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Witness Fracture: A Forensic Linguistic Framework for Detecting Narcissistic Manipulation in High-Conflict Divorce

Jun 2025  
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 Mark Randall Havens

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Description


In high-conflict divorce proceedings, narcissistic manipulation exploits linguistic patterns to distort reality, erode victim credibility, and undermine judicial clarity. This paper introduces the Witness Dyad Framework, a novel forensic linguistic methodology that leverages Thoughtprint (Cognitive Integrity Trace) and Shadowprint (Distortion Pattern Indexing) to detect covert abuse through recursive coherence modeling. Grounded in quantum-inspired stochastic dynamics ( $\Phi S(t) = \int_0^t R_{\kappa}(S(\tau), S(\tau -))d\tau$ ) and pattern recognition [Havens and Havens, 2025b,c], this non-clinical approach offers private investigators, attorneys, and clinicians a falsifiable, scalable tool for analyzing testimony and affidavits. By identifying DARVO [Freyd, 1997], gaslighting [Stark, 2007], and performative sanity, the framework restores narrative truth for survivors. We propose Coherence-Based Forensic Linguistics as a transformative subdiscipline, bridging psychology, computational linguistics, and legal practice, drawing on trauma psychology [Herman, 1992] and linguistic analysis [Pennebaker et al., 2003, Shuy, 1993] to address the invisible wounds of psychological abuse.

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