

CHARACTERISTICS OF A PARENTAL ALIENATION SITUATION:

1. The child is aligned with the alienating parenting in a campaign of denigration and hatred against the target parent, with the child making active contributions.
2. Rationalizations for depreciating the target parent are often weak, frivolous or absurd (little or no evidence to support).
3. Animosity toward the rejected parent lacks the ambivalence normal to human relationships (statements are very black and white).
4. The child asserts that the decision to reject the targeted parent is his or her own, what Gardner calls the “Independent thinker” phenomena.
5. The child reflexively supports the parent with whom she or he is aligned (without question).
6. The child expresses guiltless disregard for the feelings of the target or hated parent (no matter what information is made available to the child).
7. Borrowed scenarios are present. (i.e., the child’s statements reflect themes and terminology of the alienating parent).
8. Animosity by the child is spread to the extended family and others associated with the hated parent (regardless of the factual history that may indicate otherwise).