

R.H. Ellington Mayor Coley B. Price Manager

WHEREAS, Parental Alienation is defined as the mental manipulation that damages or destroys a child's relationship with a loving parent; and

WHEREAS, the main arena where Parental Alienation is found is high conflict divorce and custody disputes; and

WHEREAS, professionals have defined parents who engage in this manipulation as the Alienating Parent, or Alienator; and parents who suffer the consequences of the Alienator as the Targeted Parent; and

WHEREAS, Parental Alienation deprives children of their right to love and be loved by the Targeted Parent; and

WHEREAS, Parental Alienation takes advantage of the suggestible, impressionable and dependent nature of children; and

WHEREAS, Parental Alienation is considered harmful to children as the alienating tactics used on the children are confusing, frightening, and rob children of their sense of security; and

WHEREAS, speaking negatively about a parent to or in front of a child; interfering with communication and visitation; and discussing inappropriate information with a child can not only destroy the bond between a loving parent and child, but can cause a child mental and emotional harm; and

WHEREAS, there is little public awareness of Parental Alienation, and it is a growing issue in cases of divorce and separation; and

WHEREAS, education and awareness are effective tools against Parental Alienation; and

WHEREAS, Parental Alienation Awareness Day is an opportunity to educate judges, law enforcement, family law attorneys, family services agencies, educators and mental health professionals of the issues surrounding Parental Alienation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, R. H. Ellington, Mayor of the Town of Angier, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 25, 2014, as **Parental Alienation Awareness Day.**

Mayor R. H. Ellingto