

Obtaining Full Custody

Manipulating the Family Courts

Dr. Craig Childress

Rewarding a behavior increases the probability of that behavior.

Making false allegations of child abuse, directly or indirectly, is rewarded in the family courts with the granting of child custody.

The pathological narcissistic-borderline-dark personality parent is rewarded with child custody – irrespective of the courts – by making false allegations of abuse.

Making false allegations of child abuse, either directly or indirectly, works.

Creating “sides” and forcing the child to choose a “side” in the spousal conflict works.

You will be given full custody of the child if you just create “sides” and then create conflict.

Creating False Attachment Pathology

Step 1: Create “Sides”

Step 2: Create the “Protective Parent” Narrative

Step 3: Create Conflict.

Step 4: Create the “Victimized Child” Narrative

Step 1: Create “Sides”

- **Create Sides:** Create sides in conflict about everything and anything - mom’s “side” vs dad’s “side”.
- **Create Coalition:** Join the child’s “side” against the other parent by supporting the child’s elicited criticism of the other parent. Create “us” against “them” narrative.
- **Create Loyalty Conflict:** Present as a victim of the other parent, become sad, withdrawn, and irritable when the child is with the other parent or expresses anything positive about the other parent.

Step 2: Become the “Protective Parent”

- **Adopt the Protective Parent Role:** Display to the child and others as the “protective” parent, show concern to the child and others about how the other parent treats the child.
- **Display Anxiety at Separation:** Display anxious concern when the child is with the other parent, question the child if they are “okay” when with the other parent.
- **Provide Nurture for Criticisms:** Provide comforting whenever the child makes complaints about being with the other parent – show sympathetic understanding.

Step 3: Create conflict.

- **Generate Conflict:** Be uncooperative, create conflict about everything.
- **Continue the Conflict:** Continue the conflict of “sides” until the child joins your “side” against the other parent.
- **Child Collapse:** Maintain the conflict long enough, and the child will eventually collapse to join your “side” as being the only way to get out of the middle.

Step 4: Create the “Victimized Child” Narrative

- **Elicit Criticism:** Elicit from the child criticisms of the other parent through motivated and directive questioning - express “concern” - display the “Protective Parent” role.
- **Show Great Interest:** Display animated protective and nurturing emotions whenever the child responds to the motivated and directive questioning with criticism of the other parent.
- **Show Disappointment:** Become disappointed and enter a dark mood of displeasure if the child does **not** criticize the other parent. Ask again, give the child repeated opportunities to criticize the other parent.

Psychological Control of the Child

Soenens & Vansteenkiste: “Psychological control can be expressed through a variety of parental tactics, including (a) **guilt-induction**, which refers to the use of guilt inducing strategies to pressure children to comply with a parental request; (b) **contingent love or love withdrawal**, where parents make their attention, interest, care, and love contingent upon the children’s attainment of parental standards; (c) **instilling anxiety**, which refers to the induction of anxiety to make children comply with parental requests; and (d) **invalidation** of the child’s perspective, which pertains to parental constraining of the child’s spontaneous expression of thoughts and feelings.”

(Soenens & Vansteenkiste, 2010, p. 75)