
SARA JONES-CONNOR, PH.D.

LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST

Dr. Sara Jones-Connor obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism from Bowling Green State University in Ohio and earned a Master of Arts in Psychology from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida. She received her Doctor of Philosophy degree in Counseling Psychology at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida where 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, individual and group therapy to children and their families.

After completing her doctoral studies, Dr. Jones-Connor accepted a position with the University of Cincinnati as a therapist in a NIDA-funded study evaluating pharmacological interventions in the treatment of addiction. She subsequently served as a therapist treating families and children at NorthKey Community Care in Northern Kentucky. Since 2002, Dr. Jones-Connor has been in private practice at Connor and Associates in Erlanger, Kentucky providing psychotherapy for adults, children, adolescents, families and couples. She is experienced and skilled in treating a variety of mental health issues including mood disorders, personality disorders, stress management, abuse and trauma, grief/loss, women's issues, and adjustment to divorce. She also conducts child custody evaluations, parenting assessments and visitation evaluations together with her husband, Dr. Ed Connor.

Dr. Jones-Connor is a member of the Kentucky Psychological Association (KPA) and the American Psychological Association (APA). She served as a co-author on an article published in *Developmental Psychology* describing the development of an instrument to identify victims of child bullying. She also was a co-contributor to an article published in *The American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse* about the cognitive motivations for drinking among alcoholics.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Sara Jones-Connor, Ph.D.
KY License #130544
34 Erlanger Road
Erlanger, KY 41018
(859) 341-5782

Current Position:

July, 2002 to Present
Private Practice – Connor and Associates, PLLC

Individual, family, child, adolescent, marital and group therapy
Psychological evaluations and custody evaluations

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

June 1981 Bachelor of Science in Journalism
Bowling Green State University

Summer 1980 University Foreign Exchange Student
L'Ecole Superieure du Commerce
Nantes, France

Professional Experience:

July 2002 Psychologist -- Private Practice. Connor and Associates, PLLC
To
Present General psychological services including individual, family and couples therapy,
custody and relocation evaluations

- Feb. 2002 Psychological Associate -- NorthKey Community Care; Florence, Kentucky
 To
 Aug. 2002 Assessment, diagnosis and treatment of adults, adolescents and children for a variety of issues including mood and personality disorders, child behavioral and conduct problems, family relational problems, trauma and physical and sexual abuse. She also conducted involuntary commitment evaluations at St. Luke's Hospital.
- May 1998 Addiction Therapist -- National Institute on Drug Abuse/University of
 To
 Dec. 2001 Cincinnati; Cincinnati, Ohio
 Therapist with research team investigating pharmacological treatments for patients suffering from drug addiction. Screened patients for studies including administration and scoring of psychological assessments. Conducted individual therapy sessions with substance abuse patients and participated in preparation of grant proposals and progress reports for NIDA.
- Sept. 1990 Doctoral Intern -- Children's Psychiatric Center; Miami, Florida
 To
 Sept. 1991 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 families and children dealing with mental disorders, behavioral problems, divorce, grief, illness, domestic violence and other challenges. Performed psychological evaluations, play, individual, group, and family therapy.
- Sept. 1988 Doctoral Practicum Rotations -- University of Miami; Miami, Florida.
 To
 Sept. 1990 Institute for Family Living – Therapist working with adult individuals, couples, children, adolescents and families in a University counseling center. Training and practice in crisis management, psychodynamic, family systems, client-centered and cognitive behavioral interventions.
- Family Service Agency -- Counseled clients with various issues including anxiety disorders, depression, suicide and substance abuse. Attended regular 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 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 adolescent relationships with stepfamily members and predictors of adjustment and well-being. Conducted extensive review of divorce, custody and stepfamily literature as related to child adjustment.

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

To

2000 Researcher in study funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). Interview, assessment and follow-up of addicts in a longitudinal examination of factors predicting relapse.

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

Developed an instrument to identify children who are bullied. 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 interventions to minimize the occurrence and impact of bullying.

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

To

1987 Assistant to professor conducting research in cognitive psychology. Responsible for 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; 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. Workshops included:

- Abuse and Alienation
- Negotiating the Ultimate Question
- Assessing Children's Feelings and Perceptions in Divorcing Families
- The Investigative Component in Child Custody Evaluations
- Co-Parenting Counseling
- The Trial – The Ultimate Question

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; 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.

To Breach or Not to Breach: The Ethical Consideration of Boundary Issues in Clinical Settings; Kentucky Psychological Association; April 18, 2014; Three (3) credit hours.

The 17th Annual Training for Sex Offender Evaluation and Treatment; Commonwealth of Kentucky Department of Corrections; May 9, 2013; Six (6) credit hours.

Counseling for Couples: Understanding and Improving Love Relationships; Cross Country Education; May 15, 2014; Six (6) credit hours.

Using the DSM-5 for Revolutionizing Diagnosis and Treatment; PESI; June 6, 2014; Six (6) credit hours.

Assessment & Clinical Management of Suicidal Patients; Kentucky Psychological Association; May 20, 2016; Six (6) credit hours.

Personality Disorders: The Challenges of the Hidden Agenda; PESI; March 9, 2017; 6.25 credit hours.

Ethics: Necessary and Essential Information for Mental Health and Related Healthcare Professionals; June 2, 2017; 6.25 credit hours.

Healing After An Affair; Heisel and Associates; June 4, 2017; Six (6) credit hours.

ACT Made Easy: Acceptance and Commitment Therapy for Depression, Anxiety, Trauma and Personality Disorders; PESI; June 8, 2017; 6.25 credit hours.

Building Self-Regulation in Children with Autism, ADHD or Sensory Disorders; Cross Country Education; June 9, 2017; Six (6) credit hours.

How To Talk To Your Clients About Their Sexuality; Heisel and Associates; June 12, 2017; Three (3) credit hours.

Healing From The Trauma Of Infidelity; PESI; December 12, 2017; 6.25 credit hours.

Professional Ethics in High Risk Clinical Circumstances and Domestic Violence: The Impact on Children/Families; Heisel and Associates; May 18, 2018; Six (6) credit hours.

Research Publications:

Perry, D.G., Kusel, S.J., & Perry, L.C. (1988). Victims of Peer Aggression. *Developmental Psychology*, Vol. 24, pp. 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*, Vol. 18, pp. 477-486.

Awards and Honors:

2001 Award of Academic Merit – Doctoral program, University of Miami

1990 Doctoral Qualifying Exams – Passed with Honors, University of Miami

1987 Susan Dewar Memorial Scholarship for Outstanding Graduate Student, Florida
Atlantic University

Professional Memberships:

Kentucky Psychological Association (KPA)

American Psychological Association (APA)