

Press Release  
For Immediate Release

September 24, 2008

Florida National Organization for Women

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### **Florida National Organization for Women Denounces Parental Alienation Syndrome**

In light of the imminent book by Alec Baldwin once again making claims based on erroneous theories, Florida National Organization for Women (NOW) joins with other women's rights and child advocacy groups in denouncing Parental Alienation Syndrome (PAS) as unproven and discredited. The American Psychological Association has noted the lack of data to support PAS and expressed concern that custody evaluators "may accuse [the mother] of alienating the children from the father and may recommend giving custody to the father in spite of a history of violence." Additionally, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges has stated that "... the existence of "parental alienation syndrome" or "PAS" has been discredited by the scientific community. Testimony that a party to a custody case suffers from the syndrome should therefore be ruled inadmissible...."

Despite the lack of data to support PAS, the trend to use PAS to undermine women in divorce has grown. Specifically, accusations that one parent has alienated a child against them is used to undermine the rights of women seeking to protect their children from actual domestic violence and abuse. The trend is complicated further when attorneys, judges, court ordered psychologists, and other courtroom officials deny due process to litigants. Statistics have shown that those women fare much worse when accusations of PAS are made against them, even when there is evidence of abuse by the other parent.

"The National Organization for Women has found that the Parental Alienation argument is actually Protective Parenting, turned upside down, giving abusers custody and control" adds Adele Guadalupe, with Florida NOW Child Custody Committee and a founder of Families Against Court Travesties.

Women, victims of abuse, and children rights advocates across the country are taking action. We will have information to distribute at bookstores, on the date of the book's release. This information is intended to inform the public of this alarming trend which negatively impacts the lives of women and children in custody disputes.