



Lynn Steinberg, Ph.D.,
LMFT MW18084

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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January 24, 2022

**TO: HONORABLE MARILYN MORDETZKY, COMMISSIONER
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, CO. OF LOS ANGELES
VAN NUYS EAST DEPT. -K**

[REDACTED], Petitioner

VS

[REDACTED], Respondent

RE: MINOR CHILDREN

[REDACTED], AGE 14, DOB: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AGE 9, DOB: [REDACTED]

CASE NO. 19 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

PROGRESS REPORT

Dear Judge Mordetzky:

Thank you for referring [REDACTED] and his two children to me. I have seen them in family therapy on the following dates:

A

June 7, 2021 - October 18, 2021 - October 19, 2021 - October 26, 2021 - November 2, 2021 - November 9, 2021 - November 16, 2021 - November 23, 2021 - November 30, 2021 - December 7, 2021 - December 14, 2021 - January 11, 2022.

I have read the following documents and viewed several videos.

- RFO re visitation etc conformed 202.pdf
- Transcript 6-1-21 .txt
- Ppa recommendations.pdf
- Minute order June 1.pdf
- [REDACTED].pdf
- [REDACTED].pdf
- Custody pickpu [REDACTED] page4 to 7.pdf
- CommunicationRecord Talking Parents 12-6-21.pdf
- order 7-7 dept K update [REDACTED].pdforder
- [REDACTED] Minors council minute order 4-14-21.pdf
- Report by Minors Counsel [REDACTED] for RFO 2021-Mar-24.pdf
- [REDACTED] minute order june 1 2021.pdf
- [REDACTED] 8-16-21 holidays vacations_08282021.pdf
- stipulation 12-16-19 update holiday break.pdf
- Report by Minors' Counsel [REDACTED] for RFO 2021-Mar-24.pdf
- [REDACTED] Minors council minute order 4-14-21.pdf

B

I decided to request that [REDACTED] join the therapy sessions since he is an integral part of this family. This last year he moved his residence from his mother's house to his father's residence and his father has sole legal custody.

Father had arranged to pick [REDACTED] up from school every Tuesday for therapy. The siblings were happy to see one another, and [REDACTED] expressed she was glad [REDACTED] was included.

C

Before each session began (they usually arrived early, traffic allowing) father would be in front of the office with [REDACTED] playing ball. [REDACTED] was laughing and playing hard. Once they entered the office, [REDACTED] was reserved and fairly uncommunicative, because, she said, she was "tired". [REDACTED] was open and communicative. Father listened patiently to his children, allowing them to do the talking.

The presenting problem was that [REDACTED] did not want to spend the night at Father's residence. This forced him to take [REDACTED] home each evening on the weekends she was to spend with him and pick her up the following morning. Recently, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were having fun playing and then dad read [REDACTED] books and she fell asleep. The police then arrived, summoned by mother to do a welfare check. They found nothing to be alarmed about and left. After that, [REDACTED] would not spend the night.

D

The situation of [REDACTED] spending time with her father became more difficult. One day he drove from the beach (around Oxnard) to pick up [REDACTED] to join them at the beach house and she

E refused to go. Mother had not called father to inform him of this. Another time [REDACTED] went to a birthday party, safely delivered by their father, whereupon the mother arrived and insisted on taking [REDACTED] home.

In sessions, when asked, [REDACTED] would not talk about why she could not spend the night at her father's nor what she was upset with her father about. She gave vague reasons, which seemed to be adult reasons. For example:

"My mom is neutral about me seeing my dad"

"He only cares about his work"

"He doesn't know me"

"He's an embarrassment" (she could not say how)

"He doesn't respect me" (because he continues to pick her up for visits)

She doesn't like his "Mac and Cheese"

My mother does my needs. My father only does my wants.

My father tries to buy my love

He doesn't spend quality time with us

At this point, [REDACTED] became angry with [REDACTED] and confronted her with the "real" reason [REDACTED] did not want to stay overnight. He said:

F "You know what it is. Mom gets angry with you if you stay the night. She used to get angry with us and give us reasons to tell dad why we couldn't stay".

G He said their mom yelled at them and said they didn't appreciate her. It was easier to decide to stay with mom and soon they would find excuses not to see dad at all. He also said the mother encouraged them to come up with reasons to report the father for child abuse. She accused [REDACTED] of missing opportunities to report father – when he accidentally closed the door on [REDACTED] foot. The mother referred to her father as an "asshole" and encouraged [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to refer to her father this way. [REDACTED] ended this by saying "You know dad isn't abusive. When you come over you're laughing and having a good time. Mom is the abusive one".

H [REDACTED] went on to remind [REDACTED] how once when [REDACTED] didn't pick her barbie dolls up, mother angrily pushed over a heavy Barbie house. She said "You know [REDACTED] you just block her out by being on your iPad and blocking things out. You did it when I was there"

[REDACTED] listened but was tearful. [REDACTED] softened somewhat and said "I know you love mom. I loved mom. But she is abusive to you too."

I The following week, [REDACTED] could not attend. [REDACTED] was hostile toward her father and me. When confronted, she said again she was just tired. She said her father had been abusive to her. She wouldn't tell me until he left the room, and then accused him of pulling her and [REDACTED] hair and said that was why [REDACTED] had such short hair. When I called [REDACTED] back into the room, he denied ever pulling either of their hair but did ask [REDACTED] when this happened.

J She said she thought when she was three! (This is not something she could have remembered even if it had happened, which both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] denied).

L The following week, [REDACTED] was absolutely irate with [REDACTED]. A police report against the father had been made by the mother. [REDACTED] had been called out of class and bodily inspected by the police, which humiliated [REDACTED]. The police asked if the father had pulled their hair. [REDACTED] said to [REDACTED] “You know that’s a lie. You know that’s one of the things we dreamed up with mom to use as abuse against dad”. [REDACTED] cried but did not dispute what [REDACTED] said.

M

The following week, [REDACTED] refused to leave school with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was there to pick her up from school, filming [REDACTED] and his reaction.

January 11, 2022

Father reported he did not see [REDACTED] over the Christmas holidays except for Christmas eve. [REDACTED] said she didn’t know why. There was initial confusion about custody, and then [REDACTED] a did not adhere to the custody schedule. [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] were moving, and happily, all reported liking their new house.

Father is dealing with yet another complaint against him – a request for a restraining order “because [REDACTED] thinks (he) is going to burn the house down”. When asked what she meant he reported he had asked her to work together and stop spending money on lawyers etc., thereby going through the escrow money for the house like wildfire.

L.A. COUNTY CUSTODY EVALUATOR, ROBERT COLUMBO’S REPORT TO THE COURT:

I wholeheartedly concur with Mr. Columbo’s report to the court, and the same issues were brought to light in the family sessions I conducted. He states:

“I don’t have safety issue concerns regarding [REDACTED] in terms of physical safety. But I do have very serious concerns that as further information comes regarding how the mother has influenced this child..... I could or would recommend a change in custody”.

[REDACTED]:

N I have witnessed that [REDACTED] is quite fragile. She feels forced to reject her father and sister, but in dealing with [REDACTED]’s anger, she is unable to keep up her defense of her mother and breaks down crying. She misses her sister and being separated from her deprives [REDACTED] of two family members.

SYMPTOMS OF ALIENATION:

[REDACTED] is rejecting her father for no discernible reason. There is no evidence of abuse, and mother has created chaos by forcing [REDACTED] (and [REDACTED] when he lived with her mother) to falsely accuse her father of abuse. This in itself is abusive. In fact, the mother has been abusive to both children according to the children.

██████ is starting to refuse to have a relationship with her father, putting her in the moderately alienated phase. When she is with her father, she is happy, smiling, and enjoying herself. Allowing ██████ to say no to her father about spending the night, puts ██████ in an untenable situation. According to ██████, she doesn't know why she doesn't go to her dad for custody time and says her mother decides.

- There is no evidence of abuse by father, and mother has created chaos by forcing ██████ (and ██████ when he lived with mother) to falsely accuse the father of abuse. This has been described by ██████.

Engaging in falsely accusing the father of abuse and enlisting the children to do the same is not only alienating behavior but also teaches anti-social behavior.

Here are more behaviors that have been relayed by ██████, and the evaluator.

- Badmouthing father
- Limiting contact
- Manipulating memories
- Undermining trust, authority, and love the child has had with the alienated parent. Forcing a child to choose between parents (in favor of the alienating parent). Withholding medical, academic, and other important information from the targeted parent.
- Cultivating a dependency of the children on the alienating parent Calling a parent by their first name and a stepparent mom or dad.
- Creating the impression that the other parent is dangerous.
- Confiding in a child.
- Getting a child to spy on the other parent.
- Using the children as weapons.
- ██████ is manifesting symptoms of alienation

SYMPTOMS OF ALIENATION IN CHILDREN

1. Campaign of denigration of father
2. Weak or frivolous rationalizations for the deprecation.
3. Lack of ambivalence (alienated children are black and white; one parent is good and the other is bad).
4. Independent thinker phenomenon (children claim all accusations are their own experiences, thoughts, etc.)
5. The reflexive support of the alienating parent in the parental conflict. Children will protect and support the alienating parent even when there is evidence to the contrary.
6. Absence of guilt over cruelty to and/or exploitation of the alienated parent.
7. The presence of borrowed scenarios (children will adopt a situation that may have happened in the alienator's home and project it onto the alienated parent).
8. The spread of the animosity to the friends and/or extended family of the alienated parent.
- P** 9. Over-empowerment of the children is also called parentification

Q [REDACTED] wrote a lengthy email claiming she is not and did not alienate the children and she is alienated from [REDACTED]. However, she misses the point. She had been abusive and when a parent has been abusive, per the evidence, this does not mean they are alienated, rather they are estranged. This describes her and [REDACTED] relationship. She has established a pattern of harassment against the father, and she performs the types of behaviors consistent with a parent who alienates a child from the other parent, as delineated above.

[REDACTED]:

R [REDACTED] (formerly [REDACTED]) left his mother's residence and moved in with his father on March 7, 2021. Following that move, he expressed suicidal ideation and was cutting himself and thought about drowning himself. [REDACTED] is extremely angry with his mother and describes a pattern of emotional and psychological abuse at the hands of his mother that is most disturbing. He reports attacks on his self-esteem and unrelenting coercive control that made his life unbearable. What he describes is not that different from what his father describes as his reason for leaving. [REDACTED] was hospitalized once in March 2021 and again in August 2021. He attended the program Northridge hospital provided for 5 weeks after each stay. [REDACTED] had experienced bullying at school and

S Therapists throughout the country have been reporting transgender issues with alienated children. It has not been researched, but it could be confusing with identifying with one parent or another. [REDACTED] dresses androgynously and identifies as he. Both Father and [REDACTED] refer to him as he with great ease.

[REDACTED] is pleasant and cooperative in therapy and tries to support [REDACTED], but at the same time will confront [REDACTED] regarding lies she is prone to tell. [REDACTED] says he feels happy at his father's home. His father has rules and is home most of the time, and his father listens to him. He has an individual therapist.

CONCLUSION:

T From what I can determine, there is absolutely no reason for [REDACTED] to not stay the night at her father's house. Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] agree that their mother has made it difficult for them to stay the night with their father. [REDACTED] interprets this as them choosing father over her and they are abandoning her. [REDACTED] has confronted [REDACTED] by saying "you know mom is making it hard for you to spend the night. You are safer at dad's house than you are at mom's". [REDACTED] clearly feels torn.

U The custody evaluator, in his report to the court, had doubts about [REDACTED]'s mental health in her mother's care. Parental alienation is progressive and because the court orders from the last hearing have not been adhered to, there is no reason to believe Angela will cooperate this time. Her alienating behaviors toward Father, using [REDACTED] will worsen to the point [REDACTED] does not see her father. I agree with Mr. Columbo that a 90-day transfer of custody to the father with no contact from the mother is indicated until the mother goes to therapy and stops her incessant blaming of the father, affecting both children's mental health.

On September 29, 2020, Governor Newsome signed the coercive control SB1141 into law. It makes coercive control of children against the law and determines that it is domestic violence. Despite ██████'s claims to be a champion of domestic violence cases, there is no evidence that ██████ is a victim of domestic violence by her father, and she is in fact the abuser. She, by all evidence, is perpetrating coercive control of her children and ██████ is at her mercy now. ██████ only has a break when she is in her father's custody.

Respectfully submitted:

Lynn Steinberg, Ph.D.
LMFT MW 18084

Complaint: Gross Misconduct of Lynn Steinberg

October 27, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to report the unethical, disorganized and abusive behavior we experienced from Dr. Lynn Steinberg.

Dr. Steinberg was appointed to our case [REDACTED] v [REDACTED] VEFL [REDACTED] on June 1, 2021 as a conjoint therapist for [REDACTED] (9 years old at the time) and Father. The court order is attached along with Dr. Steinberg's report. The report has been marked with letters where some points of conflict exist. The same corresponding letters are listed here with the corrections.

- INACCURATE DATES:

Dr. Steinberg's report, marked by letter A, inaccurately states that she had sessions with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on :

June 7, 2021
October 18, 2021
October 19, 2021
October 26, 2021
November 2, 2021
November 9, 2021
November 16, 2021
November 23, 2021
November 30, 2021
December 7, 2021
December 14, 2021
January 11, 2022.

The above dates are incorrect.

[REDACTED] did not participate in therapy with Dr. Steinberg on the following dates:

June 7, 2021
October 18, 2021
October 19, 2021
October 26, 2021
November 2, 2021
December 7, 2021

[REDACTED] attended sessions on :

November 9, 2021
November 16, 2021
November 23, 2021
November 30, 2021
December 14, 2021
January 11, 2022

Complaint: Gross Misconduct of Lynn Steinberg

February 22, 2022

She cancelled the session scheduled for March 1, 2022. No further sessions have been held.

On December 7, 2021 I have the attached photograph from a video and the transcript of [REDACTED] refusing to go to Dr Steinberg. I took her home because her marked fear of Dr. Steinberg was visible by her shaking, crying and repeated pleas to not go. She did not attend the session. Dr. Steinberg has it listed as a date of service. (Exhibit A)

- **DISOBEYING COURT ORDERS**

The court ordered conjoint therapy for father, [REDACTED] and our youngest child, [REDACTED] Ferdig, age 9 at the time. However, according to Dr. Steinberg's report she initially had 5 session with our oldest daughter ([REDACTED]) and Father, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] continued to attend sessions with [REDACTED] and Father. On January 25, 2022, Commissioner Mordetzky ordered, for the second time that sessions were only for [REDACTED] and Father. Court Order attached (Exhibit B) However, Dr. Steinberg's report had already been filed and we repeatedly hear [REDACTED] opinions and beliefs. They mimic Father's beliefs, and made up narratives. At this point [REDACTED] had lived 10 months exclusively with father and was denied contact with mother. The first 11 weeks in Father's home, [REDACTED] was isolated, forbidden to have contact with anyone including friends and extended family. Currently, [REDACTED] is still forbidden by Father, to read weekly letters Mother sends through the mail.

- **ENCOURAGING COERCIVE CONTROL BETWEEN SIBLINGS**

Dr. Steinberg's report shows her allowing [REDACTED] to coercively control, influence and direct the narrative of [REDACTED]'s therapy session to the point of making [REDACTED] cry. Most of what [REDACTED] claims is false and at several points in the report it states that [REDACTED] was mad at [REDACTED] for not agreeing with her narrative.

Points marked by: F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, R, S, U in the report show examples of this allowed behavior. [REDACTED]'s voice and opinions are reported, not [REDACTED]'s. Again, conjoint therapy was to be between [REDACTED] and Father, not [REDACTED]

- **VAGUE DATES/RECORD KEEPING**

Not only are Dr Steinberg's session dates wrong, she reports events in a vague manner. She writes "the next week" or "recently", where a specific date is needed. Often, she is inaccurate as there was no session "the next week" or it's unclear when "the next week" is in reference to. Examples of her vague dates and statements are in her report marked by letters: D, J, L, N

- **VERBAL AND PHYSICAL ABUSE OF A CHILD**

Attached is an email I wrote to Dr. Steinberg citing two incidents of physical and verbal abuse by her to [REDACTED]. The details of what happened are in the email. [REDACTED]'s current therapist, Beth Jakubanis, can attest to the trauma Dr. Steinberg caused [REDACTED] during therapy sessions.

Complaint: Gross Misconduct of Lynn Steinberg

I am not going to rewrite the events that occurred as it is traumatizing to me. I've also attached a Talking Parent message between [REDACTED] and myself describing what [REDACTED] said. The exhibits clearly state what happened. (EXHIBIT AA AND BB)

- INACCURACIES IN DR. STEINBERG REPORT

Below, are false points in Dr. Steinberg's report. They are listed by a letter that corresponds to the specific place in the report where it is mentioned. Further documentation and exhibits are provided.

C- [REDACTED] has repeatedly stated she never played ball with her father at these or any sessions with any therapist.

D:

Dr. Steinberg states that [REDACTED] stopped wanting to spend the night after I "recently" called the police for a well-check. There's no specific date to her claim. [REDACTED]'s resistance to spend the night has been repeatedly documented since 2018. Exhibit D shows 3 different examples from Talking Parents dialogue where the children/[REDACTED] did not to spend the night. There's an example from 2019, 2020 and 2021. Talking Parent has over 75 incidents of the children not wanting to spend the night.

E:

Attached is the email from the host mother of the birthday party to Irene Mak, Minors Counsel letting her know of [REDACTED]'s wishes as well as Irene Mak's response to father, correcting him of his false accusations. Both letters contradict Dr Steinberg's statement in her report. (Exhibit E)

K:

[REDACTED] reported the hair pulling to her therapist and to the LAPD several times over the years. The most recent report at the time was made in November 2021.

L:

Exhibit L is a letter from DCFS stating that neither parent made the report about abuse, yet Dr. Steinberg states "A police report against the father had been made by the mother."

O:

Father has 3 DCSF cases opened on him for abuse and one by the DA's office for criminal behavior towards the children. All documented.

P:

Incorrect use of terms and lacking in knowledge of terminology. She wrote: "over-empowerment of the children is also called parentification" as a symptom of alienation. Parentification is defined as the process of role reversal whereby a child or adolescent is obligated to act as a parent to their own parent or sibling. This is a different concept to what she describes. At no point has this behavior existed with either one of the children at either home. This is a misdiagnosis.

Complaint: Gross Misconduct of Lynn Steinberg

Q:

Attached is the email I wrote Dr Steinberg when she started seeing [REDACTED]. It outlines all the points of when and where I proactively arranged activities for the children and father to spend time together. Her response at Letter Q ignores the points made and instead goes to further false claims of abuse. At no point has abuse been investigated nor substantiated, yet father has had several inquiries and reports of his abuse. (Exhibit Q)

R:

[REDACTED] has had 4 suicide attempts all under father's care. The abuse she alleges I caused was only mentioned after 11 weeks of isolation in her father's home when she had no contact with anyone, friends, or family. The abuse was reported on her 3rd day at a full residential facility when [REDACTED] couldn't identify her own gender. Therapists at Destination for [REDACTED] warned that she should not have been interviewed.

S:

Inaccurate hospitalization dates. Charlie's hospitalization occurred on May 20, 2021, into Destinations for Teens where she stayed for a month in their residential facility and then had outpatient care. The second hospitalization occurred on August 17, 2021, at Northridge Hospital where she stayed for a few days. Dr. Steinberg states: "[REDACTED] was hospitalized once in March 2021 and again in August 2021. He attended the program Northridge hospital provided for 5 weeks after each stay. [REDACTED] had experienced bullying at school and" Her statement stops there. It's incomplete, inaccurate, and false.

T:

Again, a false statement by Dr. Steinberg with no verification. [REDACTED] has not wanted to spend the night with her father since December 2018 when Mr. [REDACTED] threatened the children and demanded they both sleep in the same bed with him. I have documentation to support this statement; pictures, texts, emails, audio and video recordings of both children not wanting to stay overnight with Mr. [REDACTED] since 2018, which can be provided if needed. Exhibit D shows three examples, at three different dates, spanning 3 years of the children not wanting to have an overnight at Father's home.

The documents Dr Steinberg claims to have read are vague. Neither I nor Minors Counsel, Ms. Mak, were shown these documents or videos. We are unfamiliar with her sources. Ms. Azizi, attorney for [REDACTED] (father) stated on multiple occasions that she did not receive my lease contract. Therefore, I am unclear what this document is: [REDACTED].pdf. Her sourcing of documents is vague, unclear and uncited.

On March 9, 2021, Dr. Steinberg was cited and fined for "failure to keep records consistent with sound clinical judgment, the standards of the profession, and the nature of the services being

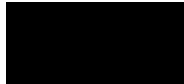
Complaint: Gross Misconduct of Lynn Steinberg

rendered.” , as stated by the Business and Professions Code 4982(v) . Dr. Steinberg was ordered by the Board of Behavioral Sciences: “to include the following information and documentation in the records for each of your clients: the session dates, your clinical notes documenting the work done, billing records, intake documents, treatment plans and signed consent form (or a HIPPA rights signature page, If a minor client). This report shows her failure to comply with the Board of Behavioral Sciences.

I ask that Dr. Steinberg be reprimanded for her abuse of children, her disregard for court orders, her inventing of terminology and diagnosis and for her false testimony. I ask that her license be revoked. She is not fit to work with children. She is a danger to children and causes damage and trauma.

If you have any further questions or need further documentation, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of the sender.