

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, alienating behaviors are often found in high conflict divorce and custody situations; 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 2.4 million divorced North Americans, and in 2010 there were more than 21,000 divorced Alabamians, including the parents of more than one million children under the age eighteen, with nearly as many unmarried couples (in 2010 there were more than 25,000 unwed births) with children separating; 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 22 - 28, 2012, as

“PARENTAL ALIENATION PREVENTION WEEK”

and April 25, 2012, as

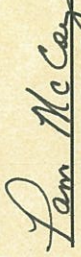
“PARENTAL ALIENATION AWARENESS DAY”

in the City of Dothan.

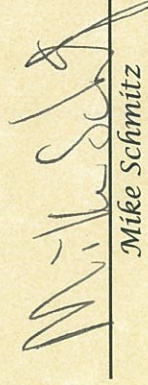
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dothan to be affixed the 17th day of April, 2012.

SEAL

Attest:


Pam McCoby
City Clerk




Mike Schmitz
Mayor