



**THE CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, strong family relationships constitute the foundation of our community; and

WHEREAS, alienating behaviors are frequently seen in high-conflict divorces, separations, and asymmetrical custody arrangements but can occur in intact marriages. Parental alienation is the term used to describe any number of behaviors and attitudes on the part of one parent or both parents designed to interfere, damage or destroy the relationship a child has with their other parent. It is a form of abuse that causes emotional trauma to children; and

WHEREAS, parental alienation deprives children of their right to freely love and be loved by both parents, their extended family, and robs children of their sense of security; and

WHEREAS, mental professionals agree that the negative effects of parental alienation can follow a child into adulthood with tragic consequences; and

WHEREAS, approximately 40,000 Alabama children a year experience court ordered visitation with one parent for only two to six days a month; and

WHEREAS, Parental Alienation Prevention Week is intended to increase the knowledge and understanding of this problem to help Alabamians, institutions, the legal and mental health community, and leaders to better identify and combat such abusive behavior to children; and

WHEREAS, God so loved us, we also ought to love one another; love does no harm to its neighbor; therefore Children should be able to freely express the meaning of F.A.M.I.L.Y. which stands for Father And Mother, I Love You; and

WHEREAS, in honor of Parental Alienation Prevention Week, we ask that you show your support by taking 10 minutes out of your day at Noon, on Wednesday, April 25, to blow soap "Bubbles for Love." Each bubble will represent the love our children have and should be allowed to share with both their parents.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steve Holt, Mayor of the City of Florence, Alabama, do hereby proclaim the week of April 22 through April 28, 2018, as

PARENTAL ALIENATION PREVENTION WEEK

And, Wednesday, April 25, 2018, as

PARENTAL ALIENATION AWARENESS "Bubbles of Love" DAY!

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed this the 3rd day of April, 2018.

Steve Holt, Mayor

