

General information

Advanced Issues in Parenting Coordination: Functional Co-parenting for High Conflict Families

February 18-19, 2008, 8:30am-4:00pm

The Battle Between Abuse and Alienation: Assessment, Diagnosis and Interventions

February 20-21, 2008, 8:30am-4:00pm

Location: Wyndham DFW Airport North, 4441 Hwy 114 at Esters Road, Irving, Texas. Please check your confirmation letter for specific information and details.

Registration: Registration includes program materials, training and refreshments. Lunch is on your own. Register early—class size is limited.

Continuing Education Credits: Each two-day training program is eligible for 13 hours of continuing education for psychologists. AFCC is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. AFCC maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Additionally, each two-day training program is approved for 13 hours of continuing education credit for Texas Licensed Professional Counselors, Texas Social Workers and Texas Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists. Out of state participants—please check with your local licensing board regarding reciprocity. Texas CEU sponsorship courtesy of Aaron Robb, M.Ed., NCC, LPC-S. Application has been submitted to the State Bar of Texas for approval of CLE credits.

Lodging: Please make your own travel and lodging arrangements. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Wyndham DFW (Dallas Fort Worth) Airport North, in the name of AFCC. For reservations at the special rate of \$119 per night, call (972) 929-8181. The rooms will be released **January 27, 2008**, so make your reservations soon.

Cancellation Policy: Transfer of registration to another person may be done at any time without a fee. All requests for refunds must be made in writing. Written notice of cancellation received by fax or postmarked by February 4, 2008 will be issued a full refund minus a \$25 administrative fee. No refunds will be issued for cancellations received after February 4, 2008. AFCC reserves the right to cancel any training or substitute any presenter should circumstances arise beyond our control.

More information: For program and registration inquiries, contact AFCC at (608) 664-3750 or email afcc@afccnet.org.

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- **AFCC Newsletters:** The bi-monthly, *AFCC eNEWS* and quarterly newsletter, *AFCC NEWS* keeps members current with the latest developments in the field.
- **Parenting Coordination Network:** Share techniques and referrals and network with members who serve as parenting coordinators or are interested in this role.
- **Member Discounts:** Receive a 15% discount on AFCC publications, 20% discount on publications from Blackwell Publishing, 25% discount with psychology research publisher, J.M. Craig Press and insurance discounts through Complete Equity Markets.

Join AFCC when you register for the training and receive a twelve-month membership for only **\$140—a \$10 discount!**

 Association of Family
and Conciliation Courts
6525 Grand Teton Plaza
Madison, WI 53719-1085

**Advanced Issues in Parenting
Coordination: Functional
Co-parenting for High Conflict
Families**

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and Alienation: Assessment,
Diagnosis and Interventions**

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**Wyndham DFW Airport North
Dallas/Irving, Texas**



**ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY
AND CONCILIATION COURTS**

In collaboration with
AFCC's Texas Chapter

Advanced Issues in Parenting Coordination: Functional Co-parenting for High Conflict Families

A two-day training for parenting coordinators, mediators, custody evaluators, attorneys and other professionals who work with high-conflict divorcing parents.

Matthew J. Sullivan, Ph.D.

February 18-19, 2008

The Battle Between Abuse and Alienation: Assessment, Diagnosis and Interventions

A two-day training for judges, lawyers, custody evaluators, mediators and other professionals who work with high-conflict families.

Leslie M. Drozd, Ph.D.

February 20-21, 2008

**Wyndham DFW Airport North
Dallas/Irving, Texas**

Professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children
and families through the resolution of family conflict

Advanced Issues in Parenting Coordination: Functional Co-parenting for High Conflict Families

A two-day training for parenting coordinators, mediators, custody evaluators, attorneys and other professionals who work with high conflict divorcing parents.

The parenting coordination role is becoming a preferred alternative to the legal-adversarial process to assist high conflict co-parents implement court-ordered parenting plans. This advanced training provides a conceptual foundation for functional co-parenting, focused structural disengagement, conflict management and creating collaborative systems, and the nuts and bolts of managing these challenging cases.

Participants in this two-day training will:

- Be provided a conceptual model of co-parenting after divorce, derived from the literature on high-conflict divorce;
- Distinguish the elements of the traditional legal-adversarial process that is so toxic to these parents and children;
- Develop a working understanding of the concepts of structural disengagement and parallel parenting as the principle interventions with high conflict co-parents;
- Work through a practical set of procedures to do parenting coordination work with highly conflicted co-parents;
- Identify the utility of working with comprehensive parenting plans as the basis for functional parallel co-parenting;
- Learn principles and procedures in the parenting coordination process to provide intensive training in functional co-parenting;
- Be provided practical materials—orders of appointment, detailed parenting plans, sample documentation, policies and procedures—to help establish a practice in this area; and
- Describe professional practice and ethical issues that can create professional risk for parenting coordinators.

About the Presenter



Matthew J. Sullivan, Ph.D. is a psychologist in private practice who received his undergraduate degree from Stanford University and his doctorate in clinical/community psychology from the University of Maryland. He has written articles, presented and done trainings at numerous national and international venues on topics such as high-conflict divorce, parenting coordination and child alienation. He is currently serving on the editorial board of the *Journal of Child Custody* and was a member of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Task Force on Parenting Coordination. He was recently appointed to

an American Psychological and American Bar Association multi-year working group to develop innovative legal and psychological interventions with children and families. More information on Dr. Sullivan can be found on his Web site at www.californiaparentingcoordinator.com.

Agenda

Monday, February 18, 2008, 8:30am-4:00pm

1. Characteristics of high conflict co-parents
2. Co-parenting after divorce
3. Parenting coordination as an antidote to the legal-adversarial process
4. Parenting coordination defined: objectives and roles
5. A practical guide to setting up PC work—referrals, orders, policies and fees
6. Structural disengagement of co-parents—creating parallel parenting

Tuesday, February 19, 2008, 8:30am-4:00pm

1. Intensive training in dispute resolution—facilitating agreements and making decisions
2. The coordination role: creating and managing collaborative teams
3. Types of cases that are best served by the parenting coordinator role
4. Ethical and professional practice issues in serving as a parenting coordinator
5. Including children in the parenting coordination process

The Battle Between Abuse and Alienation: Assessment, Diagnosis and Interventions

A two-day training for judges, lawyers, custody evaluators, mediators and other professionals who work with high-conflict families.

Frequently in complex child custody cases the sides line up with allegations of abuse in one corner and allegations of alienation in the other. Often people take sides and they find themselves lost in the battle and in so doing, they lose sight of the children, as it becomes a war between the two A's—abuse and alienation. How do we know the Truth that is behind why a child rejects his or her parent? Once we know that, there is even more to know, and that is what to do about it and how to intervene. This workshop will address these issues, current research, and describe best practices for evaluating these families and the interventions that best serve them.

Participants in this two-day training will:

- Learn how to assess alienation and abuse and to make a distinction between the two;
- Learn where on the continuum of abuse and of alienating behaviors a particular family falls;
- Learn ways to assess for safety issues and how to put the child first;
- Learn ways to help facilitate a “child-centered” custody evaluation;
- Learn how to delineate a child’s vulnerabilities and strengths dependent upon his or her age and stage of development;
- Understand the research on abuse and alienation and what we know from it about children, parenting and attachment issues;
- Learn how to apply the AFCC Model Standards, APA’s Guidelines for Evaluations of Parenting Responsibility, APA’s Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychology, and APA’s Ethics Code as well as state and local rules of court to cases with these complex issues; and
- Facilitate the creation of interventions in these cases that emphasize accountability, accountability and even more accountability.

About the Presenter



Leslie M. Drozd, Ph.D. is the editor of the *Journal of Child Custody* and a psychologist in independent practice in Newport Beach, California. She is coauthor of *The Missing Piece: Solving the Puzzle of Self*. Dr. Drozd is also the author, co-author, or co-editor of numerous professional books and articles including *Psychological Testing in Child Custody Cases*, *Child Sexual Abuse Allegations in Child Custody Cases*, *Relocation Issues in Child Custody*, *Self as the Mediator in the Psychopathology of Children of Alcoholics*; *Safety First: A Model for Understanding Domestic Violence in Child Custody and Access Disputes*; *Is It Abuse, Alienation, and/or Estrangement? Domestic Violence: True or*

False, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges’ *Bench Book for Family and Juvenile Court Judges on Navigating Domestic Violence in Child Custody Cases*. She was a member of AFCC’s Child Custody Evaluation Task Force to develop standards of practice and is a member of the APA/ABA Working Group: Issues of Alleged Abuse, Neglect, and Endangerment. She has spoken on child custody, abuse and alienation, substance abuse and domestic violence.

Agenda

Wednesday, February 20, 2008, 8:30am-4:00pm

1. Context and Definitions: Why do children reject parents? The possible roots of rejection. What is abuse, estrangement, alienation?
2. Investigation, Assessment, and Evaluations: Safety first, the child’s perspective, best interests, and a Decision Tree approach while looking for strengths and vulnerabilities.
3. Resources and Research: What we know and how to use it.

Thursday, February 21, 2008, 8:30am-4:00pm

1. Application of professional ethics, guidelines and standards.
2. Application of What We Know: Creating interventions that work.
3. Practical Application to Cases—The How To’s: How to prevent a child rejecting a parent and how to fix it when they do.

Registration Form

First Name (Dr./Mr./Ms) _____

Last Name _____ Degree _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Country _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

	AFCC Member	Non- member
Please register me for:		
Advanced Parenting Coordination February 18-19, 2008	<input type="checkbox"/> \$290	<input type="checkbox"/> \$360
Abuse and Alienation February 20-21, 2008	<input type="checkbox"/> \$290	<input type="checkbox"/> \$360
BOTH trainings (discounted rate)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$510	<input type="checkbox"/> \$640
New Membership Special Join AFCC* for one year and register at the above AFCC member rate—save up to \$140! For new members only.	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	
Total	\$ _____	\$ _____

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