

Petition 3 to the American Psychological Association  
The Alliance to Solve Parental Alienation  
9/30/18

We the undersigned, formally protest the composition and mission of the APA working group to study the literature surrounding high-conflict divorce.

Parents were informed by the APA of this working group following their first Petition seeking a change to the APA position statement on Parental Alienation Syndrome to reflect the scientific evidence on attachment bonding, parental personality pathology, and established family systems constructs. The input of parents into this decision by the APA was not sought.

We believe the decision to construct a “working group” to study the literature surrounding high-conflict divorce rather than attachment pathology, personality pathology, family systems therapy, and complex trauma is non-responsive and unnecessary.

In January of 2018, a second Petition to the APA was written to raise prominent concerns about widespread and unchecked professional violations of Standards 2.01a, 9.01a, 3.04, and 2.03. This Petition to the APA currently has over 20,000 signatures. This Second Petition to the APA was hand delivered by parent representatives in June of 2018.

Parents have formally requested the vitae and list of reviewed research by the APA working group who will have decisional and apparently APA policy-making authority over factors affecting the lives of these parents. The APA has responded by refusing to release this information, thereby making the proceedings secret meetings with secret participant information and a secret agenda, and in no way collaborating with the parent-consumers who will be affected by the decisions of this working group.

Without information about the professional background, knowledge, and experience of the working group members who will be making decisions affecting the lives of parents and children, parents are unable to properly evaluate whether the working group possesses the proper expertise to evaluate their situation. Without being told what information was reviewed or not reviewed by the working group, parents will have no way of properly evaluating the foundations of information used in reaching decisions.

Parents are deeply concerned about potential collaboration and collusion of the American Psychological Association in the rampant and unchecked professional ignorance and incompetence that is afflicting our families and our children’s treatment. We have made our concerns regarding the widespread and unchecked violations of the APA ethics code known to the APA, and have yet to receive a response. Since informing the APA of our concerns, we consider the APA to be complicit with the abuse of our children, until such time as a responsive action to our concerns is received.

APA: Ethical Code Violations and Complicity with Child Abuse  
<https://apaethicalviolations.com/>

We are asking that any APA meetings regarding our families and the pathology affecting our children and families be open to public scrutiny and be collaborative with parents. If the APA had sought the input of parents during the formation of the first working group, we would have suggested parental representation would be appropriate for decisions affecting parents.

We formally object to the secrecy of the APA working group, and we formally reject the authority of any decisions emanating from the APA working group.

We formally assert that the membership of the APA working group does not possess the required knowledge to adequately evaluate the relevant research in attachment theory, personality disorder pathology, family systems therapy, and complex trauma, and we challenge the vitae of the working group membership for demonstration of professional background in these areas of concern.

We formally request that all future “working groups” include representatives from multicultural psychology, from psychometrics and assessment construction, and from the professional ethics domains of professional psychology.

We formally request the termination of the current working group, and the reformulation of a working group to assess and provide recommendations to the APA on the original concern raised by parents in the First Petition to the APA, a change to the APA’s position statement on Parental Alienation Syndrome to more accurately reflect the scientific evidence regarding the attachment system, personality disorder pathology, family systems therapy, and complex trauma.

And we again demand a response to the Second Petition to the APA, that has among its requests that the APA simply provide a press release affirming its support for Standard 2.01a of its own ethics code, an action that the APA has yet to do... affirm its own ethics code.

We, the undersigned, are formally indicating that we consider the American Psychological Association complicit with the abuse of our children. It is deeply unfortunate, and not by our choice, that we should find ourselves in an adversarial position with the APA in our efforts to protect our children from psychological child abuse: DSM-5 V995.51 Child Psychological Abuse (p. 719)

The non-responsiveness of the American Psychological Association to the rampant and unchecked professional ignorance and incompetence afflicting and destroying our families, and the non-responsiveness of the American Psychological Association to the psychological abuse of our children, leaves parents with no alternative for seeking professional knowledge and competence in attachment pathology, personality disorder pathology, family systems therapy, and complex trauma, than to file individual licensing board complaints against all mental health

professionals treating attachment-related, personality disorder related, family systems related, complex trauma related pathology for violations of Standard 2.01a Competence, and potentially for violations of Standards 9.01a Assessment; 3.04 Harm to the Client; 10.01 Informed Consent, and 2.03 Maintaining Competence, resulting in a failure in their duty to protect. This is an unfortunate turn of events, and it is our hope that the APA will work with parents in achieving professional knowledge and competence for the treatment of our children and families.

It is also deeply unfortunate that the APA does not support parents who are seeking application of the APA's own ethics code for professional competence.

It is our fervent hope and desire to develop a collaborative working relationship with the APA that addresses the concerns of parents and finds solution for families. However, parents cannot develop a partnership toward solution with the APA until the APA becomes open to listening to the parents who are suffering from a defined, known, and acknowledged pathology, narcissistic and borderline spousal-parental personality pathology.