

Domains of Specialized Professional Background

My vitae in supports the following four domains of specialized expertise in professional psychology:

1. Thought disorders and delusional pathology
2. Child abuse assessment, diagnosis, and treatment
3. The attachment system and attachment pathology
4. Factitious Disorder Imposed on Another (FDIA)

Thought Disorders & Delusions

In support of my specialized expertise in the assessment and diagnosis of thought disorders and delusions are 12 years of experience at a major UCLA clinical research project on schizophrenia where I received annual training in the assessment and diagnosis of delusions and thought disorders using the *Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale* (BPRS) to diagnostic reliability of $r=.90$ to the co-directors of the Diagnostic Unit at the UCLA-Brentwood VA, Dr. Lukoff and Dr. Ventura. The entry on my vitae for this work experience while I was at Dr. Nuechterlein's project at UCLA is:

9/85 - 9/98 Research Associate

UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute

Principle Investigator: Keith Nuechterlein, Ph.D.

Area: Longitudinal study of initial-onset schizophrenia. Received annual training to research and clinical reliability in the rating of psychotic symptoms using the Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS). Managed all aspects of data collection and data processing.

Note that I was trained annually in the rating of delusional and psychotic symptoms using the *Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale* (BPRS). Wikipedia describes the BPRS:

From Wikipedia: "The Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS) is a rating scale which a clinician or researcher may use to measure psychiatric symptoms such as depression, anxiety, hallucinations and unusual behaviour. The scale is one of the oldest, most widely used scales to measure psychotic symptoms and was first published in 1962... An expanded version of the test was created in 1993 by D. Lukoff, Keith H. Nuechterlein, and Joseph Ventura."^[6]

The Expanded version cited by Wikipedia links to a professional reference available online from Drs. Nuechterlein, Ventura, and Lukoff,¹ note the date of the revision - 1993. Note where I was from 1985-to-1998, i.e., at Dr. Neuchterlein's UCLA research project being annually trained in the assessment and diagnosis of delusional and thought disorder pathology to an $r=.90$ diagnostic reliability with the co-directors of the Diagnostic Unit at the UCLA-Brentwood VA and authors of the Expanded BPRS, Dr. Ventura and Dr. Lukoff. I have considerable professional training, background, and experience in the diagnostic assessment of thought disorders and delusional pathology,

Child Abuse Pathology

Regarding my background in child abuse pathology, I served as the Clinical Director for a three-university assessment and treatment center for children ages zero-to-five in the foster care system. Our primary referral source was Child Protective Services (CPS). I have personally worked with all four DSM-5 child abuse diagnoses and have led and supervised the multi-disciplinary assessment and treatment of child abuse as the Clinical Director for a three-university treatment center. The entry for this experience on my vitae is:

10/06 - 6/08: Clinical Director

START Pediatric Neurodevelopmental Assessment and Treatment Center
California State University, San Bernardino
Institute of Child Development and Family Relations

Clinical director for an early childhood assessment and treatment center providing comprehensive developmental assessment and psychotherapy services to children ages 0-5 years old in foster care. Directed the clinical operations, clinical staff, and the provision of comprehensive psychological assessment and treatment services across clinic-based, home-based, and school-based services. A three-university collaboration with speech and language services through the University of Redlands, occupational therapy through Loma Linda University, and psychology through Calif. State University, San Bernardino.

Attachment System & Attachment Pathology

I have specialty background in Early Childhood Mental Health, ages zero-to-five initially obtained from training with Dr. Marie Poulsen at CHLA and subsequently extended with professional practice. Early Childhood Mental Health ages 0-to-5 is a restricted sub-specialty domain of practice because it requires extensive knowledge of brain development in infancy through the first five years of life. Early Childhood Mental Health specialization requires understanding the neuro-development for each brain system individually (cognitive, language, sensory-motor, emotional, memory, relationship) as well as how they

¹ Ventura, Joseph & Lukoff, D. & Nuechterlein, Keith & Liberman, R.P. & Green, Megan & Shaner, Andrew. (1993). Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale Expanded version 4.0: Scales anchor points and administration manual. *Int J Meth Psychiatr Res.* 13. 221-244.

integrate with each other at each developmental period of maturation in the first year of infancy and beyond into all the subsequent maturational changes.

The period of early childhood is directly the developmental period of the child's early attachment formation to the parent. Within this specialty background, I know two additional diagnostic systems for early childhood besides the DSM-5, the DC:0-3 which is more attachment sensitive, and the DMIC which is stronger with autistic spectrum disorders. I am also trained in two early childhood attachment therapies, *Watch, Wait, and Wonder* for infants and *Circle of Security* for preschool-age children, and I am Certified in Infant Mental Health from Fielding Graduate Institute.

The attachment system is the brain system that governs all aspects of love and bonding throughout the lifespan, including grief and loss. The attachment system develops its patterns for love-and-bonding during childhood and then we use these internalized patterns for love-and-bonding (attachment) to guide our expectations and our approach to all future love and bonding experiences in adulthood. The clinical domain of attachment and attachment pathology is within the Early Childhood Mental Health specialization, and my clinical experience is with children ages zero-to-five in foster care, which is directly attachment pathology. A child rejecting a parent is a problem in attachment, a problem in the love-and-bonding system of the brain,

Factitious Disorder Imposed on Another

I have specialized professional background and training in the diagnostic assessment of Factitious Disorder Imposed on Another (FDIA: Munchausen by proxy) from three years of training in pediatric psychology from Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA), and my subsequent tenure on medical staff at Children's Hospital Orange County (Choc) as a pediatric psychologist. FDIA is generally thought of as inducing a false medical pathology in the child for secondary gain to the parent from doctor attention given to the supposedly "nurturing" parent (with histrionic/borderline personality associations). As a false medical (or psychiatric) pathology produced in the child by the parent, FDIA is difficult to diagnose by community professionals because it is a false disorder, with frequent changes in providers part of the symptom presentation as the involved professionals cannot determine a cause for the false symptoms and the involved parent keeps changing providers seeking the desired diagnosis ("doctor-shopping").

As a result of the false disorder imposed on the child, parent and child will eventually be referred into the local Children's Hospital for a more expert diagnosis, since the community resources cannot determine the cause of the child's symptoms. When FDIA is suspected by the treatment team at the Children's Hospital, a request is made of the hospital's Psychology Department for consultation on the diagnosis of FDIA, and a pediatric psychologist is sent from the hospital's Psychology Department to evaluate for possible FDIA. As a pediatric psychologist with three years of training from Children's Hospital Los Angeles and tenure on medical staff as a pediatric psychologist at Children's Hospital Orange County, I have relevant training and experience in the diagnostic assessment of FDIA (DSM-5 300.19).

4/02 – 10/06: Pediatric Psychologist

Children's Hospital Orange County – UCI Child Development Center

9/00 – 4/02 Postdoctoral Fellow

Children's Hospital Los Angeles

9/99 - 9/00 Predoctoral Psychology Intern – APA Accredited

Children's Hospital Los Angeles

I have professional background and specialized expertise in multiple relevant domains of knowledge, 1) thought disorders and delusions, 2) child abuse pathology, 3) the attachment system and attachment pathology, and 4) Factitious Disorder Imposed on another (DSM-5 300.19). I also am trained in family systems therapy (Bowlby, Minuchin, Haley, Madanes, Satir) from Pepperdine University, and I have worked with court-involved family conflict for the past decade, with professional presentations to the American Psychological Association, the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, an invited presentation at the Erasmus Medical Center in the Netherlands, and an invited presentation to the Law Society of Saskatchewan. I have a broad array of directly relevant domains of professional background and experience.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Craig Childress', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Craig Childress, Psy.D.
Clinical Psychologist, PSY 18857

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Education:

Pepperdine University; 11/00
Psy.D. degree in Clinical Psychology, APA accredited

California State University, Northridge; 6/85
M.A. degree in Clinical/Community Psychology

University of California, Los Angeles; 3/78
B.A. in Psychology, cum laude

Recent Presentations:

- **American Psychological Association.** Empathy, the Family, and the Core of Social Justice. Childress, C.A. & Pruter, D. Paper Presentation at the APA National Convention, Division 24, 8/8/19; Chicago, Il.
- **Erasmus University Medical Center.** Attachment-Based Parental Alienation: Trauma Informed Assessment of Complex Family Conflict. Rotterdam, Netherlands; 2/25/19.
- **Dutch Ministry of Justice.** Invited meeting; 2/27/19.
- **Law Society of Saskatchewan.** Solutions for the Family Court and Professional Psychology; Saskatoon 11/20/18; Regina 11/21/18.
- **Certification Seminars for the Houston Pilot Program for the Family Courts.** Attachment-Based Parental Alienation (AB-PA). 5/22-24/18; Houston, Texas.
- **California Association for Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (CALPCC).** Parental Alienation Testing, Orders, and Treatment in BPD/NPD Custody Proceedings. April 20, 2018; San Francisco, CA.
- **Legislature Briefing.** Pennsylvania State Legislature; House Children and Youth Committee. Solutions to High-Conflict Divorce in the Family Court. November 15, 2017; Harrisburg, PA (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1a1KbfsWIM>)
- **Legislature Briefing.** Massachusetts State Legislature. Grandparent and Family Alienation; Hosted by Representative Walsh. 5/31/17; Boston MA.
- **Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC).** An Attachment-Based Model of Parental Alienation: Diagnosis and Treatment. Childress & Pruter, Presentation at the AFCC National Convention, 6/1/17; Boston, MA.

Professional Affiliations

- American Psychological Association
- Credentialed with the National Register of Health Service Psychologists

Employment History:

6/08 – Current: Private Practice

525 Homestead Lane NE
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Psychotherapy with adults, couples, children, and families. Specializing in attachment pathology, ADHD, anger and impulse control problems in childhood, childhood trauma, family psychotherapy, marital therapy, and parent-child conflict. Consultation and expert testimony with court-involved family conflict.

10/06 - 6/08: Clinical Director

START Pediatric Neurodevelopmental Assessment and Treatment Center
California State University, San Bernardino
Institute of Child Development and Family Relations

Clinical director for an early childhood assessment and treatment center providing comprehensive developmental assessment and psychotherapy services to children ages 0-5 years old in foster care. Directed the clinical operations, clinical staff, and the provision of comprehensive psychological assessment and treatment services across clinic-based, home-based, and school-based services. A three-university collaboration with speech and language services through the University of Redlands, occupational therapy through Loma Linda University, and psychology through Calif. State University, San Bernardino.

5/03 – 10/06: Clinical Director

Fineman Consulting Group
Fire F.R.I.E.N.D.S. Juvenile Firesetting Intervention Program
Executive Director: Kenneth Fineman, Ph.D.

Through grants from FEMA and the Department of Justice to develop a national model for juvenile firesetting intervention, collaborated with Dr. Fineman in developing a comprehensive clinical psychology assessment protocol for the mental health evaluation of juvenile firesetting behavior.

1/12 – 12/17: Faculty

University of Phoenix; Pasadena Campus; Ontario Campus

Courses taught: Child Development; Assessment and Treatment Planning; Advanced Diagnosis; Models of Psychotherapy; Counseling Psychometrics; Research Methods; Cultural Psychology

1/09 – 9/10: Faculty

Argosy University; San Bernardino Campus

Courses taught: Diagnosis and Psychopathology; Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy; Child Development

4/02 – 10/06: Pediatric Psychologist

Children's Hospital Orange County – UCI Child Development Center
Early Identification and Treatment of ADHD in Preschoolers
Director: James Swanson, Ph.D.

Served as the primary clinical psychologist on a joint CHOC-UCI project for early identification of ADHD in preschool-age children.

4/02 - 9/02: Research Associate

Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Principle Investigator: Ernest Katz, Ph.D.

Multi-site Children's Hospital study of remediation of attention deficits of children with cancer.

9/00 – 4/02 Postdoctoral Fellow

Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Two-year post-doctoral fellowship. Specialty focus: ADHD; spina bifida; early childhood mental health

9/99 - 9/00 Predoctoral Psychology Intern – APA Accredited

Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Rotations: spina bifida, early childhood preschool consultation

9/98 - 9/99 Research Associate

UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute
Principle Investigator: Elisabeth Dykens, Ph.D.

Area: Cognitive functioning in Williams Syndrome. Test administration and coding of behavioral observation data

9/85 - 9/98 Research Associate

UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute
Principle Investigator: Keith Nuechterlein, Ph.D.

Area: Longitudinal study of initial-onset schizophrenia. Received annual training to research and clinical reliability in the rating of psychotic symptoms using the Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS). Managed all aspects of data collection and data processing.

9/80 – 9/85 Psychiatric Aide

Crossroads Adolescent Psychiatric Hospital Woodview-Calabassas Psychiatric Hospital. Northridge Psychiatric Hospital).

3/74 – 6/78 Crisis Counselor

Los Angeles Suicide Prevention Center

Crisis telephone counselor and shift supervisor for Los Angeles Suicide Prevention Center crisis telephone hotline. Supervisor and resource for crisis counselors.

Divorce Training

Certificate Program: Certification in Divorce Mediation. Conflict Resolution Training, Inc. 2/24/16 – 2/27/16. Susan Deveney, Instructor

Early Childhood Training:

Certificate Program: Parent-Infant Mental Health: Fielding Graduate University, 1/14/08; 1/15/08.

Early Childhood Diagnostic System: *DC:0-3R Diagnostic Criteria*: Orange County Early Childhood Mental Health Collaborative.

Early Childhood Diagnostic System: *DMIC: Diagnostic Manual for Infancy and Early Childhood*. Interdisciplinary Council on Developmental and Learning Disorders: assessment, diagnosis, and intervention for developmental and emotional disorders, autistic spectrum disorders, multisystem developmental disorders, regulatory disorders involving attention, learning and behavioral problems, cognitive, language, motor, and sensory disturbances.

Early Childhood Treatment Intervention: *Watch, Wait, and Wonder*: Nancy Cohen, Ph.D. Hincks-Dellcrest Centre & the University of Toronto.

Early Childhood Treatment Intervention: *Circle of Security*: Glen Cooper, MFT, Center for Clinical Intervention, Marycliff Institute, Spokane, Washington.

Recent Seminars Taken

Bessell van der Kolk: Complex Trauma

The Body Keeps Score – two-day PESI seminar, Pasadena, CA; 1/9/20 – 1/10/20

The Bowen Center: Emotional Cutoff

The Bowen Center for Study of the Family: 56th Annual Symposium on Family Theory and Family Psychotherapy. Dr Plimer “*Family Rifts and How to Mend Them: Findings from the Cornell Estrangement and Reconciliation Project*” – three-day symposium, Johns Hopkins University, MD; 11-7/19 – 11-9-19.

Publications:

Childress, C.A. (2018). *The Petition to the American Psychological Association*. Claremont, CA: The Childress Institute.

Childress, C.A. (2017). *Assessment of Attachment-Related Pathology Surrounding Divorce*. Claremont, CA: Oaksong Press.

Childress, C.A. (2017). *Strategic Family Systems Intervention for AB-PA: Contingent Visitation Schedule*. Claremont, CA: Oaksong Press.

Childress, C.A. (2017). *The Key to Solving High-Conflict Divorce in the Family Courts: Proposal for a Pilot Program in the Family Law Courts*. Claremont, CA: Oaksong Press.

Childress, C.A. (2016). *The Narcissistic Parent: A Guidebook for Legal Professionals Working with Families in High-Conflict Divorce*. Claremont, CA: Oaksong Press.

- Childress, C.A. (2015). *An Attachment-Based Model of Parental Alienation: Foundations*. Claremont, CA: Oaksong Press.
- Childress, C.A. (2015). *An Attachment-Based Model of Parental Alienation: Single Case ABAB Assessment and Remedy*. Claremont, CA: Oaksong Press.
- Childress, C.A. (2015). *An Attachment-Based Model of Parental Alienation: Professional Consultation*. Claremont, CA: Oaksong Press.
- Childress, C.A. (2015). *Essays in Attachment-Based Parental Alienation: The Internet Writings of Dr. Childress*. Claremont, CA: Oaksong Press.
- Childress C.A. (2000) *Ethical issues in providing online psychotherapeutic interventions*. Journal of Medical Internet Research, 2(1):e5.
- Childress, C.A. (1999). *Interactive e-mail journals: A model for providing psychotherapeutic interventions using the Internet*, *Cyberpsychology and Behavior*, 2(3), 213-221
- Childress, C.A., & Asamen, J.K. (1998). *The emerging relationship of psychology and the Internet: Proposed guidelines for conducting Internet intervention research*. *Ethics and Behavior*, 8, 19-35.

“Parental Alienation” Seminars and Presentations Given:

- Law Society of Saskatchewan. Solutions for the Family Court and Professional Psychology; Saskatoon 11/20/18; Regina 11/21/18.
- Certification Seminars for the Houston Pilot Program for the Family Courts. Attachment-Based Parental Alienation (AB-PA) May 22-24, 2018; Houston, Texas.
- California Association for Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (CALPCC). Parental Alienation Testing, Orders, and Treatment in BPD/NPD Custody Proceedings. April 20, 2018; San Francisco, CA.
- Certification in Attachment-Based Parental Alienation (AB-PA). Provided Basic and Advanced Certification Seminars in AB-PA. November 18-20. Westin Hotel Pasadena, CA.
- Legislature Briefing. Pennsylvania State Legislature; House Children and Youth Committee. Solutions to High-Conflict Divorce in the Family Court. November 15, 2017; Harrisburg, PA (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1a1KbfsWIM>)
- Legislature Briefing. Massachusetts State Legislature. Grandparent and Family Alienation. Hosted by Representative Walsh. 5/31/17. Boston MA.
- Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Annual Convention. An Attachment-Based Model of Parental Alienation: Diagnosis and Treatment. June 1, 2017. Boston, MA.
- Keynote Address. Parental Alienation Symposium 2017: Solutions for Professionals and Families. 4/29/17; Dallas, Texas.
- Master Lecture Series; California Southern University. *Treatment of Attachment-Based Parental Alienation*. November 21, 2014; Irvine, CA. (available online at www.calsouthern.edu/content/events/treatment-of-attachment-based-parental-alienation)

- Master Lecture Series; California Southern University. *Theoretical Foundations of Attachment-Based Model of “Parental Alienation.”* July 18, 2014; Irvine, CA. (available online at www.calsouthern.edu/content/events/parental-alienation-an-attachment-based-model)
- Family Law Reform Conference. Invited Panelist: *Parental Alienation and Domestic Violence.* Hosted by DivorceCorp. November 15-16, 2014; Alexandria, VA.

Early Childhood Mental Health Seminars and Trainings Given:

- Early Childhood Intervention with “Behavior Problems” in the Preschool Classroom. San Bernardino Head Start Preschool Teacher Training Series (10/27/06; 11/3/06; 11/17/06).
- Early Childhood Intervention with “Behavior Problems” in the Preschool Classroom. San Bernardino West End SELPA Preschool Teacher Training Series (10/17/06; 11/7/06; 12/5/06).
- Early Childhood Intervention with “Behavior Problems” in the Preschool Classroom. San Bernardino West End SELPA Preschool Teacher Training Series (10/31/06; 11/14/06; 12/12/06).
- Early Childhood Intervention with “Behavior Problems” in the Preschool Classroom (5/5/06). Victorville Head Start. Victorville, CA
- Early Childhood Intervention with “Behavior Problems” in the Preschool Classroom. (11/12/04). National Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, Anaheim, CA
- Functional Behavioral Analysis and Positive Child Guidance with Preschoolers. (5/1/04). Westminster School District. Westminster, CA.
- Functional Behavioral Analysis with Preschool-Age Children - Seminar Series. (3/5/04; 4/2/04). Placentia Yorba Linda School District; School Readiness Coordinators. Yorba Linda, CA
- Functional Behavioral Analysis with Preschool-Age Children - Seminar Series. (2/6/04; 2/13/04; 2/20/04). Irvine Unified School District. Irvine, CA.
- Functional Behavioral Analysis and Positive Behavior Management with Children. (12/3/03). Orangewood Preschool, Irvine, CA
- Early Childhood Working with “Problem Behavior” in the Preschool Classroom (10/31/03). Orange County Head Start; Teachers & Teacher Aides. Bren Events Center, University of California; Irvine, CA.
- Functional Behavioral Analysis and Positive Child Guidance with Preschool-Age Children. (10/17/03). Irvine Unified School District. Irvine, CA.
- Functional Behavioral Analysis with Preschool-Age Children - Seminar Series. (9/26/03; 10/17/03). Orange County Head Start Center Directors and Multi-disciplinary Teams. Orange, CA.

Internet Psychology Seminars and Presentations Given

- **World Health Organization**, 2nd International Symposium on Psychiatry and Internet: Information – Support – Therapy. Invited presentation on *Ethical Issues in Online Psychotherapeutic Interventions*. 4/2002, Munich, Germany.
- **American Association for the Advancement of Science** and the Office of Protection from Research Risks, Conference on the Ethical and Legal Aspects of Human Subjects Research in Cyberspace. Invited paper presentation on *Privacy and Confidentiality Issues in Internet Research*. 6/1999, June. Washington, D.C.
- **American Psychological Association** Convention, Symposium on Using the Internet for Change: Online Psychotherapy and Education. J. Grohol (Chair): *The Potential Risks and Benefits of Online Therapeutic Interventions*. 8/1998; San Francisco, California.

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