

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Parental alienation, often found in high-conflict-divorce and custody situations, involves manipulative language used by a parent with a child, which can result in destroying the loving and warm relationship they once shared with the other parent; and

WHEREAS: Professionals agree that the problem of parental alienation exists and is damaging to children and the effects can last well into adulthood, with serious consequences; and

WHEREAS: Behaviors that indicate parental alienation include speaking negatively about a parent to or in front of a child, interfering with communication and visitation between parent and child, and discussing inappropriate information with a child that can destroy the bond between that child and a loving parent; and

WHEREAS: Parental alienation takes advantage of the suggestibility and dependency of children, depriving them of their right to love and be loved by both parents; and

WHEREAS: Using alienating tactics with children is confusing, frightening, and robs them of their sense of security; and

WHEREAS: There are more than 2.4-million divorced North Americans, including the parents of more than one-million children under the age of eighteen, with nearly as many unmarried couples with children separating; and

WHEREAS: Education and understanding build awareness that children should be allowed to love both parents and feel loved by both parents;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE BEEBE, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim April 25, 2008, as

**PARENTAL ALIENATION AWARENESS DAY**

across the State of Arkansas, and I urge all Arkansans to help raise awareness of the importance of strengthening parent-child relationships and avoiding causing further distress to children caught in the crossfire of people they love.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 10th day of April, in the year of our Lord 2008.



  
MIKE BEEBE, GOVERNOR

  
CHARLIE DANIELS, SECRETARY OF STATE