

## THE FRENCH MINISTER OF FAMILIES (\*) TRIES TO DELETE "PAS" AND "PA" BEFORE ITS TERM EXPIRES IN MAY 2017...

(\*) : The Minister of Families in France is also Minister of Childhood and Minister for the rights of women. Her name, Laurence ROSSIGNOL.

How not to be shocked and deeply dismayed after the publication at the end of December 2016 of an article entitled "The Syndrome of Parental Alienation soon proscribed in judicial expert opinions" published on the website of "Médiapart" (Website of information) ?

This article clearly indicates the color of this disconcerting decision, brought by the Ministry of Families, Childhood and the rights of women directed by Mrs. Laurence ROSSIGNOL, Minister. Thus, this Ministry formally supports the publication, as soon as possible on the website of the Ministry of Justice, aimed at proscribing the use of the ideological concept called PAS (Parental Alienation Syndrome) and PA (Parental Alienation).

This publication is part of the 5<sup>th</sup> plan to mobilize and fight the violence against women (2017-2019) aiming at *"Protecting mothers and their children in the exercise of their parental authority during and after the separation"*, following the publication of the report on the 4<sup>th</sup> plan to prevent and fight the Violence against Women (2014-2016).

Excerpt from this publication (4<sup>th</sup> Plan for preventing and fighting the violence against Women - Axis D - Goal 19: "Protecting mothers and their children in the exercise of parental authority during and after separation. ", Page 41 - Action 58:

Action 58 (Page 41) : Inform about the medically unfounded nature of the "parental alienation syndrome"

In cases of domestic violence or violence against children, the allegation of parental alienation "raises real difficulties. It leads to discrediting the mother's word, exceptionally the father or the child, and consequently to deny the victim's status as a victim.

Reversing responsibilities. However, no scientific authority has ever recognized such a "syndrome". And the scientific consensus highlights the lack of reliability of this notion. It is not recognized by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM5), The American Psychiatric Association (APA), or the International Classification of Diseases Published by the World Health Organization (WHO). Research shows that false allegations of abuse or neglect of children are marginal. Therefore, a communication aimed at prohibiting the use of this concept (PA and PAS) will be published on the subject, on the website of the Ministry of Justice.

The French text :

### **Action 58 : Informer sur le caractère médicalement infondé du « syndrome d'aliénation parentale »**

Dans les cas de violences conjugales ou de violences faites aux enfants, l'allégation du « syndrome d'aliénation parentale » soulève de réelles difficultés. Elle conduit à décrédibiliser la parole de la mère, exceptionnellement du père ou de l'enfant, et par conséquent à en nier le statut de victime en inversant les responsabilités. Or, aucune autorité scientifique n'a jamais reconnu un tel « syndrome » et le consensus scientifique souligne le manque de fiabilité de cette notion. Il n'est reconnu ni par le Manuel diagnostique et statistique des troubles mentaux (DSM5) ouvrage de référence de l'association américaine de psychiatrie (APA), ni par la classification internationale des maladies publiée par l'Organisation mondiale de la santé (OMS). La recherche démontre que les fausses allégations de maltraitance ou de négligences sur les enfants sont marginales.

C'est pourquoi une communication visant à proscrire l'utilisation de ce concept sera réalisée, via la publication d'une fiche sur ce sujet, sur le site du Ministère de la justice.

- **Calendrier** : 2017
- **Pilote** : Ministère en charge des droits des femmes, Ministère des familles
- **Contributeur.trice.s** : Ministère en charge des droits des femmes, Ministère de la Justice, Ministère de la Santé

The full text including the page 41 can be found on the Ministry's website (Only in French) at : <http://www.familles-enfance-droitsdesfemmes.gouv.fr/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/5e-plan-de-lutte-contre-toutes-les-violences-faites-aux-femmes.pdf>

In her introduction, Laurence ROSSIGNOL states:

*"The fight against violence against women has been the subject of a public policy in its own right for more than 10 years. The legislative arsenal has been deeply strengthened, mechanisms have been tested and deployed throughout the country, The financial and human resources have been considerably increased.*

*The 4<sup>th</sup> plan to prevent and combat violence against women (2014-2016) has greatly contributed to the strengthening of the detection and care of victims...*

*...The Government is today launching the 5<sup>th</sup> Plan to mobilize and fight all forms of violence against women (2017-2019). This new plan, which has been further strengthened, is organized around strong measures to enable women victims of violence to have access to their rights to be protected and accompanied in order to emerge from violence and rebuild themselves."*

Mrs. ROSSIGNOL obviously has a biased view of parental alienation. Nevertheless she got many information on this subject showing the real consequences due to parental alienation. Our association "*J'aime mes 2 Parents*" had already denounced the inadmissible statements pronounced by Mrs. ROSSIGNOL before the Committee of Social Affairs of the National Assembly (Parliament) on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2015, concerning the parental alienation : "*About the debate on the parental alienation and syndrome, which exists only in France, it appears specifically to be a French disease, which means that it interrogates a certain number of people. The existence of this parental alienation syndrome is absolutely not consensual at all.*"

Mrs. ROSSIGNOL undeniably reveals a proof of inconceivable denial and ties parental alienation to the protection of mothers and their children in the exercise of their parental authority. This statement is purely abject. According to Mrs. ROSSIGNOL, Minister of Families, PAS and PA are weapons to use against mothers to force them to lose their parental authority on the children !

She doesn't realize at all (or refuses it) that parental alienation has no sex!, it's not a question of gender at all ! Psychological manipulation and control of the child can be practiced both by the father and the mother, and sometimes by other members of the family...

Linking the protection of mothers and their children with the exercise of parental authority and by consequence to deliberately refusing to link the protection of fathers and their children in the exercise of parental authority is an unfounded law, not to say an infamy.

Our association includes as many mothers as fathers ... and not one-sided, contrary to what the action 58 mentioned above, clearly implies.

Thousands of people can not and will only be shocked, scandalized by this degrading measure. What's more shameful?

As a reminder and in order to "unblock the counter" of the Ministry of Families who seems to forget that far from the work and the personality of Doctor Richard GARDNER, USA (work going back to the 1980s) often criticized, tens, hundreds and thousands of researchers, scientists as doctors, psychiatrists, child psychiatrists, psychologists, Clinical psychologists and other psychotherapists from around the world came to work on the subject and were able to go much further than GARDNER.

Not only have their work evolved considerably since GARDNER's first writings, but they have also been the subject of numerous publications and scientific studies that gradually bring to

light the evidence that was still missing at the last DSM (Diagnosis And Statistical Manual), the DSM-5 to be precise, published on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

But as we have already been able to point out at the Ministry of Families, which has denied to answer, the eminent psychiatrist and Professor William BERNET of the Department of Psychiatry at the Vanderbilt University of Medicine in Nashville, Tennessee) clearly reminded to all members of the International Working Group on Parental Alienation, following the publication of DSM-5 and the profession:

*"Experts from the DSM-5 Working Group told us two or three years ago that they did not want parental alienation to be a separate diagnosis in DSM-5 but they thought that parental alienation could be considered as an example in other diagnoses that are in the DSM-5.*

*The terms "parental alienation" do not appear in the DSM-5, but several diagnoses can be used in these situations. I would say that the "spirit" of parental alienation is already in the DSM-5, even if the exact words are not there."*

To ignore that is indeed a denial of truth but also the very mark of a total lack of objectivity and professionalism.

This "Action 58" is not only an insult to thousands of victims of parental alienation, whatever their gender, but it will surely put thousands of children at risk.

Coming to pressure justice will be equally serious, irresponsible and aggravating factor hundreds, thousands of family dramas that play out and shatter so many children, but also families unjustly rejected, alienated without any valid reason.

"Action 58" spits thousands of health professionals around the world who have understood the growing harms of what they call the consequences of parental alienation. Men and women around the world are struggling and working together to ensure that the future DSM-6 integrates this phenomenon of psychological manipulation and control over the child in more detail.

Among the best known: Amy J. L. Baker, William Bernet, J. Michael Bone, Craig A. Childress, Douglas Darnall, Robert A. Evans, Linda J. Gottlieb, Ludwig F. Lowenstein, Jennifer Harman, Zeynep Biringen, Michael R. Walsh, Hubert Van Gijsegem, Wilfrid von Boch-Galhau, Paul Bensussan, Roland Broca, Jean-Pierre Cambefort, Jacques Biollet, Jean-Marc Delfieu, Jean-Emile Vanderheyden, Claire Malo, Karen Woodall, ...

The list is far from exhaustive. Because there are so many others who also work on the subject...

This astonishing attitude of "France", through the voice of the Ministry of Families, also seeking to influence Justice, is a particularly retrograde position towards a good number of countries which, conversely, work and advance together towards official recognition of parental alienation and its consequences, where the medical and judicial worlds have debated together and are working together towards better action in order to fight together the consequences of parental alienation and even for some countries to expect to legislate to facilitate the task. Thus, in Europe, Romania has made one giant leap in this field. Other countries follow the same path, starting with Great Britain, which has made great strides in recent months.

This astonishing attitude also despises the judgments rendered by the European Court of Human Rights which acknowledges the presence of a psychological grip (or even pathological fixations) on the child by an alienating parent and therefore the existence of parental alienation. The Court insists on the need to act quickly when these phenomena of psychological grip and manipulation occur and the need to take the necessary measures to induce the alienating parent to respect his/her legal obligations and his/her duty of education.

For example:

- Case Koudelka / Czech Republic - Application No: 1633/05, 20 July 2006,
- Zavrel case / Czech Republic - Application No: 14044/05, 18 April 2007,
- Mincheva Case / Bulgaria - Application No: 21558/03, 2 September 2010,
- Case Giorgioni / Italy - Application No: 43299/12, 15 September 2016,
- Moog case / Germany - Application No: 2334/10, 6 October 2016.

Nor can the Ministry of Families erase French jurisprudence.

The discrimination would then be even more manifest and would therefore merit the arbitration of the ECHR, or even the demand for the condemnation of the French State.

So yes, this "Action 58" is a shame.

If the Ministry of Families seeks to combat violence against women, which honors it, it is by no means to banish parental alienation that it will succeed in developing more conflicting separations ( Even though to date they do not exceed 10% of all separations on average - a figure however increasing) and will massacre hundreds, thousands of additional children, children who will then increase the ranks of youth at risk in prey to all kinds of drifts and dangers...

Is this the main goal of France for its citizens, for its young people and its future generations?

How many years and decades in France parents and victims of autism have had to fight to make themselves heard and yet the lack of determination of the state in the framework of autism plans and the still marginal nature of its actions remain compared to our neighbouring countries and many other countries around the world ...?

If for the parental alienation, the same crusade must be undertaken, it will be undertaken. And France has no right to be part of the red lanterns, for a "big country" like ours. It would not only be unworthy but surely degrading while so many other nations evolve and take really into consideration the interest of the child, the protection of its rights (As recalled by the International Convention on the Rights of the Child) and do concern for co-parentality and family life (As recalled by the article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights).

Parental alienation, even if it does not represent the majority of the risks during the separation of parents, do exist, develops and the conflicting separations do as much, thus accentuating this serious risk.

This "Action 58" would then be a way, a boulevard for such a development of psychological manipulation and control over the child, creating, inexorably and more, mother orphans, father orphans, under the high blessing of the Ministry of Families in France ...

This is absolutely inconceivable.

**This release is also available on the Internet at :**

<http://jm2p.e-monsite.com/>

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President : François Scheefer,  
On behalf of the Board of the association jm2p.

*The letter sent directly to the Minister of Families and to the Minister of Justice in France can be also accessible.*

**Association "J'aime mes 2 Parents"**

French association governed by the law of 1901

**I love  
my 2  
Parents**



**THE ASSOCIATION AGAINST PARENTAL ALIENATION**

Original name : **Association "J'aime mes 2 Parents"** ■ ■