

The Masculine Sphere Updated

Welcome to Fourth Wave Feminism

Washington State Policies that Promote Domestic Violence Against Men and Women, Male

Incarceration, Single Parent Children, Other Sweeping Consequences, and Wage Gap

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Overview

“Shared parenting,” also called “Joint Custody,” “Equal Access to Children” or “Gender-Neutral Access to Children” bills are being considered and passed with increasing frequency in state legislative bodies. Grassroots organizations are gaining strength. Some groups are primarily feminine, some primarily masculine, some are mixed, and some are primarily grandparents and other relations. Groups may advocate for fathers, for mothers, grandparents or for children. The matrix of issues that these groups claim to be addressing is vast, and includes children’s welfare, fatherless homes, overburdened and often violent foster homes, intimate partner violence (IPV, or DV), women’s health, women’s standard of living, men’s health, male genital mutilation, male suicide, male incarceration, and with some even reaching as far as racism, perpetual war, and environmental issues. This paper will attempt to illustrate this matrix, to analyze the laws that family law reform groups advocate to change, attempt to analyze the effect of those that have passed, attempt to analyze the ongoing debate, and describe the history of that debate.

26.6% of children live in single-parent homes, today,¹ raised by 13.4 million single parents.² Half of all today’s children will live in a single-parent home for at least some of their childhood.³ This is a phenomenon that has occurred in a mere forty years, and most laws have not been updated to reflect the new reality. Allowing so many children and their parents to live in such conditions, while expecting society to continue operating functionally is unrealistic. Updating of laws and attitudes is imperative.

¹ Timothy Grall. “Custodial Mothers and Fathers and Their Child Support: 2013.” United States Census. <https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2016/demo/P60-255.pdf>. P 1. Jan 2016. Web. (Accessed 28 Sep 2017)

² *Ibid.* p 2.

³ Monica K. Miller; Through the Eyes of a Father: How PRWORA Affects Non-Resident Fathers and Their Children, *International Journal of Law, Policy and the Family*, Volume 20, Issue 1, 1 April 2006, Pages 55–73.

The State of Legislation

Many grassroots organizations are trying to increase non-custodial parents' time with their children. The National Parents Organization, one of the oldest groups to fight for "The rebuttable presumption of shared parenting" issued a shared parenting report card in 2005. It rated states legislations by letter grade on rules pertaining to parenting access and the best interest of the child. Zero states received an "A" and 8 states received a "B." The eight states that received the highest grade were Alaska, and Arizona, both with a "B," and Louisiana, Iowa, South Dakota, and Idaho, which earned a "B-."⁴

The Mary and Washington Journal of Women and the Law also analyzes the states and the effort towards a presumption of shared parenting stating that:

*"FRGs in many states proposed equal physical custody statutes, and they appear to be getting closer to full passage. FRGs successfully advocated for the Minnesota legislature to pass an equal custody bill in 2012, and the Florida legislature to pass an equal custody bill in 2013, only to have both governors veto them. n354 Arizona passed a law in 2012 encouraging joint parenting by adding maximum time [*595] with both parents to the best interest analysis, and Arkansas passed a law in 2013 defining the presumption in favor of joint custody as the "approximate and reasonable equal division of time" with the child by both parents individually. n355 State legislatures also proposed legal presumptions in favor of equal physical custody in Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota,*

⁴ Donald Hubin. "Shared Parenting Report Card." *National Parents Organization*. https://www.nationalparentsorganization.org/dev3/docs/2014_Shared_Parenting_Report_Card%2011-10-2014.pdf. 2014. Web. (Accessed 25 Sept 2017).

*Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. n356 FRGs gathered enough [*597] signatures in North Dakota to add a 2014 ballot measure proposing to create a legal presumption in favor of equal parenting time.”⁵*

Gendered societal and pecuniary biases

Men

Parenting

Many shared parenting groups highlight the large percentage of fathers who separate from their children, and the academic community generally accepts this as the truth. They are also finding that children are negatively affected by the deficient access to both parents. What is missing is the answer to the question “Why is a typical non-custodial parent’s visitation arrangement 4 days a month?” The rest of the states’ regulations could be interpreted with a little common sense to maintain healthy families in the US. These laws, however, are created and upheld in a dubious manner: on the knowledge of the judge, often operating on the presumptions of outdated academic research; they are impacted by social bias, not only by the judges, legislators, lobbyists, police, or even by opposing gender, but by the mothers and fathers who fall prey to the courtroom; and large financial incentives for numerous institutions and the individuals of which they are comprised.

In a 2015 TIME article, “*This Divorce Arrangement Stresses Kids out Most*,” Malin Bergstom, PhD, in regards to shared parenting arrangements, is quoted as saying “Child experts and people in general assumed that these children should be more stressed.”⁶ The study reported on concludes that “Those

⁵ Kelly Alison Bahre “Digging Beneath the Equality Language: The Influence of the Fathers’ Rights Movement on Intimate Partner Violence Public Policy Debates and Family Law Reform.” *21 Wm. & Mary J. of Women & L.* 525. Spring 2015.

⁶ Mandy Oaklander. “This Divorce Arrangement Stresses Kids Out Most.” *TIME Magazine*. <http://time.com/3836627/divorced-parents-joint-custody/> 27 Apr 2017. Web. (Accessed 24 Apr 2017).

in joint physical custody do however report better psychosomatic health than children living mostly or only with one parent.”⁷ Today, psychologists are finding that older concepts such as single-parent attachment, or the idea that young children suffer developmental issues when separated from a primary caregiver, called a “monotropy,” are being rebuffed. Richard A. Warshnak writes in the APA’s journal “*Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*.”

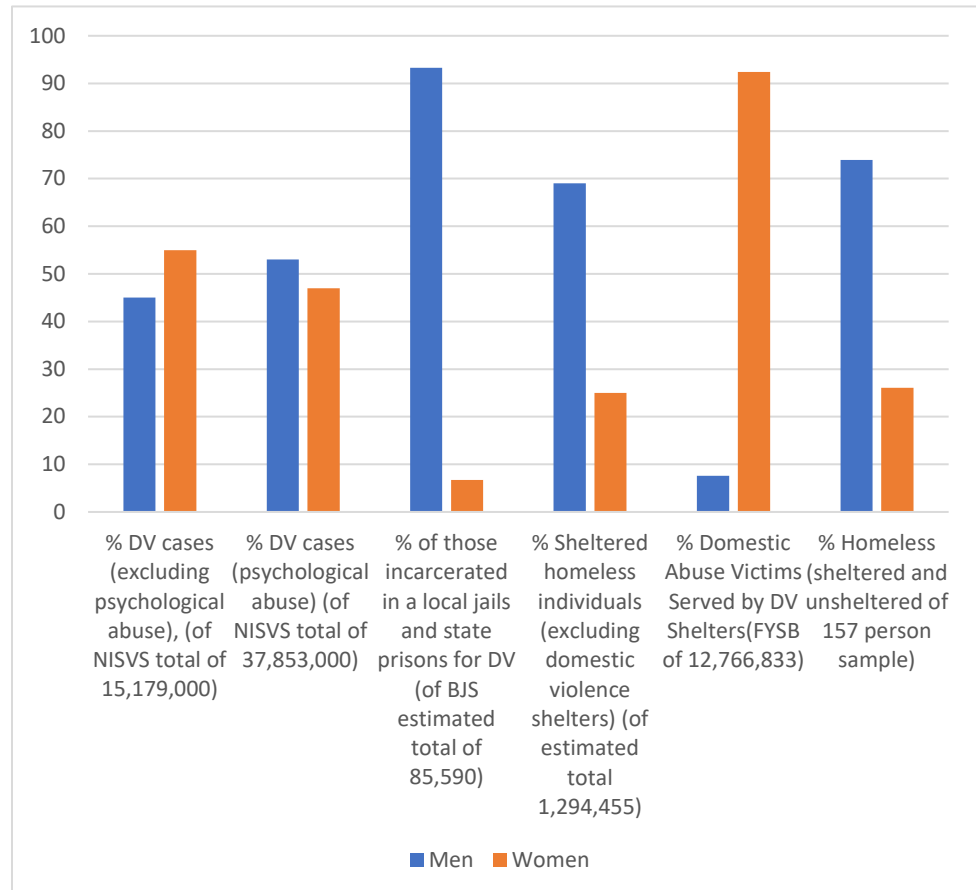
Because of the well-documented vulnerability of father-child relationships among never-married and divorced parents, the studies that identify overnights as a protective factor associated with increased father commitment to child rearing and reduced incidence of father drop-out, and the absence of studies that demonstrate any net risk of overnights, policymakers and decision makers should recognize that depriving young children of overnights with their fathers could compromise the quality of developing father-child relationships. Sufficient evidence does not exist to support postponing the introduction of regular and frequent involvement, including overnights, of both parents with their babies and toddlers.

⁷ Malin Bergström. “Fifty Moves a Year: Is there an association between joint physical custody and psychosomatic problems in children?” *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*. ResearchGate.com. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/275574117_Fifty_moves_a_year_Is_there_an_association_between_joint_physical_custody_and_psychosomatic_problems_in_children.” Apr 2015. Web. (Accessed 24 Apr 2017).

Male Incarceration, Homelessness and Domestic Violence

^{8,9,10,11} Data on Fathers and their interaction with their children is sparse, but the general attitude towards men in policing and the courts is easily outlined by looking at incarceration statistics, which is 93% male.¹²

Furthermore, a general attitude that men are generally more violent exacerbates this problem. A 1998 Article in the journal Academic Emergency Medicine attempted to highlight the need for more research in male victims of abuse, though its language minimizes its own



articles importance. “Intuitively, however, we know that a subset of men affected by domestic

⁸ “Data Sheet: Domestic Violence Services Provided by State and Tribal Grantees.” Family Violence Prevention & Services Program. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fysb/fvpsa_state_tribal_20150731.pdf. Updated July 2015. Web. (Accessed 28 Sep 2017).

⁹ Office of Community Planning and Development. “The Third Annual Homeless Report to Congress.” U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/publications/pdf/3rdHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>. July 2016. p. 27 Web. (Accessed 28 Sep 2017).

¹⁰ Pamela N. Clarke, Carol A. Williams, et al. “Health and Life Problems of Homeless Men and Women in the Southeast.” Pp 101-110. Journal of Community Health Nursing. 24 Nov 2009. Web. (Accessed 29 Sep 2017).

¹¹ Matthew R. Durose, et al. Family Violence Statistics. The US Bureau of Justice. <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/fvs.pdf>. p. 57-65. June 2005. Web. (Accessed 24 Sept 2017)

¹² Elizabeth Carson. “Prisoners in 2014.” US Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/p14.pdf>. Sept. 2015. P. 16. (accessed 24 Sept. 2017).

violence may be true victims of female primary aggressors.”¹³ In a 2014 report to the justice department Legal Aid says under the heading “The Need” that “Nearly one in four American women have experienced domestic violence.”¹⁴ Nowhere in the document does it make mention of the men, who are make up as much as 48.6% of domestic violence victims.¹⁵ In 2010 The Guardian reported this to the UK. Today, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) 2017 national survey reports that where 37.3% of women have experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetime, 30.9% of men will, as well.¹⁶ 30% of those who experience sexual or physical violence and stalking by an intimate partner were men, and 55% of intimate partner psychological abuse victims were men.¹⁷ 47% of all men had endured psychological abuse in their lifetime.¹⁸ The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) says “Psychological maltreatment is just as harmful as other types of maltreatment.” A 2012 study states that “When psychological maltreatment occurs alone, it can be even harder to identify, and opportunities for intervention may be missed. This form of child maltreatment is possibly the most underreported to authorities.”¹⁹ This implies that the women who are getting away with these abuses, while taking primary custody of their children, are not receiving appropriate interventions. They are continuing to practice abusive behavior, thus creating a wider population of abusive men by continuing to abuse future boyfriends, as well

¹³ Taliaferro Salber. “Men and Domestic Violence.” *Academic Emergency Medicine*. Vol. 5 No. 9. September 1998. P. 849. Web. (Accessed 24 Apr 2017).

¹⁴ Legal Aid. “Civil legal aid supports federal efforts to help prevent domestic violence.” *US Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics*. <https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/atj/legacy/2014/04/16/domestic-violence-case-study.pdf>. Apr 2014. Web. (Accessed 24 Apr 2017).

¹⁵ Denis Campbell. “More than 40% of domestic violence victims are male, report reveals.” *The Guardian*. <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2010/sep/05/men-victims-domestic-violence>. 4 Sept 2010. Web. (Accessed 24 Apr 2017).

¹⁶ Sharon G. Smith, Jieru Chen, *et al.* “The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS):2010-2012 State Report.” *The Center for Disease Control*. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/NISVS-StateReportBook.pdf>. 2017. p 2. Web. (Accessed 29 Sept 2017)

¹⁷ *Ibid.* pp. 120, 124.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* p 122.

¹⁹ Roberta Hibbard, Jane Barlow, Harriet McMillan. “Psychological Maltreatment.” *Pediatrics*. American Academy of Pediatrics. Aug 2012. Vol 130, no 2. <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/130/2/372>. Web. (Accessed 2 Oct 2017).

as their children. Furthermore, they may have removed a fit and willing parent.

Type of correctional institution	Total incarcerated for a violent crime	Total number of inmates incarcerated for a crime in which the victim was the offender's —							
		Family member				Nonfamily member			
		Total	Spouse	Son or daughter	Other family	Total	Boyfriend or girlfriend	Friend or acquaintance	Stranger
Total	706,800	109,300	33,100	39,500	36,800	597,500	51,400	221,600	324,600
Prison	600,100	86,000	22,300	34,600	29,100	514,100	30,100	193,900	290,200
State	576,500	84,200	21,900	34,000	28,200	492,400	29,400	190,300	272,700
Federal	23,600	1,800	400	600	900	21,700	700	3,600	17,500
Local jails	106,700	23,300	10,800	4,900	7,700	83,400	21,300	27,700	34,400

Note: Local jail estimates are based on convicted inmates only.

Source: Estimates based on BJS, *Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2003*, NCJ 203947, May 2004.

The police, however, are finding different statistics. In 2015, they found that men were victims in 23% of DV cases, 11% simple and 12% aggravated assaults.²⁰ The judiciary finds this to be even worse. In 2005, the US Bureau of Justice Statistics found that 90.4% of all inmates arrested for family violence in local jails were male,²¹ and that 93.4% of all those in state prison for the same crimes, as well.²² This makes up 28% of all violent offenders. This is particularly alarming because if men are going to jail for reciprocal violence, and women are not, CDC measurements are not valid, as they do not list the query of men “going to jail” as an IPV related impact.²³

This leads to publications such as the CDC’s layman’s “fact sheet,” which handles the data from the 2017 report by Smith, which says “More than 1 in 4 women and more than 1 in 10 men have experienced contact sexual violence, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner and reported significant short- or long-term impacts, such as post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms and injury.”²⁴

²⁰ Brian A. Reeves. Police Response to Domestic Violence, 2006-2015. US Bureau of Justice. <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/prdv0615.pdf>. May 2017 P. 4. (Accessed 24 Sept, 2017).

²¹ Matthew R. Durose, et al. Family Violence Statistics. The US Bureau of Justice. <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/fvs.pdf>. p. 65. June 2005. Web. (Accessed 24 Sept 2017)

²² Ibid. p 57.

²³ Smith. “NIPS Survey.” p 125.

²⁴ NIVCS. “National Data on Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Violence and Stalking.” CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/NISVS-Fact-Sheet-2014.pdf>. p 1.

The problem of misinformation grows worse in academia. An earlier version of this same fact sheet leads to the information in one doctoral dissertation. As the first sentence on the first page, states, citing the 2014 version of the same fact sheet:

“Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a common occurrence in the United States, with nearly one in three women and one in ten men reporting victimization by a partner in their lifetimes.”²⁵

The same author continues with this falsehood in the second sentence to say:

“This form of violence cuts across demographics, such as race, age, sexual orientation, and gender identity, impacting not only victims (e.g., Wittenberg, Joshi, Thomas, & McCloskey, 2007), but also communities at large (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2014).”²⁶

This contains at least one source I cite in this above paragraph, and we are getting very different observations on the same data collection method and authority, only two years separated.^{27,28}

In an article in *Social Work* one author states:

“...with findings from different epidemiological studies indicating that 10 percent to 69 percent of women (Krug, Dahlberg, Mercy, Zwi, & Lozano, 2002) and 7.6 percent of men (Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000) report experiencing some form of domestic abuse in their lifetime.”

²⁵ Lisa N. Magruder. “Working the Front Lines of Intimate Partner Violence: Responders Perceptions of Interrole Collaboration. University of Denver. Proquest Dissertations Publishing. 2017. p. 1.

²⁶ Lisa N. Magruder. “Working the Front Lines of Intimate Partner Violence: Responders Perceptions of Interrole Collaboration. University of Denver. Proquest Dissertations Publishing. 2017. p. 1.

²⁷ Sharon G. Smith, Jieru Chen, *et al.* “The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey.”

²⁸ NIVCS. “National Data on Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Violence and Stalking.”

In the APA Psycnet, this group operates on dubious information as well:

“Parenting interventions are usually attended by mothers (McAllister et al., 2012), as their design and delivery often inhibit the engagement of fathers (Panter-Brick et al., 2014). As a result, it is usually mothers, who are held responsible for child safety (Strega et al., 2008), despite more often being subject to severe and chronic abuse within violent relationships (Richardson-Foster et al., 2012). Meanwhile, abusive fathers’ behavior goes unchallenged and the risks they pose are often not assessed (Scourfield, 2003).”²⁹

Thus, academics are not finding the truth, even when it is staring them in the face. And this is dangerous, as we continue to insist that men must put up with abuse, and not women, as McConnell and his party with their “Caring Dads” program:

“Fathers are encouraged to identify behaviors that make a good father, to become more involved, to put their children’s needs first and become a respectful and non-abusive co-parent.”³⁰

This only leads to further mistreatment of the abusive personalities and their victims—the idea that men must put up with abuse simply is not going to work. Abused people become abusive. And if they go without treatment—both men in jail and women in shelters—they will continue their behavior, and we must expect their victims will often be new intimate partners.

²⁹ Nicola McConnell, Matt Barnard, Julie Taylor “Caring Dads Safer Children: Families Perspectives on an Intervention for Maltreating Fathers.” Psycnet. American Psychological Association. 2017.

³⁰ Nicola McConnell. “Caring Dads.”

In Virginia, 46,572 inmates were recognized in Private, Local, State and Federal prisons.³¹ 3200

Performance Measures	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Current Support Collections (%)	62.44	62.98	63.64	64.21	65.16
Arrearage Collections (%)	62.17	62.21	62.36	62.69	63.84

Performance Measures	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Statewide Paternity Establishment (%)	96.48	96.82	96.02	95.78	95.41
IV-D Paternity Establishment (%)	98.96	100.11	99.63	99.64	100.21
Support Order Establishment (%)	80.92	81.92	83.07	84.69	85.73
Cost-Effectiveness (\$)	5.12	5.19	5.31	5.25	5.26

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number of Children in Child Support Cases	17,340,482	17,156,552	16,899,994	16,337,739	15,898,934

Figure 1 Office of Child Support Enforcement "Annual Report to Congress FY 2015." https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/programs/css/fy2015_part_01.pdf. Web. (Accessed 3 Oct 2017).

of which were for failure to pay child support.³² It is difficult to say what the national rate is, but this means that 6.8% of the incarcerated population of Virginia was incarcerated for child support.

Fortunately, while the Federal Office of Child

Support is showing a steady increase on the amount of money they are taking, as well as the percentage of orders established, the actual number of children being served is going down, which implies that social efforts from activist groups, mediators, and advocates are making headway in changing the currents of the conflict-centered paradigm. Nationally, caseloads have steadily shrunk by 1.2 million cases in the last five years, closing in 2016 at 14,499,155 cases.

The Gender and Justice Commission, an anti-male judiciary commission, accurately describes child support enforcement in their handbook "Domestic Violence Manual for Judges:" In Item III.a.1.a.3.b, "Psychological attacks":

Intimidation through: referencing acts of past violence, threats of violence against victims, children, others, or self (suicide), surveillance, stalking, hostage-taking,

³¹ Elizabeth Carson. "Prisoners in 2014." pp 6-14

³² Craig Burslem "Meeting Minutes." Virginia Child Support Guidelines Review Panel." p. 2. <http://dls.virginia.gov/GROUPS/childsupport/meetings/090915/sm090915.pdf>. 9 Sep 29. Web. (Accessed 9/29/2017).

screaming, controlling victim's sleep, nutrition, or medications, and abuse of victims through legal proceedings, immigration status, etc

And 4.a., economic attacks:

Control of funds: not contributing financially to family, withholding funds, impoverishing victims through legal system, etc

And 4.b.:

Control of victim's access to resources: money, health care, transportation, communication, child care, employment, housing, immigration status, legal representation, etc.

And 5.c., use of children to control victim:

Using children as hostages, using visitation with children to monitor adult victim or to send messages to victim through children, interrogating children about victim's activities, being under- or overengaged with children in order to control the victim, etc.

5.d.:

Undermining parenting of adult victim, prolonged custody or visitation conflicts, seeking parenting plans that allow them to maintain control over the adult victim post separation or divorce, etc.³³

³³ Anne N. Ganley. "Chapter 2 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: THE WHAT, WHY, AND WHO, AS RELEVANT TO CRIMINAL AND CIVIL COURT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES" WA State Gender and Justice Commission "Domestic Violence Manual for judges." <http://www.courts.wa.gov/content/manuals/domViol/chapter2.pdf>. pp 5-7. Web. (Accessed 5 Oct 2017).

Education

Male attainment of a bachelor's degree or higher was overtaken by women in 1991, and now shows an alarming discrepancy. The problem begins at some point in elementary school. People between the age of 18 and 24 who have less than a 9th grade education is 63.2% male. 54.8% of those who fail in high school are men, and those who halt their education with a high school diploma are 56.2% male. They enroll in college at 47.1%, but many do not finish, 41.6% of those that do are men. Those who finish a bachelor's degree from 25 to 34 years old, bring the ratio to 45.3%.

To continue with the original demographic, those 18-24 years old, 42.2% of those who stopped at associates degrees are male, and 42% who hold a bachelor's degree. and it plunges from there. Of those who completed a master's degree in normal time are 33% and those who earn a professional degree are 23.4% male. The elite, who finish a Ph. d before the age of 25, are 20.8% male.

In the 25-34 year-old demographic, who would have entered college around the turn of the century, or 9 years after the feminine trend overtook the masculine, 55.4% of those who remain high school dropouts are men. Those who hold only a high school diploma are 56.2% men, 41.6% of those holding a master's degree are men. The other categories normalize. Bachelors, 46.22%, Associates, 45.4%, Professional, 50% and Doctorates, 47.8%.

Those who should be entering college between 1990 and 1999, 52.5% of high school dropouts, 55% of those with no college 45.9 % of those who have attained an associate's only. Men dominate the Ph.d, at 54.7%, possibly explaining a 40.2% rate of holding a master's degree, and women settling for a professional degree, which was 45.2% male

In 2015, 43.5% of college fall-enrollment students were male, 41.6% of graduate students were male, and 43.9% of undergraduate students.

Among older students, those over 25 years old in an undergraduate program, 40.5% are male.

Where parenthood looks to be a major factor for impoverished individuals to better their financial situation, it would seem that many mothers have access to education, where fathers do not. And 40% of all Pell grants were awarded to men in 2007-2008, so we know this problem is hitting lower income men, first,

Among the roughly 7,000 children (under 17) who earned a Ph. D, 87.2% were boys. Of the roughly 20,000 incredibly gifted individuals to earn a Ph. D. before 25, only 20.8% were boys.

Women

Domestic Violence

Some groups, such as the Women's Coalition, are fighting against shared parenting laws. The women's coalition maintains that shared parenting laws unfairly expose women and children to violent and abusive men,³⁴ and that women are naturally more nurturing, and thus, better caregivers than men. This is supported by academia. Across the entire socioeconomic spectrum in which they have a presence, single mother households are more likely to have children with insurance, doctor visits in the last year, and limiting conditions.³⁵ In one study, researchers find that:

“What predicted emotional and behavioural well-being in school-aged children with nonresident fathers was the high level of mother involvement and the low level of interparental conflict. Taken together, these findings suggest that efforts should perhaps concentrate on reducing levels of conflict between the resident and the non-

³⁴ Barhe. “Digging Beneath the Equality Language.”

³⁵ Jeanne Leininger, Kathleen M. Ziol-Guest. “Reexamining the Effects of Family Structure on Children's Access to Care: The Single-father Family.” Health Services Research. Wiley Online Library. 17 July 2007.

resident parent, rather than on encouraging nonresident fathers' contact, and on helping mothers to remain and be involved with their children.”³⁶

Though the same study also says:

“Special caution should be exercised in generalising from these findings. To start with, as this study is cross-sectional it is not possible to establish causality.”³⁷

And:

“For instance, although 14% of non-resident parents reported that they never see their children, 28% of resident parents said that the non-resident parent never sees the child. Of non-resident parents, 77% said they saw their children either every day, or at least once a week, or at least once a month. Responses from resident parents indicated that only 60% saw their children either every day, or at least once a week, or at least once a month.”³⁸

Capitalism and Family Court Corruption

There are still intersections between the gendered parenting demographics, however. Most of the women in the Women’s Coalition have either lost their children to the CPS, or to the fathers who engage the pecuniary forces at work in the courts. Both problems are viewed as a function of capitalism by both groups. It is assumed among all the groups, masculine, feminine, and mixed gender, that the primary opposition to shared parenting is capitalist institutions and individuals, and this is supported by the data. Fathers who have more money are more likely to take primary custody of their children. 31.2%

³⁶ Eirini Flouri, “Fathering and Child Outcomes.” Wiley Online Library. p. 177. 9 May 2008. Web. (Accessed 2 Oct 2017).

³⁷ *Ibid.* p. 170.

³⁸ *Ibid.* p. 159.

of custodial mothers lived below poverty in 2013, whereas only 17.4% of custodial fathers.³⁹ Custodial fathers also made an average of over \$15,000 than custodial mothers (Fig. 1)

	United States	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Median family income in the past 12 months (in 2016 inflation-adjusted dollars) --		
Total:	71,062	+/-119
Married-couple family --		
Total	85,290	+/-122
With own children of the householder under 18 years	92,060	+/-190
No own children of the householder under 18 years	81,088	+/-146
Other family --		
Total	39,060	+/-214
Male householder, no wife present --		
Total	49,599	+/-393
With own children of the householder under 18 years	41,628	+/-254
No own children of the householder under 18 years	56,308	+/-470
Female householder, no husband present --		
Total	35,380	+/-157
With own children of the householder under 18 years	26,788	+/-180
No own children of the householder under 18 years	46,870	+/-254

Figure 2: US Census MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS⁴⁰

For a contested case, it is not uncommon for a parent to spend \$25,000 on a case. Kelly Jones, Alex Jones' ex-wife in Texas, recently reported she had spent \$450,000 to date, had won, and the judge still has not ordered her children be returned, even 5 months after a jury ruled in her favor. Many women simply cannot afford to hire a defense like this.

³⁹ Grall. "Custodial Mothers and Fathers and their Child Support."

⁴⁰ American Fact Finder. "Median Family Income in the Last 12 Months."

https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_16_1YR_B19126&prodTy=table. US Census. 2016 Web. Accessed 28 Sep 2017.

Furthermore, with over 7 million domestic filings a year, one can start to see how lucrative this business can be,⁴¹ and whenever we see that amount of money changing hands, it is important to stay alert.

Parental Alienation Syndrome

Effeminate groups largely work through the lens of Parental Alienation Syndrome (PAS), with which, in tandem with fathers' rights movements, they seek to include in the upcoming DSM-V. The chief opponents of these groups are also women's groups, like the Journal of Women and Law, and the National Organization for Women. PAS was originally proposed as a psychological disorder by Dr. Richard Gardner, in 1980, who included language that indicated that PAS was afflicted onto men and their children by women.^{42,43} Nearly forty years later, feminine groups have sprung up, including the Women's Coalition and PAS Intervention, claiming that lawyers are fostering bitter atmospheres within their families, and inciting PAS-related attitudes in their client's families, in order to draw out more contest in divorce cases, thusly making more money. With regards to a petition that garnered over 7500 signatures to change the APA's position on PAS, which cites a lack of evidence for lack of acknowledgement,⁴⁴ Dr. Craig Childress said:

"The issue surrounding this petition is a form of attachment-related family pathology traditionally called "parental alienation" in the common culture. It is a horrific form of family pathology surrounding divorce in which one parent (a narcissistic/(borderline) personality parent) weaponizes the child as an instrument of revenge against the other

⁴¹ Lisa M. Burton. "The Hidden Cost of Conflict: An interdisciplinary examination between family law, therapeutic jurisprudence, justice and work productivity for employed adults." U of Miami, ProQuest Dissertations Publishing. 2014. p 1.

⁴² Craig Childress "RE: Dr. Craig Childress Contact Us Form." Email to author. 11 Mar 2017

⁴³ Barhe. "Digging Beneath the Equality Language."

⁴⁴ American Psychological Association. "Statement on Parental Alienation."

<http://www.apa.org/news/press/releases/2008/01/pas-syndrome.aspx>. 1 Jan 2008. Web. (Accessed 28 Sep 2017).

*spouse for the divorce, manipulating and leading the child to completely reject the other parent following the divorce.*⁴⁵

Dr. Childress is a known advocate for parent's rights, and a licensed clinical psychologist. He also speaks specifically about the petition:

*"The petition is the effort of an intrepid band of targeted-rejected parents. We are asking the American Psychological Association to step up and 1) acknowledge that the pathology exists, and 2) designate these children and families as a "special population" who require specialized professional knowledge and expertise to competently assess, diagnose, and treat ... This group of parents acted through my leadership, but not under my direction. They created the petition entirely on their own."*⁴⁶

And follows with a history of PAS, and the players:

"In the mid-1980s a psychiatrist, Richard Gardner, proposed a new form of pathology surrounding divorce in which a child is manipulated by one parent (the "alienating" parent) into rejecting a relationship with the other parent (the "targeted parent"). He called this supposedly new form of pathology "Parental Alienation Syndrome."

Unfortunately, he proposed a gender-related component to the pathology in which mother's tended to alienate the children against fathers, and these alienating mothers would often make false allegations of abuse to undermine the father's capacity to obtain shared custody of the children.

⁴⁵ Childress. E-mail..

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

In actual truth, this pathology is created by the narcissistic and/or borderline personality disorder features of the allied parent (in a cross-generational coalition with the child against the other parent) and both genders are equally represented as both "alienating" parents and "targeted" parents.

Typically, the gender-related differences are that "alienating" fathers tend to display more prominently with narcissistic personality features, and the pathology has a more domestic violence feel in with the narcissistic father uses the children as weapons of revenge against the ex-wife for having the audacity to divorce him (a narcissistic injury).

"Alienating" mothers, on the other hand, tend to display with more borderline personality features and this pattern of "alienation" tends to incorporate more allegations of "abuse" which is characteristic of the borderline personality style.

So, in truth, both genders are equally represented in the pathology of "parental alienation," it's just that the superficial manifestations differ somewhat between the genders (based on whether the narcissistic or borderline personality pathology predominates in the alienating parent).

But because Gardner initially proposed that women are responsible for "alienation" by using false allegations of abuse, his proposal created a fire storm of protest from women's rights groups. Currently, using the old Gardnerian model of "parental alienation," the National Organization of Women (NOW) and Domestic Violence protection advocacy groups both actively oppose the construct of "parental alienation" - claiming that it discounts authentic allegations of child abuse and domestic violence against fathers.

*This is extremely unfortunate, since the narcissistic alienating father variety of "parental alienation" actually represents a "domestic violence by proxy" dynamic in which the abuse of the woman is continued after the divorce by weaponizing the children as instruments of revenge."*⁴⁷

The APA has, however, begun to consider PAS in a serious manner. Amy Novotny reports on the recent conference between the APA and the American Bar Association (ABA) in the APA publication *The Monitor*:

*"Yet while "parental alienation may not be a syndrome, it is certainly going on," noted Olesen's co-presenter, Chicago family lawyer Joy M. Feinberg, JD, who discussed such parental behaviors as repeatedly canceling visits, belittling the other parent in front of the child and refusing to give the child letters or phone messages from the other parent. These actions, Olesen said, indicate attempts to control not just a child's behavior, but his or her thoughts and feelings as well. This may lead a child to use wooden, brittle and repetitive phrases and descriptions of hatred toward the other parent and to express little guilt about their feelings, she said."*⁴⁸

Child Protective Services

The CPS takes children from homes and puts them into adoptive services. Many times, these adoptive homes are abusive, or otherwise unable to handle the children that they are supposed to serve. They are often entered into a black market, and trafficked as humans.⁴⁹ Many women are

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*

⁴⁸ Amy Novotny "Custody Collaborations." American Psychological Association. *The Monitor*. July 2008. Vol 39, No. 7. P. 48. <http://www.apa.org/monitor/2008/07-08/child-custody.aspx>. Web. (Accessed 2 Oct 2017).

⁴⁹ Jonathan James Noble. "Adoptions Gone Awry: Enhancing Adoption Outcomes Through Post Adoption Services and Federal and State Laws Imposing Criminal Sanctions for Private Internet Rehoming." *Family Court Review*. Vol 53 No 3. July 2015. pp 474-478, 481-483.

alleging that the CPS and judges often take children into government custody and put them in harm's way with capitalist intentions. Title IV-D funds these departments based on need, so the money is there. But they are calling for the exposure of a much more sinister intent.

We know that this can happen. We know that once in the adoption system, that children can, and do, get sold to different people across the United States.⁵⁰ We know that courts can be corrupt in such sinister ways,⁵¹ and many women are claiming to have found evidence of their own judges and CPS managers behaving in similar ways. Susanne Elizabeth Green explains the loophole through which nefarious actors may take advantage of current models and ruminates on the adoption process:

*It is the very denial of the psychological, social, legal and biological differences of adoptive kinship that potentially imperil these children physically. Further. Hollinger's fifth criterion of confidentiality and anonymity, easily misconstrued or even manipulated as secrecy, may also put adoptive children at risk.*⁵²

We know very little about patterns of abuse in adoptive families,⁵³ and systems are in place to keep that knowledge hidden, as a matter of course.

*"An historical review of American legal cases that affect adoptees on a daily basis unveils a legal system that ignores difference and is dependent on secrecy and unequal status for adoptees; recognition of differences seems to occur only when the adoptive parents seek to abrogate the adoption in a return-policy doctrine."*⁵⁴

⁵⁰ Ibid.

⁵¹ Democracy Now "Kids For Cash: Inside One of the Nations Most Shocking Juvenile Scandals." 4 February 2014. https://www.democracynow.org/2014/2/4/kids_for_cash_inside_one_of. Web. (Accessed 3 Oct 2017).

⁵² Susanne Elizabeth Green, "Adoptive kinship and child abuse: A theoretical and legal exploration of the denial of difference and violence in adoptive families." The University of Texas at El Paso, ProQuest Dissertations Publishing, 2000. page 45.

⁵³ Ibid. p 7.

⁵⁴ Ibid. p 39.

Reasons other than abuse abound for the removal of children from biological homes, as well. Throughout history, we find many instances of child removal for what, to the removers, seemed to be good for the child. In early America, people started stealing Native American children from their families to raise them in Christian schools. This is a particularly nefarious practice, and one that could well be in place today, as formally educated, high-income urban CPS agents appraise the living standards of the low-income rural and ghetto families that they work with. The century before, thousands of children were removed from primary caregivers and re-homed in colonial America, supposedly to be raised in families and communities in need of extra hands. Instead they were raped, tortured and worked to death. Green discusses the 1874 story of Mary Ellen Wilson, stating:

Lazoritz, a coauthor of a recent book on Mary Ellen Wilson, commented that she “was most likely taken by the Conallys [the adoptive family as a domestic servant or commodity” (1998). showing once again the more than 100-year commodification ethic in adoption history.⁵⁵

The CPS is seen by many people in this group as a sort of underground Secret Service. They are scared, they are angry, and they are starting to fight back. There is no way for the public—even academia—to monitor the health of the agency without data. Green:

Ultimately any hope for an improvement in the adoption system begins with reliable data. Clearly the lack of statistical data on adoption calls out for data collection that first employs a method that allows the adoptee to speak for her/himself in order to better design categories for statistical collection.⁵⁶

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* p 49

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* p 61.

Grandparents

Grandparents had a great success with their primary fear in Indiana with HB 1245 recently, which requires that adopting families notify grandparents prior to placing a child in the adoption system. They also worry about resentful divorces meaning a reduction in time with grandparents.

Indiana also has Senate Bill 27 in place, which offers visitation rights to grandparents in certain situations.⁵⁷ Senate Bill 28 would enhance 27, which only comes into effect in the case of a death or divorce.⁵⁸

They say that intergenerational knowledge is important to maintain. That a grandparent has things to say to small children that parents do not think to mention, including wisdom, family histories, simple presence, and many other things that many parents are simply too busy, or too wrapped up in life to supply.

Legislators and Judiciary

The United States Office of Violence against Women provided the Gender and Justice commission with their “Grant to Encourage Arrest.”⁵⁹

The Washington Supreme Court Gender and Justice Commission, formed in 1989, is charged with [RCW 26.50.800](#) to investigate recidivism. The eighteen women and five men.⁶⁰ Their 2015-2016 report mentions male incarceration only once, in 32 pages, which, as we have seen above, is 93% of the incarcerated population. The rest of the document relates the celebration of women in law, woman-oriented domestic violence programs, a program to get incarcerated women access to legal aid, and educating judges on courtroom experience for domestic violence victims.

This group produces the judiciary bench handbook for judges, and employs clearly bigoted language in relation to what gender the victims of DV are:

⁵⁷ Indiana State Senate. “Senate Bill 27.” <https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2017/bills/senate/27#digest-heading>.

⁵⁸ Indiana State Senate. “Senate Bill 28.” <http://www.hslsda.org/cms/?q=bill/senate-bill-28-grandparent-visitation-bill>

⁵⁹ The Washington State Supreme Court Gender and Justice Commission. “2015-2016 Report.” p 25. <http://www.courts.wa.gov/committee/pdf/2015-2016AnnualReport.pdf> Web. (Accessed 5 Oct 2017).

⁶⁰ *Ibid.* p 4.

Common stalking tactics include: physical surveillance (following, spying on, watching, or approaching the victim); making unwanted phone calls or other unwanted contact (letters, e-mails, text messages); sending gifts or photos; property invasion or damage; and making threats to harm the victim, her children or family, a new partner, or even themselves ⁶¹

The handbook also promotes bias in DV cases:

Research of heterosexual couples indicates that typically, women's motivation for using physical force is self-defense, while men use physical force for power and control. ⁶²

They cite the book by Sanders and Browne "Case studies in domestic homicide," which deals with fatal results of DV, which are both statistically and fundamentally different from non-fatal DV.

Studies of abused women who kill indicate that they often feel hopelessly trapped in a desperate situation from which they see no avenue of safe escape ... In contrast to the predominance of a self-defense motive for women, empirical and clinical studies indicate that men's motives appear to revolve more around jealousy or the imminent or actual termination of a relationship. ⁶³

The handbook fails to note that the book does not just focus on IPV-murder, in general, but is focused on men. While they do cite cases with female murderers, under the next heading, titled "Types of abusers," the scholars only describe male perpetrators. Under "Types of Abusers," the authors

⁶¹ WSGJC. "DV Manual for Judges." Washington State Administrative Office for the Courts. <http://www.courts.wa.gov/content/manuals/domViol/chapter2.pdf>. Ch 2 p 11.

⁶² Ibid. Ch 2, p 14.

⁶³ D. Saunders and A. Browne, "Domestic Homicide," Case Studies in Family Violence, ed. R. Ammerman and H. Michel (1991) p. 420

describe how fundamentally different IPV-related murderers are from IPV perpetrators, with the violent perpetrator grew up with violence, and the murderer grew up with violence and neglect.

However, severe violence by a man against his partner may not be the best predictor of partner homicide. This antisocial type may be the most intimidating and controlling, but his "distancing" attachment style may help him let go of intimate relationships more easily than other types of personalities. The borderline/ dysphoric type, on the other hand, is an individual who experienced emotional rejection in childhood and developed an "anxious" attachment style and the greatest fear of abandonment.⁶⁴

They are also committed to the victim/perpetrator paradigm, and along with the DSHS, do not seem to be very interested in domestic violence intervention programs. As required by the Washington State Institute of Public Policy (WSIPP), in a collaborative research with the Northwest Association of Domestic Violence Professionals (NWADVP), GJC issued the following, and separate, statement:

Dr. George's work reflects the legislative mandate that WSIPP "must collaborate" with the Commission. Because of the complexity of domestic violence, the solution is also complex and multifaceted. The HB 2363 report to the legislature must include this reality. More work is needed in this area to determine what role the courts can play in changing abusive behavior so that those victimized by it can feel safe.⁶⁵

The NWADVP seems skeptical about their motivations as well:

The DSHS Advisory Committee that is outlined in WAC 388-60 has not met in close to 15 years. The explanation that has been given has been that DSHS does not have the

⁶⁴ Ibid. 422.

⁶⁵ http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/ReportFile/1119/Wsipp_What-Works-to-Reduce-Recidivism-by-Domestic-Violence-Offenders_Full-Report.pdf, p. 14.

*money to pay travel expenses to members of that committee. Most people would volunteer their time, and travel expenses to provide quality input to DSHS regarding Domestic Violence Treatment.*⁶⁶

The study itself only included the treatment of men as perpetrators:

*Most of the studies (30 of 34) evaluated male only group treatment. The remaining four studies concerned couples group treatment for couples where men were the abusers. We found no outcome evaluations of interventions for female batterers.*⁶⁷

The NWADVP also reports on the conversation generated by this study, an ominous concept all of itself, and possibly a fatal blow for the fight against domestic violence, male incarceration and vulnerable families:

*There has been talk in some circles of turning over clinical work with perpetrators to the Department of Corrections Probation Officers, and local probation departments, or sending domestic violence perpetrators to short term anger management type programs. Another option being talked about is jail time for DV offenses with no other intervention.*⁶⁸

Both groups have almost completely ignored the potential idea that women may be seen as actors in perpetuating DV.

Recommendations

-Rebuttable presumption of shared parenting

⁶⁶ *Ibid.* p. 15-19 with quote from p.18.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.* p. 3.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.* p 15.

-Mandatory attempt at mediation prior to either the hiring of a lawyer or filing of domestic suit

-If not item 'b,' then mandatory minimums should be set on lawyers' counsel in the area of mediation, using approved teaching materials and brochures, or trained specialists.

-Redirect funding from prisons and jails towards mediation and domestic violence services, thus reducing the rate of male incarceration, and addressing the very real, and growing, problems surrounding DV. The current conversation has some powerful groups suggesting that current DV intervention programs be given over to the prison system, while DV intervention groups are struggling to convince legislators to stop requiring Duluth model intervention practices, and to expand their available techniques to other forms of intervention.⁶⁹

-Redirect VAWA, social service and block grant funding to create domestic violence awareness programs that reflect reality.

-For crying out loud, change the name of VAWA. That is just plain, clear-as-day, uninhibited bigotry.

New studies on all aspects of non-custodial parenthood. With family court reform advocates becoming more organized, it is easier than ever to find access to large sample groups that previously would not be willing to respond to questionnaires.

-Creation of male-safe spaces where recently divorced men can go to vent without seeming threatening to women. These are currently entirely on-line, anonymous and accessible to anyone, so people are able to freely judge people in this very important part of the healing process, deepening the rift between the masculine and feminine spheres.

⁶⁹ WSIPP "What works for DV intervention." http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/ReportFile/1119/Wsipp_What-Works-to-Reduce-Recidivism-by-Domestic-Violence-Offenders_Full-Report.pdf. Page 15, Paragraph 2.

Marital conflict precedes separation and divorce. Once a separation or divorce proceeding is initiated, uncertainty looms on the horizon. In light of the epidemiological evidence of the prevalence of mental illness combined with stressors of social-relational² and socio-economic changes, this population is particularly susceptible to mental health problems (Wang, & Amato, 2000; Adler., 2006).⁷⁰

Questions:

-What was the yearly average length of divorce and custody hearings over the last 40 years?

Notes and thoughts on specific legislation

Washington State Custody

RCW 26.10.100 *Determination of custody—Child's best interests.*

“The court shall determine custody in accordance with the best interests of the child.”

The judge is not prepared to decide what is in the best interest of the child. He is operating on out-dated studies, and is working within fundamentally false systems and paradigm. He does not have enough time to deliberate on cases. Recommendations: Presumption of shared parenting, provides the access to both parents that is widely recommended among academics and professionals.⁷¹ Stronger funding and legislation for NGO mediation services and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR's), which has been proven to result

⁷⁰ Lisa M. Burton. “The Hidden Cost of Conflict: An interdisciplinary examination between family law, therapeutic jurisprudence, justice and work productivity for employed adults.” U of Miami, ProQuest Dissertations Publishing. 2014. p 1.

⁷¹ Malin Bergström. “Fifty Moves a Year.”

in healthier families and reduce judiciary work-loads.⁷² This has been put into widespread use in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and lawyers are required to consider mediation in every case.⁷³ The program is successful to the point that the government has increased funding from \$55,715 in 1994 to over \$2,000,000 in 2015.⁷⁴

RCW 26.10.110 *Temporary custody order—Vacation of order.*

A party to a custody proceeding may move for a temporary custody order. The motion must be supported by an affidavit as provided in RCW [26.10.200](#). The court may award temporary custody after a hearing, or, if there is no objection, solely on the basis of the affidavits.

If a custody proceeding commenced under this chapter is dismissed, any temporary order is vacated.

The judge has even less time than usual to deliberate in this case. Proof of ineptitude or abusive behavior towards the child must be substantiated. Patterns of abuse between parents should be classified as reciprocal or victimization, and judges should rule accordingly. See comments on [RCW 26.50.150](#) domestic violence programs.

RCW 26.10.120 *Interview with child by court—Advice of professional personnel.*

“The court may interview the child in chambers to ascertain the child's wishes as to his or her custodian and as to visitation privileges. The court may permit counsel to be

⁷² Dispute Resolution Services, Supreme Court of Virginia “Virginia Court Connected ADR.” http://www.courts.state.va.us/courtadmin/aoc/djs/programs/drs/mediation/resources/overview_and_statistics.pdf, pp 8-9. Web. (Accessed 2 Oct 2017).

⁷³ *Ibid.* p 9.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.* p19

present at the interview. The court shall cause a record of the interview to be made and to be made part of the record in the case.

The court may seek the advice of professional personnel whether or not they are employed on a regular basis by the court. The advice given shall be in writing and shall be made available by the court to counsel upon request. Counsel may call for cross-examination any professional personnel consulted by the court.

If used, any professional witness, judge, or lawyer who interviews a child should be recorded while the child is in her or his custody, and any information released to his or her firm should be recorded as well. States that require this have caught professional witnesses attempting to convince children that they were abused, and to testify as such. Professional witnesses are hired based on their relationship with individual lawyers, outside of the purview of law. It is entirely possible that the witness that gets the results the lawyer wants, gets hired. A firewall should be built between professional witnesses and lawyers, where the court hires the professional, and identity being shared only at the close of the investigation. Furthermore, representatives of the APA have serious doubts about the efficacy of their work in court situations, citing judges' and lawyers' inability to process the information.⁷⁵

RCW 26.10.130 *Investigation and report.*

“(1) ... The investigation and report may be made by the guardian ad litem, the staff of the juvenile court, or other professional social service organization experienced in counseling children and families.

⁷⁵ Amy Novotny “Custody Collaborations.” American Psychological Association. The Monitor. July 2008. Vol 39, No. 7. P. 48. <http://www.apa.org/monitor/2008/07-08/child-custody.aspx>. Web. (Accessed 2 Oct 2017).

(2) In preparing the report concerning a child, the investigator may consult any person who may have information about the child and potential custodian arrangements. Upon order of the court, the investigator may refer the child to professional personnel for diagnosis. ...”

Again, this is beyond the purview of the law. Not only is it entirely too possible for the lawyers to hire for effect instead of truth, the ad-liters and the party counselors know each other. An anonymous firewall can be built between GAL, counselors, and professional witnesses.

This also creates a social effect, whereas a man who is visited by the police or CPS is regarded as “in trouble,” whereas a woman being visited by the same is “being protected.” Children, too, will wonder why the police and government officials are showing up at their house. Police and CPS should not be visiting homes for any reasons pertaining to a custody case, without clear evidence of victim status. Not even with a summons. Summons should be delivered by plain-clothed officials in unmarked, and otherwise unrecognizable car.

(3) ... The investigator shall make available to counsel and to any party not represented by counsel the investigator's file of underlying data and reports, complete texts of diagnostic reports made to the investigator pursuant to the provisions of subsection (2) of this section, and the names and addresses of all persons whom the investigator has consulted. ...”

Require Audio and/or video footage of any interviews.

RCWC 26.10.135 *Custody orders—Background information to be consulted.*

(1) Before granting any order regarding the custody of a child ...

(2) (b) Require the petitioner to provide the results of an examination of state and national criminal identification data provided by the Washington state patrol criminal identification system as described in chapter 43.43 RCW for the petitioner and adult members of the petitioner's household.

Being male has been criminalized. Being female has not. In accordance with this observation, we can say that this statute will result in a biased, uninformed decision.

1661-S2.SL

(4) The legislature finds that advancements in research and science have identified indicators of risk, how they impact healthy development, and the critical importance of stable, nurturing relationships, particularly in the early years. Services for families and children should be prioritized for those who are most at risk of neglect, physical harm, and other adverse factors.

This was written in 2017. The following decisions are inexcusable. This statement is entirely hollow, as the author has obviously not been caught up to speed, as is demonstrated in section 101 (3) (a). Those most at risk are those who do not have access to both parents.

(10) The legislature further finds that other states have successfully established integrated departments dedicated to serving children, youth, and families. These departments have improved the visibility of child and family issues, increased authority and accountability, enabled system improvements, and created a stronger focus on improving child outcomes.

There are states that have strict mediation pilot programs, such as the one in Virginia,⁷⁶ that look quite promising. Children raised in single parent households show a much higher rate of psychosomatic disorders and outcomes.

(2) ... ensure services for children, youth, and families are science-based, outcome-driven, data-informed, and collaborative.

Quite simply put, they are not. They are driven by a common paradigm that men are inherently evil, to the point that the truth is hidden, as this very document has established, and will shortly confirm in the next block quote, and RCW [10.99.030](#).

(3)(a) Beginning July 1, 2018, the department must establish short and long-term population level outcome measure goals, including metrics regarding reducing disparities by family income, race, and ethnicity in each outcome.

Recognize the problem is primarily one of gender and income. Race and Ethnicity are likely impacted to a higher degree in the African American and Latino communities, but gender is the root cause. Add gender, please.

(C) increasing the available supply of licensed child care in 7 both child care centers and family homes, including providers not receiving state subsidy;

First, engage fathers in parenting roles (may require a reduction in labor force, which I think we can consider is a good thing), and give them more time more time with their children. It is well founded that the more time a father spends with his children, the less likely he is to be completely inactive in their lives.⁷⁷

⁷⁶ Dispute Resolution Services, Supreme Court of Virginia “Virginia Court Connected ADR.” http://www.courts.state.va.us/courtadmin/aoc/djs/programs/drs/mediation/resources/overview_and_statistics.pdf. pp 8-9. Web. (Accessed 2 Oct 2017).

⁷⁷ Eirini Flouri, “Fathering and Child Outcomes.” pp 153-178.

(ii) Preventing child abuse and neglect;

First, recognize where the problem is.

(iii) Improving child and youth safety, permanency, and well-being as measured by: (A) Reducing the number of children entering out-of-home care; (B) reducing a child's length of stay in out-of-home care; (C) reducing maltreatment of youth while in out-of-home care; (D) licensing more foster homes than there are children in foster care; (E) reducing the number of children that reenter out-of-home care within twelve months; (F) increasing the stability of placements for children in out-of-home care; and (G) developing strategies to demonstrate to foster families that their service and involvement is highly valued by the department, as demonstrated by the development of strategies to consult with foster families regarding future placement of a foster child currently placed with a foster family; ...”

First, engage biological mothers and fathers to be parents. Perform regular and randomized audits on the CPS. Disincentivize family courts and CPS removals. Redefine authority, by requiring thorough reporting practices. Set firm boundaries on what constitutes good cause for removal. When clear cause for removal is found, place child with a biological relative when available, unless all are found unfit. Recognize that trauma faced in adulthood needs time to heal, and erratic behavior is an important part of the healing process, and not a good reason for permanent removal.

This can very easily result in expanding the problem of children in abusive and uncaring homes. There are no protections for these very vulnerable children, and the failures of the adoptive families are far too complete to be taking children from homes. There is a lot of talk

about the CPS and judiciaries being a part of the sex-trade rings that many of these children wind up in.⁷⁸

(iv) Improving reconciliation of children and youth with their families as measured by:

(A) Increasing family reunification; and (B) increasing the number of youth who are reunified with their family of origin;

How can this be done? The current horror stories I am hearing are of mothers who are vindicated and told that their child has spent too long in the wrong family to separate them. By the time a parent fights off the CPS—a rare event—the child is said to have ‘bonded’ with the agency. Even when such children have spent enough time, and in enough numbers, in the CPS to create their own culture of cynicism towards the CPS.

(4) Beginning July 1, 2018, the department must:

(a) Lead ongoing collaborative work to minimize or eliminate systemic barriers to effective, integrated services in collaboration with state agencies serving children, youth, and families;

They don’t need collaboration, they need to be investigated.

(b) Identify necessary improvements and updates to statutes relevant to their responsibilities and proposing legislative changes to the governor no less than biennially; (c) Help create a data-focused environment in which there are aligned outcomes and shared accountability for achieving those outcomes, with shared, real-

⁷⁸ Jonathan James Noble. “Adoptions Gone Awry: Enhancing Adoption Outcomes Through Post Adoption Services and Federal and State Laws Imposing Criminal Sanctions for Private Internet Rehoming.” *Family Court Review*. Vol 53 No 3. July 2015. pp 474-478, 481-483.

time data that is accessible to authorized persons interacting with the family, child, or youth to identify what is needed and which services would be effective;

Regulations on behalf of the CPS will only make things worse. It is not ‘they’ that will drive positive change, it is ‘we.’ Listen to your people. Hear their pain, or you will feel it. And as for data-focused, they are the ones hiding the data. You cannot ask them to create anything data-focused. But, hey, if you really want some data on this, *ibid.*⁷⁹ Take their money and put it towards real, flesh-and-blood researchers.

(e) Create and annually update a list of the rights and responsibilities of foster parents in partnership with foster parent representatives. The list of foster parent rights and responsibilities must be posted on the department's web site and provided to foster parents in writing at the time of licensure.

Educate the public, and the bio-parents, do not relegate this specifically to foster parents. In doing this you create an insular community, and insular communities are prone to ignorance, corruption, and eventual violent collapse. Also, make CPS a more transparent government organization. They are hiding behind the children’s privacy rights. They can give out more information than they are willing to. The ‘rights and responsibilities’ of both the foster parents and the CPS are far too broad.

Also, stop putting abused fathers in jail. Stop defaulting to primary care situations, so that men can have time to practice being parents, not shoved out of their children’s lives with child support,⁸⁰ and let them monitor their children for symptoms of abuse.⁸¹ Maybe then, when you drag a child from an abusive mother, at least it will still have dad.

⁷⁹ *Ibid.* pp 474-478, 481-483.

⁸⁰ Monica K. Miller. “Through the Eyes of a Father.”

⁸¹ Malin Bergström. “Fifty Moves a Year.”

RCW 26.10.160 *Visitation rights—Limitations.*

(1) A parent not granted custody of the child is entitled to reasonable visitation rights except as provided in subsection (2) of this section.

*(2)(a) Visitation with the child shall be limited if it is found that the parent seeking visitation has engaged in any of the following conduct: (i) Willful abandonment that continues for an extended period of time or substantial refusal to perform parenting functions; (ii) physical, sexual, or a pattern of emotional abuse of a child; (iii) a history of acts of domestic violence as defined in *RCW [26.50.010](#)(1) or an assault or sexual assault which causes grievous bodily harm or the fear of such harm; or (iv) the parent has been convicted as an adult of a sex offense under:*

We need to redefine “reasonable” as “shared parenting.” See comments on 26.10.135

(d) There is a rebuttable presumption that a parent who has been convicted as an adult of a sex offense listed in (d)(i) through (ix) of this subsection poses a present danger to a child. Unless the parent rebuts this presumption, the court shall restrain the parent from contact with a child that would otherwise be allowed under this chapter:

The judge should be required to notify the parent of his/her rights in this entire subsection in the absence of a lawyer. You should not be able to buy a court case, and it behooves the courts, as primary actors, to limit the pecuniary injustice it demands of our country.

26.10.170 *Powers and duties of custodian—Supervision by appropriate agency when necessary.*

Except as otherwise agreed by the parties in writing at the time of the custody decree, the custodian may determine the child's upbringing, including education, health care, and religious training, unless the court after hearing, finds, upon motion by the noncustodial parent, that in the absence of a specific limitation of the custodian's authority, the child's physical, mental, or emotional health would be endangered.

This is horrid. For a person that has known a couple for all of 2 hours, should never completely sever a parent's ability to parent his child. This encourages foul play on the part of the custodial parent, as any infraction to the custodial parents wishes as to "the child's upbringing" can represent an infraction in the court, and put forward as a reason to limit further contact.

If both parents or all contestants agree to the order, or if the court finds that in the absence of the order the child's physical, mental, or emotional health would be endangered, the court may order an appropriate agency which regularly deals with children to exercise continuing supervision over the case to assure that the custodial or visitation terms of the decree are carried out. Such order may be modified by the court at any time upon petition by either party.

Looks good on the surface, but I wonder how much money this third party is making.

Audit.

26.10.180 *Remedies when a child is taken, enticed, or concealed.*

(1) A relative may bring civil action against any other relative who, with intent to deny access to a child by another relative of the child who has a right to physical custody of or visitation with the child, takes, entices, or conceals the child from that relative. The plaintiff may be awarded, in addition to any damages awarded by the court, the reasonable expenses incurred by the plaintiff in locating the child, including, but not limited to, investigative services and reasonable attorneys' fees.

(2) "Relative" means an ancestor, descendant, or sibling including a relative of the same degree through marriage, domestic partnership, or adoption, or a spouse or domestic partner.

Include heavier penalties. This section refers to emotional abuse of both the afflicted parent and the child. Reroute DSHS funds to educate the public on this matter. Make sure that all citizens know this is written in the law.

26.10.190 *Petitions for modification and proceedings concerning relocation of child—
Assessment of attorneys' fees.*

(1) The court shall hear and review petitions for modifications of a parenting plan, custody order, visitation order, or other order governing the residence of a child, and conduct any proceedings concerning a relocation of the residence where the child resides a majority of the time, pursuant to chapter [26.09](#) RCW.

(2) If the court finds that a motion to modify a prior custody decree has been brought in bad faith, the court shall assess the attorney's fees and court costs of the custodian against the petitioner.

Am I reading this right? So, if the petition is valid does the custodian have to pay?

RCW 26.12.172 *Parenting seminars—Rules.*

Any court rules adopted for the implementation of parenting seminars shall include the following provisions:

(1) In no case shall opposing parties be required to attend seminars together;

But highly encouraged. Including by enacting legislation that puts requirements on legal professionals to encourage mediation services.

(2) Upon a showing of domestic violence or abuse which would not require mutual decision making pursuant to RCW [26.09.191](#), or that a parent's attendance at the seminar is not in the children's best interests, the court shall either:

(b) Provide an alternative, voluntary parenting seminar for battered spouses or battered domestic partners; and ...

(b) only, but of the modified version I have written about earlier. The rest should be deleted.

RCW 26.12.183 *Guardian ad litem or investigator—Fees.*

Except for guardians ad litem appointed by the court from the subregistry created under RCW [26.12.177](#)(2)(d), the court shall specify the hourly rate the guardian ad litem or investigator under this title may charge for his or her services, and shall specify the maximum amount the guardian ad litem or investigator under this title may charge without additional court review and approval. The court shall specify rates and fees in the order of appointment or at the earliest date the court is able to determine the

appropriate rates and fees and prior to the guardian ad litem billing for his or her services. This section shall apply except as provided by local court rule.

Pretty sure this is a blank check. Does it say anything at all?

RCW 26.12.205 *Priority for proceedings involving children.*

The family court shall give proceedings involving children priority over cases without children.

Priority should be defined not only as earlier service, but length of service, and state funded services, as well.

RCW 26.12.800 *Family court pilot program—Legislative recognition.*

The legislature recognizes the increasing incidence of concurrent involvement of family members in multiple areas of the justice system. Analysis shows significant case overlap in the case types of juvenile offender, juvenile dependency, at-risk youth, child in need of services, truancy, domestic violence, and domestic relations. Also recognized is the increased complexity of the problems facing family members and the increased complexity of the laws affecting families. It is believed that in such situations, an efficient and effective response is through the creation of a unified court system centered around the family that: Provides a dedicated, trained, and informed judiciary; incorporates case management practices based on a family's judicial system needs; enables multiple case type resolution by one judicial officer or judicial team; provides coordinated legal and social services; and considers and evaluates the needs of the family as a whole.

Great. Now let's pull their head out of the sand.

RCW 26.12.802 *Family court pilot program—Created.*

The administrative office of the courts shall conduct a unified family court pilot program.

(3) The administrative office of the courts shall develop criteria for the unified family court pilot program. The pilot program shall include:

(3) (a) All case types under Title 13 RCW, chapters 26.09, 26.10, 26.12, 26.18, 26.19, 26.20, 26.26, 26.50, 26.27, and 28A.225 RCW;

(3) (c) Case management practices that provide a flexible response to the diverse court-related needs of families involved in multiple areas of the justice system. Case management practices should result in a reduction in process redundancies and an efficient use of time and resources, and create a system enabling multiple case type resolution by one judicial officer or judicial team;

(3) (d) A court facilitator to provide assistance to parties with matters before the unified family court; and

(3) (e) An emphasis on providing nonadversarial methods of dispute resolution such as a settlement conference, evaluative mediation by attorney mediators, and facilitative mediation by nonattorney mediators.

(4) The administrative office of the courts shall publish and disseminate a state-approved listing of definitions of nonadversarial methods of dispute resolution so that court officials, practitioners, and users can choose the most appropriate process for the matter at hand.

We need to show them we are watching. Watch this develop, and make it obvious that you are. Write the actors, tell them you see them, both the good and bad. Suggest extra-strength mediation, including required counsel by all lawyers, in every case, and again by judges. Consider higher court fees for those who refused mediation without valid cause, or waived court fees for those who tried and were unable to come to a conclusion.

RCW 26.12.804 *Family court pilot program—Rules.*

The judges of the superior court judicial districts with unified family court pilot programs shall adopt local court rules directing the program. The local court rules shall comply with the criteria established by the administrative office of the courts and shall include:

(1) A requirement that all judicial officers hearing cases in unified family court:

(a) Complete an initial training program including the topic areas of childhood development, domestic violence, cultural awareness, child abuse and neglect, chemical dependency, and mental illness; and ...

Pretty sure these people are getting trained in bigotry.

(2) Case management that is based on the practice of one judge or judicial team handling all matters relating to a family;

(4) Programs that provide for record confidentiality to protect the confidentiality of court records in accordance with the law. However law enforcement agencies shall have access to the records to the extent permissible under the law.

Ok. (2). We need to be spending more time with these parents, not less. (4) This sounds like something Hitler would write.

RCW 26.50.220 *Parenting plan—Designation of parent for other state and federal purposes.*

Solely for the purposes of all other state and federal statutes which require a designation or determination of custody, a parenting plan shall designate the parent with whom the child is scheduled to reside a majority of the time as the custodian of the child. However, this designation shall not affect either parent's rights and responsibilities under the parenting plan. In the absence of such a designation, the parent with whom the child is scheduled to reside the majority of the time shall be deemed to be the custodian of the child for the purposes of such federal and state statutes.

This makes the statute [26.10.170](#) regarding “the upbringing of the child” that much more dangerous.

Washington State Domestic Violence

RCW 26.50.800 *Recidivism study.*

(1) The Washington state institute for public policy shall conduct a statewide study to assess recidivism by domestic violence offenders involved in the criminal justice system, examine effective community supervision practices of domestic violence offenders as it relates to Washington state institute for public policy findings on evidence-based community supervision, and assess domestic violence perpetrator treatment. The institute shall report recidivism rates of domestic violence offenders in Washington, and if data is available, the report must also include an estimate of the number of domestic violence offenders sentenced to certified

domestic violence perpetrator treatment in Washington state and completion rates for those entering treatment.

They do not need a study, they need to be screamed at, like one particular woman I know screams at me. I won't throw anything at them like she did me, though, don't worry. Er, well, actually, do worry. But not about me.

(2) The study must be done in collaboration with the Washington state gender and justice commission and experts on domestic violence and must include a review and update of the literature on domestic violence perpetrator treatment, and provide a description of studies used in meta-analysis of domestic violence perpetrator treatment. The institute shall report on other treatments and programs, including related findings on evidence-based community supervision, that are effective at reducing recidivism among the general offender population. The institute shall survey other states to study how misdemeanor and felony domestic violence cases are handled and assess whether domestic violence perpetrator treatment is required by law and whether a treatment modality is codified in law. The institute shall complete the review and report results to the legislature by January 1, 2013.

BOOM. Gender and Justice commission? Yeah right. We don't need a study, we need to protest the gender and justice commission. Remember to check how old the commission is.

[RCW 26.50.021](#)

Actions on behalf of vulnerable adults—Authority of department of social and health services—
Immunity from liability.

The department of social and health services, in its discretion, may seek the relief provided in this chapter on behalf of and with the consent of any vulnerable adult as those persons are defined in RCW [74.34.020](#). Neither the department nor the state of Washington shall be liable for failure to seek relief on behalf of any persons under this section.

They get to choose. Yay. They will be choosing the women, when it is men who are the vulnerable adults in this subsection.

RCW 26.50.035

Development of instructions, informational brochures, forms, and handbook by the administrative office of the courts—Community resource list—Distribution of master copy.

This subsection is about the dissemination of propaganda, misinformation, and lies.

RCW 26.50.150 Domestic violence perpetrator programs.

Any program that provides domestic violence treatment to perpetrators of domestic violence must be certified by the department of social and health services and meet minimum standards for domestic violence treatment purposes.

The DSHS has proven itself inept. Restructure the whole thing.

(2) To facilitate communication necessary for periodic safety checks and case monitoring, the program must require the perpetrator to sign the following releases:

(a) A release for the program to inform the victim and victim's community and legal advocates that the perpetrator is in treatment with the program, and to provide

information, for safety purposes, to the victim and victim's community and legal advocates;

Too often, the person arrested is not the perpetrator, and even more often is both perpetrator and victim. This is the beginning of a one-way road that sends men to jail for nothing.

(3) Treatment must be for a minimum treatment period defined by the secretary of the department by rule. The weekly treatment sessions must be in a group unless there is a documented, clinical reason for another modality. Any other therapies, such as individual, marital, or family therapy, substance abuse evaluations or therapy, medication reviews, or psychiatric interviews, may be concomitant with the weekly group treatment sessions described in this section but not a substitute for it.

(4) The treatment must focus primarily on ending the violence, holding the perpetrator accountable for his or her violence, and changing his or her behavior. The treatment must be based on nonvictim-blaming strategies and philosophies and shall include education about the individual, family, and cultural dynamics of domestic violence. If the perpetrator or the victim has a minor child, treatment must specifically include education regarding the effects of domestic violence on children, such as the emotional impacts of domestic violence on children and the long-term consequences that exposure to incidents of domestic violence may have on children.

Until we can hold women accountable for their part in this, this statute does not work. Furthermore, anger is a part of the healing process, and should be given a safe space to express itself. That is a fully substantiated and documented modality. The information being offered in these groups are invalid, and unsubstantiated.

(7) All evaluation and treatment services must be provided by, or under the supervision of, qualified personnel.

There are none.

(8) The secretary of the department may adopt rules and establish fees as necessary to implement this section.

Next comes the quota. I wonder if they know that they are vampires.

RCW 70.123.070 *Duties and responsibilities of community-based domestic violence programs and emergency shelter programs.*

(1) Community-based domestic violence programs receiving state funds under this chapter shall:

(b) Make available confidential services, advocacy, and prevention programs to victims of domestic violence and to their children within available resources;

This does not happen, and it was written in 1979, as of this writing, 38 years ago.⁸² It did not work, and it will not work without social change. To be clear, the problem is only getting worse. In 2015, RCW 70.123.070 (4) was deleted from the RCW's:⁸³

~~*((4) Provide prevention and treatment programs to victims of domestic violence, their children and, where possible, the abuser;*~~

⁸² Revised Code of Washington archives. 1979.

<http://leg.wa.gov/CodeReviser/RCWArchive/Documents/1979/Vol6.pdf>. p. 604

⁸³ 64th Legislature. "Certification of Enrollment—Substitute Senate Bill 5631." Washington State Legislature archives. 2016. <http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/Senate/5631-S.SL.pdf?cite=2015%20c%20275%20C2%A7%205>; p. 10.

This deletion has, and will continue to, cause more domestic violence, and the recidivism spoke of in RCW [26.50.800](#)

(2) Emergency shelter programs receiving state funds under this chapter shall:

(a) Provide intake for and access to safe shelter services to any person who is a victim of domestic violence and to that person's children, within available resources. Priority for emergency shelter shall be made for victims who are in immediate risk of harm or imminent danger from domestic violence;

Still not serving half of the victims.

RCW 70.123.010 ***Legislative findings.***

(3) Thus, it is the intent of the legislature to:

(e) Provide for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of current information related to emerging issues and model and promising practices related to preventing and intervening in situations involving domestic violence; and

Whoever they are providing assistance to is very specifically not doing this, and they are doing so intentionally. And it sounds like they are getting paid to do just that.

RCW 70.123.120 ***Liability for withholding services.***

A shelter shall not be held liable in any civil action for denial or withdrawal of services provided pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

This means they get to choose who they serve. Yes, men do get turned away from shelters.

RCW 10.99.030 *Law enforcement officers—Training, powers, duties—Domestic violence reports.*

(1) All training relating to the handling of domestic violence complaints by law enforcement officers shall stress enforcement of criminal laws in domestic situations, availability of community resources, and protection of the victim. Law enforcement agencies and community organizations with expertise in the issue of domestic violence shall cooperate in all aspects of such training.

(7) When a peace officer responds to a domestic violence call, the officer shall advise victims of all reasonable means to prevent further abuse, including advising each person of the availability of a shelter or other services in the community, and giving each person immediate notice of the legal rights and remedies available. The notice shall include handing each person a copy of the following statement:

"IF YOU ARE THE VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, you can ask the city or county prosecuting attorney to file a criminal complaint. You also have the right to file a petition in superior, district, or municipal court requesting an order for protection from domestic abuse which could include any of the following: (a) An order restraining your abuser from further acts of abuse; (b) an order directing your abuser to leave your household; (c) an order preventing your abuser from entering your residence, school, business, or place of employment; (d) an order awarding you or the other parent custody of or visitation with your minor child or children; and (e) an order restraining your abuser from molesting or interfering with minor children in your custody. The forms you need to obtain a protection order are available in any municipal, district, or superior court.

Information about shelters and alternatives to domestic violence is available from a statewide twenty-four-hour toll-free hotline at (include appropriate phone number). The battered women's shelter and other resources in your area are (include local information)"

Yep, they wrote that. Voted on it even.

RCW 10.99.070 *Liability of peace officers.*

A peace officer shall not be held liable in any civil action for an arrest based on probable cause, enforcement in good faith of a court order, or any other action or omission in good faith under this chapter arising from an alleged incident of domestic violence brought by any party to the incident.

RCW 26.09.016 *Mediation in cases involving domestic violence or child abuse.*

Mediation is generally inappropriate in cases involving domestic violence and child abuse. In order to effectively identify cases where issues of domestic violence and child abuse are present and reduce conflict in dissolution matters: (1) Where appropriate parties shall be provided access to trained domestic violence advocates; and (2) in cases where a victim requests mediation the court may make exceptions and permit mediation, so long as the court makes a finding that mediation is appropriate under the circumstances and the victim is permitted to have a supporting person present during the mediation proceedings.

Blanket mediation is probably not a good idea, but more mediation is, especially when the couple has children. If mediation is inappropriate, the couple should be separated and

individually treated for their abusive behavior. Where there is a 'true' victim, the abuser should go to jail.

RCW 26.09.015 *Mediation proceedings.*

(1) In any proceeding under this chapter, the matter may be set for mediation of the contested issues before or concurrent with the setting of the matter for hearing. The purpose of the mediation proceeding shall be to reduce acrimony which may exist between the parties and to develop an agreement assuring the child's close and continuing contact with both parents after the marriage or the domestic partnership is dissolved. The mediator shall use his or her best efforts to effect a settlement of the dispute.

(2)(a) Each superior court may make available a mediator. The court shall use the most cost-effective mediation services that are readily available unless there is good cause to access alternative providers. The mediator may be a member of the professional staff of a family court or mental health services agency, or may be any other person or agency designated by the court. In order to provide mediation services, the court is not required to institute a family court.

Each superior court must make available a mediator, as discussed in :

[RCW 26.09.016](#), [RCW 26.12.802](#), [RCW 26.12.172](#), and SB [1661-S2.SL](#)

(3)(a) Mediation proceedings under this chapter shall be governed in all respects by chapter [7.07](#)RCW, except as follows:

(i) Mediation communications in postdecree mediations mandated by a parenting plan are admissible in subsequent proceedings for the limited purpose of proving:

(B) Abuse or unlawful harassment as defined in RCW [9A.46.020\(1\)](#), of a family or household member as defined in *RCW [26.50.010\(2\)](#); or ...

[RCW 26.50.010](#) is thoroughly broken.

RCW 26.44.010 *Declaration of purpose.*

The Washington state legislature finds and declares: The bond between a child and his or her parent, custodian, or guardian is of paramount importance, and any intervention into the life of a child is also an intervention into the life of the parent, custodian, or guardian; however, instances of nonaccidental injury, neglect, death, sexual abuse and cruelty to children by their parents, custodians or guardians have occurred, and in the instance where a child is deprived of his or her right to conditions of minimal nurture, health, and safety, the state is justified in emergency intervention based upon verified information; and therefore the Washington state legislature hereby provides for the reporting of such cases to the appropriate public authorities. It is the intent of the legislature that, as a result of such reports, protective services shall be made available in an effort to prevent further abuses, and to safeguard the general welfare of such children. When the child's physical or mental health is jeopardized, or the safety of the child conflicts with the legal rights of a parent, custodian, or guardian, the health and safety interests of the child should prevail. When determining whether a child and a parent, custodian, or guardian should be separated during or immediately following an investigation of alleged child abuse or neglect, the safety of the child shall be the department's paramount concern. Reports of child abuse and neglect shall be maintained and disseminated with strictest regard for the privacy of the subjects of such reports and so as to safeguard against arbitrary, malicious or erroneous

information or actions. This chapter shall not be construed to authorize interference with child-raising practices, including reasonable parental discipline, which are not proved to be injurious to the child's health, welfare and safety.

This statute takes away one abuser, and leaves the child with the other. Furthermore, it loses the child access to a parent. It is also evident that men are unfairly targeted.

RCW 26A.300.160 *Development of coordinated primary prevention program for child abuse and neglect—Office as lead agency.*

*(1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall be the lead agency and shall assist the department of social and health services, the *department of community, trade, and economic development, and school districts in establishing a coordinated primary prevention program for child abuse and neglect.*

(iv) Designed to help counteract common stereotypes about child abuse victims and offenders;

Yes, but.... No.

(3) Parents shall be given notice of the primary prevention program and may refuse to have their children participate in the program.

A protective parent that is not abusive to his or her child, who has lost custody of his child for reciprocal abuse, or any other reason, should have the legal ability to enter his or her child into such a program, regardless of custody status.

RCW 26.44.030 *Reports—Duty and authority to make—Duty of receiving agency—Duty to notify—Case planning and consultation—Penalty for unauthorized exchange of information—Filing dependency petitions—Investigations—Interviews of children—Records—Risk assessment process.*

(d) Offer services to the family in a manner that makes it clear that acceptance of the services is voluntary;

They don't do this, they try to trick people.

(14)(a) In conducting an investigation or family assessment of alleged abuse or neglect, the department or law enforcement agency:

(i) May interview children. If the department determines that the response ...

This can lead to psychological abuse, if the interviewer is trying to convince the child it is being abused. These interviews need to be strictly recorded.

Notes

It would cost Abby Shelter \$117,150 a year, with a full-time staff. They receive \$15,000 a year in grants, and run a thrift shop and rent units.

-serves hundreds a year, 15,500 since 1976.

-New Beginnings helped 8 men and 491 women

--70% received legal aid.

-Assets 1,194,560, Revenue \$2,798,367, 55% of Revenue is Gov't, 79% went to programs.

-According to wscdav, 2300 people are served in WA state every day.

-\$1,985,832 in government contracts

WA DSHS issued \$10,357,386 to 43 emergency DV shelters in FY 2016⁸⁴

Washington Administrative Code

WAC 388-60-0045

What must be the focus of a domestic violence perpetrator treatment program?

- (1) A domestic violence perpetrator treatment program must focus treatment primarily on ending the participant's physical, sexual, and psychological abuse.
- (2) The program must hold the participant accountable for:
 - (a) The abuse that occurred; and
 - (b) Changing the participant's violent and abusive behaviors.
- (3) The program must base all treatment on strategies and philosophies that do not blame the victim or imply that the victim shares any responsibility for the abuse which occurred.

WAC 388-60-0245

What topics must the treatment program include in the educational curriculum?

The curriculum of the treatment program must include the following topics:

- (1) Belief systems that allow and support violence against women;
- (2) Belief systems that allow and/or support the use or threat of violence to establish power and control over an intimate partner;

⁸⁴ <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/CA/dv/documents/DVDATA.FY16.pdf>

- (3) Definitions of abuse, battering, and domestic violence;
- (4) Forms of abuse, including:
 - (a) Physical abuse;
 - (b) Emotional and sexual abuse;
 - (c) Economic manipulation or domination;
 - (d) Physical force against property or pets;
 - (e) Stalking;
 - (f) Terrorizing someone or threatening him or her; and
 - (g) Acts that put the safety of battered partners, children, pets, other family members, or friends at risk.
- (5) The impact of abuse and battering on children and the incompatibility of domestic violence and abuse with responsible parenting;
- (6) The fact that a participant is solely responsible for the participant's violent behavior, and must acknowledge this fact;
- (7) The need to avoid blaming a victim for the participant's abusive behavior;
- (8) Techniques to be nonabusive and noncontrolling;
- (9) Negative legal and social consequences for someone who commits domestic violence;
- (10) Why it is necessary to meet financial and legal obligations to family members;
- (11) Opportunities for a participant to develop a responsibility plan:
 - (a) The treatment program may assist the participant in developing the plan.

(b) In the plan, the participant must make a commitment to giving up power and control over the victim.

(12) Education regarding individual cultural and family dynamics of domestic violence; and

(13) Washington state laws and practices regarding domestic violence, as described in chapters [10.31](#), [10.99](#), and [26.50](#) RCW.

[WAC 388-60-0555 Domestic violence intervention program advisory committee](#)

Does the department have an advisory committee for domestic violence perpetrator treatment?

The department will establish and appoint a volunteer group to serve as the Washington domestic violence perpetrator treatment program standards advisory committee.

[WAC 388-60-0565 Domestic violence intervention program committee](#)

What is the role of the advisory committee?

The role of the advisory committee is to:

- (1) Advise the department regarding recommended changes to the program standards; and
- (2) Provide technical assistance on program standards, implementation, and certification and recertification criteria.

[WAC 388-60-0575 Domestic violence intervention program committee](#)

Who are the advisory committee members and how are they chosen?

The advisory committee must include the following members:

- (1) Four persons representing the perspective of victims of domestic violence. They will be chosen with input from the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WSCADV);

(2) Four persons representing the perspective of state-certified domestic violence perpetrator treatment programs. They will be chosen with input from the Washington Association of Domestic Violence Intervention Professionals (WADVIP);

(3) Four persons representing the perspective of adult misdemeanor probation and Washington state courts of limited jurisdiction. They will be chosen with input from the Misdemeanor Corrections Association and the Washington State District and Municipal Court Judges Association;

(4) One person representing the department of corrections; and

(5) One person representing the office of the administrator for the courts.

Arizona

Arkansas

Louisiana

Iowa

South Dakota

Idaho

District of Columbia

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