

Edition 1, August 2023



Writer and Editor [Tiffany Fontana](#)

Shining Hope

The "Shining Hope" newsletter offers valuable resources and support to families facing child abduction and parental alienation. Our publication provides uplifting and informative messages to parents dealing with the abduction of their children, fostering a strong and supportive community throughout their difficult journey. Stay informed and up-to-date with the latest news, events, and pressing issues through our comprehensive and timely newsletter.



Coming soon: [STL](#) launches its official website! Stay connected for more details.

Bi-Weekly Parent Support Zoom Call: August 20th at 8PM EDT.

Email contactshinethelight@gmail.com for the link to join.

[The Anti-Alienation Project](#) with Madison Welborne: All things parental alienation from the POV of an adult child who went through it.

Reflections & Quotes

Through the pain, remember that you are stronger than you think. Your love will endure, and brighter days will come!

A Mother's Unyielding Love Transforms Pain into Progress (Bianca's Law)

A mother's love for her abducted daughter spans nearly three decades, driving her to fight for justice and inspire change.

When Deana's daughter, Bianca, was only 18 months old, her father took her for a court-ordered visitation, but he never returned. Instead, her father whisked Bianca off to Mexico, plunging her and her mother into a heartbreaking nightmare. The anguish and sorrow that followed would become an excruciating chapter in this courageous mother's life. Instead of giving in to despair, she chose a different path—one of strength, determination, and resilience. *Continued on page 2.*



A Journey to Healing: Overcoming the Impact of Parental Abduction (page 3)



Essential Resources for Navigating Parental Abduction and Alienation (page 3)

Bianca's Law

Continued from page 1

With the help of private investigator Mark Stephens, Deana located her long-lost daughter in Mexico. Their emotional reunion at a Mexican police station in August 2021 brought hope for Hebert. However, the meeting exposed the painful consequences of parental alienation and flaws within the legal system.

Despite reaching adulthood, Bianca faces numerous challenges in considering reconciliation, primarily due to the psychological manipulation she endured from her father. [Alienated adults](#) often undergo significant emotional trauma and distress. The prospect of reconnecting with her mother may trigger fears of reopening past wounds or facing more emotional turmoil.

Bianca's father, Juan Antonio Lozano, couldn't be prosecuted for interfering with child custody due to the statute of limitations.



From left to right: Rep. Cody Vasut, Deana Hebert, Mark Stephens

Furthermore, Mexico declined to extradite him to Texas, leaving Bianca vulnerable and cut off from her mother. This heartbreaking situation underscores the necessity for legal reform to safeguard children in similar situations.

Fueled by her desire to shield other families from the same pain, Deana fought for change. Almost 28 years later, in May 2023, [Bianca's Law](#) passed. In June it was signed into law and is officially known as House Bill 3025. The law brings newfound hope for parents and children who are suffering from the trauma of parental abduction and parental alienation.

Texas [Rep. Cody Vasut](#) and [Senator Mayes Middleton](#) championed the bipartisan-supported law that tackles two critical issues. Firstly, it removes the statute of limitations for prosecuting individuals who violate child custody orders by taking children out of the state. Secondly, it extends the prosecution period for kidnapping minors until the child's 18th birthday, preventing abductors from evading justice. This landmark legislation, now effective in Texas, seeks to foster stronger cross-state cooperation and smoother processes.

Although Bianca's Law will not immediately resolve the pain and loneliness experienced by families with missing children, it serves as a beacon of hope for the future. STL is honored to have Deana as one of our parent advocates. She plays a crucial role in raising awareness and advocating for the rights of missing children and their families. For the kids!

Post-Traumatic Growth

Factors Leading to Post-Traumatic Growth



THERAPY

A trauma-informed therapist can help you understand, process, and cope with trauma.



LEARNING ABOUT TRAUMA

Learning how trauma impacts your brain, emotions, and relationships can help you understand your symptoms.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Support from people who understand can help you grow.

Outcomes of Post-Traumatic Growth



A GREATER APPRECIATION OF LIFE

appreciating the value of each day in a way you didn't before



IMPROVED RELATIONSHIPS

a sense of closeness, compassion, and knowing you can count on others



NEW POSSIBILITIES

new interests, a new life path, or a willingness to make positive changes



PERSONAL STRENGTH

knowing you can handle difficult things and rely on yourself



SPIRITUAL CHANGE

a deeper understanding of spirituality, or stronger faith than before

©PsychCentral

A Journey to Healing: Overcoming the Impact of Parental Abduction

Parental abduction is a painful experience that leads to emotional damage and [PTSD](#). The shock of the abduction and the subsequent separation from their child can profoundly affect a parent's mental well-being. However, healing is possible with the right support and coping strategies. STL helps parents of abducted children heal and cope with PTSD.

Sharing experiences with others who have gone through similar struggles can provide a sense of belonging and hope. If you need help or have recently experienced an abduction, please contact STL for support.

If you are in danger or experiencing a life-threatening situation, please DO NOT use this website to seek immediate help. Instead, call emergency services or your local authorities. Your safety and well-being are our utmost priority.

Essential Resources for Navigating Parental Abduction and Parental Alienation

[National Center for Missing & Exploited Children \(NCMEC\)](#): The NCMEC provides resources and support for parents of abducted children, including information on prevention, recovery, and reunification. Click [here](#).

[International Child Abduction Prevention and Return Act \(ICAPRA\)](#): This U.S. government website offers information on international parental child abduction and resources for left-behind parents. Click [here](#).

Next Issue: Finding Light in the Shadow: Hope Amidst Parental Abduction and Estrangement

Contact Us

Hours: 24/7

stlforabductedchildren@gmail.com

(570) 916-1308

[Facebook Page](#)



Share your stories, ideas, or feedback with our Editor at info@tiffanyfontana.com. We value your input and look forward to hearing from you!