



# Grandparents' Rights Association of the United States of America

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## Connecticut's First Chapter, Emidio C. Cerasale, Director

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Since the decision of the USA Supreme Court in TROXEL vs GRAINVILLE (2000) the state of the people named Grandparents have had their RIGHTS TO VISIT their GRANDCHILDREN to be of VIRTUAL EXTINCTION THRU-OUT THE USA. Our Society has been and still is in decay and this present Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 46-59 has to be updated/revised for the State of the people named Grandparents. Grandparents realistically do not want to function as parents unless an emergency happens and for sure if it ever happens they will be there for children and family but they want to function as a Grandparent to Grandchild capacity only. They had their share of parenting.

The "intact family" as it is said by all is to be a "married family" period. The "Intactness" of a married family doesn't necessarily mean it functions well or that it's children are being cared for. The intactness of a marriage is absolutely no indication of a healthy marriage nor its noxious to a child. Intact Doctrine can conceal wrong doing from the law, Grandparents and other family members.

Petitioning for Right of Visitation by a Grandparent is costly by either hiring an Attorney or by doing it yourself, plus all the mental and physical emotions a Grandparent goes through. Whether or not you are retired or not it does put a definite strain on the Family in its entirety and really lets be sensible who wants to bring a family into a courtroom, but this is the real world and it's not very nice, so we as Grandparents have to do the thing that never-ever entered our mind bring our so-called adult children to court or to mediation in order to see/visit our Grandchildren, shame on us all. Especially, on our own Ct. General Stat. 46b-59 with all the Petitioning Requirements, Standard of Proofs, Factors and Additional Factors that a decent, honorable, law abiding, mentally- physically fit and reasonably financial fit and

most of all a Christian fit Grandparent has to go through in order to HUG his Grandchild and then to be denied visitation. Also, that this statue just "takes for granted" (or presume/presumption) by over excessive aggressive decisions and pretty enforceable actions by the courts and by judges that the parental decision is automatically correct and automatically In the best interest of the child, always, it's not and the visitation rights for these responsible Grandparents and for this reason "Grandparents Rights to Visitation are at an EXTINCTION LEVEL "(no longer exist) in this day and age, especially in CT. and through – out the USA, the greatest country in the world.

Let me tell you about Grandpa Pepe, a 55yr. old responsible-caring man. In the yr. of 1999 he was told by his son of 28yrs old and his daughter-in-law he was to be a first Grandpa. All were happy and relationships with all were great. This was told seven-months before birth of Grandchild. Approximately 2 to 3 weeks after being told of being a first-ever Grandpa, Grandpa Pepe's 28 yr. old son and son's Mother visits Grandpa Pepe at his home and son's Mother talks about concern for son's health. Grandpa Pepe recognizes health issue immediately and tells married son to seek help soon and will help him in anyway. Four months prior to birth of first Grandson, Grandpa Pepe gets early morning emergency call from son for help in his local town. Grandpa Pepe travels immediately and helps son and brings to local hospital and at same time notifies all family members of issue. Late that evening at hospital Grandpa Pepe was told by hospital doctors, son needs to be shipped to special Hospital in another town for special treatment. Grandpa Pepe and Son's Mother (ex-wife) was told by the Specialty Hospital Nurse Supv. that Grandpa Pepe did the correct thing in bringing son to hospital immediately, son surely had a health issue and is being cared for and will need treatment after released from hospital. Actual details of issue was never discussed with Grandpa Pepe due to sons age of 28yrs. old and him being married plus Son's wife never acquainted Grandpa Pepe with son's issues before or during her pregnancy and even after the birth of Grandpa Pepe's first grandchild, never. Grandpa Pepe son came home from specialty hospital weeks before birth of first Grandchild. Grandpa Pepe and his Fiancee visit newborn Grandchild, Son and daughter-in-law in hospital. Now Grandpa Pepe sensed a feeling of coldness attitude in the air. But Grandpa Pepe was in his glory of being a first time Grandpa and went home a proud first Grandpa Pepe. After weeks have gone by Grandpa Pepe visits First Grandchild at home with a Big Bear in one hand and ice cream in the other and a proud big smile on his face.

Just minutes after arriving home from visit Grandpa Pepe receives tel. call from his son, who preceded to say " Dad, my wife doesn't want you to come to the house anymore and see us all", Grandpa Pepe was devastated and broke-down, he couldn't believe it was happening to him and his son, for which there was a great relationship. Grandpa Pepe, weeks later received

a letter from sons Atty. to enforce the end of visitations to see Grandchild along with cutting off/ stopping relationship ties between Grandpa Pepe and his son. It was the END!!!

Grandpa Pepe attended therapy by a wonderful Sr. Christian Therapist, became stronger in Faith-Mental and Physical fitness and let it ALL in God's Hand. It's been 15yrs. and still Grandpa Pepe hasn't seen his son, first grandchild nor the second grandchild and never found out what went wrong with son,etc and why total communications were stoped.

Grandpa Pepe reluctantly consulted with Attorneys for advice only and all told him it was useless to pursue do to the existing Grandparent Rights Laws as is was then and is now.

This new raised bill HB-5608 will hopefully "open up the process so grandparents have another option, a chance to explain their side of a visitation situation before being cut off from family entirely". And I hope they would also "consider to add that this process would be a Grandparent Right to "an automatic referendum for option and an automatic referendum to mediate, no matter what and restore the Family Unit in it's entirety, upon filing for visitation.Also, Gov. Malloy should transfer funds from prisoner reform to Mediations for Grandparents Rights for Family Reform,we never committed a CRIME!!!!

Sincerely, Emidio C. Cerasale, Sr. Citizen, Grandpa Pepe(now 71yrs. young),

And Director of GRAUSA (Grandparents Rights Assoc. of USA, Connecticut's First Chapter and a national 5013c org., now in 42 states and growing.

March 10, 2016

Hello Emedio,

I have been appointed Director of the Grandparents' Rights Association of Oklahoma (GRAOK).

Forty-two States have Grandparents' Rights Associations which came about by the epidemic of alienation of Grandparents from their Grandchildren and vice versa.

It is my belief that the Constitution Rights guaranteed parents for controlling their children needs to be expanded to include the extended family, due to the changes in our society. The Nuclear Family, Mom, Dad and Child, has evolved to a very different status now - and the Constitution has no mention whatsoever of Family Rights, Parents' Rights or anything to do with families and children. The Constitution guarantees Human Rights, and as with the Rights of the Slaves to be free, the Right for Women to Vote, and Compulsory Education, the Constitution must be compelled to recognize the Rights of Grandparents and Grandchildren.

In my case, my granddaughter, Kitty Bell, had a nuclear family, Kitty Bell, her mother, Linda and "my Grandma" Charlotte Bell. She and her mother lived in my home from the time she was born until she was 10 years old. This was the only home Kitty knew. Then because of an altercation, her mother took her to another town about 15 miles away, and Kitty and I have been forbidden to even communicate in any way (except on a child's game the National Geographic's Animal Jam set up while Kitty lived with me, as requested by the school), or see each other since January 1, 2014.

This came about after an altercation when my daughter came to pick up her daughter, and her daughter did not want to go with her because she was afraid of her mother with she was "that way" (drinking or high), and it was my duty and obligation to protect my granddaughter from a person who had been drinking or who was high. Kitty went to another one of my daughter's (Pam) house. Pam had a child just 18 months older than Kitty and they grew up together. Pam had the police at her house and explained the situation. The police came to my house, and Linda was raging that Kitty was not here, and they knew she was drinking or was high, and they told her if she got in the car they would arrest her, and Kitty would not be allowed to go with her. The next day when Linda came to pick Kitty up, Kitty pleaded with the police to take her to DHS rather than send her with her angry mother. The police listened to Kitty, and agreed that no child should be sent with a raging mother (Linda was raging outside and had her boss, a State Attorney on the line encouraging her to have me arrested for "kidnapping" and she was threatening the police with their jobs)

The Attorney at DHS listened to Kitty, the Social Worker talked with the police, came out to my home, and agreed that Kitty should come here

because she had a room, and obviously she lived here. However, the Sand Springs, OK Judge in Juvenile Court said this was a "one time thing" and released Kitty to her mother against the arguments of the DHS Attorney for Kitty and the Social Worker who had been working with Kitty. This was on January 2, 2014, and my daughter took her to Sapulpa and she and her friends forbid me to see Kitty or communicate with her. The case was moved to Sapulpa because of a false statement from the Judge in Sapulpa that there was a pending pleading about Kitty Bell's Estate (which there was not, and he simply opened one, involving a trust fund that Kitty's father had set up for her at the time of his death. He died when Kitty was 6 years old. The Sapulpa Judge wanted nothing to do with Grandma at all, nor would he listen to any witnesses who came to testify in my favor. However, he allowed people who didn't know me at all, had never been in my circle of friends nor in my home, to testify for hours about what a horrible person I was. I was not considered to have any rights whatsoever under our Oklahoma Statutes. The Judge in Sapulpa even ordered me to pay my daughter \$8,000 in attorney fees for asking for permission to see my Granddaughter. The Master's Degree in Social Work with a State of Oklahoma Badge was much more influential in the Sapulpa Court than a loving Grandmother who was protecting her grandchild.

Our laws have to be updated to include the people children have bonded with. I believe Kitty's Constitutional Rights have been violated as well as mine. I do not see upholding the parents in this type of abuse, but it seems the only thing that is considered "abuse" is bruises, broken bones and bodies of dead children.

Attached is a picture of me and all of my grandchildren. Kitty is the smallest one in this picture, and the one who was adored by all of her cousins - cousins she has been forbidden to communicate with now for over two years. I know she is hurting. Her cousins are hurting, and I feel that a knife has gone through my body to think that my own daughter would live with me for 10 years with her child, obtain her Master's Degree in Social Work, and then forbid any of her family to visit with a child we all love. This is psychological abuse, not only for Kitty, but her cousins, friends, and relatives who love her, but it does not appear in bruises or broken bones of a child, so it cannot be considered abuse. Our Constitutional Rights must include Grandparents and children.

I am proud of my family in which I grew up. My mother was an Education advocate, my father was the finest Construction Superintendent in the United States, and built hospitals and government buildings in the United States, Alaska, Panama and Cuba. If you would like to know the type of family I come from, I include a link an article written about the Painter Family by Life Magazine in 1957. We are a proud family, we all went to college, and even though I was a single mother after 10 years of marriage, all of my daughters are college graduates and for that I am proud. I am not proud of my daughter's current actions and her psychological abuse of my grandchild, her daughter.

There is a little game on the Internet that Kitty's elementary school were encouraging all of the children to participate in, the National Geographic Animal Jam program, and I helped Kitty set it up while she lived here and Kitty and I played nearly every day. After our

communication was cut off, we met each other on Animal Jam and Kitty told me she wanted me to help her, that all I had to do was to say that I lied in Court, that her mother was not drunk when she came to get her, and everything would be all right. I told Kitty, that I could not do this, nor should she lie about what happened that miserable night, that it was against the law to lie on the witness Stand. She agreed, but said that was the only way she could come home. She said her mother was gone a lot (Linda works as a Social Worker Investigator for the Oklahoma Indigent Defense Service OIDS) and she stayed with a neighbor, but she wished she could come stay with me.

After all the court sessions were over, there was never an "order" saying I could not see Kitty - this is only her mother's "order". Kitty and I visited on National Geographic's Animal Jam, and she said she still was not allowed to talk with me (on Animal Jam we are little animals talking) that talking to me was against the law. I told her there was no law that prevented her from talking to me, that I was not ordered not to talk with her. Kitty said, "Great." I guess she told her mother and I was threatened with a law suit and she threatened to sue Animal Jam, made a big issue of this, and Kitty was forbidden to ever again get on Animal Jam. Linda wrote many Facebook postings about me "praying" on Kitty through Animal Jam, and the only reason I wanted to see Kitty was for the money I could get out of her. All of her friends agreed and all of her "friends" want to see me in jail. Kitty does not want to see this.

Had these hearings been in a Tulsa court, Kitty would have had an attorney and would have been able to testify for herself, but the Sapulpa Judge said they did not allow children to have an attorney. So during the hearings, this brilliant 10 year old was not allowed to speak on her own behalf. The Judge promised to talk with Kitty, but he did not. On Animal Jam Kitty kept saying, "When will I talk to the Judge, I want to talk to the Judge.

Also to show the extremes, even after over two years of Linda's barring my seeing Kitty, and her strenuous attempts to stop our communication, even on Animal Jam, I am also attaching some photos taken when I took a group of Grandparents' Rights Association of Oklahoma members to visit the Legislature as they are in session, someone backed out and hit my car, and I came home on Highway 117, which goes through Sapulpa. Linda spotted my car (I guess she has spies seeing where I am, she can do that, she is an Investigator for the State) and she took these pictures and posted them on Facebook. You can see from the posts of her friends how much she has influenced the Sapulpa Crowd. Kitty was with her mother in the car as Linda was taking these pictures and driving, because the members saw a little girl with her. This almost caused another wreck for me.

Grandmothers have no rights - except the right to vote.

Charlotte Painter-Bell  
Director, GRAOK