



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.



Donate now at [STL's](#) official website! Your support brings kids HOME!

Bi-Weekly Parent Support Zoom Call: Email contactshinethelight@gmail.com for dates and the link to join.

"From Broken Steps: A Guide to Healing After Parental Abduction" will be available soon on Amazon. [Stay tuned](#) for more information!

“ Sometimes the smallest step in the right direction ends up being the biggest step of your life. Tip toe if you must, but take the step.

Lori Deschene

Finding Financial Stability After Parental Abduction

The upheaval of parental abduction can take a major toll on your financial well-being. Suddenly finding yourself separated from your child and facing an uncertain legal battle can disrupt your ability to earn a steady income. However, it's important to stay encouraged - there are solutions available to help you regain financial stability during this challenging time.

One option to explore is creating passive income streams. Passive income refers to money you earn with minimal ongoing effort, such as through affiliate marketing, online courses, or a monetized blog or YouTube channel. These kinds of projects require some work upfront, but they can generate funds while you focus on other priorities.

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Finding Financial Stability After Parental Abduction

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Upskilling can also be an effective way to expand your earning potential. Whether it's taking online courses, earning professional certifications, or reading industry-specific books, developing new skills opens the door to more money-making possibilities.

Another avenue to consider is flexible, independent work that allows you to set your own schedule. This can be valuable when dealing with the many demands of a parental abduction case. One inspiring example comes from our executive director, Randall Murphy, who found an unexpected lifeline through rideshare driving.

In 2018, with just twenty-five dollars to his name, Randall began driving Uber part-time to supplement his income for international child support payments related to his two abducted children. What started as a test for Randall in the rural areas of central Pennsylvania soon became a transformative opportunity.

"This work has changed my financial life," he shares. "It's brought resources that have enabled me to buy a house and provide a stable living. In turn, I've been able to continue supporting parents around the world who are facing similar situations."

The flexibility of this type of work allowed him to balance his ongoing legal battles and advocacy efforts with earning a steady income. Over time, he's completed more than 10,000 rides and achieved top-tier status with the platform.

"There was a time when it was my escape from the reality of what was going on," he admits.



Executive Director of STL, Randall Murphy

"But it also became a way to communicate with others about the issue of international and domestic child abduction. I've spoken to so many people and raised awareness while also securing my financial future."

The key takeaway from Randall's story is that financial recovery is possible, even in the most difficult circumstances. By thinking creatively and being open to new opportunities - whether it's rideshare driving, freelance work, or starting a small business - you can find ways to rebuild your financial life. You just need to take that first step.

Gig Economy Platforms

Upwork • Fiverr • Freelancer • TaskRabbit • Guru • PeoplePerHour • Toptal • 99designs • Catalant • Flexjobs • SimplyHired • Fancy Hands • Appen • Clickworker • Amazon Mechanical Turk • Rev • TranscribeMe • Lionbridge • Scribie • UserTesting • TestIO • Testbirds • Respondent • Prolific • Swagbucks • Survey Junkie • Vindale Research • InboxDollars • Care.com • Sittercity • UrbanSitter • Rover • Wag! • DoorDash • Uber Eats • Grubhub • Instacart • Shipt • Postmates • Lyft • Uber • Turo • Getaround • Airbnb • VRBO • Teachable • Udemy • Skillshare • VIPKid • Outschool • Chegg • TutorMe • Cambly • italki • Handy • Thumbtack • Angi • HomeAdvisor • Wonolo • Shiftgig • Gigwalk • Field Agent • EasyShift • WeGoLook



Striving for Progress: Bridging Cultures, Uniting Families

Parental child abduction is a devastating issue that transcends borders, with unique cultural and legal factors at play in each case. Although some countries have a worse track record with Hague Convention compliance and custody rulings, it's important to avoid perpetuating harmful stereotypes or making sweeping generalizations about entire nations or communities.

The reality is, this intensely challenging experience is a global issue, and each case is influenced by its own set of nuanced factors. Progress will require building bridges, fostering cross-cultural understanding, and amplifying the voices of all impacted families.

Each situation involving the separation of a child from a parent is extremely complex and life-changing. That's why STL strives to be a supportive community, believing that education is key to moving beyond judgment and closer to unity. STL focuses on partnering with resources that can provide meaningful assistance.

Globally, an [estimated 200,000 to 300,000 children are abducted by a parent each year.](#)

The reasons behind these cases are multifaceted, often rooted in cultural norms, family dynamics, and legal systems that don't adequately protect the rights of all parties involved. In some countries, mothers may be viewed as the default custodial parent, while

fathers in other regions hold a distinct advantage. Immigration status, socioeconomic status, and other factors can also play a role.

The Hague Abduction Convention has been ratified by over 100 countries. However, compliance and enforcement remain major challenges. Countries like Japan and Brazil for instance, have been criticized for failing to honor Hague orders, making it extremely difficult for left-behind parents to regain custody. While nations like the United States have a stronger track record, even though systemic biases and loopholes still exist.

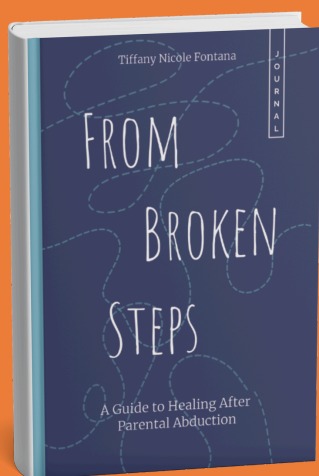
These complex dynamics require empathetic, trauma-informed support systems that account for diverse cultural contexts. Left-behind parents need access to multilingual resources, legal expertise across jurisdictions, and mental health services designed to address the unique psychological impacts of parental abduction. Reunification efforts must also be planned with great care, acknowledging the emotional toll and potential for further trauma.

STL's role is to raise awareness, advocate for policy changes, and connect parents to the resources and networks they need - without judgment. By coming together with compassion and a commitment to justice, we can work to prevent future cases, support those in the midst of this trauma, and ensure a smoother path to reunification and healing.



Legal Corner

Transnational Family Law addresses family matters across borders, including custody disputes. **International Enforcement Mechanisms** ensure the application of custody laws worldwide. **Guardianship Ad Litem** refers to court-appointed representatives for children, while **Extradition** involves requests for the return of individuals across borders. **Preventive Interventions** and **Hague Convention Remedies** are essential for managing and resolving abductions, alongside the **International Child Abduction Remedies Act (ICARA)**. **Parental Alienation Syndrome (PAS)** describes manipulative behaviors affecting custody, while **Reciprocity in Custody Enforcement** ensures international recognition of custody decisions. **Emergency Custody Orders** address urgent cases, and **Cross-Jurisdictional Coordination** involves collaboration across regions to resolve abductions. Lastly, **Parental Abduction Prevention Programs** aim to educate about risks and prevention.



Available on Amazon 8/28/2024!

Tiffany Fontana

GROW THROUGH CHALLENGES. Rebuild your path—even from broken steps—with practical tools for resilience and growth.

MANAGE DIFFICULT EMOTIONS. Develop skills to handle painful thoughts and feelings more effectively.

CONNECT AUTHENTICALLY. Break out of isolation and explore how shared experiences create lasting bonds and support.

Find renewed hope and take steps toward the life you want—your parenting journey isn't over.

Contact Us

Hours: 24/7

stlforabductedchildren@gmail.com

(570) 916-1308

stlforabductedchildren.org



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