



PARENTAL ALIENATION AWARENESS ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND *Information sheet*

Parental Alienation – Deployed Contact

Revised: November 2013 -

One Page Only

Other Information Sheets

This sheet is part of the Contact series. All the information sheets on “Contact” should be read together.

Deployed Contact

Although it is known as “Deployed Contact” no palpable, visual or audio contact is actually present. Deployed Contact is a method of constantly reminding the child of the absent parent and the love and care of said parent, even in absence.

This process was developed with success by military authorities for children of deployed soldiers. Due to its effectiveness, it is also advocated by PA groups where other contact is not possible.

Deployed contact should be in place with every child where a parent is absent except if an order of the Court forbid it.

Example Cases

This should never completely replace contact, but should also be in place, together with the other contact when possible.

As stated, this should be in place for soldiers, oil workers, contract workers, prisoners and the like.

What should be done

This is based on a translations of the SANW dated 1972 and “Koevoet” (SAPD) documents which are based on a US Vietnam model. Some modifications are done to accommodate modern technology and added in brackets.

In those years Skype did not exist. Radio telephone was virtually impossible and video recordings difficult and expensive.

Many will not agree with some of the cultural aspects, specifically the religious components, of the example hereunder and would use other examples. **This example is drawn up for a male soldier that will be away for an extended time – perhaps as long as one year.**

Here it is: [additions in brackets]

Before separation (if possible)

Father: Spend as much time as possible with your child. The day before departure you should spend at least 3 hours

alone with the child(ren), just talking, playing games, not board games. [or video games]. Pick the child up, hug him. Brush your daughter's hair. Use your imagination. Get the camera out and have photos taken. [Let them take photos and videos with their phones].

Exchange memorabilia

Father: Exchange items like soft toys, key rings photos etc. The children must know what you can take with and what not. Examples:

- Photo of the child put in your Bible
- Photo of you in the Child's Bible
- Soft toys with a special name
- Special blanket
- special toys, pens, pencils books.
- [wallet and mobile phone photographs]

Saying Good Bye

Ensure time with the family, on the child's conditions as far as possible. A family hug and prayer is comforting.

Home alone

Mother: On arriving home, organise the house. Place memories of Daddy everywhere at strategic places.

Examples:

- Bedside photo, school-bag photo, etc.
- Special place for Daddy's coffee mug and other items like gift toys.

Daily

Mother should -

- Talk about pleasant memories involving Daddy
- Initiate and supervise letter writing to Daddy
- Reread letters from Daddy
- Revisit photo albums
- Initiate activities Daddy used to initiate
- Pretend you make a mistake and select a portion of food and dish up for Daddy.
- Remember Daddy in prayers
- Home movies – [videos]
- “I wonder what Daddy would do” discussions

Other examples

- Audio recordings of Daddy telling stories
- Video recordings of daddy telling stories

Do not let a single day go by without at least one reference to Daddy.

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