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Books That Help

In **Divorce Poison: Protecting the Parent-Child Bond from a Vindictive Ex**, Richard A. **Warshak** (*The Custody Revolution*) offers guidance to parents whose exes portray them to their children in a negative light, whether it's mild, off-the-cuff badmouthing or systematic character assassination. Common psychological wisdom, besides recommending that parents avoid fighting fire with fire, suggests doing nothing. But **Warshak** has witnessed the feelings of powerlessness and the increasing difficulties that come from doing nothing. So he provides "a blueprint for an effective response grounded in a solid understanding of the techniques and dynamics of parents who poison their children's relationships with loved ones." After describing numerous nuances of inter-parental malignment (brainwashing, false abuse accusations, revisionist history, etc.), **Warshak** moves on to "Poison Control," both independently and with the help of professional counselors. This book will seem a godsend to the many divorcés who are bashed by their ex-spouses. (*Regan Books, \$26 304p ISBN 0-06-018899-5; Jan.*)