



CHILD ABUSE SOLUTIONS, INC.

In collaboration with

THE FAMILY VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT INSTITUTE AT THE CALIFORNIA SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY, ALLIANT INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Present:

Conducting Custody Evaluations In the Best Interests of the Child: *Techniques, New Legal & Ethical Requirements, & Child Sexual Abuse Issues*

Linda Barnard, Ph.D.
A. Rodney Nurse, Ph.D., ABPP
James Livingston, Ph.D.
Marilee Reubsamen, Ph.D.

Richard Ducote, Esq.
Meera Fox, Esq.
Seth Goldstein, Esq.
Geraldine Butts Stahly, Ph.D.

April 11, 12 & 13, 2003

**St. Martin's Episcopal Church
640 Hawthorne Lane, Davis, CA**

(between Sycamore & West 8th St., 16 mi. south of Sacramento, 75 mi. north-east of S.F.)

Meets New California Requirements for 20 of the 40 Hours Training for All Custody Evaluators.

Includes Mandatory Child Sexual Abuse Training for all Child Custody Evaluators.

Up to 20 Hours CE Credits (Includes Ethics) for Psychologists, Counselors, LCSWs, and MFTs.

Up to 20 Hours MCLEs for Attorneys.

Meets Annual Update Requirements for Child Custody Evaluators.

Meets Annual Update for Domestic Violence Education Hours.



Course Description: The workshop includes presentations from professionals with many years of experience in the investigation, assessment, and evaluation of child custody, child maltreatment, and domestic violence cases from mental health, criminal justice, and legal perspectives. Case

examples, videos, demonstrations, and role play will be utilized to help participants learn techniques and improve their skills.

Objectives: Participants will enhance their understanding of the ethical issues and procedures involved in child custody evaluations, especially when there are child physical or sexual abuse or domestic violence allegations; participants will improve their skills in conducting child custody evaluations, especially with regard to interview and assessment techniques, report writing, and presenting the findings in court; participants will thoroughly understand the new legal requirements involved in performing child custody evaluations.

Note: This 20 hour course is designed specifically to satisfy 20 of the 40 hours of training, and all aspects of the curriculum which is outlined in California Rule of Court #s 1257.1 & 1257.4(e)(1)-(21) (recently re-numbered 5.225), and includes mandatory training on the nature of child sexual abuse, which is required by CA. Family Code Section 3110.5 (b)(2) & (f).

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS:

Up to 20 hours of Continuing Education credits have been approved and will be provided by the Family Violence & Sexual Assault Institute for the following professions:

Psychologists - The Family Violence & Sexual Assault Institute (FVSAI) is approved by the American Psychological Association (APA) to offer continuing education for psychologists. FVSAI maintains responsibility for the program.

MFTs and LCSWs - FVSAI is approved by the Board of Behavioral Sciences (PCE #33) to offer continuing education for LCSWs and MFTs. This course meets the qualifications for 20 hours of continuing education for MFTs and/or LCSWs as required by the CA Board of Behavioral Sciences.

National Certified Counselors - FVSAI is recognized by the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) to offer continuing education for National Certified Counselors. FVSAI adheres to NBCC Continuing Education Guidelines.

Nurses - FVSAI is approved by the California Board of Registered Nurses to offer continuing education for nurses (CEP#13737).

Child Custody Evaluators - This course has been approved by the Judicial Council of California to meet 20 hours of the mandatory training, including Child Sexual Abuse training, which was required to have been completed before 1/1/03 by all child custody evaluators wishing to continue performing evaluations in family court.

Attorneys - Child Abuse Solutions, Inc. (CASI) and The Child Abuse Forensic Institute (CAFI) certify that this activity has been approved for MCLEs by the State Bar of California for 2 hours of Elimination of Bias MCLE credit, in addition to 18 hours of general MCLE credit. The CAFI is a State Bar of California approved provider.

TRAINING PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

Friday 4/11/03

Registration	8:00 AM
Welcome and introductions to faculty and material	9:00 AM
Domestic Violence(DV) and Child Maltreatment (CM) in family evaluations -interactive exercise, the batterer as parent, effect of DV/CM on how clients present in interviews and testing, special evaluation procedures, and risk assessment.	9:30 AM
Break	11:00 AM
Short and long term effects of DV and CM on children and their development, identifying victims disclosure, recants, CSAAS, interviewing kids, video.	11:15 AM
Lunch (on your own)	12:30 PM
Understanding Child Sexual Abuse Allegations in	1:30 PM

Custody Cases	
Evidence and Investigation Procedures	2:00 PM
Break	3:30 PM
Abuser dynamics and identification, videos	3:45 PM
Medical Evidence (or the lack thereof) of CM,	4:15 PM
New Laws and Requirements of Evaluators	4:30 PM
and of Evaluations	6:00 End

Saturday 4/12/03

Registration	8:00 AM
Myth of "Parental Alienation Syndrome (PAS)"	9:00 AM
System Failure, preparing for court testimony	10:00 AM
and controlling for biases.	
Break	11:00 AM
Mock Court testimony: Direct and Cross	11:15 AM
Lunch (On your own)	12:15 PM
Avoiding bias. The latest research in Custody.	1:15 PM
Evaluation Procedures and Testing Measures	1:45 PM
Child assessment, gathering and using collateral	
contact information, what to look for when CM	
or DV is alleged.	
Break	3:15 PM
Evaluation Procedures and Testing Measures	3:30 PM
Adult assessment, interviewing, gathering data	
from all relevant direct and collateral sources	6:00 End

Sunday 4/13/03

Registration	12:30 PM
Records review and management: "Timelining;"	1:00 PM
Knowing when you finally have enough information.	
Putting it all together and developing an opinion,	1:15 PM
Assessing parenting capability &	
Constructing effective and safe parenting plans.	
Custody and visitation recommendations,	
Referrals for treatment	
Break	2:45 PM
Legal Restrictions on what the court may	3:00 PM
order: Overview of relevant Family Laws	
Writing Reports	4:00 PM
Review and re-cap	5:00 PM
Closing, Evaluations	6:00-6:30 End.

PRESENTERS:

Linda Barnard, Ph.D. has run a private practice in Sacramento since 1981, where she provides consultation to individuals, businesses and agencies. She specializes in the treatment of anxiety disorders and trauma survivors. Ms. Barnard regularly speaks at conferences and participates in training professionals in mental health and allied fields. She testifies often as an expert witness on a number of trauma and abuse related issues.

Richard Ducote, Esq. is the country's leading attorney in the area of sexual abuse litigation. Since 1978 he has successfully advocated on behalf of victims of domestic violence, sexually abused children, and the parents who fight to protect them in over 40 states. His victories include *Ankenbrandt v. Richards* in the Supreme Court, which allowed child victims of incest to sue their perpetrators in federal court despite 100 years of cases to the contrary. He has won multi million dollar verdicts for abuse victims in 3 states. He has been honored for his work by the National Association of Social Workers, the American Bar Association, the Northern Plains Tribal Institute, the LSU School of Social Work, and Justice For Children.

Meera Fox, Esq. represented juvenile wards of the Dependency court as an attorney for Children's Law Offices before becoming a successful sole practitioner representing Protective Parents of sexually abused children in Family court custody proceedings. After a three year stint as director of new programs at the Child Abuse Forensic Institute, Ms. Fox now serves as the Executive Director of Child Abuse Solutions, Inc., a non-profit organization working to make court and child protection systems responsive to the needs of abused children.

Seth Goldstein, Esq. is the founder and Executive Director of the Child Abuse Forensic Institute. Presently a consultant and attorney in private practice, he has in the past served as the investigator and project director for the Child Abuse Vertical Prosecution Unit of the Napa County D.A.'s Office, and as an investigator with the Santa Clara County D.A.'s office. He was a police officer for 10 years prior to that. He is the author of a textbook on Sexual Abuse investigation and testifies as an expert witness as well as trains professionals all over the country.

James Livingston, Ph. D. is a clinical psychologist with both applied and research interest in the psychological assessment and treatment of children and adults. A Fellow in the Society for Personality assessment, he has focused on the assessment of trauma, and currently researches the response to treatment of violence-exposed children. Dr. Livingston provides clinical and forensic consultation, assessment and treatment as the co-director of Abbey Assessments. He is also a professor at Pacific Graduate School.

A. Rodney Nurse, Ph.D., ABPP, has been conducting child custody evaluations (including those involving allegations of sexual abuse) for over 15 years, evaluating and/or testifying in nine states. Board Certified in Clinical and Family Psychology, he is West Rep/Board Member for the American Board of Family Psychology. Author of Family Assessment: Effective Uses of Personality Tests with Couples and Families (Wiley, 1999) and Life Fellow with the Society for Personality Assessment, he practices in Orinda, and is the Director of Family Services at Boyer House Foundation in San Rafael, CA.

Marilee Reubsamen, Ph. D. is a clinical psychologist, an associate professor at Pacific Graduate School, and Clinical Director of Pine Hill School. She founded the Wednesday's Child Project in 1997 and serves as its director, conducting research and providing clinical services for dispute and violence-exposed children. In her private practice, she specializes in the clinical and forensic assessment and treatment of severely traumatized children, adolescents, adults and families.

Geraldine Butts Stahly, Ph. D. is an associate Professor of Psychology at California State University, San Bernardino. She has conducted research, authored articles and chapters, and served on several task forces and committees dealing with child custody and domestic violence issues. She conducted one of the original research studies concerning domestic violence in custody cases in California, and is currently involved in the latest study on child sexual abuse allegations in California custody cases.

Bonus: Included in the price of the full 3 day training tuition is our **Child Custody Evaluation Report Template** on computer disk, and in hard copy both blank and filled in with an example evaluation and fact pattern. This effective tool was designed by attorneys and evaluators to ensure that evaluators, their evaluation practices and procedures, and their evaluation reports comply with all applicable California State laws and rules of court (with the exception of local county rules, which vary by county). There are boxes to check to ensure that every required step has been followed, and computerized pull down fields in which to insert your findings and narrative. To order the template kit without attending the training, or if you are attending for less than the full three days and would like to order a template kit, send a check made payable to CPPA to Child Abuse Solutions, Inc. at the below address, in the amount of \$300.00.

REGISTRATION

Please print & mail form to address below, with check made payable to CPPA. Please print neatly or type:

Name:

Firm/Agency:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Telephone/Fax:

E-mail:

If requesting CE or MCLE credits, please provide: **Lic./Cert.** _____ # _____

TUITION FEES

Full training: \$ 395 for all 3 days, Friday, Saturday, & Sunday,
 \$ 285 for all 3 days, Full-time students/interns, AIU Faculty

Or Pay-per-day: \$ 185 for Friday \$ 185 Saturday \$ 95 Sunday

CE or MCLE Credits: \$ 25 (After 3/19 - add \$30)

On-site registration (if space available)- add \$35
Group discounts available (call for fees)

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Checks should be made payable to CPPA. Sorry, no Credit Cards accepted.

Cancellation Policy: \$25 fee up to 17 days before workshop;
50% refund 6-16 days before workshop.
No refund within 6 days of workshop.

To mail or fax registration or to obtain information about dates of other upcoming evaluator, attorney or judicial trainings available through Child Abuse Solutions, Inc., or Family Violence & Sexual Assault Institute, contact:

Meera Fox
Child Abuse Solutions, Inc.
2625 Alcatraz Ave. #607, Berkeley, CA 94705
Ph: (510) 521-0438
Fax: (510) 521-0439
abusesolutions@aol.com

Driving Directions from I-80:

Exit at Richards Blvd./Davis Exit North. Go under RR tunnel & straight toward 5th St.
Left on 5th, which becomes Russel Blvd. After passing a shopping center on your right,
Right on Sycamore, & Right on Hawthorne Lane.