

Urgent Request for Transparency and Equal Representation Regarding Report on Freedom of Expression from an adult survivor of severe parental alienation with abduction.

Dear Ms. Irene Khan,

I hope this message finds you well. As a concerned citizen and advocate for freedom of expression, I am writing to address a matter of great importance regarding the recent report on freedom of expression, specifically with regard to the omission of crucial information and the lack of transparency in the preparation of the report.

Firstly, I would like to express my deep appreciation for your dedication and work as the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression. Your role in promoting and protecting this fundamental human right is commendable. However, I have come across certain aspects of the recent report that have raised significant concerns.

It has come to my attention that the report contains misinformation and intentionally overlooks the scientific basis of parental alienation, a universal term used around the world, as well as submissions made by numerous alienated parents, including many mothers [1]. This act of censorship promotes a gender-biased agenda regarding parental alienation, which does not reflect the truth.

I would like to inform you that I am an adult survivor of severe parental alienation with abduction myself, having experienced significant challenges and hardships in my own journey to reach a level of understanding and healing from the very traumatic experience.

As an adult survivor, my personal experiences have shaped my understanding of the importance of freedom of expression. It has been through the power of voicing our stories and advocating for change that survivors like myself can find healing and contribute to the prevention of similar experiences for future generations. By sharing our stories, we raise awareness, educate society, and foster a supportive environment for others who have endured similar hardships.

I believe that my personal journey as an adult survivor provides valuable insights and perspectives that can contribute to the discourse on freedom of expression and the need for transparency and equal representation. It is my hope that by acknowledging my status as an adult survivor, we can ensure that the voices and experiences of survivors like me are considered in the ongoing discussions on this crucial issue.

Regarding the report, there is a lack of transparency in the preparation of this report that raises concerns about the intentional repression of freedom of speech for those whose opinions do not align with Ms. Alsalem's viewpoint. The suppression of expression goes against the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and undermines the principles of transparency and accountability. As this report stands, it is effectively suppressing my freedom of expression.

I would like to highlight some of the specific information that has been concealed from the report:

1. Whether and how submissions were recorded.
2. The inclusion and exclusion criteria used to determine which submissions would be referred to in the final report.
3. The date when all submissions (not excluded on the basis of confidentiality) would be published and made available for reading.

4. The date when a list of all organizations, agencies, individuals, and others (not excluded on the basis of confidentiality) who made submissions as a result of the call for inputs would be published and accessible.
5. The stakeholders and experts invited to participate in the series of online consultations.
6. The criteria used to determine which stakeholders and experts would be invited to participate in those online consultations.
7. Whether and when the evidence elicited from those online consultations will be published and available for reading.

It is disheartening to note that our efforts to seek this information and correct the report have been misinterpreted as an attempt to suppress Ms. Alsalem's freedom of expression. Our sole objective is to advocate for equal representation, transparency, and accurate information in this report.

In light of the concerns mentioned above, I kindly request that you promptly look into and address the suppression of expression that Ms. Alsalem has perpetuated in this report. As the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression, your intervention is crucial in ensuring that all voices are heard, and the principles of transparency and accountability are upheld.

I would like to also bring to your attention that I, as a woman exercising my freedom of expression, strongly disagrees with Ms. Alsalem's mandate to ban the use of parental alienation. Such a ban would prevent survivors from expressing their lived experiences and promote a gender-biased agenda. It is essential to recognize that speaking out against the emotional and psychological abuse endured by children, treated as possessions by parents, can significantly impact their lives, altering their trajectory in immeasurable ways.

I respectfully urge you to consider the urgent need for transparency, equal representation, and accurate information in the report on freedom of expression. By doing so, we can ensure that the voices of all individuals affected by parental alienation, regardless of gender, are included and their experiences acknowledged. This will contribute to a comprehensive understanding of the issue and enable effective measures to address and prevent the harm caused by parental alienation.

Your attention to this matter is extremely important for children who may be suffering the same fate I had as a child and ask that you consider the unique perspective I bring as an adult survivor. By recognizing the significance of lived experiences, we can work together to create a more inclusive and comprehensive approach to freedom of expression, one that takes into account the voices of those directly impacted by the issues at hand.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you and trust that you will take the necessary steps to address the concerns raised.

Yours sincerely,

Dawn McCarty

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