

Dear NPO Supporter:

The Center for Judicial Excellence (CJE) is a nonprofit organization that advocates for domestic violence survivors in the US Family Court System and the judicial branch of the federal government. While their mission is a noble and important one, they are making a grievous error and promoting misinformation and flawed research in their new *Child Safety First* report that will harm countless children and families.

Child Safety First: Preventing Child Homicides During Divorce, Separation, and Child Custody Disputes claims to uncover a crisis of children being ordered into supervised contact with an abusive parent where they are at risk for harm and to give recommendations on how to solve this "crisis." However, CJE has engaged in deception in its research, biased selection of citations, misinformation, science denial practices, and other unethical practices in order to come to this conclusion. Child Safety First ignores the children and families who are victims of parental alienation, treating them as non-existent or undeserving of protection. Parental alienation has been described as a mental condition in which a child (usually one whose parents are engaged in a highconflict divorce) allies strongly with one parent and rejects a relationship with the other parent without legitimate justification (Lorandos & Bernet, 2020, pp. 5 -6). It is also a social and policy issue. Parental alienating behaviors are a form of coercive control which can adversely affect children and cause major public health issues. It is not gender specific; parental alienation theory and practice is a non-gendered social science inclusive of all forms of parent and caregiver relationships with children in all types of families.

The Parental Alienation Study Group (PASG) and Global Action for Research Integrity in Parental Alienation (GARI-PA) have created an analysis of Child Safety First titled Exposing Misinformation and Public Policy Deception

Contained in Child Safety First: Preventing Child Homicides During Divorce,

Separation, and Child Custody Disputes — Recommendations for Reforming U.S. Family Courts that reveals all of the flaws and misinformation in that paper. This analysis was written by an international group of respected researchers and has been signed on to by a growing list of over 90 organizations. We encourage you to read the entire analysis to see the full picture of the deception CJE is engaging in.

We are writing to you today because the Center For Judicial Excellence will be holding a Congressional Briefing about the *Child Safety First* report in Washington DC on Wednesday, October 25th to introduce this dangerous and false information to legislators and we need to spread the word to fight their misinformation and prevent the harm that action taken on the recommendations of *Child Safety First* will cause to innumerable children and families. **Please share this analysis with your legislators and contacts** and let them know that applying the recommendations in the CJE report will create untold numbers of victims of parental alienation and will further victimize those going through this abuse. Because of their deception, CJE has compromised its credibility and that everything they say should be viewed with skepticism.