As a valuable human being in my community, I DENOUNCE actions that compromise the safety & wellbeing of children and families.

**IN THIS:**

- **I SUPPORT** strengthening the family as the fundamental unit of society and assert that violence towards children or spouse should never be condoned, but strongly rebuked.

- **I AFFIRM** that children are valuable and precious creations entitled to be nurtured and reared by their mothers in partnership with their fathers - as **PARTNERS IN RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD** *(when applicable)* under safe conditions.

- **WE CONSIDER** the removal of children from their loving, safe parents to be cruel, inhumane and a form of child maltreatment.

- **TO OPTIMIZE CHILD SAFETY & WELL-BEING, I SUPPORT** a holistic, team-based approach whereby custody determinations involving child & family abuse might be managed by a panel of child-focused professionals. These may include: Marriage & family therapists, teachers, clergy, social workers, adult mental health professionals, child/adolescent behavior & developmental psychologists, family medicine physicians, pediatricians, judges and importantly, child abuse and domestic violence specialists.

- **I SUPPORT** broadening mandatory training requirements for all state judges who determine family law matters. Such training must include: an understanding of family systems, human development across the lifespan, addiction & substance abuse disorders, personality disorders, behavioral assessment, domestic violence and child abuse education all with special consideration of ethnic & cultural variations specific to each area of training.

**ADDITIONALLY,**

- **I SUPPORT** improving the handling of child and family abuse reports & investigations, even during matters of custody & divorce.

- **I SUPPORT** enforcement of immunity laws protecting parents who report children's abuse disclosures to authority in order to protect their children.

- **I STAND AGAINST** removing children from trusted parents as punishment for making good faith reports of abuse *(founded or unfounded)* AND find these actions harmful to the well-being of children.

- **I STAND AGAINST** court ordered supervised visitation as penalty to parents trying to protect their children. I also OPPOSE the use of property tax contributions funding expansion of supervised visitation centers for this cause.

**THEREFORE,**

*I support measures enabling the return of such children to their parents- also considered protective parents.*

**I SUSTAIN** this petition,

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**Signature**  
**Name**  
**State**  
**Date**