

SARA JONES-CONNOR, PH.D.

LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST

Dr. Sara Jones-Connor obtained her Bachelor of Science degree from Bowling Green State University in Ohio where she majored in Journalism and Public Relations. She earned her Master of Arts degree in Psychology from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida with a core emphasis in Developmental Psychology. Dr. Jones-Connor completed her Doctor of Philosophy degree in Counseling Psychology at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida. Her dissertation research focused on children's adjustment to divorce, custody arrangements and stepfamily relationships. Dr. Jones-Connor completed her doctoral internship at Children's Psychiatric Center in Miami where she performed psychological evaluations for children and adolescents and provided play therapy, individual therapy and group therapy to children, adolescents and their families.

After completing her doctoral studies, Dr. Jones-Connor accepted a position with the University of Cincinnati as a cognitive-behavioral therapist in a NIDA-funded study designed to evaluate the effectiveness of pharmacological interventions in the treatment of cocaine addiction. She subsequently served as a clinician treating adults, adolescents and children at NorthKey Community Care, a community mental health agency in Northern Kentucky. While at NorthKey, she conducted evaluations for involuntary psychiatric hospitalizations at St. Luke's West Hospital.

Currently, Dr. Jones-Connor is in private practice at Connor and Associates in Erlanger, Kentucky. She provides psychotherapy for adults, children, adolescents, families and couples. Dr. Jones-Connor is experienced and skilled in treating a variety of mental health issues. She also conducts comprehensive psychological evaluations as well as fitness for duty evaluations for various public and private entities. Together, Dr. Jones-Connor and her husband, Dr. Ed Connor, conduct court-ordered child custody evaluations, parenting assessments and visitation evaluations.

Dr. Jones-Connor is a member of the Kentucky Psychological Association (KPA), the American Psychological Association (APA) and the Association for the Advancement of Psychology (AAP). She served as a co-author for an article based on her master's thesis, which involved the development of an instrument to identify children at risk for becoming victims of bullying. The article was published in *Developmental Psychology*, a professional journal that advances knowledge and theory about development across the life span. Dr. Jones-Connor served as a contributor to an article published in *The American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse* on the cognitive motivations for drinking among alcoholics.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Sara Jones-Connor, Ph.D.
34 Erlanger Road
Erlanger, KY 41018
(859) 341-5782

CURRENT POSITION: July, 2002 to Present
Private Practice of Connor and Associates, PLLC

AREAS SERVED: Individual, family, child, adolescent, marital and group therapy;
psychological evaluations; forensic assessments; fitness for duty and
pre-employment evaluations for public safety officials.

EDUCATION:

August 2001 Doctor of Philosophy in Counseling Psychology
University of Miami
Coral Gables, Florida

August 1987 Master of Arts in Psychology
Florida Atlantic University
Boca Raton, Florida
CORE AREA: Developmental Psychology

June 1981 Bachelor of Science in Journalism
Bowling Green State University
MAJOR: Public Relations

Summer 1980 University Foreign Exchange Student
L'Ecole Superieure du Commerce
Nantes, France
MAJOR: European Economics, Government and Finance

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

July 2002 Psychologist -- Private Practice. Connor and Associates, PLLC
To
Present General psychological services including individual (adults, adolescents and
children), family, couples and group therapy, psychological evaluations, forensic
assessments and pre-employment evaluations for public safety officials.

Feb. 2002 Psychological Associate -- NorthKey Community Care; Florence, Kentucky
To
Aug. 2002 Clinician in Adult Unit and Family and Children's Unit of a regional
community mental health center. Assessment, diagnosis and treatment of
adults, adolescents and children with a wide variety of presenting issues
including disorders of mood and personality, behavioral and conduct problems
in children, family relational difficulties, trauma and physical and sexual
abuse. Conducted play, family and individual therapy. Performed evaluations
for involuntary hospitalization of patients at risk of harm to self or others at St.
Luke's Hospital West.

May 1998 Addiction Therapist -- National Institute on Drug Abuse/University of
To
Cincinnati,
Dec. 2001 Cincinnati, Ohio

Clinician working with a team of investigators searching for pharmacological
treatments for patients suffering from chemical addiction. Screened patients
for research studies including administration and scoring of psychological
assessments. Conducted individual therapy sessions with substance abuse
patients aimed at changing cognitive and behavioral patterns associated with
addiction. Participated in preparation of grant proposals and progress reports to
NIDA.

Sept. 1990 Doctoral Intern -- Children's Psychiatric Center; Miami, Florida
To
Sept. 1991 (Accredited by the American Psychological Association)

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION: Assessment, diagnosis and treatment of
children and adolescents under 18 years of age. Evaluation and treatment of
physically and sexually abused children, children in foster care and families
and children dealing with mental disorders, behavioral problems, divorce,
grief, illness, domestic violence and other challenges. Performed full battery
psychological evaluations, practiced play therapy, individual, group, and
family therapy.

Received ongoing supervision and training from two doctoral level staff
psychologists and attended various educational seminars.

Sept. 1988 Doctoral Practicum -- University of Miami; Miami, Florida.
To
Sept. 1990 PRACTICUM ROTATIONS:

Institute for Family Living ó Therapist working with adult individuals,
couples, children, adolescents and families in a University counseling center.
Training and experience focused on crisis management, psychodynamic,

family systems, client-centered and cognitive behavioral approaches to therapeutic intervention.

Family Service Agency -- Counseled clients with problems such as anxiety disorder, depression, suicide and substance abuse. Attended weekly learning seminars covering a wide range of topics including AIDS, crisis intervention and incest.

David Fairchild Elementary School -- Conducted individual and group therapy with students who had experienced parental death, divorce, emotional, academic and conduct problems.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

2001 Doctoral Dissertation -- "Impact of Change in Quality of Stepfamily Relationships on Older-Adolescent Adjustment: A Longitudinal Study."
University of Miami; Coral Gables, Florida

Investigated whether positive or negative changes in adolescents' relationships with stepfamily members predict adolescent adjustment and well being over an extended number of years. Conducted extensive literature review of the impact of divorce, custody arrangements and stepfamily life on children and adolescents.

1988 Research Assistant at University of Miami; Coral Gables, Florida.
To

2000 Researcher in a study funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). Responsible for interview, assessment, and follow-up of cocaine/crack addicts in a longitudinal examination of factors predicting relapse. Assisted in reviewing and analyzing data gathered from alcoholics in separate NIDA-funded study conducted by the University of Miami and the Veteran's Administration Hospital of Miami.

1987 Master's Thesis at "Children Who Are Victims of Peer Aggression," Florida Atlantic University; Boca Raton, Florida.

Developed an assessment instrument that uses peer ratings to identify children who are bullied/victimized in school. Administered and tested the reliability and validity of the instrument with elementary school children. Purpose of research was to foster earlier identification and recognition of children potentially at risk of peer victimization in order to provide appropriate intervention to minimize the occurrence and impact of bullying.

1985 Research Assistant at Florida Atlantic University; Boca Raton, Florida.

To Assistant to professor conducting research in cognitive psychology. Responsible for 1987 data entry and analysis, recruitment of subjects and coordination of the University's human subjects pool.

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES:

Trauma Assessment and Treatment, Part One (Advanced), Geraldine Crisci, M.S.W., May 14, 2002; Six (6) credit hours

Bipolar Disorder in Youth, Cross Country University, December 17, 2003; Six (6) credit hours.

Custody Evaluations & Risk Management, American Academy of Forensic Psychology, September, 20, 2003; Seven (7) credit hours.

Ethical Issues in Forensic Practice, American Academy of Forensic Psychology, September 17, 2003; Seven (7) credit hours.

Attachment and the Oppositional Defiant Child, Cross Country University, August 14, 2003; Six (6) credit hours.

Projective Testing and the Therapeutic Stance: Understanding the Gifts from the Underground, Kentucky Psychological Association, June 13, 2003; Four point five (4.5) credit hours.

Basic Supervision, Kentucky Psychological Association, May 14, 2004; Three (3) credit hours.

Sixth International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, October 14-16, 2004; Fourteen (14) credit hours. Individual workshops attended include:

- õAbuse and Alienationö
- õNegotiating the Ultimate Question
- õAssessing Children's Feelings and Perceptions in Divorcing Familiesö
- õThe Investigative Component in Child Custody Evaluationsö
- õCo-Parenting Counselingö
- õThe Trial ó The Ultimate Questionö

Cognitive Therapy for Patients with Personality Disorders, Institute for the Advancement of Human Behavior, February 26, 2005, Six (6) credit hours.

28th Annual International Conference on The Psychology of The Self: Developing Clinical Momentum; International Council for Psychoanalytic Self Psychology; October 20-23, 2005; Seventeen point five (17.5) credit hours.

Legal and Ethical Risk Management in Professional Psychological Practice Sequence I: General Risk Management Strategies; Kentucky Psychological Association; February 24, 2006; Six (6) credit hours.

MMPI-2: RF Training; Ohio Psychological Association; March 28, 2008; Six (6) credit hours.

Assessment and Management of Risk in Clinical Settings; Kentucky Psychological Association; June 20, 2008; Three (3) credit hours.

Ethics in Action: Applied Ethics, Legal Considerations and Clinical Risk Management; Health Education Network/David Jobes, Ph.D.; November 6, 2009; Six (6) credit hours.

Advanced Forensic Psychology Practice: Issues and Applications; American Academy of Forensic Psychology; April 8-10, 2010; Twenty-four (24) credit hours.

Clinical Risk Management & Malpractice Lawsuits; PESI; June 9, 2011; Six (6) credit hours.

Family Law and Forensics; Kentucky Psychological Association; August 26, 2011; Six (6) credit hours.

Helping Adult Clients Grow Up; Cross Country Education; February 10, 2012; Six (6) credit hours.

Revolutionizing Diagnosis & Treatment Using the DSM-5; CMI Education Institute, Inc.; January 18, 2013; Six (6) credit hours.

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS:

Perry, D.G., *Kusel, S.J.*, & Perry, L.C. (1988). Victims of Peer Aggression. *Developmental Psychology*, 24, 807-814.

McMahon, R.C., Kouzekanani, K., DeMarco, L.A., *Kusel, S.J.*, Davidson, R.S. (1992). Cognitive motivations for drinking among alcoholics. *The American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse*, 18, 477-486.

AWARDS AND HONORS:

2001 Award of Academic Merit ó Doctoral program, University of Miami.

1990 Doctoral Qualifying Exams ó Passed with Honors

1987 Susan Dewar Memorial Scholarship ó Annual award presented by faculty members to a graduate student for outstanding achievement in psychology in the master's program at Florida Atlantic University.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

Kentucky Psychological Association (KPA)

American Psychological Association (APA)

Association for the Advancement of Psychology (AAP)