



# Proclamation

By the Mayor of Prattville, Alabama

*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; and

*WHEREAS*, parental alienation is a 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's 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 children in the State of Alabama were subjected to child custody determination in 2013; 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*, in honor of Parental Alienation Prevention Week, show your support by taking 10 minutes out of your day at noon, on Saturday, April 25, to blow soap "Bubbles for Love". Each bubble blown will represent the love our children have and should be allowed to share with both their parents.

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Bill Gillespie, Jr., Mayor of the City of Prattville do hereby proclaim April 24 through April 30, 2016, as

## PARENTAL ALIENATION PREVENTION WEEK

And April 25, 2016, as

## PARENTAL ALIENATION AWARENESS "BUBBLES OF LOVE" DAY

In Prattville, Alabama.



Given Under My Hand and the Seal of the City of Prattville on the 1st day of April 2016.

*Bill Gillespie Jr.*

Mayor Bill Gillespie, Jr.