

McCall, Brandon

From: Monica Peters <groundworktohealth@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 05, 2013 1:50 PM
To: Jud Testimony
Subject: My testimony for bill 6685

Hello,

I didn't get a chance to speak at the hearing today, but I hope you will read my testimony in support of Bill 6685

I am honored today to share my experience with Parental Alienation Syndrome.

In January 1984, my younger sister and I spent a usual weekend with my dad at my Grandparent's farm in Iowa. I have dozens of great memories of our childhood with my dad and his family. We were very attached to our father, and he was very attentive, loving and tons of fun to be around. I still refer to these early years as one of the happiest times of my life.

I didn't know that this visit with my father would be the last for my sister and me. My parents were divorcing. We were adjusting to the new change in our family. One day, I was told by our Family Relations Evaluator that my father was abusing me. At age 4, it didn't occur to me that this could be a lie. I was encouraged to say so, over and over again, that I was abused. My sister and I complied, and my father lost 100% of his parental rights to us.

A year later, my mother made the decision to move us 1200 miles away to the east coast, citing that my father was a danger and we had to get away from him. Naturally, I believed her. My sister did as well.

Although my mom had remarried and we resumed a normal life, I always felt empty inside, that part of me was missing. I felt confused, guilty and felt that the separation was my fault. We felt abandoned by my father, even though it was our testimony that kept him away from us. We did not know that by speaking the lies that were told to us, it would induce the separation. We felt that we were doing what we were told, and my father was choosing to not see us. We did not know any better.

Unfortunately, history has repeated itself, as I am currently in a similar position with my 6 year old. Y case was tried in 2010 and I only wanted shared physical custody. He has less than 48 hours a week of visitation with me, and no vacation or adequate Holiday time. I was not given a reason for my limited parenting time, nor was I told what I need to do to see my son more often. To this day, I still do not know why my time has been reduced the way it has. All I know is that my ex lied under oath with no evidence to prove his statements. I believe it was the lying that influenced the Judge's decision.

I am committing my life to promoting equal parenting rights among moms and dads. Not only did I suffer from Alienation and deprived of a meaningful relationship with my father, but my son is and has been for more than half his life. I find similarities in my childhood story and what is currently going on 30 years later with my own child, that hearsay testimony and unequal parenting time is a common denominator.

Hearsay testimony has no place in a Family court trial. I pray that bill 6685 is passed to protect our future generations from the destructive nature of the "winner takes all" mentality that seems to prevail.



--

Monica Peters
Health Coach, LMT, Certified Reflexologist

(860) 705-8789

<http://www.groundworktohealth.com>

--

Monica Peters
Health Coach, LMT, Certified Reflexologist

(860) 705-8789

<http://www.groundworktohealth.com>