

Resist-Refuse – brief LinkedIn Article by Karen Woodall

[Karen Woodall](#)[Karen Woodall • 1st1stKaren Woodall Psychotherapist & Supervisor. Writer. PhD Candidate at University of Northampton.](#)[Karen Woodall Psychotherapist & Supervisor. Writer. PhD Candidate at University of Northampton.](#)2d • 2 days ago • Visible to anyone on or off LinkedIn SEPT 26, 2025

Coercion of children in divorce and separation is what underpins the disorganised attachment behaviours we see when children align and reject.

Coerced children are **being taught** to isolate themselves from healthy relationships, do the bidding of an abusive parent, see themselves as part of the abusive parent, or be the champion of that parent.

Coerced children are sent out as **abusers by proxy**, to terrorise the parent they are rejecting and are facing the double bind of having to please an abusive parent whilst harming the other and hiding the shame they feel at doing so.

Coerced children are **alienated from an authentic sense of self**.

Coerced children are the **secondary targets when an abused parent escapes**.

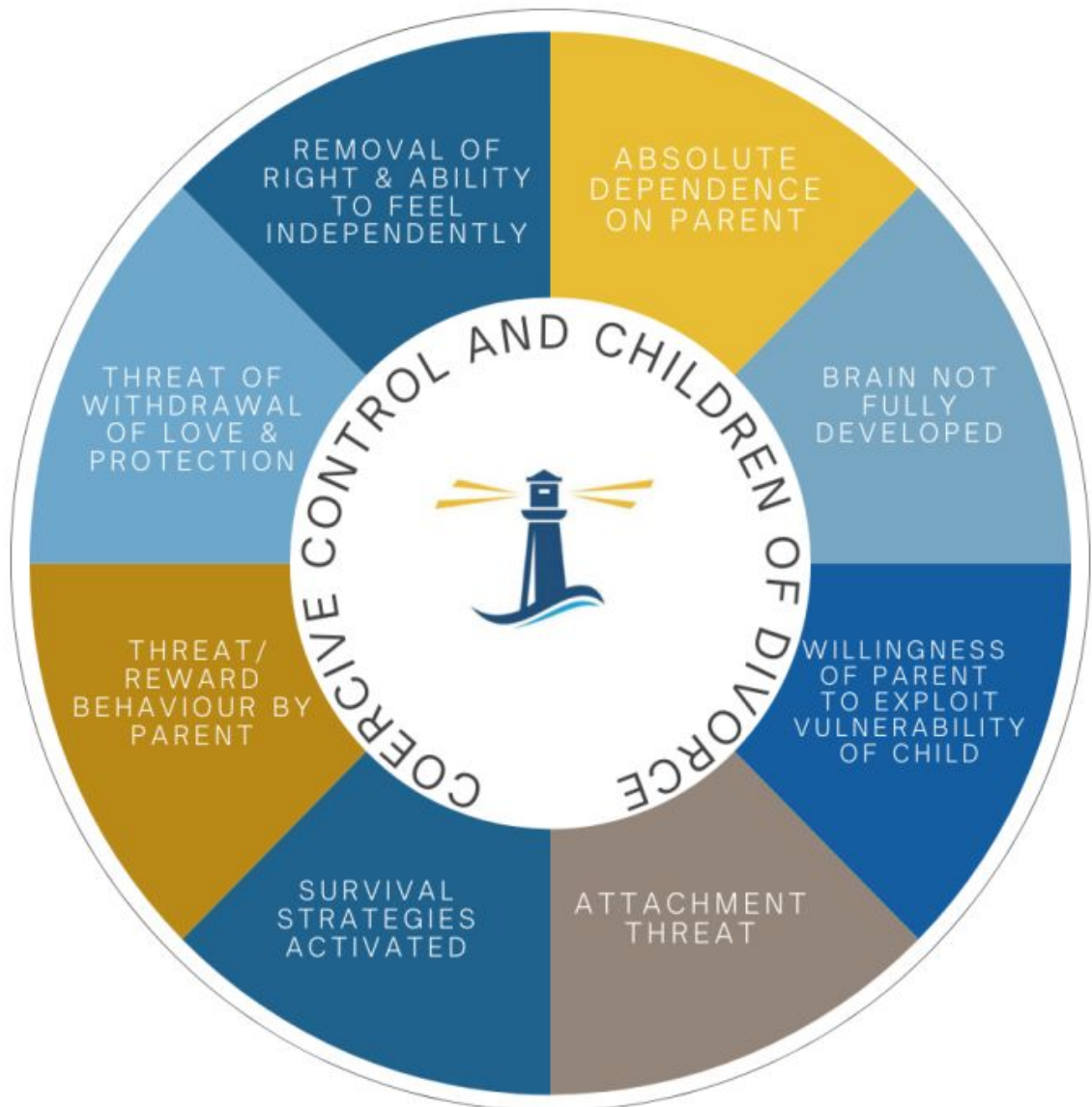
Coerced children are right there in plain sight, their wishes and feelings often determining their abused future (which is what happened to Sara Sharif).

It doesn't matter whether we call it alienation or coercion; these children's **experiences** and those of the parent they are forced to reject are being **denied by a group of campaigners who ironically claim** themselves to be '**world-leading experts**' on **coercive control**.

These campaigners do **untold damage** to mothers whose children reject them.

We must not allow **ideological terrorism** to hide this hidden coercive control of children and the **parents they are forced to reject**.

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COERCIVE CONTROL & CHILDREN OF DIVORCE AND SEPARATION