nebraska	0.0	80.7	-	13.6	0.4	10.6	0.5	-	105.9
Nevada	1.5	82.7	-	20.6	0.4	7.3	-	-	112.4
New Hampshire	2.4	85.4	-	7.0	3.8	10.1	-	-	108.7
New Jersey	2.2	70.9	-	14.4	1.3	17.5	0.1	-	106.3
New Mexico	3.1	81.8	-	13.5	28.1	3.7	-	-	130.2
New York	5.6	95.7	28.5	8.9	1.0	3.7	0.0	-	143.4
North Carolina	4.3	88.9	0.9	4.9	0.7	4.5	0.0	-	104.2
North Dakota	2.1	76.9	-	8.5	28.6	3.1	-	-	119.2
Ohio	1.6	43.5	-	47.8	6.7	17.9	0.1	-	117.5
Oklahoma	1.8	72.8	-	13.3	34.1	5.4	0.0	-	127.4
Oregon	0.6	48.4	52.7	12.0	1.9	6.7	0.2	-	122.5
Pennsylvania	3.7	9.5	0.3	44.4	1.0	45.0	0.9	-	104.8
Puerto Rico	12.8	65.5	0.9	23.7	50.6	2.6	0.0	-	156.1
Rhode Island	1.3	56.9	2.4	13.3	37.6	4.8	-	-	116.5
South Carolina	2.3	57.6	0.0	45.1	7.3	5.2	0.2	-	117.7
South Dakota	-	90.6	-	9.7	2.5	5.4	0.1	-	108.3
Tennessee	1.5	25.3	-	58.7	5.3	26.6	1.2	-	118.5
Texas	1.5	84.6	0.0	11.4	0.5	10.1	0.1	0.0	108.2
Utah	0.5	26.5	1.5	38.3	36.5	17.0	0.1	-	120.4
Vermont	2.1	0.8	-	74.7	0.4	23.8	-	-	101.7
Virginia	2.3	67.2	0.1	27.6	1.7	12.6	0.1	-	111.5
Washington	-	76.9	-	21.7	-	11.7	0.8	-	111.1
West Virginia	5.4	41.1	-	80.2	65.1	3.9	-	-	195.7
Wisconsin	1.5	66.4	-	15.4	0.6	22.4	1.2	-	107.5
Wyoming	0.3	76.9	0.5	2.3	34.8	4.6	-	-	119.5
National	2.0	76.1	6.0	16.5	6.4	9.4	0.2	0.0	116.4
Reporting States	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 6–5 Victims With Court-Appointed Representatives, 2020

State	Victims	Victims With Court-Appointed Representatives	Victims With Court-Appointed Representatives Percent
Alabama	12,029	927	7.7
Alaska	3,684	730	19.8
Arizona	10,510	3,903	37.1
Arkansas	-	-	-
California	64,001	15,740	24.6
Colorado	-	-	-
Connecticut	-	-	-
Delaware	1,227	131	10.7
District of Columbia	-	-	-
Florida	-	-	-
Georgia	8,884	1,528	17.2
Hawaii	1,371	828	60.4
Idaho	-	-	-
Illinois	-	-	-
Indiana	24,219	5,886	24.3
Iowa	12,705	1,937	15.2
Kansas	-	-	-
Kentucky	18,260	3,129	17.1
Louisiana	-	-	-
Maine	5,220	850	16.3
Maryland	-	-	-
Massachusetts	24,958	5,152	20.6
Michigan	-	-	-
Minnesota	6,934	1,573	22.7
Mississippi	8,784	802	9.1
Missouri	-	-	-
Montana	4,122	746	18.1
Nebraska	2,472	1,072	43.4
Nevada	5,231	638	12.2
New Hampshire	1,214	541	44.6
New Jersey	-	-	-
New Mexico	8,242	1,162	14.1
New York	-	-	-
North Carolina	-	-	-
North Dakota	1,657	107	6.5
Ohio	26,126	4,891	18.7
Oklahoma	15,439	1,484	9.6
Oregon	-	-	-
Pennsylvania	-	-	-
Puerto Rico	-	-	-
Rhode Island	2,905	606	20.9
South Carolina	-	-	-
South Dakota	-	-	-
Tennessee	-	-	-
Texas	-	-	-
Utah	10,234	1,589	15.5
Vermont	562	120	21.4
Virginia	5,836	1,453	24.9
Washington	-	-	-
West Virginia	-	-	-
Wisconsin	-	-	-
Wyoming	-	-	-
National	286,826	57,525	20.1
Reporting States	26	26	-

Table 6–6 Victims Who Received Family Preservation Services Within the Previous 5 Years, 2020

State	Victims	Victims Who Received Family Preservation Services Within the Previous 5 Years Number	Victims Who Received Family Preservation Services Within the Previous 5 Years Percent
Alabama	11,663	401	3.4
Alaska	-	-	-
Arizona	-	-	-
Arkansas	9,241	1,722	18.6
California	-	-	-
Colorado	-	-	-
Connecticut	-	-	-
Delaware	-	-	-
District of Columbia	1,568	323	20.6
Florida	28,268	4,546	16.1
Georgia	8,690	1,139	13.1
Hawaii	-	-	-
Idaho	1,958	402	20.5
Illinois	35,437	6,645	18.8
Indiana	-	-	-
Iowa	-	-	-
Kansas	2,386	665	27.9
Kentucky	16,748	1,231	7.4
Louisiana	6,859	1,524	22.2
Maine	4,726	1,110	23.5
Maryland	-	-	-
Massachusetts	22,538	7,554	33.5
Michigan	-	-	-
Minnesota	6,647	2,400	36.1
Mississippi	8,136	16	0.2
Missouri	4,449	491	11.0
Montana	-	-	-
Nebraska	2,376	311	13.1
Nevada	5,016	508	10.1
New Hampshire	1,182	98	8.3
New Jersey	3,655	329	9.0
New Mexico	7,050	480	6.8
New York	-	-	-
North Carolina	22,399	7	0.0
North Dakota	-	-	-
Ohio	-	-	-
Oklahoma	14,685	617	4.2
Oregon	11,487	951	8.3
Pennsylvania	-	-	-
Puerto Rico	3,572	335	9.4
Rhode Island	2,743	681	24.8
South Carolina	-	-	-
South Dakota	-	-	-
Tennessee	8,687	1,628	18.7
Texas	65,116	9,658	14.8
Utah	9,694	42	0.4
Vermont	530	103	19.4
Virginia	-	-	-
Washington	3,967	288	7.3
West Virginia	-	-	-
Wisconsin	-	-	-
Wyoming	-	-	-
National	331,473	46,205	13.9
Reporting States	30	30	-

Table 6–7 Victims Who Were Reunited With Their Families Within the Previous 5 Years, 2020

State	Victims	Victims Who Were Reunited With Their Families Within the Previous 5 Years Number	Victims Who Were Reunited With Their Families Within the Previous 5 Years Percent
Alabama	11,663	336	2.9
Alaska	3,212	249	7.8
Arizona	-	-	-
Arkansas	9,241	207	2.2
California	-	-	-
Colorado	11,615	489	4.2
Connecticut	6,346	180	2.8
Delaware	1,200	56	4.7
District of Columbia	1,568	21	1.3
Florida	28,268	2,265	8.0
Georgia	8,690	416	4.8
Hawaii	1,294	69	5.3
Idaho	1,958	68	3.5
Illinois	35,437	1,390	3.9
Indiana	22,648	1,747	7.7
Iowa	-	-	-
Kansas	2,386	325	13.6
Kentucky	16,748	988	5.9
Louisiana	6,859	432	6.3
Maine	4,726	463	9.8
Maryland	-	-	-
Massachusetts	22,538	1,916	8.5
Michigan	-	-	-
Minnesota	6,647	536	8.1
Mississippi	8,136	25	0.3
Missouri	4,449	175	3.9
Montana	-	-	-
Nebraska	2,376	244	10.3
Nevada	5,016	495	9.9
New Hampshire	1,182	86	7.3
New Jersey	3,655	251	6.9
New Mexico	7,050	450	6.4
New York	-	-	-
North Carolina	22,399	371	1.7
North Dakota	-	-	-
Ohio	23,691	1,206	5.1
Oklahoma	14,685	669	4.6
Oregon	11,487	1,149	10.0
Pennsylvania	-	-	-
Puerto Rico	3,572	10	0.3
Rhode Island	2,743	244	8.9
South Carolina	14,263	206	1.4
South Dakota	-	-	-
Tennessee	8,687	341	3.9
Texas	65,116	1,502	2.3
Utah	9,694	247	2.5
Vermont	530	43	8.1
Virginia	-	-	-
Washington	3,967	430	10.8
West Virginia	-	-	-
Wisconsin	4,177	357	8.5
Wyoming	-	-	-
National	419,919	20,654	4.9
Reporting States	39	39	-



Overview of Dr. Richard Gardner's Opinions

on

Pedophilia and Child Sexual Abuse

Richard A. Gardner, M.D., is the creator of the creator and main proponent for Parental Alienation Syndrome (PAS) theory. Prior to his suicide, Gardner was an unpaid part-time clinical professor of child psychiatry at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University . He made his money mainly as a forensic expert.

PAS was developed by Dr Richard Gardner in 1985 based on his personal observations and work as an expert witness, often on behalf of fathers accused of molesting their children. Gardner asserted that PAS is very common and he saw manifestations of this syndrome in over 90% of the custody conflicts he evaluated—even when abuse allegations are not raised (Gardner, 1987, p. 67).¹ Gardner (September 6, 1993) claimed that PAS is "a disorder of children, arising almost exclusively in child-custody disputes, in which one parent (usually the mother) programs the child to hate the other parent (usually the father)."²

Gardner 's theory of PAS has had a profound effect on how the court systems in our country handle allegations of child sexual abuse, especially during divorce. Gardner has authored more than 250 books and articles with advice directed towards mental health professionals, the legal community, divorcing adults and their children. Gardner 's private publishing company, Creative Therapeutics, published his many books, cassettes, and videotapes.³ Information available on Gardner 's website indicates that he has been certified to testify as an expert in approximately 400 cases, both criminal and civil, in more than 25 states.⁴ Gardner 's work continues to serve as a basis for decisions affecting the welfare of children in courtrooms across the nation. He is considered a leading authority in family courts and has even been described as the "guru" of child custody evaluations.⁴

Because Gardner 's PAS theory is based on his clinical observations--not scientific data--it must be understood in the context of his extreme views concerning women, pedophilia and child sexual abuse.

Gardner on pedophilia

The vast majority ("probably over 95%") of all sex abuse allegations are valid.

Gardner, R.A. (1991). *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited* . Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics (pp. 7, 140).

"There is a bit of pedophilia in every one of us."

Gardner, R.A. (1991). *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited* . Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. 118)

"Pedophilia has been considered the norm by the vast majority of individuals in the history of the world."

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse* . Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. 592-3)

Similarly, "intrafamilial pedophilia (that is, incest) is widespread and ... is probably an ancient tradition"

Gardner, R.A. (1991). *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited* . Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. 119)

"It is because our society overreacts to it [pedophilia] that children suffer."

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse* . Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (pp. 594-5)

Pedophilia may enhance the survival of the human species by serving "procreative purposes."

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (pp. 24-5)

Pedophilia "is a widespread and accepted practice among literally billions of people."

Gardner, R.A. (1986). *Child Custody Litigation: A Guide for Parents and Mental Health Professionals*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics, (p. 93)

In addition, Gardner proposes that many different types of human sexual behavior, including **pedophilia, sexual sadism, necrophilia (sex with corpses), zoophilia (sex with animals), coprophilia (sex involving defecation)**, can be seen as having species survival value and thus do "not warrant being excluded from the list of the so-called natural forms of human sexual behavior."

See, Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (pp. 18-32)

Gardner on the sexual aggressiveness of children

Gardner suggests that children want to have sex with adults and may seduce them.

Some children experience " **high sexual urges in early infancy.** " "There is good reason to believe that most, if not all, children have the capacity to reach orgasm at the time they are born."

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. 15)

Children are naturally sexual and **may initiate sexual encounters by "seducing" the adult .**

Gardner, R.A. (1986). *Child Custody Litigation: A Guide for Parents and Mental Health Professionals*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics (p. 93).

If the sexual relationship is discovered, " **the child is likely to fabricate so that the adult will be blamed for the initiation .** "

Gardner, R.A. (1986). *Child Custody Litigation: A Guide for Parents and Mental Health Professionals*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics (p. 93).

"The normal child exhibits a wide variety of sexual fantasies and behaviors, many of which would be labeled as '**sick**' or '**perverted**' if exhibited by adults"

Gardner, R.A. (1991). *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. 12)

Sex abuse is not necessarily traumatic; the determinant as to whether sexual molestation will be traumatic to the child, is the social attitude toward these encounters.

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (pp. 670-71)

Gardner on therapy with children who are sexually abused by their father

- **Keep the child connected to the abuser**

Special care should be taken not alienate the child from the molesting parent. The removal of a pedophilic parent from the home "should only be seriously considered after

all attempts at treatment of the pedophilia and rapprochement with the family have proven futile."

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics.(p. 537)

The child should be told that there is no such thing as a perfect parent. "The sexual exploitation has to be put on the negative list, but positives as well must be appreciated"

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics.(p. 572)

- **Tell the child that sexual abuse by a father is normal**

Older children may be helped to appreciate that sexual encounters between an adult and a child are not universally considered to be reprehensible acts. **The child might be told about other societies in which such behavior was and is considered normal.** The child might be helped to appreciate the wisdom of Shakespeare's Hamlet, who said, "Nothing's either good or bad, but thinking makes it so."

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics.(p. 549)

"In such discussions the child has to be helped to appreciate that we have in our society an exaggeratedly punitive and moralistic attitude about adult-child sexual encounters"

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics.(p. 572).

Gardner on mothers who discover that their husband is sexually abusing their child

Gardner blames the father's abuse on the mother, who he faults for not fulfilling her husband sexually. He suggests that therapists should help mother's of incest victims achieve sexual gratification.

- **Discourage litigation.**
- **Encourage her to stay with her husband (the abuser)**
- **Blame her and the daughter for the sexual abuse by the father**

"It may be that one of the reasons **the daughter turned toward the father** is the impairment of the child's relationship with the mother" (pp. 579-80)

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. 585)

- **Help her get over her anger at her husband for sexually abusing their child.**

"If the mother has reacted to the abuse in a hysterical fashion, or used it as an excuse for a campaign of denigration of the father, then the therapist does well to try and "sober her up".... Her hysterics ... will contribute to the child's feeling that a heinous crime has been committed and will thereby lessen the likelihood of any kind of rapprochement with the father. **One has to do everything possible to help her put the "crime" in proper**

perspective. She has to be helped to appreciate that in most societies in the history of the world, such behavior was ubiquitous [i.e., everywhere], and this is still the case."

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (pp. 576-7)

"Perhaps she can be helped to appreciate that in the history of the world his behavior has probably been more common than the restrained behavior of those who do not sexually abuse their children."

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (pp. 585)

- **Encourage her to become more sexually responsive to her husband.**

"Her increased sexuality may lessen the need for her husband to return to their daughter for sexual gratification."

"Verbal statements about the pleasures of orgasmic response are not likely to prove very useful. One has to encourage experiences, under proper situations of relaxation, which will enable her to achieve the goal of orgasmic response."

"One must try to overcome any inhibition she may have with regard to [the use of vibrators]."

"Her own diminished guilt over masturbation will make it easier for her to encourage the practice in her daughter, if this is warranted. And her increased sexuality may lessen the need for her husband to return to their daughter for sexual gratification."

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. 585)

Gardner on fathers who sexually abuse their children

- **Tell him what he did his normal**

"He has to be helped to appreciate that, even today, it [pedophilia] is a widespread and accepted practice among literally billions of people. He has to appreciate that in our Western society especially, we take a very punitive and moralistic attitude toward such inclinations. He has had a certain amount of back (sic) luck with regard to the place and time he was born with regard to social attitudes toward pedophilia."

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. 593)

He has had **bad luck** with regard to the place and time he was born with regard to social attitudes toward pedophilia. However, these are not reasons to condemn himself.

Gardner, R.A. (1991). *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. 119)

- **Keep him in the home**

The removal of a pedophilic parent from the home "should only be seriously considered after all attempts at treatment of the pedophilia and rapprochement with the family have proven futile"

Gardner, R.A. (1991). *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. 119)

- **Help him protect himself**

"He must learn to control himself if he is to protect himself from the Draconian punishments meted out to those in our society who act out their pedophilic impulses."

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (pp. 585-592)

- **Help him forget about it**

Therapy with the father should **not** be spent focusing on the primary problem (i.e., sexual molestation). Instead, therapy should be spent "talking about other things" as the goal of therapy is "to help people forget about their problems"

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (pp. 585-592)

Gardner on how society should respond to the widespread victimization of children

- **Take a more sympathetic view toward pedophilia**

"One of the steps that society must take to deal with the present hysteria is to 'come off it' and take a more realistic attitude toward pedophilic behavior." (p. 120)

"The Draconian punishments meted out to pedophiles .go far beyond what I consider to be the gravity of the crime." (p. 118)

Gardner, R.A. (1991). *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics.

- **Abolish mandated reporting of child sexual abuse.**
- **Do away with immunity for reporters of child abuse.**
- **Create federally-funded programs to assist those claiming to have been falsely accused of child sexual abuse.**

Gardner, R.A. (1995). Written testimony on HR3588 - Proposed revision of the child abuse prevention and treatment act (CAPTA) (Public Law 93-247).

- **Keep pedophiles in the community**

The removal of a pedophilic parent from the home "should only be seriously considered after all attempts at treatment of the pedophilia and rapprochement with the family have proven futile"

Pedophiles who abuse children outside of the home should first be given the opportunity for community treatment. "If that fails then and only then should some kind of forced incarceration be considered"

Gardner, R.A. (1991). *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. 119)

Gardner on Child abuse hysteria

Child abuse allegations are the "third-greatest wave of hysteria" the nation has seen, following the Salem witch trials and the McCarthyite persecution of leftists.

Gardner, R.A. (1993, February 22). Modern witch hunt--child abuse charges. *The Wall Street Journal*, p. A10.

"We are currently living in dangerous times, similar to Nazi Germany. Sexual abuse hysteria is omnipresent."

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse*. Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. xxv)

Who is to Blame for "Child Abuse Hysteria"?

- **People who voice negative feelings against pedophiles**

"During their harangues against the 'perverts' who are the objects of their scorn, they often rise to a level of excitation that can readily be seen as sexual. . . . Psychological, such individuals are ever fighting to repress their own unacceptable pedophilic impulses, which are continually pressing for release."

Gardner, R.A. (1991). *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited* . Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics (pp. 30-31).

- **The legal system - including judges**

"There is no question that abuse cases are "turn ons" for the wide variety of individuals involved in them, the accuser(s), the prosecutors, the lawyers, **the judges** , the evaluators, the psychologists, the reporters, the readers of the newspapers, and everyone else involved - except for the falsely accused and the innocent victim .. Everyone is getting their 'jollies, ."

Gardner, R.A. (1991). *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited* . Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. 31).

"**Judges** . too may have repressed pedophilic impulses over which there is suppression, repression, and guilt. Inquiry into the details of the case provides voyeuristic and vicarious gratifications .. Incarcerating the alleged perpetrator may serve psychologically to obliterate the judge's own projected pedophilic impulses."

Gardner, R.A. (1991). *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited* . Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (p. 107)

- **Sexually inhibited mothers**

"The mother . is . psychologically gratifying [her own sexually inhibited needs] with the visual imagery that the sex abuse allegation provides."

Gardner, R.A. (1991). *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited* . Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics (pp. 36-37).

- **Greedy parents**

"Many are victims of their greed, which is so enormous that they blind themselves to the psychological traumas they are subjecting their children to in the service of winning lawsuits that promise them enormous wealth."

Gardner, R.A. (1991). *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited* . Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics (p 43).

- **Judeo-Christian principles**

"**It is of interest that of all the ancient peoples it may very well be that the Jews were the only ones who were punitive toward pedophiles..** Our present overreaction to pedophilia represents an exaggeration of Judeo-Christian principles and is a significant factor operative in Western society's atypicality with regard to such activities

Gardner, R.A. (1992). *True and False Accusations of Child Sex Abuse* . Cresskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics. (pp. 46-7).

For more information see:

Dallam, S. J. (1998). Dr. Richard Gardner: A review of his theories and opinions on atypical sexuality, pedophilia, and treatment issues. *Treating Abuse Today* , 8(1), 15-23.

1. Gardner, R. A. (1987). *The parental alienation syndrome and the differentiation between fabricated and genuine child sex abuse* . Creskill, NJ: Creative Therapeutics.
2. Gardner, R.A. (1993, September 6) Dr. Gardner defends work on sex abuse. *National Law Journal*, p. 16.
3. Sherman, Rorie. (1993, August 16) Gardner 's Law: "A Controversial Psychiatrist and Influential Witness Leads the Backlash against Child Sex Abuse 'Hysteria.'" *The National Law Journal* , pp. 1, 45-46.
4. See Gardner 's CV on his website (available at <http://www.rgardner.com/pages/cvqual.html>). See also: *People v. Fortin*, 706 N.Y.S.2d 611, 612 (Crim. Ct. 2000). *Fortin* was a criminal sex abuse case in which Dr. Gardner offered to testify on behalf of the accused molester concerning PAS and the credibility of the complaining witness. The court refused to permit his testimony because of a failure to establish general acceptance of PAS within the professional community.)
5. Quinn, K.M. (1991). Family evaluation in child custody mediation, arbitration, and litigation (Book Review). *Bulletin of the American Academy of Psychiatry and Law* , 19(1), 101-02.

Return to Page: [Abuse and Custody Disputes: Scientific and Legal Issues](#)