

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, alienating behaviors are often found in high conflict divorce or never married and asymmetrical custody arrangements; 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, such as details of the separation, court proceedings, or financial matters, are behaviors that can not only destroy the bond between a loving parent and child, but can cause a child mental and emotional harm; and
- WHEREAS, parental alienation takes advantage of the impressionable and dependant nature of children; and
- WHEREAS, parental alienation deprives children of their right to love and be loved by both parents; and
- WHEREAS, parental alienation is considered harmful to children, as the alienating tactics are confusing, frightening and rob children of their sense of security; and
- WHEREAS, professionals agree that the problem of parental alienation is damaging to children and can affect them into adulthood, with tragic consequences; and
- WHEREAS, there are more than twenty thousand (20,000) divorced Alabamians, almost twenty-five thousand (25,000) unwed births in 2011, and approximately forty thousand (40,000) children in Alabama subjected to child custody determination; and
- WHEREAS, with awareness comes education and understanding, and the power to stop the abuse of innocent children caught in the crossfire of the people they love; dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another; and
- WHEREAS, this year organizers are doing something special by asking everyone to take ten (10) minutes out of their day at noon on April 25th, anywhere in the state, and blow soap bubbles representing love: Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike Schmitz, Mayor of the City of Dothan and in such capacity do hereby proclaim April 21 - 27, 2013, as

"PARENTAL ALIENATION PREVENTION WEEK"

and April 25, 2013, as

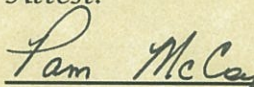
"PARENTAL ALIENATION AWARENESS DAY"

in the City of Dothan.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dothan to be affixed the 19th day of February, 2013.

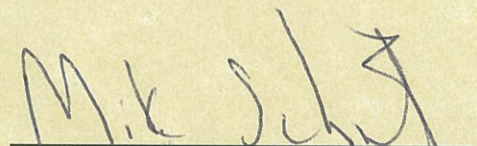
SEAL

Attest:



Pam McCoy
City Clerk





Mike Schmitz
Mayor