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Courts fail children

Being involved with a divorce/custody case opened my eyes to the breakdown and fallacies of the Blair County courts. You have to go through the system to realize the devastation it causes to the parents and children involved.

Once entering this system, you find that the child you loved, once cared for and cherished is suddenly ripped from your life. You now see your child every other weekend if you're lucky. Your input and influence in your child's life cease.

Suddenly you are known as a visitor. You find yourself paying monthly support payments to the parent who was fortunate enough to retain custody.

You find yourself competing for your child's affections between your spouse, spouse's boyfriends and any other new influences that have been introduced into your once-protected child's life.

The prolonged isolation from the other loved family members tears at your child's heart, and they begin to throw tantrums, tear out their hair,

eyelashes and eyebrows. Exalting their pride and arrogance, the court sees this as no problem. Your child is still alive. We made the right decision.

A few months later your child is court-ordered to be counseled by a psychologist you don't know or want. Your child is then placed in a mental institution to be drugged to induce compliance with the new and devastating lifestyle they were forced into. Special education is in order to compensate for your child's misbehavior and disinterest in school. To add a little more difficulty to your life, the court-appointed counselor begins to take sides, and you are suddenly under investigation for mentally abusing your child.

Your only defense is, "I can't help it my child loves me more than my spouse and wants to live with me."

Next you find yourself going through many hearings slinging mud while attempting to inflict the most damage possible to your soon-to-be ex-spouse in hopes of winning the court trophy, your child.

Finally as your child hurts and continually suffers, you wait as long as months for the court to render a final decision. This is all done under the guise of the best interest of your child.

Something is diabolically wrong with a court system that abuses children. This court's practices are not going to change until the people say we have had enough.

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