

## Special advocate for children of divorce wins \$1.45M defamation suit

April 27, 2008 - 1:13AM

[By Dennis Huspeni](#)



For years, Marlene Bizub has worked for the courts of El Paso County, trying to help children whose parents are going through a divorce.

So when a Colorado Springs psychologist went on a multiyear campaign to destroy Bizub's reputation in the legal community, she turned to the court.

"I do feel vindicated completely by the court system," Marlene Bizub said after winning a defamation lawsuit against psychologist Elizabeth Paterson.

And the court didn't disappoint.

This month, 4th Judicial District Judge David Prince ordered psychologist Elizabeth Paterson to pay Bizub \$1.455 million for "maliciously" saying and publishing "false and misleading" things about Bizub, his ruling states. Prince also ordered Paterson to stop savaging Bizub's reputation.

Bizub sued Paterson for defamation because Paterson "engaged in extreme and outrageous conduct" by sending letters with lies about Bizub to "judges, lawyers, employers, authorities, (educational) institutions," according to the lawsuit.

After a weeklong trial, Prince entered his order April 11, dubbing Paterson's conduct "atrocious, going beyond all possible bounds of decency and utterly intolerable in a civilized community."

Paterson's attorney, Maria Sinel, said they might appeal Prince's ruling, so Paterson would not answer questions or make a statement.

Bizub's nightmare began in 2003.

As a private, unlicensed therapist, Bizub was doing quite a bit of work as special advocate for children of divorce. Basically, she would investigate the family's situation and make recommendations to the judge about things such as visitation time.

"My career was growing," Bizub said. "Attorneys said they liked my work because

they believed I was thorough and did a good job."

In a 2003 divorce case in which Bizub was a special advocate, Paterson was the mother's therapist. Bizub recommended to the court that Paterson not be allowed to also serve as the child's therapist.

"I didn't feel it was appropriate," Bizub said.

After that, Paterson sent letters to people, including attorneys Bizub worked for, alleging Bizub "failed to report incidents of child abuse known to her," according to Bizub's lawsuit.

Failure of a person working with children to report child abuse is a crime.

"I was never told about abuse that I didn't report. Ever," Bizub said.

Paterson's letters included allegations that Bizub was "incompetent," had been removed from cases and that Bizub made "inaccurate claims . . . with regard to her qualifications and education," the lawsuit states.

Paterson made four complaints to the state Department of Regulatory Agencies and had "proxies" file three more, all of which were deemed unfounded, Prince said in his ruling.

When Paterson told people the state board was investigating Bizub, she knew the board had deemed the allegations unfounded. Paterson "acted knowingly in making such false and misleading statements," Price said.

Paterson wrote to Bizub's college, Wichita State University, in "a fraudulent attempt to obtain information . . . concerning the educational credentials of" Bizub, the lawsuit states.

Attorneys told Bizub they didn't believe the allegations, but they hesitated to hire her.

"As a lawyer, in general, the last thing you want to do is inject controversy into a case," said Bizub's attorney, Arthur Porter.

She was pretty much out of work. "My income took a big decline," she said. "I was devastated and didn't know how to fix it."

But what drove Bizub "over the brink" was when Paterson complained to the District Attorney's Office, alleging Bizub knew about but didn't report child abuse.

"I got a call from the DA's office, and at that point they said it was a close call if they would file charges," Bizub said.

No charges were filed, but Bizub had had enough. She filed the lawsuit in April 2007.

Paterson, through her attorney Sinel, filed a response and counterclaim within weeks stating: "Bizub's claims are barred because the alleged statements were true statements."

As the trial date approached, Judge Prince grew frustrated with Paterson's refusal to tell Bizub what witnesses and evidence she would bring at trial - as required by Colorado's rules of evidence.

Finally, Prince issued an order stating that if Paterson wouldn't provide that information she would not be allowed to use it at trial. She never did.

"No defense witnesses or exhibits have been properly endorsed and none will be admissible at trial," Prince wrote.

After the trial, Prince awarded Bizub money not only for business she lost, but money she will continue to lose while rebuilding her practice.

"Plaintiff has predicted that her business can recover in three years," Prince said. "To the court this seems optimistic."

More important to Bizub than the money, she said, was Prince ordering Paterson to stop by slapping a permanent injunction on her.

"The defendant has made clear that her current intent, which hopefully will change after this ruling, is to continue this pursuit of the plaintiff," Prince said.

He warned Paterson that if she makes "false, defamatory statements" about Bizub again she likely would go to jail.

Bizub said she went through the inheritance her deceased mother left her to pay for the legal proceedings.

"I do feel vindicated completely by the court system," Bizub said. "I'm glad to have my life back."

## Reader Comments

Oldest First



**heavenlyeyes401** wrote:

It's nice to see that you only got one side of the story, now how about eating your words and contacting the woman that you got contact information on and ask them what really happened in their cases. Perhaps they can get their lives back, after what Marlene did to them? DID YOU EVEN THINK ABOUT THAT? And by the way you only publish one side of the story, you look un-credible. Also, Judge Prince doesn't have the authority to put an injunction on Dr. Paterson, or did you just take that at face value too?

4/27/2008 7:27:32 AM

[Recommend\(6\)](#)



**2fedup** wrote:

WHY does an unlicensed "therapist" work for the courts? and, WHY is a licensed psychologist still practicing psychotherapy when it sounds like she needs it more than her clients?

4/27/2008 8:19:36 AM

[Recommend\(5\)](#)



**smiler** wrote:

Sounds to me like "heavenlyeyes401" might be (Dr) Elizabeth Paterson...?

4/27/2008 9:05:56 AM

[Recommend\(6\)](#)



**amazingg** wrote:

Sour grapes make a bitter whine.

4/27/2008 9:45:42 AM

[Recommend\(0\)](#)



**citizen1** wrote:

Oops. This is a scary paragraph of this story: "As a private, unlicensed therapist, Bizub was doing quite a bit of work as special advocate for children of divorce. Basically, she would investigate the family's situation and make recommendations to the judge about things such as visitation time." Just EXACTLY WHAT IS an UNLICENSED therapist doing having "work" with ANY court - but ESPECIALLY here in the good old, CONSERVATIVE, REPUBLICAN 4th Judicial District? WOW! Let some "other" people who do work for the (local) court system (in other areas) learn about the "lack of needed/necessary licensing" and see if THEY don't go through the roof with anger. Just HOW DOES an "unlicensed" therapist (EVER) get a job in/through our court system(s) anyway? Something is WRONG there....just for that ONE HUGE aspect.

4/27/2008 10:08:49 AM

[Recommend\(7\)](#)



**seeyouontop** wrote:

Sounds like fairly normal behavior for a "licensed psychologist." Most of that ilk need "treatment" more than the people they rip off. Psychotherapy is one of the most insidious frauds of the 20th and 21st Centuries. Not only is psychology based on flawed, discredited theories of a bunch of loonie tunes, any one with an IQ of at least 1 should be able to discern that that going to one of these nuts and getting "treatment" is preposterous!

4/27/2008 10:10:31 AM

[Recommend\(2\)](#)



**citizen1** wrote:

ESPECIALLY when dealing with children (which this county/area is not too well-respected for)....WHY doesn't Bizub have to be licensed? These are CHILDREN.

4/27/2008 10:12:32 AM

[Recommend\(6\)](#)



**amazingg** wrote:

Citizen1 and 2fedup you both have very good points, but why an unlicensed therapist is working for the judicial system wasn't what the case was about. The case was did the defendant libel the plaintiff? The answer was, according to the court, yes.

4/27/2008 10:53:19 AM

[Recommend\(0\)](#)



**toseeme** wrote:

Citizen1 wrote: Citizen1 wrote: "WHY doesn't Bizub have to be licensed? These are CHILDREN."

I would also ask if she has been doing this work for this long, why hasn't she gained her licensure? Also, I want to know if Ms. Bizub has attempted to get her licensure but has not been granted it by the state. There is a reason for therapist to be licensed, now Ms. Bizub does not have to be held accountable to anyone but the courts. Also, what are the requirements in our state for Special Advocates?

4/27/2008 11:02:34 AM

[Recommend\(5\)](#)



**citizen1** wrote:

OK. Maybe a "private therapist" does NOT have to have a license to do work for our State's court system...but surely she must have some certification of some sort/kind from the State, right? Mr. Huspeni did not mention any kind of certification that Ms. Bizub has(?), had(?), will have (sometime in the future?) - I know and understand that this story was about libel - but sometimes in stories (articles) we "learn" things that we didn't know before...like who is REALLY qualified enough to handle societal situations like divorce - that involve our precious children?

4/27/2008 11:44:03 AM

[Recommend\(7\)](#)

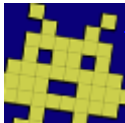


**citizen1** wrote:

Excuse me...I meant to say, "I know and understand that this story was about DEFAMATION - NOT libel" - my apologies for using a word that was NOT appropriate nor correct to begin with.

4/27/2008 11:49:42 AM

[Recommend\(0\)](#)



**citizen2** wrote:

Hmmmm. Where's Lexi?

4/27/2008 11:55:13 AM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**seeyouontop** wrote:

I'm curious. What good do you think a "license" from the state will do? It's not the license or lack thereof, that should be the concern. The concern should be WHY are these so-called "professional" psychologists given any credence at all? Why I think the whole fraudulent "profession" is a farce, I've already stated. They are the ones that need help. And they need help because they go through life thinking that if someone pays them a \$100 a hour (and are usually forced to go, by the way) to sit and whine about their problems, that they, by listening to this stuff then giving their subjective, secular, biased opinion, they somehow "help" someone. And let me make this clear. These people are not dealing in scientific fact, like a surgeon, but relying solely on their own flawed opinions. The whole concept, like I said, is preposterous!! I recommend that people, whatever your "problems" are, just GET OVER IT, and move on with your life, never looking back, but going forward.

4/27/2008 12:04:58 PM

[Recommend\(0\)](#)



[toseeme](#) wrote:

To qualify as a Gaurdian Ad Litum you must be an attorney, why no qualifications for the others dealing with children such as "special advocates and child and family investigators"?

4/27/2008 12:12:01 PM

[Recommend](#)(3)



[smackermack](#) wrote:

The child at the root of the problem needed their own therapist. Why would the courts think it is ok in an adversarial situation to have the mother and child have the same therapist? Hopefully, the child had a separate therapist.

4/27/2008 12:26:01 PM

[Recommend](#)(0)



[xchurchmember](#) wrote:

The Gazette really dropped the ball on this portrayal of Marlene Bizub as the innocent victim, in my opinion. I can't speak for anyone else's experiences with Marlene Bizub, but I have black and white evidence which I believe speaks volumes about the credibility and competence of Marlene Bizub...and not in a positive manner. I speak from first-hand experience, and I wish I would have known this case existed, because I would have gladly shared all my evidence with the Court to show that Marlene is not a victim--she brought her own bad reputation upon herself. I personally would like to know what "false and misleading" statements this Dr. Patterson "published" about Marlene Bizub that were defamatory, because I have been searching online for \*years\* to find other stories about Marlene and other "professionals" appointed in custody cases, because I just couldn't believe I was the only who was treated so unethically and unjustly. I have wanted to get my story about Marlene out since 2003, hoping it would bring some attention to the problems she's created, and possibly preventing her from hurting other families the way she did mine. Shame on Marlene for taking advantage of a permanent injunction against this Dr. Patterson gal, to completely defame her in the media--knowing Dr. Patterson is now legally prohibited to speak a word in her defense. And shame on the Gazette for facilitating this abuse. I have no idea what Dr. Patterson did to Marlene, but it sure seems to me that Marlene is now doing to Dr. Patterson, the very same thing that she claimed in Court that Dr. Patterson did to her...wow, if that's not that's the pot calling the kettle black, I don't know what is. If you have never had the "privilege" of having a contested custody case heard in the El Paso County Courts, then you literally have no idea what goes in there. You may actually believe that the truth will always (or even the majority of the time) prevail, and that parents are innocent until proven guilty, and that people like Marlene actually do their job. You probably also believe that everything in a Judge's ruling is fair, and was derived according to strict rules of evidence, and a clear adherence to the law and the rules of the Court, and that the Judge's decision was based on absolute fact. Very few families who have gone through this process would agree with that. I had firm faith in the system, myself, until I went through my divorce, and the contested custody issues of my case. My experience, and those of everyone else I've personally talked to who has been through this experience, is that there is little to no actual investigation, and the squeakiest, most manipulative (and oftentimes abusive) wheel tends to get the grease. There are no standards of investigation, no standards for the basis of the "opinions" of these professionals to be corroborated with facts, and there are no standards for these "professionals" to deal in a fair, ethical, and equitable manner with all of the parties involved. Marlene Bizub isn't the heart of the problem--the current state of our legal system simply allows her, and others like her, to perform without a shred of accountability. I do have a TON of facts about my own case that have just blown people away, even professionals in the family law system, when I have divulged them. If the Gazette is interested in an actual investigative piece, I challenge them to contact me (and others like me, which I have found in my internet searches for similar victims), and give equal print space to the family perspective of Marlene Bizub's "professional" services, and the lack of "justice" our children have received in contested custody cases in the El Paso County judicial system.

4/27/2008 12:36:32 PM

[Recommend](#)(7)



[heavenlyeyes401](#) wrote:

Not the (DR), however I do know what the truth is, and this article didn't publish the truth. "Unlicensed", means that she doesn't meet the criteria to be licensed in the state of Colorado. This also means that this unlicensed individual has never had a background check, and did I mention that her degrees are in Gerontology, OLD PEOPLE. And she is working with children, something wrong with this picture. I just hope that ya'll get divorced and have children, you don't get her. The DR, was only doing what her ethics told her to do. Also, the unlicensed individual, used minors names and through out confidentiality for her own personal gain.

4/27/2008 12:53:45 PM

[Recommend\(5\)](#)



[heavenlyeyes401](#) wrote:

Not the (DR), however I do know what the truth is, and this article didn't publish the truth. "Unlicensed", means that she doesn't meet the criteria to be licensed in the state of Colorado. This also means that this unlicensed individual has never had a background check, and did I mention that her degrees are in Gerontology, OLD PEOPLE. And she is working with children, something wrong with this picture. I just hope that ya'll get divorced and have children, you don't get her. The DR, was only doing what her ethics told her to do. Also, the unlicensed individual, used minors names and through out confidentiality for her own personal gain.

4/27/2008 12:53:57 PM

[Recommend\(5\)](#)



[xchurchmember](#) wrote:

And just as more food for thought...think about how many cases Marlene Bizub has probably served on--what would a ruling against Marlene's credibility do to the caseload in this County if a Judge ruled against her?? I believe the Judge's hands were tied, because to have allowed Dr. Patterson, and all her witnesses, to testify and offer evidence in Court against Marlene, would be risking the demonstration and validation of (what I have experienced as) Marlene's utter incompetence and unethical behavior. This could have dredged up a nightmarish case load for our County Courts, in trying to undo all the harm Marlene had (allegedly) perpetuated, and I personally just don't think Judge Prince was willing to do that. I don't think that's a fair excuse for ruling the way he did, but it helps explain the reality of the consequences of ruling differently.

Bottom line, I don't think any "defamation" trial stands a fair chance, being heard in the same system that has essentially facilitated (whether knowing or unknowingly) any amount of corruption for so long. In this particular instance, the "professional" has essentially been on the Court's payroll, giving mandatory "parenting through divorce" classes (which are Court-Ordered for all parents in divorce cases in our County) from at least 2002 to 2006, and she may still be giving those classes...I have no idea. But to have allowed evidence that Marlene had not performed other Court-appointed duties properly, may have been to condemn the credibility of the mandatory "education" set in place for parents of divorce. Looking at it that way, how many Judge's are willing to allow their own local system to take that kind of hit? Like I said, just food for thought.

4/27/2008 1:26:36 PM

[Recommend\(3\)](#)



[amazingg](#) wrote:

I'm not defending anyone, my only familiarity with the case is the above article. But the judge has to rule with the facts at hand and the scope of the case. In this case the only thing that should be considered is the defamation issue.

4/27/2008 1:55:39 PM

[Recommend\(2\)](#)



**pridemom** wrote:

This story is a JOKE!!! What about a FAIR trial? What about this story being so one sided? The editor who wrote this story was "suppose" to get a hold of the mothers/fathers who were mentioned in court but NEVER did so. This story shows what kind of legal system we have here in COS as well as what kind of press we have here in COS. A court can be held for a week long but prior to that there were MONTHS of status conferences and dispositions. ALL this "evidence" wasn't just brought forth during the trial. If you have been a part of any kind of legalities you would know and understand the court procedures. Judge Prince did not ALLOW Dr. Paterson a fair trial. He allowed mothers, fathers and minor children names to be brought forth in this civil case but he DID NOT allow the mothers/fathers to testify on their own behalf. Although Judge Prince questioned if these mothers had indeed written their own documentation to support what Dr. Paterson had stated about Marlene Bizub to be true. Judge Prince made a comment, "So-so is just a mother how can she write such?" You can know how to write something of importance being "JUST" a mother or NOT! Marlene Bizub's resume speaks for itself. This is something that has been brought before several courts in the 4th Judicial Court system but has thus far been ignored. Marlene "claims" to have a MA and BA well she most certainly does but it is in Gerontology (Old People). What does training or receiving a MA and BA in Gerontology have to do with children? NOTHING! Marlene IS NOT licensed whatsoever but our "good" judicial system that we have allows her to work with innocent children and work in divorce cases. What kind of madness is this? How many more families can Marlene destroy because of her incompetence? Marlene stated, "She has reported every single abuse case that has been brought forth to her." This is a downright lie! There were 3 child abuse cases on my case alone that went unreported. Judge Prince allowed Dr. Paterson to be crucified by giving her an unfair trial and by allowing such a person as Marlene Bizub to continue to work the court system without being licensed and/or properly qualified. Dr. Paterson just stood up for the mothers and fathers who have been unjustly wronged by the court system and by Marlene Bizub. Dr. Paterson did more than any other professional has thus far been willing to do so. Dr. Paterson only tried to make right from the wrong and she got hung out for doing so. There is NO defamation in this case. IF one would take the time to know the black and white to this (such as the court) then there wouldn't be so much time wasted in this matter. Bizub lost work because of her incompetence not because of Dr. Paterson. This paper reported, "As the trial date approached, Judge Prince grew frustrated with Paterson's refusal to tell Bizub what witnesses and evidence she would bring at trial - as required by Colorado's rules of evidence." This statement is so UNTRUE!!! That is why Mr. Porter was calling "witnesses" who would testify against Marlene Bizub and defend Dr. Paterson once he got a hold of the witness list. There are countless attorney's in COS who won't use Bizub's services any longer because they know the truth about her. The only attorney's who will use Bizub from this point on are attorney's who are only about winning whether it's done ethically or not. I support an Appeal if this is the next step because Dr. Paterson needs to have a FAIR TRIAL! Justice needs to PREVAIL! ALL the cases that Marlene Bizub has thus so far worked on NEEDS to be re-heard because Marlene puts our innocent children with the abusers. The Courts motto: "FOR THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD" this is so not true. Marlene is just a cover-up for the 4th Judicial System. The courts don't want to do what's right by the parents/children who have maliciously been affected by Marlene Bizub. Search the web under Marlene's name you will find out exactly who she is. When Marlene Bizub speaks of Dr. Paterson, she writes, "I didn't feel this was appropriate." What is appropriate about what she has done and continues to do to families and innocent children without being fully qualified? Marlene is INCOMPENTENT! One last thought, the state Department of Regulatory Agencies (Mental Health Board) won't touch grievances that are court related this is why and only why the four complaints to the state Department of Regulatory Agencies were deemed unfounded. Before something is said and/or written, know the procedures to those agencies. Also, these four complaints should HAVE NEVER been brought up in court and/or the newspaper because this is RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIAL information. I been waiting for YEARS to disclose what I have on Marlene Bizub but because of the cover-up in our Judicial System, I have not been able to do so. Once again, WHEN IS JUSTICE GOING TO PREVAIL? Marlene won this 1.45 M case because of an

unfair trial not because the trial was heard to it's entirety with all evidence brought forth to make this trial a fair trial. But once again, this is the kind of Judicial System we have in COS!

4/27/2008 2:48:58 PM

[Recommend\(6\)](#)



**amazingg** wrote:

Here is an interesting link that shows the 2 principals in this case as CO-DEFENDANTS in another case. Very odd.

[http://dockets.justia.com/docket/court-codce/case\\_no-1:2008cv00825/case\\_id-107128/](http://dockets.justia.com/docket/court-codce/case_no-1:2008cv00825/case_id-107128/)

4/27/2008 4:36:42 PM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**juliey** wrote:

Marlene has helped keep my kids away from their abusive father. Say what you'd like, but she does some good work.

Licensed or unlicensed, doesn't that sound like a legislative issue? She is registered with the state. There is oversight. Not like she is off doing whatever she wants. She has rules and ethics to follow. And she does.

One-sided article? Well, the "good" doctor failed to follow procedural rules known by all attorneys and I would say she may have a malpractice suit with her legal team. It is the doctor's own fault that her "side" was not presented in a public setting, that all we have to go on is Marlene's side. We elect and put in place judges that are capable to make these decisions on behalf of our community. Don't like it? Then vote differently next time.

Anytime someone has the calling to help in such awful circumstances as helping children of divorce, I'd imagine that half of the time people are happy, and half the time they are not. Not sure you'd find much different results with any "licensed" person working with the same clients.

4/27/2008 5:33:12 PM

[Recommend\(2\)](#)



**heavenlyeyes401** wrote:

Juliey, perhaps Marlene actually did good on your case, but the individuals that have come out to speak out against her out way you 10 to 1. She didn't, she may have ethics that she has to follow, but she doesn't. Count yourself luck that you are a woman that she allowed to keep her children, because she generally finds in favor of the father.

4/27/2008 7:34:41 PM

[Recommend\(3\)](#)



**smackermack** wrote:

When there is a trial - those involved are REQUIRED to give the other side witness lists and any relevent evidence. She did not do so, so none of it was admissable. All she needed to do was let Marlene know what she was going to use against her so that she could refute it. Failure to follow this procedure was not the fault of Marlene or the judge, it was the fault of her legal team.

4/27/2008 10:52:30 PM

[Recommend\(0\)](#)



**Abusedbythecourt** wrote:

Atleast this women was able to file for her given rights and she has convinced someone of her personal struggle and it's affects. You should be on the side of the law that allows the system as a whole destroy a loving family and put 1/2 of it back together at the same time to allow for the states "Fast track" program to function. I wounder what the court wold do if they found that their own district Attorneys would lie so they don't have to show how wrong they were and to use Psychologist to manipulate facts to justify the separation of a family. I will have the money

someday and will prove my case to a real court, with real professionals not in this district but if I prove them to be malissious who will tell me any money is worth the destruction of my family. Some times it's about the truth, Not the money.

I will never be the same after my case was herd and I never spoke once.

4/28/2008 4:59:46 AM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**heavenlyeyes401** wrote:

Dr. Paterson did give the information that was required of the court, that is why this article is false, Marlene didn't like the fact that she was being called out for not doing her job. The law is suppose to give EVERYONE a fair shot. This Judge didn't. Marlene ALSO attacked Dr. Paterson in many way, such at this article. There is lie after lie after lie. I was in the court room, I watched it. And I can't blame any of you out there that only have the article to go on. But Dr. Paterson supplied everything that she was ask to provide, despite what this article said.

4/28/2008 6:23:21 AM

[Recommend\(2\)](#)



**smackermack** wrote:

But did she give it to Marlene's Lawyers?? She could have given it to the court, but she was to give it to Marlene's lawyers. How was she supposed to defend herself if she didn't have the "evidence" so that she could refute it.

So you are calling the Judge a liar? He told her to give the defense the "evidence" and she didn't so hello. Get a grip.

4/28/2008 7:18:37 AM

[Recommend\(0\)](#)



**heavenlyeyes401** wrote:

Yes she did give it to Marlene's lawyers. In fact, Marlene's lawyers start a critiacl part of the paperwork over a month late, but nothing happened to him or Marlene. Something is seriously off here, and the ACLU will be hearing about it.

4/28/2008 7:33:54 AM

[Recommend\(2\)](#)



**xchurchmember** wrote:

A point was brought up previously, that this case was \*only\* about defamation, and nothing else. I don't know all the facts, but only going from the details of the story, I can't understand how a case even existed against Dr. Patterson. Everything that has been explained about Dr. Patterson's actions sounds like it was in private conversation--with the very people who needed to know the information: "judges, lawyers, employers, authorities, (educational) institutions," and the District Attorney. I don't understand why airing concerns about a "professional" not following the rules of ethics, and the laws which bind someone in her position, would be against the law? Aren't those the people who should be contacted?? If I were a judge, attorney, or authority, I would certainly want to hear concerns about a Court-Appointed professional's credentials, and know if it was even suspected that a professional was behaving in a manner that was not in the best interest of a child. I also don't understand how it can be considered "fraudulent" to write to a university or college, and request verification of credentials a professional may include on a resume, or CV presented in Court. If this Dr. Patterson heard stories of abuse from one of her child clients, and subsequently heard that the same child reported the abuse to a Court-Appointed advocate, and Dr. Patterson found later that the advocate never reported the abuse...how on earth can it be defamation for Dr. Patterson to contact the DA and share her concerns? Again, I don't know the details of the case, but from this story, I can't see how Dr. Patterson was looking to gain anything but justice for a child, out of sharing her concerns with the proper authorities and other parties who, in all fairness, have the right to know these concerns exist. Dr. Patterson wouldn't make one red cent from launching a campaign of defamation against Marlene, so what was Dr. Patterson's motive? There is no indication Dr. Patterson was personally "wronged" by Marlene in any way, so

vengeance hardly seems to be a motive. It looks to me like Dr. Patterson was simply trying to stand up for a child to whom she provided mental health care. (And by the way, insinuating the child is using the same therapist as the adult is suspicious to me--it is a legal maneuver used by attorneys to shut out professional testimony. Marlene conspired with my ex's attorney to assert the same thing about my kids' therapist, to prevent him from testifying about Marlene's incompetence on my case! I had \*never\* seen him professionally, I only took my kids to appointments with him and answered his questions about their mental health care...but that fact was completely overlooked by the Court. Once the insinuation was out there, it was treated as fact.) And, the whole procedural complaint about Dr. Patterson's attorney never handing over a witness list is completely bogus. I have since met some of these witnesses, and they were contacted by Marlene's attorney \*before\* the hearing ever took place, and Marlene had pulled private records from those witnesses' files to use as evidence against them for the hearing. How in the heck would that have been possible if Dr. Patterson's attorney had withheld the list? This whole process of making lie after lie after lie look like fact, is why so many of the families who have been abused by this system don't feel they can speak up. We'd never get a fair shot, because all we have is the truth...we don't have legal tricks and loopholes. And we don't have any way to prove that the lies against us are lies, because the judges who hear divorce and custody cases do not ever ask for "beyond a shadow of a doubt" proof, and they allow advocates like Marlene to speak as if they have ESP and know the thoughts and intents of all the parties, instead of demanding scientific and empirical proof of her theories and rationalizations. This is a recipe for disaster, and it has been disastrous for a number of families, whose futures have been sacrificed to what seems to be the pursuance of personal issues and bias on the part of the advocates in their case. I'll say it one more time--this story isn't about Marlene Bizub or Dr. Patterson, it is about creating rules and standards for all of the Court-Appointed advocates and professionals who deal with children and families in divorce. I say "creating", because if you read the statutes...there are almost no standards for qualification of these people to these positions, and there are absolutely NO STANDARDS listed anywhere for the process and procedure of a Parental Evaluation, or Child and Family Investigator (CFI) report. It's a complete mess, and if the truth never gets out about how this process is destroying families and sabotaging the mental health of the children involved, then it's not going to change. Most people who haven't gone through this are completely in the dark, and those who have gone through it have been so terrorized and abused by the system that they don't see any way left to fight against it, and are scared to bring the truth to light. And the award of 1.45M to Marlene Bizub, from a woman who tried to do just that, is only going to serve to confirm those fears.

4/28/2008 7:35:00 AM

[Recommend\(2\)](#)



**lovingmomof1** wrote:

I am a mom who has gone through the system with my own custody battle, and thank God I never had Marlene on my case. While I was not forced to work with her, I have several close friends who did have her assigned to their cases, and she was beyond horrible. She doesn't care if parents are inappropriate, if there are drugs involved (she says as long as you don't do it when you have the children) nor does she really try and see the truth to the situation. This article appears as if it was paid for by marlene herself. I do not know Dr. paterson, but I say "good for you" for trying to do the right thing. With what I know about Marlene and the terrible damage she inflicts on these childrens lives, I am a supporter of Dr. Patersons stance. There are so many professionlas in this twon, working on custody cases, who are ruining lives. Marlene is one of them, and she should have to be accountable. whether she won her case or not, people will not be using her as too many attorneys know how bad she is. My own attorney, very well known and respected in this town, says he will never use her again based on what she has done on his cases. So, despite her blaming this on Dr. paterson, her own personal work is what has caused her to lose jobs. No matter if it's 3 or 10 years, my attorney will never use her. A judge can't order that!

4/28/2008 8:08:05 AM

Recommend(2)



**lavender** wrote:

First, let me say from experience, there is not one child advocate here in Colorado Springs that is truly interested in the best welfare of the child. Each one has their own agenda, weather it's appealing the judge, the lawyers, or a "favorite" parent. All they seem to be concerned about is integration with both parents. This state is more concerned about biological issues then the long-term effects to the child.

That being said, this case was not about who should or should not be a child advocate or who has a license. This was a case about Patterson. Here's a little background that you may not know:

This is a woman who has been sued numerous times – and lost. She gets a burr about someone and she goes into a revenge fit. It could be anything - from a perception about someone that she feels wronged her to someone who is involved with that person. She will spend hours and hours harassing a person via letters and phone calls. Even when she is shown proof she is wrong, she continues in her pursuit to destroy a person life. She has been told on several occasions by judges to cease and desist her outrageous behavior yet she refuses until she feels vindicated.

She was in court just a few months back and had a \$400,000 suit put against her. She has two more coming up. They are all based on the same issues. She gets someone in her target and will stop at nothing, and I mean nothing, to harm him or her personally, professionally, and financially. She will lie and make up stories to further enhance her claims. The professional community as well as the judges refuse to acknowledge her claims anymore because they know what she is.

She claims to have a PHD – maybe someone should look to she if that is true. I do know she is about to be disbarred for her unprofessional behavior, her character, and because she is known to damage peoples lives based on her personal agenda.

This is one bag lady (Have you seen her? A bar of soap would go a long way!)that you do not need to feel sorry for. She creates her messes. Yes, it's sad she still counsels people (that is truly scary!) but the day is around the corner when she goes to jail because of her lies. Then we can rally to get professional advocates that truly care about the children – not "parents rights".

4/28/2008 8:16:47 AM

Recommend(2)



**angrymom** wrote:

I know both of these women personally. Marlene Bizub is a danger to children in this community. If you have had a good experience with her as your CFI, count your blessings, many kids have not been so lucky, or have been put through hell thanks to Marlene Bizub!! My own attorney will not use her because Bizub does not put the child first. She will not return phone calls from other professionals re: situations they deem emergent, for example, child endangerment in my case. She does not return these calls bc she does not like to be questioned and kids safety be damed. Her home visits are a joke, and her billing is fraudulent. Let's talk about libel. Bizub, on numerous occasions has demeaned and denigrated Dr Patterson. She is so loud in the halls of the courthouse (showing no respect for case confidentiality or her thoughts on her associates), in this case Dr Patterson. I, as have several others that have been in the courthouse, have heard her talking very poorly about Dr Paterson. Gazette should be ashamed for not following though with "mothers" prior to printing this article.

4/28/2008 8:57:50 AM

Recommend(3)



**heavenlyeyes401** wrote:

WOW, I find it rather hilarious that the individual that sued Dr. Paterson for \$400,000 a few months back, was found guilty of fraud in that same case. Dr. Paterson won that case because she just showed the facts. Isn't it amazing what hatred will do to someone when they are exposed for who they really are? Instead of helping out the children in this case, that same woman lied on the stand for her own personal gain. It is amazing how the almighty dollar overrides the truth and children's safety. I truly wonder if that woman sleeps at night?

4/28/2008 9:22:33 AM

[Recommend\(3\)](#)



**lavender** wrote:

No, Patterson DID NOT win that \$400,000 case - she LOST!

Heavenlyeyes401 - aka Patterson????!!!

4/28/2008 9:35:45 AM

[Recommend\(0\)](#)



**heavenlyeyes401** wrote:

Yes she did, you must be getting WRONG information

4/28/2008 9:40:04 AM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**DontTrustHER** wrote:

I had Marlene on my case and she was not fair at all. She lied to me about everything (she would tell me something and then go do something different then what she said she was going to do), she had another lady doing my visits that wasnt Lic. or new how to do them, Marlene makes things up to make her look so much better in the courts eyes, she looks down on woman (something must of happen to her when she was little) everything Marlene did on my case was always about her then whats best for the child/ren. I could go on and on about Marlene and what she has done to me and my family but im here to try to let people know about who she really is, so you dont have done what she has already done to my family and many more. Once I got Marlene off my case I got a new lady that cared about my child and saw what was going on and took care of "what" Marlene should of done but not being Lic and trained how could Marlene know what to see or what to do in the best interest of the child. If you look up at the top of this page at Marlene picture, she doesnt look very nice well she's showing her true self in that picture. She is a mean person on the inside and out, she is a liar and doesnt care about anyone but herself. She's not there to help the children out and do whats best for them its all about herself and making money. She may have won the court battle with Patterson and has to write a story about it in the News paper, like I said its all about herself and the money. It was "not a fair trail" I hope she can sleep at night for everything she has done and put familys through. What ever happened to Marlene in the past thats made her the way she is today to where she has to hurt and mess other peoples lives to make herself happy, I hope she will go get help maybe if she drops her pride and learns how to speak the truth Lic. Dr Patterson could help her over come her passed issues. I am praying for justice and I know GOD is watching out for all of us.....

4/28/2008 10:32:30 AM

[Recommend\(2\)](#)



**xchurchmember** wrote:

Thank you lavender, for bringing up one very true point that I hope all of us commentors can agree upon: there is a problem with the Court-Appointed child advocacy system in our Courts during divorce. There is way too much concern for the "rights" of the parents, when the child's safety, stability and sense of security should be paramount. We need advocates who are extensively trained in all areas of domestic violence (not just the obvious physical facets of bruises and broken bones), who have received certification and skills training so they have the tools required to perform accurate and factual and standards-based investigations when they are called as a Child & Family INVESTIGATOR (CFI), who are working with a diverse team which can provide a larger perspective towards a final draft of recommendations and thereby lessen the possibility of individual bias, and who are trained specifically in child development and the trauma that divorce and contested custody inflicts on children, and who attend annual updated training on the effects that different types of recommendations have had on the children involved. I would \*love\* to see follow-up studies and surveys done on children of these divorces, and hear what the CHILDREN and their current mental health care providers have to say about what affects the experiences have had on them, and see that feedback used towards

our system constantly changing in response to what is learned to be best for the children. I personally think that, starting at age 15...and maybe even as young as 12 or 13 (depending on their maturity), children could pass on a wealth of information that could help improve this system, and if the follow-up reporting included naming the Court-Appointed professionals involved in the cases which were audited, then negative trends created by any specific individual would be much more apparent. It could help build a level of accountability into the system--accountability not only to the children, but also to peer professionals. And who better to provide pivotal information on which to base that accountability, than the children who have been directly affected, and the mental health care providers who have been working with the children to help them overcome any dysfunction the situation has brought into their lives?? Wouldn't it be wonderful to see all of our passion, no matter who we believe to be "right" or "wrong", directed at a cause which creates a better future for the children who go through this process?

4/28/2008 11:05:58 AM

[Recommend\(4\)](#)



**investrman** wrote:

Childs' best Interest is a disgusting phrase everytime I hear it and I could write volumes how my 3 sons were screwed because of this so-called caring avenue of the legal system during a divorce I had in Colorado Springs. In fact at the time, living in Woodland Park, they would not do the divorce in Teller County, so everything had to be dealt with in El Paso county which made no sense at the time complicating many issues.

Everything that was wrong or dangerous to my sons was given go-ahead and support by the courts making no sense, including saying latch key children are fine at ages 8 years old; and today we see how many sexual predators and such out there have done haneous crimes to children in such cases.

Yet my divorce which was from about 1997-1999 saw the total destruction of everything I built for my sons as well as their mother and I had nothing left to show for 20 years of my working life when it was over, and the children even to this day, have been affected by all the BS from the courts and supposed caring child advocates and it sickens me today thinking about it.

For the most part, it is a created frustration applied by deals made by both lawyers in private rooms to benefit their financial interests and feed a corrupt court system until the money sources are seemingly dried up. Hardly ever one will question the woman or enforce psych evaluations on one, yet the bearing of all guilt and weight goes against a man 98% of the time.

4/28/2008 11:46:01 AM

[Recommend\(4\)](#)



**lavender** wrote:

xchurchmember: That is the whole point here. These children are not fairly represented and you have these CFI's out there playing God with their lives. I have heard horrible things about both of these women - not just in this forum. I am glad Bizub got the settlement only because I know what Patterson is. Any professional that has any contact with her knows she is looney as a three dollar bill which explains all the law suits (past and present)against her. I firmly believe Heavenlyeyes401 is Patterson. It doesn't surprise me though - she loves the attention. Colorado is hell bent on keeping the children with the biological parents. The don't care if there is abuse, drugs, etc., involved. Colorado believes "it's in the BEST interest of the child" to have both regardless of what may happen to the child. They believe damage must occur, and provable, before they will step in. Look at all the deaths of our little ones at the hands of these social workers. Their excuse it either they are overworked or there just wasn't enough evidense. So Colorado sends out the signal a child must die or be severely hurt before they they do "what is in the best intrest of the child".

My heart breaks for all the children these women have come in contact with. With all these court cases, legal papers flying, and harrassment, who's helping the children? But then, that's

not what is important now is it? It's how many cases can you get. Cha-ching.

4/28/2008 11:58:13 AM

[Recommend\(0\)](#)



**Talkinghead** wrote:

Interesting stuff these comments. I suspect Paterson lost this case because she did something very wrong. It seems clear from the article. You don't win more than a million dollars in El Paso County on a wing and a prayer.

Paterson lost her claim for money against her former employee and patient. She claimed \$10MM and got zero. The patient won.

One thing is clear. If you do not take responsibility for the outcome of your case, and always blame someone else, you will never get past it. You will continue to obsess over how 'you got screwed' and will always find someone else to blame. That's the thing about the system, it holds people accountable for their decisions and behavior. Pridemom, Catch a clue!

4/28/2008 12:24:41 PM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**redruski** wrote:

There seem to be all sorts of issues within our County when it comes to removing parental rights, placing children into foster care etc. etc.

This type of issue came up within our family and the Guardian ad litem was particularly bad (inexperienced) and easily conned. Now she is a County Judge, Karla Hansen. She couldn't make a reasonable and responsible decision as a child advocate, she misinformed the mother, had her facts misconstrued, and should have been sued for certain statements she made. Today she makes decisions that affect people's lives in a huge way. I find it to be extremely negligent and appalling.

4/28/2008 12:33:11 PM

[Recommend\(4\)](#)



**heavenlyeyes401** wrote:

Pride comes before the fall, and Dr. Paterson is the least prideful person that I know. Time will tell what will happen.

4/28/2008 12:59:54 PM

[Recommend\(3\)](#)



**DontTrustHER** wrote:

We are all adults here..... Everyone has there own beliefs and look on how they feel about Patterson and Marlene.. We dont need to fight! This is not a WAR against all of us. All of us mothers that were treated wrong by Marlene and the court systems just need to work together to get justice!!And we will!! We need to spend our time focusing on getting our justice then fighting with these other people that think Marlene did a good job on their case. Im glad to hear that she did good on someones case finally, hopefully she see's that alot of people she did wrong too aren't going to stop until they get justice and she shapes up and it never happens again to anyone else. Thats what we all want, for NO ONE else to have to go through what we all have..Thats all, I dont think thats too much to ask. This isn't a "LETS GET MARLENE" site..We all never disliked Marlene at first cause we thought she was there to help our child/ren. Then when she didnt know what she was doing and we saw what type of person she really was, you look at someone different when they mess with your CHILD'S life. Thats just nature, us being human and good parents. We all want the best for our children and if you dont then you shouldn't even be a parent.. We are not sitting her trying to hurt Marlene we are just stating

what she has done to our lives and our child's lives. We don't want anyone else to have to go through what we have because of Marlene. We are just trying to help others not go through what we have. What we went through because of Marlene I would never want anyone else to go through it. If I can have any part in protecting or helping other children or parents I will cause I am still dealing with what Marlene has done to my family. I don't know how many times I can say "All we want is for no other person or child to have to go through what we have and we want justice".

I still don't understand how a NEWS PAPER COMPANY can print false information in the paper so the whole state of Colorado Springs can read false information that affects someone's life FOR EVER. Someone needs to slap a law suit against this NEWS PAPER COMPANY for not getting the whole story, for putting false information in the paper and for lies after lies. I don't understand how people can be so hurtful and evil. To not sit back and say This is a good story let's write about it, but let's get the whole story and then print it, then to just go get one side of the story and print it without thinking how this may affect someone's life that you don't even know. What if it was your life, put yourself in Patterson's shoes, someone was writing about you. Would you want them to hear and know the whole story? Or would you want them to get one side, the other side's story (false) and put it out there so everyone can read false information about you. That's not a good REPORTER, I think the News Paper Company needs to find another Reporter before they have Law suits slapped all over them... I'm glad you didn't write about me because I would have already Slapped the biggest law suite you would ever see. You guys need to really think about how you guys are running that News Paper company, and how you are going to fix this big mess you just created by this reporter/writer Dennis Huspeni CONTACT THE WRITER: 636-0110 or dennis.huspeni@gazette.com You need to really pray on this one..

4/28/2008 1:24:55 PM

[Recommend\(3\)](#)



**angrymom** wrote:

Patterson lost in this case because her attorney did not file on time. However, that being said, Bizub's attorney did have a list of possible witnesses because he called each and every one of us prior to trial. Both Patterson and Bizub are loose cannons, but I don't KNOW OF ANY PARENTS that have the same complaints against Patterson that they have against BIZUB. So obvious that Bizub et al called the newspaper, and it may have been the best thing that could have happened. Bizub obviously hurt herself, because she thinks she is so above reproach, that she did not see the back last coming back at her!!

4/28/2008 1:39:30 PM

[Recommend\(3\)](#)



**xchurchmember** wrote:

Thanks for posting investman, as a reminder that it's not only moms who are affected by the incompetence of the system and Court-Appointed advocates. This is not a conspiracy against moms, or against dads. It is a travesty of predicating a child's future on the (not always virtuous or even fully mentally functional) desires of the parents, the cunning of expensive attorneys, and on the opinion-based, highly faulty CFI Parental Evaluation system, which seems to support very little actual fact-finding, or advocacy for the children themselves. I know a number of dads who've gone through this situation who I can see, just from the peace and contentment of the children in their presence, are likely the best choice as primary parent. My boyfriend happens to be one of them, and my heart aches for his children--the oldest two of whom have already been completely and irreversibly indoctrinated against him since their parents' separation. Much like you, investman, my boyfriend has been paying 100% of support for two years for the children's mom to abuse and neglect them, and to poison their minds with her irrational "victim" and entitlement mentality, and to keep the children regressed and dependent on her. But no bones have been broken, so it's all hunky-dory with the Courts. For some reason, this mother has been able to make all the professionals feel sorry for her, and she keeps convincing them that she can get her act together if they will just "give her a chance". As

soon as they aren't looking, she stops trying. What she's doing to those children is deplorable, they are 8, 10, 15, and almost 17, and none of them even have a basic personal hygiene routine. But back to the point: the common factor I have noticed in all the stories I've heard, is that the \*abusive\* (whether physical or emotional) parent's obviously inappropriate behavior is completely downplayed, or totally ignored, in Parenting Time and Custodial recommendations. The protective parent (which is probably statistically more often the mom than the dad) is then staged to be the "crazy", alienating one. And as much as it confounds common sense, the more numerous and disturbing concerns the protective parent voices, the less credence is given to the protective parent! It's pure insanity and defies all logic. These protective parents are then characterized with the same level of disdain as the abusive parent, and are told they are at fault because they will not \*cooperate\* with the abuse. I've been told by the judge on my case that it was my "fault" that my ex was abusing the kids, because I was the one who chose to marry him in the first place. The custody issues quickly turn into the Courts and advocates trying to play their hand in FORCING a couple to re-engage in their abusive relationships (advising them to "make up", "get along", and keep their problems out of the Courtroom, even putting them under Orders NOT to report the abuse or neglect of their own children by the other party), and the cycle goes on and on and on. The real problems are never addressed, the children take last place in what looks like marriage and personal counseling of the parties via Court Ordered Parenting Time. Holy cow...that's what most of us wanted to get divorced for in the first place, to end that destructive cycle and recreate a functional, supportive, nurturing family environment for our children. Instead, children are treated like marital property, to be traded between households out of "fairness" to each party's parental "rights". The children are forced to endure all the same stress (and many times much more) that necessitated the division of the household in the kids' best interest in the first place. I have had personal bad experience with Marlene Bizub, and I don't have any factual or direct evidence to support Dr. Patterson, but I applaud the efforts Dr. Patterson has made in her attempts to protect children in these cases. She very well could have crossed some substantial lines, of which I would not approve, because no matter how abominable another person's actions may be perceived, two wrongs don't make a right. I don't think that the law should tolerate incompetence in advocacy for children any more than I think it should tolerate a campaign of hatefulness against individual members of our community. But, I do appreciate the attention this case is bringing to the fundamental problems in the system that we all seem to agree on.

4/28/2008 2:59:55 PM

[Recommend\(3\)](#)



**heavenlyeyes401** wrote:

To look at this situation another way, Marlene just gave all other professionals a reason not to work with her anymore. She took confidential, state government grievances, that are protect by the state and used them for her own gain. Now do think that ANYONE will want to get involved with Marlene on ANY case? Especially if that means that they file a grievance against her for her poor job performance that there is now a threat of a lawsuit, if she doesn't like the fact that she is being called out? She just compromised the process that was set up to keep these types of cases from going to trial. So now no one is safe, since the only way you could safely speak your mind as a consumer is now gone.

4/28/2008 3:15:11 PM

[Recommend\(5\)](#)



**genibogeni** wrote:

I am glad to see that Dr. Paterson and others out there see Marlene for what she is. She is BEYOND HORRIBLE at what she does and I'm glad what someone tried to do something about it. A child in my family had visits with his father(a 5 time DUI offender), and on visits his father would not put him in a car seat but on the floor of a van to travel from one point to another. The child told my family members and Marlene was told of the incidents and NOTHING was done! Instead more unsupervised time was recommended to the courts! I honestly know and believe that there have been many many things not properly reported by Ms. Bizub.

4/28/2008 5:01:30 PM

[Recommend\(2\)](#)



**smackermack** wrote:

Hey you all, especially those who are on Dr. Pattereson's side. We need to remember that there may be an appeal. This blog will probably be cited. Maybe we need to save our comments until we find out if there is an appeal.

4/29/2008 5:47:01 AM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**theobserver** wrote:

Let's just hope that the appeals process reveals the procedural errors of Judge Prince. I know Dr. Patterson to be a person of stellar character, but I am afraid that her good character and the apparent oilyness of Ms. Bizbub's cannot be used in the appeal.

The Gazette article did far more than represent the facts. It was written, apparently, by Ms. Bizbub's publicist.

4/29/2008 6:09:28 AM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**1momma** wrote:

WELL, WELL, WELL..... Marlene worked on a case of mine and she wasn't worth the money I PAID FOR. ITS FUNNY HOW WHAT GOING AROUND COMES AROUND .....AND FIVE YEARS LATER. SHE CRYING ABOUT REBUILDING HER "CAREER" BELIEVE ME I THINK SHE IS A COMPLETED JOKE!!!!!!!

4/29/2008 7:43:35 AM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**heavenlyeyes401** wrote:

I find it truly interesting how many people have come out to speak out against this article. So is Marlene really as good of SA as she wants to project? And is this article really going to bring business back to her? I think not. She projected herself as though she had nothing to do with her own demise, however based on first hand accounts, people talk about their personal experiences. And her performance is judged.

What I also find interesting is that people that no knowledge of and not contact with Dr. Paterson, and had Marlene on their cases, experienced the same behavior from Marlene. I ask you, What does that say?

Also something to think about, Marlene had an ethical obligation to report Dr. Paterson if she believed that her behavior was unethical. SHE DIDN'T, ever. She could have the Attorney General deal with Dr. Paterson, at no expense to her. So why did she not do that? What she afraid of being sued for slander and liable, just as she did to Dr. Paterson?

4/29/2008 8:58:27 AM

[Recommend\(2\)](#)



**retrofunk** wrote:

I still haven't figured out whose career was ruined. And how a judgement like that is enforced. Who is the final arbiter of anyone's professional ability and competency? Especially in the ethereal atmosphere of "psychology". Who is judging the professional performance of the defendent's attorney?

4/29/2008 10:17:36 AM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**BTD66** wrote:

xchurchmember - Thank your posting and others that echo the same sentiment. It helps to know I am not alone in seeing the insanity of the system in place. It can make you feel like you are going crazy when you can't protect your own children from an abusive, damaging human being, no matter what documented behavior you show the court. Four years and close to \$40,000 later in fees (parenting coordinator, attorney fees, etc., etc.), I am no further in protecting my two children from their father than when I left him for their sake and mine. He even gave up custody voluntarily, but has been afforded repeated attempts to get them back by our "Judge" despite, threatening, grieving and verbally abusing all the professionals on the case (clear signs of emotional fitness to parent). It is apparently o.k. for children to be exposed to damaged parents, because the theory is that it is better than not having their parent in their life at all. I disagree. They never win in these situations, but the protective parent should be allowed to mitigate the damage done to them. It is bad enough that they were born into the situation - they shouldn't have to be forced into the instability and pain of having to deal with someone that is a threat to them emotionally and/or physically. Thanks again.

4/29/2008 10:23:19 AM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**wofats** wrote:

Geez Seeyouontop. Go see Father Bill at the Mercy Center and tell him your thoughts on psychiatry. He might just be able to help you get over yourself and do it from the Christian point of view that you crave.

4/29/2008 11:04:23 AM

[Recommend\(3\)](#)



**inmatebanker** wrote:

I applaud Dr. Paterson's efforts to stop this unlicensed hack from destroying anymore children and basically happily aiding and abetting abusers in their efforts to intimidate and terrorize their victims. I speak from personal experience here and can say unequivocally that all Bizub was interested in was her exorbitant fees and that she made it very obvious that she had no regard for the "safety" of the child involved. In an effort to try to get her to wake up and see the light I read many books on the subject and truly feel that I had a better understanding of the cycle of domestic violence than she ever did or will because she refused to admit she did not know what she was doing. Other family members and friends filled out her useless (because it was obvious she never even looked them over)questionnaires and told her in print about physical and mental abuse which she totally ignored. I certainly wish I had known of Dr. Paterson's efforts before the Gazette became Bizub's "press agent" after the fact as I have piles of evidence that I would have gladly given to Dr. Paterson's attorney to help in her defense.

4/29/2008 6:21:17 PM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**angrymom** wrote:

This is becoming obscene, unless the author and editor of the paper intend to contact the 'parents that were not allowed their day in court' because of Judge Prince's order against Patterson. Guess it all depends on who you run with at the high dollar functions even if you don't care for them. in rereading this ludicrous article once again, the most ignorant comment by Bizub and quote by the author is as follows.....'

Failure of a person working with children to report child abuse is a crime. DUH, then her answer..

"I was never told about abuse that I didn't report. Ever," Bizub said.

HOW COULD YOU BE TOLD ABOUT IT BIZUB, WHEN YOU DID NOT REPORT IT, YOU POOR INCOMPETENT WOMAN!! This statement from her ranks right up there with America's dumbest criminals, except they all got caught and are paying their debt to society and Bizub isn't!!! Whats wrong with this picture??

Oh and PS, you were informed Bizub by many people other than Dr P. Hang it up and move on to gerontology, and God bless those old folks. Better yet, go back to the funeral home, those clients can't be hurt by you!!

4/29/2008 8:07:54 PM

[Recommend\(2\)](#)



**smiler** wrote:

It seems that "angrymom" has her argument backwards. By Bizub saying: "I was never told about abuse that I didn't report. Ever," she was saying that she reported everything she was told about. What's the problem with that statement? Are you, in your anger, reading something different?

Time for everyone to cool down and stop second-guessing what was and was not said. None of us knows all the facts, except for the parties involved. And they clearly have very different viewpoints...

4/29/2008 8:34:46 PM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**crazylittle1** wrote:

Look at it this way...Bizub just won the lottery, and if her picture says a thousand words, maybe she'll quit working and live like a millionaire...sipping the good stuff. Just an opinion...

4/29/2008 9:53:09 PM

[Recommend\(0\)](#)



**angrymom** wrote:

Smiler, I agree with you that everyone needs to cool down. BTW, I did not get my argument backwards. I reported abuse of my child to Bizub, she did not report it and I told her about it, so she has been given accounts of abuse from many parents that she did NOT report, and the same parents Asked her why she did not report it, so she knows, smiler, she knows.

4/30/2008 7:33:43 AM

[Recommend\(2\)](#)



**crazylittle1** wrote:

Well, anyone on here that has opinions, either way, knows who to contact...just make sure you can back up what you say as fact....if you look here at these blogs, you'll see opinions are plentiful....

Most people don't just fork over a retirement check to another, especially if they no longer have a way to make the money, they fight it all the way....so, you know there will an appeal, and you cannot be sued for Libel, Slander, or Defamation, if it is provable as truth...

4/30/2008 8:00:57 AM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**esoxlucios** wrote:

I don't have the facts of this case (and I haven't reviewed anything other than the article), but a few concerns come to mind: First of all, as I set forth in my recent treatise, Colorado's Divorce Industry: An Overview, anything and everything filed against any DIE in Colorado is dismissed for want of jurisdiction, because DIEs are exempt from regulatory oversight. Numerous examples of this are found on our Psych Board page (here). Could it be that the district judge, David Prince, conflated dismissal for lack of jurisdiction with "deemed unfounded." Secondly, if this woman did contact the D.A.'s office and the regulatory board, filing reports, that activity is protected by Colorado's anti-SLAPP jurisprudence. See Protect Our Mountain Environment v. Superior Court, 677 P.2d 1361 (Colo. 1984), unless Paterson's filings fell under the "Sham exception." See Scott v. Hern, 216 F.3d 897, 915 (10th Cir. 2000); Columbia v. Omni Outdoor Advert., 499 U.S. 365, 380-81 (1991).

With the exception of Paterson's contact with attorneys and her alleged contact with Bizub's

former educational institution[s], the majority of the conduct cited in the article as the subject of the \$1.45M award appears, at first blush, to be First Amendment protected.

I note that several other complainants have claimed that other DIES, including David Kieffer, Bill Fyfe and Dee Brodbeck, for example, have failed to report child abuse. Are those complainants also now at risk of a defamation case?

I note, also, that very few former DIES are willing to go on record about their disdain of Colorado's divorce industry. See, e.g., this excerpt from the parental evaluation report of Mark Wilmot, Ph.D., quoting another evaluator as explaining, "how disenchanted she has become with the legal system . . . [which] . . . convinced her that custody litigation was not about the truth. . . although she has worked in the field of custody evaluation for 15 years, completing more than 400 evaluation and enjoying a good reputation, she elected to quit this type of work . . . she expressed disillusionment with the legal system and mental health professionals . . . because of what she perceives to have been ethical violations of the most acreages [sic.] kind. [She] stated that 'money changed hands in this case that allowed the outcome that did not reflect the best interests of these children. I can't be a part of the system that can be bought and sold.' "

4/30/2008 2:58:43 PM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**esoxlucios** wrote:

Web site source for the previous post is: <http://knowYourCourts.com>

4/30/2008 2:59:59 PM

[Recommend\(1\)](#)



**heavenlyeyes401** wrote:

esoxlucios, great post, every well thought out and written. I am sure that Dr. Paterson has this information for her appeal. Thank you

4/30/2008 9:40:58 PM

[Recommend\(0\)](#)