Failing to See How Long Reconciliation Takes

It's natural that parents going through an estrangement would like it to be over as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, it takes as long as it takes, and typically that's a long time. Your estranged child is on a different time horizon than you, influenced by sometimes many things that are completely, or mostly outside of your control.

Those agents of influence may also be outside of the adult child's conscious awareness such as when they're being unduly influenced by their spouse or your ex; by their mental illness or their addictions.

It also takes time for parents to learn how to communicate in such a way to get their adult child's attention and interest, something that we'll be spending a great deal of time covering in our upcoming series.

However, sometimes it takes time simply because the estranged child needs more time to separate, to mature, to feel like a fully fledged adult, capable of navigating the sometimes challenging world of normal parent-adult child relationships.

Either way, pressuring your adult child to reconcile before they're ready, however irrational their complaint, will typically backfire rather than persuade them to communicate in a better way.