

Matthew J. Sullivan, Ph.D.
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Education:

A.B. Human Biology (1978)
Stanford University, Stanford, California
Ph.D. Clinical/Community Psychology (1985)
University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland

Honors:

National Institute of Mental Health Fellowship, 1980-1981. Department of Psychology, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland

Certificate of Recognition, in acknowledgement of contributions to the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Meritorious Service Award to Santa Clara County Family Court, 1994.

Certificate of Appreciation, in acknowledgement of "exceptional work contributed on behalf of the families and children in Superior Court", Family Court Services, Santa Clara County, 1995

The Joseph Drown Award Recipient, for "Outstanding Services to Children", the highest honor for an Association of Family and Conciliation Court (AFCC) California chapter member, 2012

Jefferson Cup Award, for Service on the American Psychological Association Ethics Committee, 2018

President, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts International Organization (AFCC), 2019-2020.

Positions:

Licensed Psychologist in Private Practice - Providing psychological services to Children, Couples and Families, specializing in Child and Family Forensic Psychology 1990-present.

Appointment to three task forces commissioned by the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) on practice guidelines for Parenting Coordinators and Special Masters, 2001, re-appointed, 2003, re-appointed, 2017.

Appointment to represent the American Psychological Association (APA) to the APA/American Bar Association Collaborative Working Group on Psychological and Legal Interventions with Parents, Children and Families, January, 2007.

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Appointment to Co-Chair the Task Force commissioned by the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts on the Professional Practice guidelines for court-involved therapists, June, 2008.

Consultant – American Psychological Association Parenting Coordination Program in Washington, D.C. 2008-2011.

Appointment to Task Force commissioned by the Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR) to develop ethical and training guidelines for the practice of Eldercare Coordination, 2013-2015

Founder/Owner: California Coparenting Clinic – a clinic providing low-cost co-parenting services to clients and training to professionals, 2014-2016

Associate Member: American Psychological Association Ethics Committee, 2017-2019.

Faculty Appointments:

Lecturer/Assistant Professor - Pacific Graduate School of Psychology, 1991-1998
Clinical Instructor - Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University School of Medicine, 1992-1998

Professional Licenses:

Licensed Psychologist, April 1987 - Present
California Board of Medical Quality Assurance, License Number: PSY10214
Vermont Board of Psychology, 2014-2016 # 048.0101834

Professional Organizations:

Member: American Psychological Association
Association of Family and Conciliation Courts

Editorial Boards:

Editor: Journal of Child Custody, 2003-2013

Organizational Boards:

Director: Association of Family and Conciliation Courts International Board of Directors, appointed 2009; Conference committee chair, 2013 to 2018, Treasurer, 2014-16; Secretary, 2016, Vice President, 2017, President-Elect, 2018, President, 2019-2020, Past-President, 2020-2021; Executive Committee, 2014 to 2021. www.afccnet.org.

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- Director: Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, California Chapter Board of Directors, 2012-2016
- Founder, 2007 Overcoming Barriers, a non-profit organization providing innovative programs for high-conflict post-divorce families, Board President 2012-14; Advisory Board member 2014-present.
www.overcomingbarriers.org.

Publications:

Books:

- Overcoming the Co-Parenting Trap: Essential Parenting Skills When a Child Resists a Parent, John Moran, Tyler Sullivan and Matthew Sullivan, 2015.
- Overcoming the Alienation Crisis: 33 Coparenting Solutions, John Moran, Matthew Sullivan and Shawn McCall, 2020.

Articles:

- "Parental Alienation Processes in Post-Divorce Cases," Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Newsletter, Volume 16, 1997.
- "The Role of the Special Master", Family Advocate, a publication of the American Bar Association, Vol. 21, no. 1, 1998
- "Legal and Psychological Management of Cases with an Alienated Child" with Joan Kelly, Family Court Review, Vol. 39 No. 3, pp. 299-315 July 2001
- "Parenting Coordination: Implementation Issues" co-authored with Association of Family and Conciliation Courts task force, Family Court Review, November, 2003
- "Parenting Coordination for High-Conflict Families", co-authored with Christine Coates, Robin Deutsch, Hon. Hugh Starnes and Bealysa Sydlik, Family Court Review, Vol. 41, No. 2, pp. 1-17, April 2004
- "Ethical, Legal and Professional Practice Issues involved in Acting as a Psychologist Parent Coordinator in Child Custody Cases" Family Court Review, Vol. 41, No. 3, July 2004
- "Guidelines for Parenting Coordination", co-authored with Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Task Force on Parenting Coordination, Family Court Review, Vol. 44 No. 1, pp. 164-181, January, 2006
- "Parenting Coordination Practice: A Survey of Experienced Professionals", co-authored with Karl Kirkland, Family Court Review, Vol. 46 No. 4, pp.622-636, 2008
- "Coparenting and the Parenting Coordination Process" Journal of Child Custody, Vol. 5, Nos. 1/2. Sullivan (Ed.), July, 2008.
- "New Services for Families in the Divorce Transition" Studies and Comments 8, Interventions for the Best Interest of the Child in Family Law Procedures, Hofling, S. (ed.) pp.101-112, 2009
- "Overcoming Barriers Family Camp: A Program for High Conflict Divorced Families where a Child is Resisting Contact with a Parent", co-authored with Peggie Ward and Robin Deutsch, Family Court Review, Vol. 48, No. 1, pp.116-135, 2010

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- “Guidelines for Court-Involved Therapy: A best practice approach for mental health professionals”, co-authored with Hon. Linda Fidnick, Kelly Koch, and Lyn Greenberg, Family Court Review, Vol. 49, No. 3, pp. 557-563, 2011.
- “Guidelines for Court-Involved Therapy”, co-authored with the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Task Force on Court Involved Therapy, Family Court Review, Vol. 49, No. 3, pp. 564-581, 2011
- “Parenting Coordinator and Therapist Collaboration in High Conflict Shared Custody Cases”, co-authored with Lyn Greenberg, Journal of Child Custody, vol. 9, No.1-2, 2012.
- “Parenting Coordination: Coming of Age?” Family Court Review, Vol. 51 No. 1, pp.56-62, January, 2013.
- “Coparenting: A Lifelong Partnership” Family Advocate, American Bar Association, Vol. 36, no. 1, 2013.
- “Reunification Family Therapy: A Treatment Manual by Jan Faust,” Book Review for Family Court Review, Vol. 57, no. 1, 2019.
- “Beyond the Guidelines: The use of Mental Health Experts in Determining Appropriate Levels of Child Support for Affluent Families” co-authored with Jacqueline Singer, Belinda Hanson & Jane Taylor, Journal of the American Association of Matrimonial Lawyers, Vol. 32 No. 1, 145-191.
- “Parental Alienation: In Search of Common Ground for a More Differentiated Theory”, with Janet Johnston, Family Court Review, Vol. 58 No 2 pp. 270-292.
- “New AFCC Guidelines for Parenting Coordination (2019) , co-authored with the PC Task Force, Family Court Review, Vol.58 No. 3, 644-657.
- “Effective Use of Parenting Coordination: Considerations for Legal and Mental Health Professionals”, co-authored with Annette Burns, Family Court Review, Vol.58 No.3 July, 2020, pp.730-746.
- “Parent-child contact problems- concepts, controversies and conundrums”, Magistrate, August/September, 2020. United Kingdom.
- “The Creative Disruption of the Covid-19 Pandemic Impacts Courts, Unified Family Court Connections, Fall, 2020.

Book Chapters:

- “Family Systems”, co-authored with Jamie McHale, The Handbook of Clinical Psychology Vol. II, Chapter 7, Hersen & Gross (Ed.), Wiley, 2008
- “Mental Health Consultation in Child Custody Cases”, co-authored with Elena Hobbs-Minor, Innovations in Interventions with High Conflict Families, Chapter 5, Fieldstone & Coates (Eds.), AFCC, 2008.
- “Parenting Coordination for High Conflict Families”, co-authored with Coates, Deutsch, Starnes and Sydlik, Resolving Family Conflicts, Singer, J. & Murphy, J. (Eds.) Agate, London (2008).
- “Parenting Coordination Practice” (Chapter 6) and “Keeping on Track or Getting Derailed” (Chapter 8), in Handbook of Parenting Coordination Practice, Lally, S. and Higuchi, S. Editors, American Psychological Association, 2013.
- “Overview of the Overcoming Barriers approach” (chapter 6); “West Group: Group interventions for rejected parents” (chapter 9); “ Co-parenting, parenting and child-focused interventions” (chapter 11) in Overcoming Parent-Child Contact Problems: Family-based interventions for resistance, rejection and alienation, edited by Abigail M. Judge and Robin Deutsch, Oxford Press, 2016.
- “Building and Managing Collaborative Teams” (Chapter 14); Evidence-Informed

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Interventions for Court-Involved Families: Promoting Healthy Coping and Development, Greenberg, Fidler & Saini, eds., Oxford U Press, 2019.

Invited Presentations and Trainings (selected):

- Special Masters Revisited, presented to the Association of Family and Conciliatory Courts, California Chapter, Annual Conference, January, 1995
- Nightmare Cases: Parental Alienation, Presented to the Family Law and Procedure Institute, California Judges Association, March, 1995
- Rethinking Alienation, Pre-conference institute for the 37th Annual Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, May 2000
- Custody Evaluations and the Alienated Child, Pre-Symposium Institute presented at the Fourth International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations, South Carolina, November, 2000
- Special Mastering and Alienation Dynamics, presentations at the Custody and Visitation Symposium sponsored by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, North Carolina, June 2001
- Psychological Aspects of Child Support in High Income Family Law Cases and Interventions in Child Alienation, presented at the NFLS Seminar, October, 2001
- Legal, Economic and Psychological Dimensions of Child Support in Extraordinarily High-Income Cases, presented at the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Northern California Symposium, April, 2002
- Research and Trends in Children's Adjustment Following Divorce, Presented at the Regional Training Institute of the California Administrative Office of the Courts, October, 2002
- Understanding and Working with High Conflict Families, invited series of Presentations and workshops to the Munich Family Courts, Munich, Germany, November, 2002
- The Use of Parent Coordinators in High Conflict Custody Cases, Presented at a Symposium sponsored by the Center for Psychiatry and the Law, Stanford University Medical Center, January, 2003
- Parenting Coordination: The Challenges of Being Coach and Decision-Maker and Parent Coordination Forum, presented at the 40th Anniversary Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Conference, Ottawa, Canada, May 2003
- Parenting Coordination in the United States, Seminar presented at the GWG Institute, Munich, Germany, September, 2005
- The Parenting Coordination Process, full-day institute presented at the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Conference, Colorado, September, 2005
- Symposium on Parent Coordination, co-presenter with the President of the American Psychological Association, annual conference, August 2006, New Orleans, Louisiana
- Reuniting Parents and Alienated Children, Keynote Address at the 28th Annual Los Angeles Child Custody Colloquium, Los Angeles, September 2006

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- The Presumption for Equal Shared Parenting: Pros and Cons Plenary Session, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts California Annual Conference, February, 2007, San Francisco.
- Parenting Coordination: Does one model fit all? Pre-conference institute and Complexities of Child Alienation: From assessment to options for intervention, presented at the AFCC annual conference, Washington, D.C. May 2007
- Symposium on Parenting Coordination, co-presenter with the Immediate Past President of the American Psychological Association and current Ethics Committee Chair, annual conference, San Francisco, California, August 2007
- High Conflict Divorcing Families: Practical Strategies to Prevent and Intervene in Alienation Cases, One-day solo presentation to the Custody Consortium, Toronto, Canada, November, 2007
- New Ways to Support Divorced and Separated Parents, presented at Interventions for the Best Interests of Children in Family Law Procedures, sponsored by the German Government, Munich, Germany, April 2008
- Advanced Topics in Parenting Coordination, a full-day continuation education program presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, San Diego, August, 2010.
- Ethical and Professional Practice Issues for Court-Involved Therapists, presented at the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts regional conference, Cambridge, Mass, November 2010.
- Parenting Coordination: Advanced Practice Issues, a two-day training sponsored by the Baltimore School of Law, Baltimore, MD, December, 2010.
- Advanced Topics in Parenting Coordination, a two-day program presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Washington, D.C. August, 2011.
- A Lawyer's Guide to the DSM-IV and Psychological Testing in Child Custody Litigation, an institute presented at the American Association of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML) and AFCC conference, Philadelphia, September, 2011.
- Utilizing Research in Practice: Family Law's Catch-22, opening Plenary at the 10th Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations, Phoenix AZ, November, 2012
- Behind the Curtain: Mental Health Consultation in child custody cases, Keynote presented at the AFCC Massachusetts annual conference, Boston, March, 2013.
- Custody and Related Issues: Tips for Regulators, a keynote presentation for Association of State and Provincial Psychological Boards Annual conference, October, 2013, Las Vegas.
- Visitation Resistance/Parental Rejection: What it is, what to do? presented at the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers midyear meeting, March 2014, Cancun, Mexico.
- Mediation: Getting to Yes! workshop presented at the AFCC annual conference, May, 2014, Toronto, Canada.
- The United States Experience of Coparenting, keynote presented at the Family Symposium: Divorce and Coparenting October, 2014 Hong Kong
- Working with High Conflict Coparents and Children in Divorced Families, 2-day training for the Hong Kong Catholic Marriage Advisory Council, October, 2014, Hong Kong
- Psychological Aspects of Child Support in High Income Cases, Seminar for "Attorney's Briefcase": Beyond the Basics, November, 2014. www.atybriefcase.com
- Practical applications of intensive interventions for children who resist contact with a

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- parent, Institute presented at the AFCC-CA annual conference, February, 2015.
- Parenting Coordination: Foundations, a two-day training for family law professionals, Vancouver, British Columbia, February, 2015.
- How to Obtain and Use Alcohol and Drug Test Results, Pre-symposium institute, AAML Northern California Symposium, Napa, Ca, May, 2016.
- Eldercare Coordination: Train-the-Trainer in the use of Technology, presented at the Association for Conflict Resolution Eldercare Training, Columbus, Ohio, 2015
- Preferences and Voices of Children, Plenary Panel presented to the American Bar Association Family Law Section Annual Conference, Portland, Oregon, 2015.
- Parenting Coordination 2-day Training, presented to the Alaska Family Courts, Anchorage, AK, December, 2015.
- Strategic tips for Child Custody Evaluators and those examining their work product at depositions and trial, presented at the AFCC-CA conference, San Francisco, 2016
- Parenting Coordination: Practice Foundations, 2-Day training sponsored by the AFCC, Chicago, Ill, March 2016
- Examining Attorney-Expert Relationships: Ethics and Choices, workshop presented at the AFCC annual conference, Seattle, WA, June 2016
- Parent-child contact problems: News you can use, general session at the AFCC child custody symposium, Atlanta Georgia, November, 2016.
- Parenting Coordination: Foundations: 3-day training for the Hong Kong Law Society, Hong Kong, China, November, 2016.
- Parenting Coordination Foundations: 2-day training sponsored by the AFCC, Chicago, Illinois, March, 2017.
- Overcoming Parent-Child Contact problems: one-day training for family law professionals, ½ day training for Judges, Honolulu, HI, March, 2017
- Child Participation in Court Proceedings, Session Chair. 7th World Congress of Family Law and Children's Rights, Dublin, Ireland, June 2017.
- Ten Years Later: Research and Practice-informed work with High Conflict families, workshop presented at the AFCC Annual Conference, Boston, June 2107.
- Alienation and Estrangement Remedies and Mental Health Consultation to clients undergoing a Custody and Access Evaluation, presented at the 11th Biennial Conference on Family Law, Vancouver, Canada, July 2017.
- Hot Topics and Diversity Hot Topics, presented by the APA Ethics Committee Members, American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Washington, D.C., August 2107.
- Using Mental Health Professionals as Consultants, Plenary presentation; Examining Expert/Attorney Relationships, Workshop presentation for the AAML-AFCC Joint Conference, San Diego, September, 2017.
- Daubert Hearing Regarding Parental Alienation: Do or Die; co-presented workshop for the AFCC Regional Conference, Milwaukee, WI., November, 2017.
- When Resistance is Justified; workshop presented at the California AFCC Chapter Annual Meeting, February, 2018, San Francisco.
- Parenting Coordination: Working in the trenches with high conflict coparents; two day training co-sponsored by the AFCC and Loyola Law school, Chicago, Ill. March 2018.
- Supporting co-parenting in high conflict family law cases; presented at the Children Now International Symposium on best practices in dealing with high conflict families. Montreal, Canada, May, 2018.
- Parenting Coordination: Work in the Trenches with high conflict coparents; one-day training for the Indiana Bar Association, Indianapolis, October, 2018.

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Parenting time refusal: What Now? One-day training for the Illinois chapter of AFCC, Chicago, Ill, October, 2018.

The long and winding road: How to recognize the first signs of trouble on the path to the rejection of a parent—and then what?, workshop presented at the AFCC Arizona annual conference, Sedona, AZ, January 2019.

Parenting Coordination/Coparent Counseling: Working in the Trenches with High Conflict Coparents, 2-day training, California, April, 2019.

Ethical Issues in Parenting Coordination, symposium presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Chicago, Illinois, August, 2019

Beyond the Guidelines: The use of Mental Health Experts in Determining Appropriate Levels of Child Support for Affluent Families. Workshop presented at the AAML/AFCC Conference on Advanced Issues in Child Custody, San Diego, September, 2019.

Parent-Child Contact Problems: How to We Understand Them? What Can We Do about Them? Workshop presented at the AAML/AFCC Conference on Advanced Issues in Child Custody, San Diego, September, 2019.

Interdisciplinary Collaboration in High Conflict Shared Custody, Keynote Presentation at the AFCC Indiana Chapter Annual Conference, Indianapolis, October, 2019.

Parental Alienation: In Search of Common Ground, Keynote Presentation at the Colorado AFCC Chapter Annual Conference, Breckenridge, October, 2019.

Working with Diversity: Techniques and Interventions to motivate and inspire collaboration, Workshop presented with Maria Young, AFCC-CA annual conference, January, 2020.

Parent-Child contact problems: How do we understand them? What can we do about them? MAGAL, Boston, Mass, January, 2020.

Contact Refuse dynamics after separation. Interventions and good practices. Keynote presentation at the Conference of the College of psychology of Catalonia, Barcelona, February, 2020.

Challenges of Working with Children who resist and refuse contact with a parent. Presentation to the Nuffeld Foundation, London, UK, February, 2020.

Supporting Parents and Children through Family Conflict, seminar presented to Shared Parenting Scotland, Edinburgh, Scotland, February, 2020.

Parenting Coordination: Practice Foundations, 2-day training at the Catholic University of Milan, February, 2020.

What Alberta can learn from Parenting Coordination Policies & Practices from across North America? Keynote address to the AFCC-Alberta annual chapter conference, March, 2020.

Parental Alienation: In search of common ground for a more differentiated theory, webinar presentation for the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, May, 2020.

Effective Use of Parenting Coordination: Considerations for Legal and Mental Health Professionals, webinar presentation with Annette Burns, JD for the AFCC, August, 2020.

Domestic Violence considerations in conducting Child Custody Evaluations. California Rule of Court 5.225 Domestic Violence Update 4-hour Webinar Training, sponsored by the Steve Frankel Group, October 9, 2020.

Stacking the Deck in Favor of Children: What to do When the World Goes Haywire, Plenary session co-presented at the AFCC 14th Symposium on Child Custody, November, 2020.

Online Dispute Resolution, Teletherapy and Remote -Child Custody Evaluations in the Age of COVID-19 and Beyond, Institute co-presented at the AFCC 14th Symposium on Child Custody, November 2020.

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- Ethics, Diversity and Technology, a 2-hour presentation as part of the AFCC's Training on the Fundamentals of Parenting Coordination, November 2020.
- Parent-Child Contact Problems, a 2-hour presentation as part of the AFCC's Training on Advanced Issues for Family Law and Dispute Resolution Professionals, December 2020.
- High Conflict Shared Custody in the Family Courts: Perspectives from the United States, presented to the Family Lawyers Association of Ireland, December, 2020.
- Domestic Violence Training for California Rule of Court, a 4-hour webinar produced by The Steve Frankel Group www.sfrankelgroup.com. December, 2020.
- Personality Disorders: Effects on Kids & Parenting Schedules: Parent's Behaving Badly 2021 Arizona Family Law Institute (virtual), January, 2021.
- Parent-child contact problems: How do we understand them? What can we do? Training (virtual) for the Psychological Society of Italy, March, 2021.
- Parenting Coordination 6-hour training (virtual) Catholic University of Milan, Italy; March, 2021.
- Intractable Conflict: Phases, Manifestations and Interventions. (virtual) Ohio AFCC annual conference Keynote, April, 2021.
- Parental Alienation, presentation (virtual) at the New Jersey Family Division and Domestic Violence Judicial Education Conference, April 2021
- The Nexus of Family Justice Disputes and Seemingly intractable Community Conflict, Opening Plenary for the AFCC Annual Conference (virtual) June 2021