<u>The Trans-Generational Relationship Structure of Parental Alienation Dynamics</u> C.A. Childress, Psy.D. (2010)

The Alpha parent is the origin of the psychological abuse that is being transmitted trans-generationally to the Delta level.

The Alpha relationship event is an early childhood history of significant psychological-relationship dysfunction that involves the Alpha parent's unpredictable hostile-rejection of the child. The episodes of hostile parental rejection of the child occur within a relationship context of inconsistent periods of parental nurturing. The inconsistent nurturing exposes the child's emotional-psychological vulnerability, which allows the hostile-rejection to inflict a deep psychological injury.

The Beta child is the alienating parent as a young child. Core psychological injuries were inflicted on the Beta child that would find later re-enactment in the marital and parent-child relationships of the Beta Adult

The Beta adult is the psychologically injured and defended alienating parent. The Beta adult is the trans-generational vehicle for the transmission of the Alpha event relationship dysfunction to the Delta child.



The Alpha Level of Initial Abuse

The Delta Level of Re-enactment

The Beta Level of Transmission

Alpha Parent

Beta

Child

Beta

Adult

Delta

Child

Beta

Child

The Delta spouse/parent marries the Beta adult and becomes the target of the Alpha injury reenactment. The Delta spouse/parent is the repository for projected Alpha parent identifications, and so becomes the stimulus vehicle for triggering activation of relationship re-enactment processes with the Beta adult.

The Delta child is the typical initial focus of treatment. The Delta child is subtly encouraged to be highly rejecting of the Delta parent (i.e., the Delta Event), and idealizing of the Beta adult/parent, in order to initiate the re-enactment narrative of abused-child/abusive parent.



Within the psychological representations of the Beta adult, the Beta child and Delta child become equivalent and the Alpha parent and Delta parent become equivalent

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