



What if someone outside your family turned your son or daughter against you?  
What if that person manipulated your child into severing every tie to every relative and friend?  
What could you do?

**Such manipulation is generally not considered a crime. New Jersey needs a law to protect families from predatory alienation.**

Internet predators, con artists, pimps, gangs, and other destructive individuals and groups use this form of psychologically damaging manipulation to isolate young people from their relatives and friends. Predatory alienation devastates not only the people being controlled, but also the family members and friends who love them. Time alone typically does **not** resolve the situation or heal the emotional harm done.

“A tie to a parent may be the most important bond in a young adult’s life,” according to family science researchers at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Texas at Austin (*New York Times*, May 31, 2012). Yet, there is usually nowhere for parents to turn when a son or daughter is maliciously manipulated into isolation from the family.

Concerned citizens are working with New Jersey State Senator Loretta Weinberg (D-District 37) to draft legislation to enable parents to seek court-ordered steps to restore healthy family connections and to recover damages against any person whose severe or pervasive conduct disrupts the parent-child relationship.

Governor Chris Christie has made family preservation a cornerstone of his child protection policies. This legislation would close the loophole that can leave loving, responsible parents helpless — and the state unnecessarily footing the bill for costly social services — when a family is broken apart by predators who alienate their loved ones from them. **Its passage would help protect every family in New Jersey.**

## How **YOU** Can Help Keep Families **SAFE & Sound**

- S**ign the NJ Safe & Sound petition at [www.njsafeandsound.org](http://www.njsafeandsound.org) to demand that families be given the right to stand up to those who maliciously turn loved ones against them.
- A**ccess the NJ Safe & Sound website periodically for updates on the progress of legislation regarding the disruption of the parent-child relationship.
- F**oster statewide support for legislation against the disruption of the parent-child relationship by urging your legislators to address this issue. The NJ Safe & Sound website explains how.
- E**ncourage anyone who has had a close family relationship ruptured by an alienating influence to fill out one of the confidential questionnaires on the NJ Safe & Sound website.