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Shepherding you safely through difficult family transitions!

DIVORCE IN NEW YORK – PARENTAL ALIENATION

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Parental alienation is one parent turning the children against the other parent. It is a form of child abuse and is one of the hardest types of cases to litigate. For a more fulsome discussion of the harms alienation causes children, see Mr. Steinberger's article [Father? What Father? Parental Alienation and its Effects on Children](#).

In a case involving allegations of alienation or interference with the child's relationship with the other parent, the evaluation should address the following:

1. Each parent's understanding of the history and nature of each parent's relationship with the children during the marriage and post-separation;
2. Assuming a reluctance of the children to see one parent, each parent's understanding of each parent's contribution to this resistance;
3. Each parent's suggestions for ways to resolve this resistance;
4. If there is no current resistance of the children to see one parent, an understanding of why one parent is alleging the risk of alienation and the other parent's response to those allegations;
5. Whether or not there has been a history of abuse or violence (or allegations of this) and each parent's understanding of the extent to which the children have been exposed to high conflict or violence in the relationship;
6. Evidence that the child custody evaluator assessed for and thoroughly analyzed the aspects of parental gatekeeping;

NOTE: *This monograph is intended as an educational guide and not as legal advice. Legal advice should only be obtained from a qualified lawyer who is familiar with all of the facts and circumstances of your matter.*

7. Evidence that the child custody evaluator distinguished between the effects of gatekeeping (if any) and the dynamics of alienation

Mr. Steinberger's extensive experience with alienation claims and defenses, and his chairing of the custody committee of the American Bar Association's Family Law Section makes him uniquely qualified to protect and defend your relationship with your children. Call him for a free telephone conference and to determine how he can help you.

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