

Parental Abduction: Red Flags

MOST ABDUCTED CHILDREN ARE TAKEN BY SOMEONE THEY KNOW, LOVE & TRUST - THEIR PARENTS, WHO ARE USUALLY INVOLVED IN ADVERSARIAL DIVORCES, VISITATION/CUSTODY BATTLES & CHILD SUPPORT DISPUTES.

If a parent has made a direct threat of abduction, or your child has disclosed information that leads you to believe the other parent is planning to abduct, the following are considered to be higher risk scenarios:

- 1. The other parent has citizenship of another country, or dual citizenship.
- 2. The parent has lost a job and has no clear prospects for employment.
- 3. The parent does not own a home.
- 4. The parent has the ability to work from any location.
- 5. The parent or his/her family owns land or a home in another state or country.
- 6. The parent receives unqualified financial and emotional support from their extended family.
- 7. The parent is experiencing or believes there is a lack of support from services and the courts.
- 8. The parent has significantly contrary views on gender roles and / or childrearing often owing to cultural or religious differences.
- 9. The parent is diagnosed or diagnosable (e.g. as sociopathic, paranoid, or delusional).
- 10. The parent was abusive in the relationship and expresses anger at the loss of power / control over the other parent or the child.
- 11. The parent has recently liquidated assets or borrowed or accessed a large sum of money.
- 12. The parent is in a new relationship / has a new spouse with reason to relocate (for employment, military, extended family, etc.).
- 13. The parent has little or no meaningful connection to the current location.



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