

# The Leadership Council



HOME



SERVICES



CONTACTS



SITE MAP

## Home

## About Us

[Our Mission](#)

[Our Advisors](#)

[Accomplishments](#)

[In the News](#)

## Research

[Trauma & Memory](#)

[Trauma & the Brain](#)

[Child Custody & Abuse / PAS](#)

[Interpersonal Violence](#)

[The Rind Study](#)

[Child Abuse Economics](#)

## Media

[News](#)

[Capturing the Friedmans](#)

[Awards](#)

## Justice

[Amicus Briefs](#)

[Legal Commentary](#)

[Legal Updates](#)

[Taus v. Loftus](#)

## Conferences

[Upcoming](#)

[Past](#)

## Make a Donation

## Resources

## Contact Us

**FEEDBACK?** Send us your comments.

## Search Site

## ABUSE AND CUSTODY DISPUTES: SCIENTIFIC AND LEGAL ISSUES

*Note: the following references are provided for educational and informational purposes only. The views expressed in a specific article are those of the author or authors and do not necessarily represent those of the Leadership Council.*

### Scholarly Articles and Reviews

- o **Articles Addressing Domestic Violence and Abuse Allegations in Custody and Visitation Disputes**
- o **Scientific Studies Examining the Veracity of Sex Abuse Allegations in Child Custody Disputes - Are they more likely to be false?**
- o **Are Protective Parents Losing Custody to Alleged Abusers?** Evidence shows that women who raise concerns about family violence during custody litigation run the risk of losing their children
- o **Research Indicating that the Majority of "High Conflict" Contested Custody Cases Involve a History of Domestic Violence.**
- o **Using a Child Custody Dispute to Discredit Sex Abuse Allegations.** Several sex offenders in treatment describe how they used a child custody dispute to prevent or discredit abuse allegations. Originally posted on Colorado Department of Correction's website.
- o **Custody Myths -** Too often custody decisions are based on myth, misinterpretation of facts, and evaluator bias. This article provides an overview of some of the erroneous beliefs that contribute to the problem of children not being protected from abuse in family court.
- o **Common Misconceptions in Addressing Domestic Violence in Child Custody Disputes -** outlines seven misconceptions with respect to domestic violence and child custody that represent barriers to safety and accountability of women and children exposed to domestic violence.

### General information on child sexual abuse

- **In General, How Often do Children's Reports of Sexual Abuse Turn out to be False?**
- **Factors influencing children to self-disclose sexual abuse.** (PDF of Paine, M.L., & Hansen, D.J. (2002). Factors influencing children to self-disclose sexual abuse. *Clinical Psychology Review*, 22, 271-195; Copyright 2002, with permission from Elsevier)
- **Childhood sexual abuse factsheet** by Emily M.

## WHAT'S NEW

**Radio Interview: Oct 09, 2006**  
- - Retired Judge Sol Gothard and nationally renowned attorney Richard Ducote talk with Lisa about custody law and policy involving protective parents, child abuse, the Leadership Council, and more.

[Gothard-Ducote.wma](#)

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