

PE1790/I

Paul Anderson, Forever Fathers and Alienated Parents Support Ireland Submission of 16 March 2020

I and thousands of Alienated Parents in Ireland support the above position as it firmly fits into the ethos of our own petition that is aimed at creating a similar positive change to the lives of thousands of alienated children and parents in Ireland. Parental Alienation like all forms of abuses does not recognise borders and is a worldwide blatantly evil phenomenon.

Our perspective is parallel and entwines with the above petition because like in Ireland Parental Alienation is not recognised in Scotland meaning that it is not an offence to commit this abuse against children or this coercive control against parents. And although everyone knows of instances of the 'emotional poisoning' (brainwashing) of children against a parent or their extended family there is no state training, education, awareness or therapy services to stop or intervene in it!

The content of our petition is as stated below and as of the date of this letter of support has 2722 signatures. Please note many Alienated Parents are too frightened to sign this petition for fear that it may be used against them in a family court and they could be held in contempt. Also we have a Petition to the Houses of Oireachtas Petition. Current Details Reference Number: P00060/19 Status:Being Examined For Compliance With Standing Orders. Name of Petitioner: Mr Paul Anderson

Petition Title: Make Parental Alienation a Crime in Ireland

Submitted By: Unincorporated association of persons

Unincorporated Association Name: Forever Fathers Published: 23 Oct 2019

The present online Petition can be viewed here <https://my.uplift.ie/petitions/make-parental-alienation-an-offence>

Its details are as follows:-

We want the Irish Government to make Parental Alienation an offense in Ireland (Especially the departments whose role it is to address:- the Ministers of Health, Mental Health, Justice and for Children and Youth Affairs. This campaign is about creating an awareness to enable the Irish Government to take action to address the abusive effects of Parental Alienation on Irish children, parents and wider society and acknowledge that Parental Alienation is indexed in the World Health Organisations (WHO) latest Version of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11).

The Petition runs alongside two other connected Campaigns in Ireland where Councils are tabling a motion calling upon the Irish Government to address and recognise Parental Alienation in Ireland. Presently 14 Councils in the Republic have passed these motions with an expectation that between 90-100% of Councils will call upon the Irish Government to address Parental Alienation.

In Northern Ireland La Dolce Vita Project is running a similar Council campaign and have progressed lobby at a higher level whereby recently the Minister of Justice described Parental Alienation as a form of Coercive Control and Domestic Abuse.

Parental Alienation is a form of child and domestic abuse, and coercive control. It affects all genders, children, siblings, parents, grandparents, entire families and Irish society as a whole. It has profound psychological trauma that has devastating and long-lasting impacts on both children and targeted parents. These include....

When parents of alienated children bring concerns to child welfare authorities, these agencies will often disregard the problem. This is because presently, none of the Irish government departments, authorities, mental health professionals, Tusla, family courts etc. are doing anything to either address or prevent Parental Alienation.

The Irish government needs to recognise in legislation Parental Alienation as a form of child, domestic and as coercive control abuse, and the World Health Organisation classification in ICD-11. Parental Alienation undermines the core principles of Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Recognition by the Irish government is the first step to making change happen for affected Irish children, parents and families. Once alienating behaviours are identified, appropriate interventions are needed to avoid long-term negative impacts.

You should sign my petition because:

Thousands of Irish children are being continually abused and remain unprotected also thousands of siblings, mothers, fathers, grandparents and extended families are being abused by alienating parents who are not stopped or punished.

Parental Alienation contravenes the core principles of Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and it is up to the Irish Government to should stringently enforce it.

This Petition is In the best interests of the child or young adult, so that they can live a happy life with positive access to both parents, we request that you sign this petition to make alienating behaviours an offense.

Why is this important?

16 Councils in the Island of Ireland (March 2020 with many more to follow) have unanimously passed motions for legislation to recognise and address Parental Alienation; it is expected that the rest will follow in 2020. Parental Alienation is a form of child and domestic abuse and coercive control that is harming children, parents and grandparents often for life! Parental Alienation is not being addressed in Ireland and is being ignored by the Government, its agencies and most community & voluntary organisations. This is the case even though the World Health Organisation has included it in their foremost Health Handbook their is the International Classification of Diseases version 11(Ireland presently operates on the outdated version 10).

Affects to the child:

Emotional abuse,

Uncertainty, Confusion,

Hostile environments,

Lack of communication,

Loss of concentration,

The loss of other important relationship such as siblings, aunts, uncles, nans, granddads etc.

...and many other negative effects in every aspect of a child's life.

Affects to the Non-residing parent:

Loss of a relationship,

Depression,

Lack of support,

Financial hardship after paying for mediation (and possibly refusal to mediate certificate dependant on residing parents co-operation)

Court costs

Cost for representation if needed.

Costs of proving against false allegations (ie. Alcohol/Drug testing).

Affects to the Alienating 'Parent with care':

None? - Their ultimate aims were achieved, contact was prolonged, children are emotionally scarred (often for life!) and the parent with care gets away with no repercussions.

The World Health Organisation recognises this and defines Parental Alienation as "Substantial and sustained dissatisfaction within a caregiver-child relationship associated with significant disturbance in functioning." Also Parental Alienation undermines the core principles of Universal Declaration of Human Rights and United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in which article 9 states "The child has the right to maintain contact with both parents if separated from one or both."

While there is no single definition, Parental Alienation is when a child's resistance or hostility towards one parent is not justified and is the result of psychological manipulation by the other parent. Commonly known as when a child "is poisoned against their mother or father".

Parental Alienation is a serious form of child abuse, it not only alienates the children involved from their other parent but can negatively affect their future relationships, emotional well-being and ability to thrive as individuals in their own right and within the wider realms of our society. The manipulation of an alienated child with the resulting psychological damage can distort the child's developing personality and subsequent life adjustment.

It also creates an affliction of grief and loss for the targeted parent who may lose complete contact with their children who claim they don't want to see or be with the targeted parent or others in their family.

So why has the Irish Government, Irish Political Parties, Domestic Abuse & Voluntary Sector not addressed this issue. Please ask them why by phone, email or even better face to face; as to why they are allowing thousands of children to be abused (often for life) without any sanction or punishment?

Where can I get more information on parental alienation?

<https://parentalalienation.eu/>

<https://www.facebook.com/PAAA.International/>

<http://pa.aps.ie/about.html>

<https://www.paawareness.com/>

<https://www.irishpaconference.com/>

O'Sullivan. B (2013) Irish Journal of Family Law 16 (1) pp. 20 - 23

PASG.thinkfic.com

Or just Google or Youtube the topic

Other useful reading material:

Don't Hug Your Mother (2016) Gareth & Fintan Murphy

A Family's Heartbreak - A Parents Introduction to Parental Alienation (2008) Jeffries & Davis

The High Conflict Custody Battle (2014) Amy J Baker, J. M. Bone, Brian Ludmer

Parental Alienation is Abuse (2017) David R. Shubert

The Alienated Child

"I wanted one life, you wanted another, we couldn't have our cake, so we ate each other"

How it will be delivered

This will be an online petition to pressurise Politicians to actively address the Child Abuse, Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control caused by Parental Alienation.

It is part of an unfunded larger campaign by Parents and Human Rights Advocates to publicise the hidden abuse of Parental Alienation.

We strongly support the Petition in Scotland against Parental Alienation

PE01790: Parental and familial alienation

As at <http://www.parliament.scot/GettingInvolved/Petitions/PE01790>