

ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY



AND CONCILIATION COURTS

50th Anniversary Conference

Riding the Wave of the Future!



Global Voices, Expanding Choices

JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE

Los Angeles, California • May 29—June 1, 2013

AFCC is an interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.



Riding the Wave of the Future: Global Voices, Expanding Choices

JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE • May 29-June 1, 2013

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Riding the Wave of the Future: Global Voices, Expanding Choices



Where will the family law community be in 2063?

Since 1963, AFCC members have been a major force for family law reform around the globe. Yet, with all of the progress, we face new changes that challenge us, including alienation, self-represented litigants, LGBT parenting, parental mobility, international child custody issues, high conflict and domestic violence, new technologies, same-sex marriage, and the seemingly perpetual funding crises in our family courts. What does the future hold? How will the AFCC community influence the constantly evolving family law system? Join us in Los Angeles, the birthplace of AFCC, as we begin to chart the course for the next 50 years.

This interdisciplinary program will feature the latest in research, programs, policies and practice.

Topics include:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Threats to Neutrality | Online Dispute Resolution |
| Developing Parenting Plans | Taking Children's Testimony |
| Shared Parenting Controversies | Children in Mediation |
| Risk Assessment for Family Courts | LGBT Domestic Violence |
| Parenting Coordination | Brain Compatible Parenting |
| Triage and Domestic Violence | Mediating With and Without the Robe |
| Judges and Unrepresented Litigants | Family Court Reform |
| Never Married Parents | Best Interests vs. Confidentiality |

Featuring presenters from:

Australia	Canada
Germany	Ireland
Israel	Italy
New Zealand	South Africa
Sweden	Taiwan
United Kingdom	United States

And more!

- More than 100 conference sessions!
- The latest research, newest programs and innovative practices.
- Up to 20.5 hours of continuing education for psychologists, lawyers, counselors, social workers, mediators, custody evaluators and mental health professionals (see p. 27 for details).
- The best professional networking opportunities with the premier researchers, practitioners and policymakers in the field.

L.A. LIVE!



The J.W. Marriott Los Angeles is at the doorstep of L.A. LIVE—the most entertaining place on earth—where you can eat, drink, bowl, enjoy a live performance or catch a movie. The Staples Center and Nokia Theatre are at the back door of the hotel. And who knows? If the stars are aligned for the Kings, Clippers or Lakers, there may be playoff games next door!

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Invitation from the President

It is my distinct pleasure to invite you to join the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) for our 50th Anniversary Conference, May 29-June 1, 2013 at the JW Marriott Los Angeles, L.A. LIVE! AFCC was founded in 1963 in the Los Angeles Conciliation Court when a group of California family court judges

and marriage counselors decided that it would be a good idea if they organized a way to get together. From the first conference of 27 participants, AFCC has evolved in ways that few could have imagined.

- Membership has expanded from a handful of professionals from six counties in California to more than 4,600 strong, representing 49 states, all of the Canadian provinces and 26 countries worldwide.
- Members are no longer exclusively judges and court employees; they include private practice lawyers, mental health and dispute resolution professionals, policy advocates, policymakers, researchers, community agencies, academics and students.
- The scope of our work has changed; from marriage counseling to mediation, custody evaluation, parent education, parenting coordination, differentiated case management and more.

However, there is one constant: For 50 years AFCC has been the leading interdisciplinary organization addressing the challenges of separation and divorce, and, in particular, the impact on children and families. For 50 years AFCC has addressed the most difficult questions from no-fault divorce to differentiating domestic violence; developed practice guidelines and standards for practitioners: mediators, custody evaluators, therapists and parenting coordinators; and disseminated the latest research and program information through newsletters and the *Family Court Review*.

Perhaps most importantly, for the last 50 years AFCC has convened the best and brightest professionals in the field for an unparalleled annual conference. This year's conference is no exception! You will have the opportunity to learn about international court reform initiatives, innovations in addressing the budget crises in family courts, the latest ethical quandaries, the ever changing and challenging role of technology, new research and much, much more.

While we eagerly anticipate celebrating the past 50 years, AFCC has always been an organization that is more about looking forward, so we'll be exploring what the future will bring, how we can improve and develop our practice and how we can create processes and systems that will best meet the needs of children and families for the next 50 years. We face tall challenges and need everyone on board to help us define where we will be in 2063—at the AFCC 100th anniversary.

AFCC would not have been here for 50 years without you. And the celebration will not be the same without you. I look forward to seeing you in June...and again in 2063.

Sincerely,

Arnie Shienvold
AFCC President

Conference at a Glance

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2013

6:00pm-8:00pm Conference Registration

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2013

7:30am-6:00pm Conference Registration
 8:00am-5:00pm Exhibitor Forum
 8:00am-9:00am Coffee and Rolls for Institute Registrants
 9:00am-4:30pm Pre-conference Institutes
 12:00pm-4:30pm AFCC Board of Directors Meeting
 5:00pm-6:00pm International and New Member Orientation
 6:00pm-7:00pm Opening Reception
 9:00pm-12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2013

6:30am-7:15am Yoga
 7:15am-8:15am AFCC Chapter Council Meeting
 7:30am-5:00pm Conference Registration
 7:30am-5:00pm Exhibitor Forum
 7:30am-5:00pm Poster Gallery
 7:30am-8:30am Coffee and Rolls
 8:30am-10:00am Opening Session
 10:00am-10:30am Break and Exhibitor Forum
 10:30am-12:00pm Workshops 1-14
 12:00pm-1:30pm AFCC Awards Luncheon
 1:30pm-3:00pm Workshops 15-28
 3:00pm-3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum
 3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 29-43
 Evening Taste of Los Angeles
 9:00pm-12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2013

6:30am-7:15am Yoga
 7:15am-8:15am AFCC Committee Meetings
 7:30am-5:00pm Conference Registration
 7:30am-5:00pm Exhibitor Forum
 7:30am-5:00pm Poster Gallery
 7:30am-8:30am Coffee and Rolls
 8:30am-10:00am Plenary Session I
 10:00am-10:30am Break and Exhibitor Forum
 10:30am-12:00pm Plenary Session II
 12:00pm-1:30pm Lunch on your own and Exhibitor Forum
 12:00pm-1:30pm *Family Court Review* Editorial Board Meeting
 1:30pm-3:00pm Workshops 44-57
 3:00pm-3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum
 3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 58-71
 5:30pm-7:00pm Silent Auction and Reception
 7:00pm-9:30pm AFCC Annual Banquet
 9:30pm-12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2013

6:30am-7:15am Yoga
 7:30am-12:30pm Conference Registration
 8:00am-12:30pm Exhibitor Forum
 8:00am-12:30pm Poster Gallery
 8:00am-9:00am Coffee and Rolls
 8:00am-9:00am AFCC Membership Meeting
 9:15am-10:45am Workshops 72-81
 10:45am-11:00am Break and Exhibitor Forum
 11:00am-12:30pm Workshops 82-91

Pre-conference Institutes

(Separate registration fee required. Please see conference information on page 28.)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2013

9:00am-4:30pm

1. The Best Interests Parenting Plan Choice: Approximate, Individualize or Template?

The best interests of the child standard has been both widely embraced and repeatedly criticized. The individualized best interests approach has evolved towards comprehensive parenting plans, but complaints persist that it is too costly and time consuming. One alternative, the approximation rule, proposes that parenting plans mimic pre-separation parenting arrangements. Another approach is developmentally-based guidelines that outline minimal or ideal (or both) parenting plans for children of different ages. Participants in this institute will examine the pros and cons of these alternatives from various perspectives, explore the value of parents as primary decision makers, and consider concerns about the impact of conflict on children. Particular emphasis will be placed on how to approach the task of creating parenting plans.

Margaret F. Brinig, JD, PhD, Univ. of Notre Dame Law School, South Bend, IN

Milfred "Bud" Dale, PhD, JD, Topeka, KS

Robert E. Emery, PhD, Univ. of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

Pamela S. Ludolph, PhD, Ann Arbor, MI

2. Judicial Officers Institute: Taking the Testimony of Children

Few family court judges have experience eliciting testimony of children, which can be emotionally-laden, limited by the child's ability to express information and influenced by parents, grandparents, siblings and others. This institute will provide information judicial officers need to know about how children at different developmental stages express information, how to ask questions that elicit reliable answers, and how to do so in a way that gives children a sense of ease. Participants will have the opportunity to practice their skills with judicial peers. Participation in this session is limited to judicial officers.

Lyn Greenberg, PhD, Los Angeles, CA

Hon. Emile Kruzick, Toronto, ON, Canada

Aaron D. Robb, MEd, Forensic Counseling Services, Frisco, TX

Hon. Maureen F. Hallahan, San Diego, CA

3. Threats to Neutrality: Biases, Values, Paradigms and Cultural Insensitivity

This institute, for both new and experienced custody evaluators, will address the ways in which biases, values, and paradigms affect evaluator judgment; the acquisition of knowledge and development of skills needed to evaluate culturally diverse families; and the avoidance of wording that is suggestive of bias. Distinctions will be made between *attitudinal biases* and *cognitive biases*. Attention will also be given to associative biases—positive biases that develop when evaluators share beliefs, interests, or experiences with litigants.

David A. Martindale, PhD, ABPP, Co-author, The Art and Science of Custody Evaluation, St. Petersburg, FL

4. Risk Assessment for Family Law Professionals: Protecting Ourselves and Others

Risk assessments have become necessary considerations in domestic violence cases for protecting clients and family law professionals from a threat potential. Advanced content will be presented on threat assessments, from a rapid scan approach involving threat posturing, preparatory behaviors and rehearsal fantasies, to a more comprehensive approach that can provide behavioral trajectories to assist with mitigation and containment strategies. Leslie Drozd, PhD, and Lynette Berg Robe, JD, will also present a brief research update on domestic violence and an update on California case law and legislation per requirements for California custody evaluator and mediator update training Rule of Court 5.230. *Sponsored by the AFCC California Chapter.*

Manny Tau, PsyD, Clinical & Forensic Psychologist, Threat Management Specialist, San Clemente, CA

5. Increasing Creativity in Mediation: From Resistance to New Ideas

This institute is designed for mediators who want to enhance creativity in their clients' decision making process. In the morning, participants will explore how the fields of psychology, negotiation, communication and neuroscience can help participants understand why people create obstacles to creativity and how traditional brainstorming may actually work against the creative process. In the afternoon, participants will learn cutting edge strategies to design mediation formats and combine facilitative and evaluative interventions. This client-centered approach goes beyond mediation "models" and "styles" and incorporates theory and practice to customize the process for the clients.

Nina Meierding, JD, Bainbridge, WA

Forrest S. Mosten, JD, Los Angeles, CA

6. Introduction to International Child Custody for Lawyers, Evaluators and Judges

Cases in which children or parents will travel, visit or live abroad present significant legal, cultural, economic, psychological, and practical issues in addition to the usual considerations presented when developing parenting plans. In this institute, the presenters will introduce participants to international custody practice. The program will compare and contrast jurisdictional paradigms including the UCCJEA, The Hague Children's Conventions, and household registration. Discussion will include the roles of private practitioners and government; the roles of forensic mental health professionals in cases where children will travel, visit or reside abroad; cross-border custody decree enforcement, abduction risk and prevention; international relocation; and recovery and reintegration of children removed or retained abroad.

Leslie Ellen Shear, JD, Law Offices of Leslie Ellen Shear, Encino, CA

Elaine Tumonis, JD, California Child Abduction Task Force, California Attorney General's Office, Los Angeles, CA

Richard Warshak, PhD, Author, Divorce Poison, Dallas, TX

7. Listening to Children in Divorce Processes: An Effective Semi-structured Interview Model

This advanced practice institute presents research supporting the rationale for listening to children in different divorce processes, and a semi-structured child-focused format to guide interviews. Designed for parenting coordinators, mediators, custody evaluators, and child legal representatives, the institute will combine didactic information, small group practice, case examples and discussion. Content includes the conceptual framework, six phases of the interview model, developmental issues in the use of questions and language, techniques for interviewing children and guidance for providing feedback to parents in appropriate settings.

Joan B. Kelly, PhD, Corte Madera, CA

8. Parenting Coordination, Co-parenting and Child Adjustment: A Global Blueprint

This institute is intended for parenting coordinators and others concerned with improving co-parenting relationships in fragile families and high-conflict cases when typical post-divorce parenting interventions fail. Participants will take a broad-based look at what is at stake for children, bringing a global lens to this question by examining similarities and differences in family fragmentation in the US and Italy. Presenters will focus on specific skills required to address a variety of challenges and on issues not yet understood. Emphasis will be placed on how a close research-practice interface is vital to enhancing outcomes for children and families in the decades ahead.

Debra K. Carter, PhD, National Cooperative Parenting Center, Bradenton, FL

Silvia Mazzoni, PhD, Sapienza Univ., Rome, Italy

James P. McHale, PhD, Univ. South Florida Family Study Center, St. Petersburg, FL



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8:00am-5:00pm	Exhibitor Forum
8:00am-9:00am	Coffee and Rolls for Institute Registrants
9:00am-4:30pm	Pre-Conference Institutes
12:00pm-4:30pm	AFCC Board of Directors Meeting
5:00pm-6:00pm	International and New Member Orientation
6:00pm-7:00pm	Opening Reception
9:00pm-12:00am	AFCC Hospitality Suite

"AFCC's greatest strength is its diversity, both in membership and topic. Events bring together all of the perspectives for the most important child custody matters.

Whether one embraces some part of the status quo, or is looking for the latest cutting edge ideas and research, AFCC events are where you will find it!"

— Bud Dale, PhD, JD, Topeka, KS

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2013

6:30am-7:15am	Yoga
7:15am-8:15am	Chapter Council Meeting
7:30am-5:00pm	Conference Registration
7:30am-5:00pm	Exhibitor Forum
7:30am-5:00pm	Poster Gallery
7:30am-8:30am	Coffee and Rolls
8:30am-10:00am	Opening Session

Welcome: Arnold T. Shienvold, PhD, AFCC President, Harrisburg, PA

Hon. Thomas Trent Lewis, President, AFCC California Chapter, Los Angeles, CA

Sesame Street Initiative Little Children, Big Challenges: Divorce

AFCC is partnering with Sesame Street to help disseminate resources to families coping with divorce and separation. This exciting initiative will be introduced by a special guest from Sesame Street.

Keynote Address

James P. Steyer, CEO and Founder, Common Sense Media, Author, Talking Back to Facebook

With kids spending more time with media and technology than with their parents or in school, it's essential that we understand the effects of the digital world and teach children to navigate it safely. James Steyer, CEO and founder of Common Sense Media and author of *Talking Back to Facebook*, will discuss the social, emotional, and cognitive impact of media and technology on children and explore how we can prepare the next generation to make the most of the digital world while also avoiding pitfalls such as cyberbullying and sharing inappropriate content.

10:00am-10:30am	Break and Exhibitor Forum
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10:30am-12:00pm Workshops 1-14

1. Children Resisting Contact with a Parent Post Separation

Allegations of alienation have increased in family courts over the last decade. Limited research exists on the effectiveness of therapy to repair strained parent-child relationships due to alienation, justified rejection or hybrid cases, and treatment failures are common. Based on existing intervention models, the presenters have developed a three-day intensive, in-home, family intervention that includes education and clinical strategies based on neuroscience and cognitive-behavioral therapy. Using a case study, this workshop discusses the rationale for the model, describes specific interventions and identifies lessons learned.

Shely Polak, MSW, AccFM, Toronto, ON, Canada

Barbara Fidler, PhD, AccFM, Toronto, ON, Canada

Linda Popielarczyk, MSW, RSW, Toronto, ON, Canada

2. Establishing a Local Pro Bono Parenting Coordination Program

This session will present the basic tenets of parenting coordination and the recent establishment of a program in San Diego for low-income families. Presenters will discuss how the program was established, utilizing doctoral-level psychology students and post-doctoral fellows under the supervision of a licensed clinical psychologist. Discussion will address training recommendations and protocols, model stipulations and orders, and practice tips.

Neil Ribner, PhD, San Diego, CA

Matthew Sullivan, PhD, Palo Alto, CA

Shirley Ann Higuchi, JD, American Psychological Association, Washington, DC

3. Presumptions in Family Law: Global Perspectives

Presenters will offer an examination of the operation of presumptions in parenting matters, including child support, custody and relocation, from theoretical and empirical perspectives, in several international contexts. Discussion will explore areas in which presumptions are used, as well as those where they have been specifically rejected. The function and effect of various presumptions in the family law arena will also be considered.

Ira Ellman, MA, JD, Professor of Law, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Tempe, AZ

Rae Kaspiew, PhD, LLB, Melbourne, Australia

Nicola Taylor, LLB, PhD, Centre for Research on Children and Families, Univ. of Otago, Auckland, New Zealand

Rob George, MSc, DPhil, Oxford, United Kingdom

4. Triage of Family Law Cases Involving Intimate Partner Violence

With mounting case loads and diminishing resources, family courts are increasingly interested in matching parties with appropriate dispute resolution processes and related services. For many parties, especially those who are self-represented, court-connected triage can be a helpful and efficient mechanism to streamline family law cases. Nevertheless, implementation of triage in complex cases may have unintended repercussions. This workshop identifies and discusses challenging issues that arise when triage systems are viewed through the lens of intimate partner violence.

Loretta M. Frederick, JD, Battered Women's Justice Project, Minneapolis, MN

Gabrielle Davis, JD, Battered Women's Justice Project, Minneapolis, MN

Nancy Ver Steegh, MSW, JD, William Mitchell College of Law, St. Paul, MN

Magistrate Richard Altman, AFCC Vice President, Napoleon, OH

5. Best Interests of the Child Standard: Legal and Psychological Perspectives

The "Best Interests of the Child" has been discussed in law and research for more than thirty years. From the legal perspective, it is defined inconsistently or largely undefined. From the psychological perspective, it is equally ambiguous. This session will highlight relevant factors that contribute to psychological and legal best interests and propose that practitioners develop an appropriate hierarchy of factors for each family before determining which parenting plan is in a particular child's best interests.

Philip M. Stahl, PhD, ABPP, Queen Creek, AZ

Hon. Thomas Trent Lewis, Los Angeles, CA

Hon. Dianna J. Gould-Saltman, Los Angeles, CA

6. Family Justice in Practice—Part I

This three-part program will analyze the needs of children, parents and spouses in the family justice process and how those needs are currently being met. Presenters will identify conflicts and challenges and will discuss how the process can best serve its users. Part one will examine the components of a family law system and the order in which families use them. Does the existing system best use available resources, or is it outdated? What are the impediments to affordable family justice? What is the impact of the increasing number of self-represented litigants?

Chief Justice Diana Bryant, Family Court of Australia, Melbourne, Australia

Andrew Schepard, JD, Hofstra Law School, Hempstead, NY

Nicholas Bala, JD, LLM, Queen's Univ., Kingston, ON, Canada



7. Visioning our Work: Back to the Future

This interactive program will provide participants with a view of family court in 1963, then present societal trends affecting the world over the next fifty years, and then invite participants to vision what divorcing families might encounter in 2063. Participants will be encouraged to develop a long-term perspective, understand the influence of societal factors on divorcing couples and brainstorm new methods for promoting collaboration in the future.

Hon. Hugh Starnes (ret.), Ft. Myers, FL

Gregory Firestone, PhD, Univ. of South Florida Conflict Resolution Collaborative, Tampa, FL

8. Online Dispute Resolution: The State of the Art

More than 100 million disputes are filed online each year and the number is growing. As society becomes increasingly wired, disputants expect neutrals to use the latest information and communication technologies. Computer mediated communication changes many aspects of the dispute resolution process, and online interaction offers both advantages and disadvantages for dispute resolution. This workshop will acquaint participants with the powers and pitfalls of marrying technology and ADR. Participants will learn best online dispute resolution practices, the latest ODR tools, and will have an opportunity to explore the challenges of designing and implementing online dispute resolution systems. Non-geeks welcome: no prior technology experience required.

Colin Rule, MPP, CEO, Modria, San Jose, CA

9. Using Narrative Story Stems to Assess Attachment and Trauma in Young Children

This workshop will discuss narrative stems, a doll play procedure in which, using a few simple props, the interviewer gives the child (aged 3 to 8 years) the beginning of a story and asks him/her to "tell or show me what happens next." Presenters will show how this simple technique can yield good information on children's attachment strategies and suggest further investigation of traumatic experiences, which may not be identified by the more usual parent report questionnaires.

Steve Farnfield, PhD, Univ. of Roehampton, London, United Kingdom

Penelope Leach, PhD, SBPsS, Mindful Policy Group, Lewes, East Sussex, United Kingdom

10. Supporting Children's Participation in Mediation

This workshop presents the Child's Voice Toolkit as an innovative methodology for supporting child participation in mediation. Presenters will provide tools that stimulate conversation and support children in providing descriptions of their lives, views and wishes. Participants will explore the need to understand children's experience of transfers between homes, care and family problems. Case studies will illustrate the effective use of mediator feedback regarding the child's input in reaching agreements in parenting plan mediations and breaking impasse.

Ronel Duchen, DLitt et Phil, Familyzone, Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa

Irma Shutte, MA, Familyzone, Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa

11. Giving Parents a Voice: Early Neutral Evaluation for Urban and Rural Families

This workshop describes the successful development and evaluation of early neutral evaluation (ENE) services from a two-year pilot program in a Colorado judicial district to acceptance by the Colorado Supreme Court as a model statewide program in both urban and rural jurisdictions. Presenters will describe lessons learned—sometimes painfully—in implementing this valuable program.

Michelle Gaschler, MSW, 17th Judicial District, Brighton, CO

Sue A. Waters, MA, LPC, Denver, CO

Melinda Taylor, Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System, Denver, CO

Robert M. Smith, JD, MDiv, Windsor, CO

12. Managing Potential Bias, Maximizing Credibility

Allegations of bias in forensic mental health professional work, product and testimony are arising with increased frequency in family law matters. But the nature and subtleties of bias are often not well understood. This workshop examines bias from multiple perspectives and demonstrates how mediators, parenting coordinators, evaluators and consultants can manage potential bias while still offering opinions and recommendations. Emphasis will be placed on how the court views the credibility and neutrality of expert reports and testimony.

Robert Kaufman, PhD, ABPP, Oakland, CA

S. Margaret Lee, PhD, Mill Valley, CA

Hon. Mark A. Juhas, Los Angeles, CA

Judith R. Forman, MA, JD, Los Angeles, CA

13. Five Years of Early Intervention: A Road to Success in a Court Annexed Program

In 2007, the complexity of cases and increase in referrals led the New Mexico Second District Family Court Clinic to develop an innovative method to help families move efficiently through the family court system. On-call consultation identifies the family's needs and addresses court concerns. The program has moved families towards resolution while decreasing conflict levels and time spent in court. New Mexico statutory-defined services and present status of program will be discussed.

Hon. Gerard Lavelle, Albuquerque, NM

Mercedes R. Marshall, PhD, Family Court Clinic, Albuquerque, NM

Kimberly Kennedy, LMHC, Family Court Clinic, Albuquerque, NM

Save the Dates!

AFCC 51st Annual Conference

May 28-31, 2014

The Westin Harbour Castle
Toronto, Ontario, Canada



14. Using a Psychosexual Evaluator

Parenting evaluations often address complicated sexual issues, including allegations of sexual “addiction,” problematic pornography use, impaired sexual boundaries and other sex-related concerns that may impact parenting, increase risk to children or simply unnerve the evaluator. This session will examine common types of sexual issues that arise during evaluations, the services a psychosexual expert offers, including consultation and psychosexual evaluation, and when and how to best use a psychosexual expert during a parenting evaluation.

Jennifer Wheeler, PhD, Seattle, WA

Jennifer L. Keilin, MSW, Seattle, WA

12:00pm-1:30pm AFCC Awards Luncheon

Presiding: Arnold T. Shienvold, PhD, AFCC President, Harrisburg, PA

1:30pm-3:00pm Workshops 15-28

15. Developing and Drafting Clear and Effective Parenting Plans

Perfectly viable parenting plans often break down as a result of inadequate structure, insufficient substance and unclear wording. This workshop will offer clear guidelines for the process, structure and details in drafting parenting plans that highlight child-focused, clearly worded useful clauses, and the crafting of language that is specific to the parent’s unique dynamics. It will also consider issues surrounding the contractual nature and enforceability of such plans.

Donald Saposnek, PhD, Family Mediation Service, Aptos, CA

16. Protocols for Marital Actions Affecting Children in Family Courts

This workshop is devoted to identifying methods of easing the burden on family courts by developing protocols that convey information about divorce and non-marital separation prior to entering one of three portals that facilitate the legal processes thereafter. This collaborative case management approach creates specific portals for (1) agreement and no children (fast track); (2) no agreement, no children; and (3) separation with children.

Jack C. Westman, MD, MS, Univ. of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison, WI

Thomas Corbett, PhD, Institute for Research on Poverty, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

Sherwood Zink, JD, Madison, WI

Donald Gordon, PhD, Ashland, OR

17. Judicial Sanity and Meeting the Needs of Self-Represented Litigants

The enormous growth in self-represented litigants over the last two decades has created significant changes in the way family courts do business. Self-represented litigants have very different needs than represented litigants in the family court process. This workshop will identify those needs and examine the ethical obligations of judicial officers in terms of what they can and cannot do to meet those needs.

Hon. Michael J. Dwyer, Wauwatosa, WI

Hon. William C. Fee, Angola, IN

Ernest A. Sanchez, LCSW, Family Court Services, Los Angeles, CA

18. The Damage of Keeping Secrets

More often than not, a family undergoing a family law/guardianship action has information that, once revealed to the child, would expose the child to pain, humiliation or shock. Unknown information may include an extramarital affair, sexual orientation, pedophilia or even the fatal illness of the child. Grief experts have established that children benefit from knowledge of inconvenient truths and require support from the family as well as the social and legal systems to help them cope. This panel will discuss the difficult challenges in divulging such sensitive information, the legal and psychological implications of disclosure and how best to support children through this process.

Cari Pines, CFLS, Pines Laurent, LLP, Studio City, CA

Mary Lund, PhD, Santa Monica, CA

Hon. Aviva Bobb (ret.), Los Angeles, CA

Lauren Schneider, LCSW, Our House Grief Support Center, Los Angeles, CA

19. Family Justice in Practice—Part II

This presentation examines what works in the present family justice system, and under what circumstances. A research basis for approaching best practices will be discussed. The roles of various professionals and how they work together as well as alternative dispute resolution practices will be explored.

Hon. Judith L. Kreeger, Miami, FL

Philip M. Epstein, QC, LSM, Epstein Cole, LLP, Toronto, ON, Canada

Hilary Linton, JD, LLM, Riverdale Mediation, Ltd., Toronto, ON, Canada

20. Risk Assessment for Family Court

Domestic relations courts are often inadequately prepared to identify risk factors associated with violence, particularly intimate partner violence (IPV). Tragic events related to family court disputes involving IPV seem to have become almost commonplace and punctuate the importance of identifying risk factors in court screening procedures. This presentation will identify risk factors, epidemiological factors, screening instruments and processes to help the court protect litigants from harm.

Frank R. Ezzo, PhD, ABPP, Family Conciliation Services, Cleveland, OH



21. Choreographing Communication in Mediation

Mediation is moving away from being a discrete physical event toward a more complex choreography of communication. At the outset of mediation, when issues of trust, rapport development and “being heard” may be paramount, using rich modalities of communication (face-to-face, video and audio) may be wise, whereas, later in the process, when agreement terms are being drafted, asynchronous based approaches, such as email and “track changes,” may be preferred. The distinction is not face-to-face or online communication, but how both methods can best be integrated. This session will explore various synchronous and asynchronous communication modalities and how to align them with the practical and psychological needs of the conflict.

James C. Melamed, JD, CEO, Mediate.com, Eugene, OR

22. When Children Have More Than Two Parents

Many families are raising children who identify more than two adults as their parents. They may be psychosocial parents, same-sex parents, parents who participated in assisted reproduction, or other adults who play a parental role. The law cannot always protect the children's relationship with the adults that they consider parents. This workshop will examine court resolutions, mediated settlements and how policy makers can provide for new laws to protect these families in the future.

Diane M. Goodman, JD, Law & Mediation Office of Diane M. Goodman, Encino, CA

Sharon Burnett, PhD, MFT, Tarzana, CA

Deborah Wald, JD, Wald & Thorndal, San Francisco, CA

Catherine Sakimura, JD, National Center for Lesbian Rights, San Francisco, CA

23. Understanding Adult Attachment Strategies that Sustain Conflictual Relationships

The Adult Attachment Interview is used widely in family courts in the United Kingdom. Substantial research has indicated specific patterns of adult attachment that correspond to coercive control or a dangerous dynamic that sustains high conflict relationships. This understanding has implications for getting the right interventions, therapy and support. Case histories, an overview of the assessment process and the implications for children and parents within such families will be presented.

Melanie Gill, Msc/PgDip, The Mindful Policy Group, Hove, East Sussex, United Kingdom

Penelope Leach, PhD, SBPsS, The Mindful Policy Group, Lewes, East Sussex, United Kingdom

24. Never Just a One Night Stand: Never Married Parents

Never married parents are appearing before the court on matters of custody and parenting time in increasing numbers. This program will help identify how family law professionals can help this diverse group navigate the system towards successful resolution of their disputes. The panel will identify common blocks to dispute resolution among the parents and the professionals who work with them. From the perspectives of an attorney/guardian ad litem, a judicial officer and a custody evaluator, this workshop will provide potential solutions for conflicts experienced by this heterogeneous demographic.

Mindy Mitnick, EdM, MA, Edina, MN

Larry V. Swall, JD, MARCH Mediation, Liberty, MO

Hon. Sherrill P. Roberts, Liberty, MO

25. Litigating for God

Family law in Israel features parallel jurisdictions: religious tribunals and secular family court. The inherent tension between the systems is increasingly pronounced around issues relating to children. Definitions of the needs and best interests of children often vary between the two jurisdictions. These tensions and conflicts will be explored using case studies. Further, the protections developed to mitigate the impact of this conflict will be discussed. The presenters will also examine ethical issues for attorneys who negotiate these two worlds.

Esther Sha'anani MA, LLB, Jerusalem, Israel

Joel Yaakov Katzin, LLB, MA, Jerusalem, Israel

26. Culture and Custody Evaluations: The Fabric of Family Life

The cultural fabric of the families we evaluate and our own cultural biases influence what we see and how we interpret our perceptions in the course of a custody evaluation. This interactive workshop will explore how to account for cultural influences in the context of an evaluation by looking at relevant cases and delineating possible cultural limitations.

Ian Russ, PhD, Encino, CA

Gitu Bhatia, PsyD, Los Angeles, CA

27. Therapeutic Reunification

Therapeutic reunification is a treatment modality for the spectrum of professionals working with families in non-familial/familial abduction and high conflict divorce scenarios. These complex case scenarios will not be addressed from a causality perspective, but rather with a method of facilitating and reinforcing the bond between a parent and a child in an estranged or alienated situation. Attendees will be asked to join the discussion about building bridges for reconnection.

Rebecca Bailey, PhD, Glen Ellen, CA

JoAnn Behrman-Lippert, PhD, Reno, NV

Cynthia Psaila, RMFT, Sonoma, CA

Save the Dates!

AFCC Regional Training Conference

November 7-9, 2013

Westin Kansas City at Crown Center

Kansas City, Missouri



28. Parenting Plan Considerations for Special Needs Children

Family law professionals face complex challenges when assisting separated or divorcing families with special needs children. Such children often require specialized parenting approaches and the commonly recommended developmentally based parenting plans may sometimes be inappropriate. Presenters will describe the defining characteristics and parental challenges involved with four of the most frequently encountered types of childhood conditions: autism, ADHD, learning disabilities and depression. This workshop will present important factors and guidelines that family law professionals should consider to develop appropriate parenting and child safety plans for these children.

Daniel B. Pickar, PhD, ABPP, Santa Rosa, CA

Robert L. Kaufman, PhD, ABPP, Oakland, CA

3:00pm-3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum

3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 29-43

29. Sexual Abuse Allegations in Child Custody Evaluation: Is Gatekeeping a Shield or Sword?

This workshop will apply the parental gatekeeping framework to the problem of unsubstantiated allegations of child sexual abuse (CSA). The gatekeeping forensic model will be presented and differences in the legal context between protective services versus child custody disputes will be discussed. A risk assessment approach for evaluators will be integrated. Nuances of forensic assessment in CSA-child custody cases are illustrated with case examples.

William G. Austin, PhD, Evergreen, CO

Milfred "Bud" Dale, PhD, JD, Topeka, KS

Kathryn Kuehnle, PhD, Indian Shores, FL

30. We Can Be Agents of Change

This workshop presents a brief history of the AFCC California Chapter activity in the court system and charts the deterioration of the system due to lack of funding and growth of population. Presenters will discuss the AFCC-CA Declaration of Public Health Crisis, how it obtained the support of many agencies and institutions and the resulting collaborative effort with the Association of Certified Family Law Specialists that created the Children and Families in Crisis Task Force. The workshop will include a participatory exchange of ideas about how to create change in a large traditional government system.

Mary Lund, PhD, Santa Monica, CA

Lulu Wong, JD, Napa, CA

Hon. Marjorie Slabach (ret.), San Francisco, CA

Dianne Fetzer, JD, Sacramento, CA

31. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Domestic Violence

Domestic violence among LGBT couples is as prevalent as among non-LGBT couples. This workshop will present an overview of LGBT demographic information, a review of useful terminology and specific LGBT domestic violence information, including barriers and challenges LGBT domestic violence survivor litigants face, and specific family law challenges. Using a case study, presenters will explore how to protect LGBT survivors and to move toward bias-free courtrooms.

Terra Slavin, JD, L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center, Los Angeles, CA

Hon. D. Zeke Zeidler, Los Angeles, CA

32. Custody Evaluation Standard of Practice: What Do We Really Know?

For decades, the professional community has been attempting to define the standard of care for performing child custody assessment. Results of survey data examining standard of practice have moved from information about general practice to information about specific use of various procedures. This workshop examines these trends and identifies areas of consensus and areas of controversy. The workshop will also identify areas for future research and explore which areas may never be well enough defined for research study.

Jonathan Gould, PhD, ABPP, Charlotte, NC

Marc Ackerman, PhD, Milwaukee, WI

33. The Voice of the Special Needs Child

In recent years, in many jurisdictions, the voice of the child has become integrated in family law proceedings. This interdisciplinary panel will discuss how the special needs of a child may impact his or her ability to have such input and how professionals can support the child in being heard. Presenters will discuss what defines a child with special needs; provide an overview of children's participation and identify special considerations required for special needs children; and address how the voice of the child with special needs can be integrated.

Carol Hirschfield, PhD, Los Angeles, CA

Jena Stara, JD, Los Angeles, CA

Hon. Scott Silverman, Los Angeles, CA

Arlene Bell, JD, Santa Monica, CA

34. International Family Mobility

This workshop considers the international research regarding relocation and abduction, presenting unpublished research on the long-term effects of abduction. The practical legal issues of international family mobility will be considered by attorneys who specialize in these difficult international family cases.

Marilyn Freeman, PhD, Metropolitan Univ., London, United Kingdom

Stephen Cullen, JD, Miles & Stockbridge PC, Washington, DC

Kelly Powers, JD, Miles & Stockbridge PC, Washington, DC



35. Drowning in High Conflict Cases? How Family Court Services Can Stay Afloat

Funding cutbacks have obliterated many court agencies. How has the unit in Miami-Dade County remained afloat and kept the court, attorneys and mental health professionals from sinking as the number of high conflict cases increases? This session presents a variety of innovations for family court professionals and administrators to demonstrate how this unit remained relevant and useful to the court and a model for providers in the community.

Linda Fieldstone, MEd, Family Court Services, 11th Judicial Circuit, Miami, FL

Hon. Sandy Karlan, Miami, FL

36. If You Build It, Will They Come?

This workshop is designed to provide useful information and education to professionals interested in providing services to never-married, low-income families. Presenters will discuss the particular barriers to social service access facing low-income or unemployed men, with some specific focus on men of color. The question of whether and how these barriers might dissuade or prevent low-income parents from taking advantage of custody and access services or support will be explored.

Jacquelyn Boggess, JD, Center for Family Policy and Practice, Madison, WI

David Pate, PhD, Center for Family Policy and Practice, Madison, WI

37. Child Protection Mediation: Are We Culturally Responsive?

Child protection mediation (CPM) occurs in multiple cultural contexts. This workshop, based on the AFCC Child Protection Mediation Guidelines, challenges practitioners and programs to operationalize the values articulated regarding cultural responsiveness. Panelists will share ideas, pose questions and engage the audience in a practical dialogue for conducting CPM in a culturally appropriate manner while examining how to accommodate cultural needs and maintaining the integrity of the process.

Karen Largent, LCSW, Tucson, AZ

Marilou Giovannucci, MS, Connecticut Judicial Branch, Wethersfield, CT

38. Through the Eyes of the Children: Adult Children of Divorce Look Back

The California State Bar, Family Law Section CDR Committee presents a panel of adults, who were children of divorce, discussing their divorce experience as well as its long-term impact. An attorney and a mental health professional lead this presentation and offer ideas about moving through the process with the least harm to the silent participants in most divorces: the children.

Fern T. Salka, JD, Los Angeles, CA

David Kuroda, LCSW, Torrance, CA

39. Brain Compatible Parenting

This interactive workshop will inspire constructive thought about stages and ages of brain development in collaboration with psychological developmental milestones. Our knowledge of the biological and emotional challenges and changes that occur in childhood has the potential to change the terrain of custody disputes. Our choices have the potential to influence the development of the child, parents and our society. The construction of the mind and the implications this knowledge holds for mediators, therapists, evaluators and all who coach, guide and facilitate the development of parenting plans will be explored.

Jennifer Kresge, MA, St. Helena, CA

40. Coaching in Mediation

Mediators who embrace client self-determination, who think of mediation as problem-solving conversations, and who think of themselves as balanced instead of neutral may find themselves in situations in which clients ask for help beyond the traditional role mediators serve. This workshop will explore the overlap between coaching and mediation and how a mediator stays balanced.

Rebecca T. Magruder, MSW, JD, St. Charles, MO

41. Evaluation of an Online Parenting Program

Presenters will discuss evaluation results for "OnlineParenting-Program," an online co-parenting education program for divorcing or separating parents. This workshop will cover the results of an evaluation designed to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the program's content and instructional processes, and pre- and post-tests that assessed parents' perceptions of the co-parenting relationship and their abilities to help their children through this transition before and after they completed the course.

Jill Bowers, MS, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL

Robert Hughes, PhD, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL

Jeremy Kanter, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL

42. Parenting Coordination: Showdown at the PC Corral

This workshop will explore land mines frequently encountered by parenting coordinators and provide strategies to deflect or manage personal or professional attacks made by clients. Strategies, including forestalling and/or dealing with professional licensing complaints or formal grievances, will be discussed. Communication techniques for dealing with difficult clients and an outline for effective report/recommendation writing for the attorneys and court will be presented.

Siri Gottlieb, JD, LMSW, Ann Arbor, MI

Gary Direnfeld, MSW, RSW, Dundas, ON, Canada



43. Judicial Officers Forum: Family Court—The Next 50 Years

This session provides an opportunity for judicial officers to discuss their vision of the family court of the future, with leading jurists from Australia, New Zealand and the United States. Presenters will share the challenges and solutions, identify initiatives and facilitate discussion about what the next fifty years will bring for family court judges. This session is for judicial officers only.

Chief Justice Diana Bryant, *Family Court of Australia, Melbourne, Australia*

Hon. Peter Boshier, *Law Commission of New Zealand, Wellington, New Zealand*

Justice Rebecca Love Kourlis (ret.), *Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System, Denver, CO*

Hon. Thomas Trent Lewis, *Los Angeles, CA*

Evening **Taste of Los Angeles**
9:00pm-12:00am **AFCC Hospitality Suite**

"AFCC and its members have the vision

to see the best waves for the future.

The bigger the waves, the harder you paddle.

AFCC will meet the challenge."

— Hon. Thomas Trent Lewis,
Los Angeles Superior Court,
Los Angeles, California

FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2013

6:30am-7:15am	Yoga
7:15am-8:15am	AFCC Committee Meetings
7:30am-5:00pm	Conference Registration
7:30am-5:00pm	Exhibitor Forum
7:30am-5:00pm	Poster Gallery
7:30am-8:30am	Coffee and Rolls
8:30am-10:00am	Plenary Session I

Welcome: Nancy Ver Steegh, AFCC President Elect, St. Paul, MN

The Family Court of the Future

The last 50 years have seen a veritable sea change in family law, much of it positive. However, in recent years the challenges have mounted. Budgets have been slashed for courts, family court services and legal aid offices. Fewer and fewer litigants are represented by lawyers and therefore must navigate a legal system that is at the least difficult, and at times downright inhospitable. High conflict families absorb the majority of court resources. Clients with means hire multiple experts and private judges while those without get websites and thirty minutes of summary advice or an hour of mediation following a two-month wait. This session will feature leading innovators who are working to address these enormous challenges and create the family justice system of the future.

Justice Paul J. De Muniz, *Supreme Court of Oregon, Salem, OR*

Julie Macfarlane, *Professor of Law, Univ. of Windsor, Professor of Practice, Kroc Institute, Univ. of Notre Dame, Kingsville, ON, Canada*

Betty Nordwind, JD, *Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law, Los Angeles, CA*

Linda Fieldstone, MEd, *Family Court Services, Miami, FL*

10:00am-10:30am **Break and Exhibitor Forum**

Join AFCC Today for Extra Savings!

AFCC is the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts—an interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict. AFCC brings together members of multiple disciplines in the private, public and nonprofit sectors from all over the world. AFCC is unique in that members do not share a common profession. Instead, AFCC members share a strong commitment to education, innovation and collaboration in order to benefit communities, empower families and promote a healthy future for children.

Join AFCC when you register for the conference and save \$10 on your first year's membership and up to \$160 on conference registration. Select the "New Member Special" when completing the registration form and register at the AFCC member rate.

AFCC Member Benefits Include:

- **Family Court Review**, the quarterly academic and research journal of AFCC in print and electronic format with full access to the online archives dating back to 1963.
- **Online Membership Directory** of over 4,600 colleagues worldwide in a searchable format.
- **AFCC eNEWS**, the monthly electronic newsletter from AFCC delivers the latest developments in the field straight to your inbox.
- **Parenting Coordination Network** listserv of AFCC members to share tips, advice, referrals, and network with others who serve as PCs or are interested in the role.
- **Member discounts** on AFCC conferences, training programs and publications, Wiley-Blackwell publications, and professional liability insurance from Complete Equity Markets, Inc.

www.afccnet.org



10:30am-12:00pm Plenary Session II

Welcome: *Richard Altman, AFCC Vice President, Napoleon, OH*

Shared Parenting: The Next 50 Years

Shared parenting has long been a topic of considerable controversy within the family law community, with research seemingly available to support just about every position. Infants and overnights, 50/50 presumptions and the voice of the child are just a few of the issues that surface with strongly held and divergent opinions. This session continues more than a decade of AFCC discussions and *Family Court Review* articles on shared parenting and features participants from the AFCC Think Tank, *Closing the Gap: Research, Practice, Policy and Shared Parenting*. Presenters will explore areas of consensus and areas where there is strong disagreement in the research, practice and policy communities; how these issues result in a field often working at cross-purposes; and provide a framework for productive conversations in the future.

Hon. Dianna J. Gould-Saltman, Los Angeles, CA

Joan B. Kelly, PhD, Corte Madera, CA

Bernie Mayer, PhD, Werner Institute at Creighton Univ., Kingsville, ON, Canada

Stacey Platt, JD, Loyola Univ. School of Law, Chicago, IL

12:00pm-1:30pm Lunch on your own and Exhibitor Forum

12:00pm-1:30pm Family Court Review Editorial Board Meeting

1:30pm-3:00pm Workshops 44-57

44. LGBTQ Parenting Disputes: Best Interests and the Modern Family

This session will chart the changing attitudes to LGBTQ parents as demonstrated by judicial determination in parenting cases. The outcomes that are achieved for children in such cases will be analyzed. The development of jurisprudence relating to LGBTQ families will be explored as well as a discussion of possible futures.

Hon. Joe Harman, Parramatta, Australia

45. Strategies for Family Court Reform

Family courts are straining to meet the needs of their constituents due to inadequate funding, demographic changes and an avalanche of self-represented litigants. This workshop will provide participants with the current best practice ideas for judicial reform, including a discussion of models for collaboration with non-judicial partners. The global family law conflict reform effort underway in the state of Oregon will also be shared as well as the Honoring Families Initiative of the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System.

Justice Paul J. De Muniz, Supreme Court of Oregon, Salem, OR

William J. Howe, III, JD, Gevurtz, Menashe, Larson & Howe, P.C., Portland, OR

Rebecca Love Kourlis, Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System, Denver, CO

46. Parent Education: Online or In-person?

Budget cuts and diminishing court resources are having far-reaching effects on families. Offering parents access to online parent education programs can save courts and parents money while increasing effectiveness. This session describes evaluations comparing in-person and online parent education programs in two urban court systems. A model process for choosing among the many available programs is presented.

Donald A. Gordon, PhD, Center for Divorce Education, Ashland, OR

Lisa Horwitch, PhD, Horwitch & Associates, Ashland, OR

Hon. Michele Lowrance, Chicago, IL

47. Systematic Intervention Planning

This session focuses on determining whether an intervention is working or the plan needs to be modified or a professional replaced. Typically, this arises when a parent becomes unhappy or suspicious about the progress (or lack thereof) in a parenting plan or a professional's behavior. The panel will address criteria to consider in assessing a professional's conduct, motions to remove, privilege/confidentiality issues, the PC's role in redirecting problem therapy, and dangers of moving solely on parent distrust or anger.

Lyn Greenberg, PhD, Los Angeles, CA

Robin M. Deutsch, PhD, Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology, Newton, MA

Richard Gould-Saltman, JD, Gould-Saltman Law Offices, Los Angeles, CA

Hon. David Cunningham, Los Angeles, CA

48. New Ways for Families: Reducing Hearings

This session provides an update on the New Ways for Families method, as used with high-conflict custody cases in Calgary and Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada and San Diego, California. The session reviews outcomes, implementation procedures, program revisions, judicial feedback and case examples from each jurisdiction. New Ways teaches four conflict-reducing skills before major decisions are made: flexible thinking, managed emotions, moderate behaviors and checking yourself.

Bill Eddy, LCSW, JD, High Conflict Institute, San Diego, CA

Catherine Regier, LLB, Medicine Hat, AB, Canada

Jean Dunbar, MEd, RSW, Calgary, AB, Canada

49. A Recommitment to Mediation

This workshop will address the importance of mediation to the child custody determination process. It will outline a case management process that emphasizes education, mediation and evaluation and will argue that mandatory mediation works. It will highlight the experiences of veterans in family courts in two states.

Hon. Leonard P. Edwards (ret.), Los Altos Hills, CA

Hugh McIsaac, MSW, Santa Cruz, CA

George Ferrick, MA, El Cerrito, CA

Sherrie Kibler-Sanchez, MSW, Family Court Service, Los Angeles, CA



50. The Clash Between Best Interests and Parental Treatment Confidentiality

Child custody disputes often focus on allegations about a parent's mental health or addiction. Courts must balance the search for truth in determining best interests of the child against the confidentiality of a parent's treatment. This panel will examine and debate these issues. Relevant authority and techniques for dealing with the two interests will be discussed.

Christine D. Gille, JD, MBA, Pasadena, CA

Lynette Berg Robe, JD, MA, Studio City, CA

Robert A. Simon, PhD, Del Mar, CA

Daniel H. Willick, JD, PhD, Los Angeles, CA

51. Fifty Years of Cognitive Science

Even years of experience and practical wisdom may not be enough to arm the family law professional against vulnerability to bias and error in procedures and in thinking. Cognitive research in recent decades has demonstrated systematic tendencies in human thinking that lead to predictable errors in decision making. This workshop will highlight this robust and impressive literature about systematic thinking errors and their impact on decision making. The presenters will give concrete tools for reflecting on these biases and for developing checklists to better identify and mitigate biases and simplified thinking.

Nancy W. Olesen, PhD, San Rafael, CA

Leslie M. Drozd, PhD, Newport Beach, CA

Michael A. Saini, PhD, Univ. of Toronto, ON, Canada

Hon. Marjorie Slabach (ret.), San Francisco, CA

52. Improving Outcomes for Children: Fifty "Turned-Around" Cases

This workshop will draw on the latest findings from a new body of research on "turned-around" cases, where courts correct prior errors in awarding custody or unsupervised access to an abusive parent. These cases provide a living laboratory for evaluation and improvement of custody evaluator and judicial decision making. Legal issues, including how ambiguous evidence is weighed, will be addressed as well as recommendations for minimizing risk to children.

Margaret Drew, JD, Cincinnati, OH

Stephanie Dallam, PhD, Spring Hill, KS

53. Improving Connecticut's Child Advocates

This presentation will showcase Connecticut's recent mandatory training program for new and experienced child advocates, a partnership of the bench, bar, mental health professionals and a law school. The program includes case preparation guidelines, an emphasis on psychosocial knowledge and skills and child-centered advocacy. The plan for a statewide "academy" network for continuing advanced training and support will be presented.

Sharon W. Dornfeld, JD, Danbury, CT

Sidney S. Horowitz, PhD, Waterbury, CT

Howard Krieger, PhD, Waterbury, CT

Hon. Lynda Munro, Chief Administrative Judge, Family Division, Middletown, CT

54. Divorce Mediation and Domestic Violence: The Taiwan Experience

This workshop will explore the model developed in Taiwan for mediation when working with families involving domestic violence. The presenters will discuss three useful skills used in this type of mediation and how to improve the ability of the mediators.

Emily Yueh-Mi Lai, PhD, LLM, Hualien, Taiwan, Republic of China

Shan-Hwa Liang, MSW, Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China

55. Family Justice in Practice-Part III

Part III of this workshop will look toward the future of the family justice system. To what extent will technology change the practice of family law? How can the competing needs of the family and the state be addressed? Join this workshop and help build the template for the future.

Hon. Denise McColley, Napoleon, OH

Hon. George Czutrin, Toronto, ON, Canada

Fred W. Seymour, PhD, Auckland, New Zealand

Christine A. Coates, MEd, JD, Boulder, CO

56. Increasing Emotional Fluency

From Aristotle to neurobiology we learn that emotions are an important part of human interaction and conflict resolution. Based on our personal histories we have developed styles that work for us, as have the parties in a dispute. In this workshop you will improve your emotional fluency to adapt to the different needs of your clients.

Sue Bronson, MS, Milwaukee, WI

57. Characteristics of Successful Joint Custody

Joint physical custody, or shared care, allows separated and divorced parents to routinely spend extended, and sometimes equal, time with their children. But when are these arrangements appropriate for separating and divorced families? A review of the literature, combined with primary research, will suggest the parental characteristics that mediators, child custody evaluators, and parenting coordinators should attempt to identify that could help inform them whether or not a shared care arrangement will be successful.

Christopher P. Hahn, PhD, Bozeman, MT

3:00pm-3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum

Save the Dates!

AFCC/AAML Conference

September 26-28, 2013

Gaylord National Resort

Washington, DC, Metro Area



3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 58-71

58. Ethics of Online Communication

As online communication grows in popularity, many professionals assisting families through separation and divorce have been using online technologies to communicate with clients (e.g., Skype, VoIP, email, messaging, web-assisted conflict resolution). Other professionals avoid online communication due to ethical risks. This workshop will use case situations to help participants explore these ethical concerns and determine whether and how online communication can be used in an ethical manner.

Allan E. Barsky, JD, PhD, Lauderdale by the Sea, FL

59. New Zealand Court Reforms

The New Zealand Government recently announced sweeping changes to the family court after review and consultation with court professionals and the community. This workshop presents judicial, legal, and research perspectives, taking a collaborative approach to ensure that children's and parents' well-being is protected in a new court environment where the focus is primarily on cost saving. The response of New Zealand Family Court professionals to these challenges is relevant to professionals in other jurisdictions facing funding restrictions in family courts.

Hon. Jill Moss, Wellington, New Zealand

Antony Mahon, LLB, LLM, Auckland, New Zealand

Jan Pryor, PhD, Carterton, Wairarapa, New Zealand

60. Mediating With and Without the Robe

This workshop will examine some of the differences in mediation styles, contexts and orientations. What can we learn from each other about our own and others' processes? Are mediation styles interchangeable? In this session, attendees will be encouraged to participate in a conversation examining replicable mediation models that draw on the best practices of private mediators and judicial officers with different backgrounds and from different jurisdictions.

Forrest S. Mosten, JD, Los Angeles, CA

Hon. R. James Williams, Halifax, NS, Canada

61. The Nexus of Psychological Testing and Parenting

This workshop will discuss the direct relevance and utility of specific psychological test results to specific parental functions and a description of the legal strategies for the use, or avoidance, of test results in child custody evaluations. Elements of judicial decision making will be addressed, examples will be provided, and the workshop will conclude with interactive audience participation and discussion of practices and social implications of resource allocation and access to such services.

David Medoff, PhD, Newton, MA

Mary M. Ferriter, JD, Esdaile, Barrett, Jacobs & Mone, Boston, MA

Alexander Jones, JD, Looney & Grossman, LLP, Boston, MA

Hon. R. John Harper, Senior Family Court Judge, Toronto, ON, Canada

62. Catching the Wave: Family Courts Engage with Transformative Change

The confluence of three waves of change is transforming family courts: changes in families, changes in public sector support and changes in best practice options. This workshop will examine the implications of new realities of 21st century family structure, functioning, and legal status; unprecedented budget reductions and restructuring in the judicial branch; and trends in court programs designed to serve the public effectively and efficiently. Discussion will include audience experiences and suggestions for catching the wave of change.

Diane Nunn, JD, Ctr. for Children, Families & the Courts, San Francisco, CA

Barbara A. Babb, JD, MS, Univ. of Baltimore School of Law, Baltimore, MD

Nancy Taylor, MSW, Ctr. for Children, Families & the Courts, San Francisco, CA

Charlene E. Depner, PhD, Ctr. for Children, Families & the Courts, San Francisco, CA

63. Brief Focused Assessment

Brief focused assessment (BFA) can provide an efficient alternative to comprehensive custody evaluation in cases where the issues are limited and clearly defined, thus permitting more targeted fact-finding. BFAs may be particularly helpful when interim custody arrangements are needed or there are acute questions requiring quick action. This workshop will cover the development, function and process of BFAs being implemented in Northern California and Arizona. Sample protocols, orders and reports will be shared.

Kenneth B. Perlmutter, PhD, Palo Alto, CA

Faren R. Akins, PhD, JD, Scottsdale, AZ

64. Representing Transgender Parents in Court

A transgender parent's decision to transition may cause strain in the family and lead to a custody dispute between parents. In some cases, the non-transgender parent may try to use the parent's transition or transgender status against them. Many courts have restricted and even terminated a transgender parent's parental rights based on misguided fears about transgender people. This workshop will review the standards of care regarding transgender adults and provide participants with strategies for resolving these custody disputes.

Asaf Orr, JD, San Francisco, CA

Dan Karasic, MD, San Francisco, CA

Deborah Wald, JD, San Francisco, CA

65. How Does the Child Gain a Voice?

This workshop will explore the literature in relation to children's participation in the decision making process and the development of children's thinking, empathy and ideas of fairness. Presenters will discuss how these developmental pathways may assist professionals in the family courts to assess the weight they give to the child's expressed views and how best to support children's participation. Clinical examples will be used to highlight concepts and dilemmas.

Jacqueline Beall, PhD, Family Law Courts, Adelaide, Australia

Pam Hemphill, MSW, Family Law Courts, Adelaide, Australia

Clara Bookless, PhD, Centre for Parenting, North Adelaide, Australia



66. Parents in High Conflict: Who Are They and What Do They Need?

This session presents results of a web-based survey on high conflict parents. Researchers examined factors including age, ethnicity, upbringing, education, health, use of drugs, separation, conflict, violence and perceived need of support from society to be able to collaborate with the other parent. Presenters will discuss the results, looking at socioeconomic status and type of conflict in order to illustrate what type of interventions parents believe that they need.

Annika Rejmer, Assoc. Professor, Univ. of Lund, Sweden

Marianne Gabrielsson, Tullinge, Sweden

67. One Stop Shopping: The Alaska Early Resolution Project

This workshop will discuss an innovative program in the Alaska Court System to help self-represented parties resolve their issues early in the process using unbundled *pro bono* attorneys and court mediators. Presenters will provide hands-on learning and turn-key resources for court managers, mediators and *pro bono* providers who want to work together to create a project that will facilitate early resolution of domestic relations cases involving two *pro se* litigants.

Stacey Marz, JD, Alaska Court System Self-Help Center, Anchorage, AK

Wendy Lyford, JD, MA, Alaska Court System, Anchorage, AK

Hon. Stephanie Joannides (ret.), Anchorage, AK

68. Pathways through Family Justice: Improving Child and Family Outcomes

There has been a great deal of concern globally with enhancing interventions and services for children and parents to assist them through the process of restructuring post-separation. What do we know about these services and what is helpful to which families? This workshop will explore what we know and still need to learn. Results of a survey of workshop participants on how decisions are made about applying different interventions will also be presented.

Rachel Birnbaum, PhD, LLM, Western Univ., London, ON, Canada

Nicholas Bala, JD, LLM, Queen's Univ., Kingston, ON, Canada

Michael Saini, PhD, Univ. of Toronto, ON, Canada

Francine Cyr, PhD, Univ. of Montreal, QC, Canada

69. ACT to Reduce Stress

This session will present an approach called Acceptance and Commitment Training (ACT) that helps people learn methods for letting go of their struggle with pain, get clarity on what they value and commit to living full, vibrant lives. Research will be summarized on how stresses associated with separation/divorce can negatively impact co-parenting, parenting practices and children's development. Tools from this evidence-based approach that practitioners can use with parents to help them reduce their stress, strengthen their co-parenting relationships and parent more effectively will be discussed.

Laura Backen Jones, PhD, Oregon Research Institute, Eugene, OR

70. From Conception to Deception: How ART Impacts Family Law

This session examines what to know and do when traditional and non-traditional couples use ART (Assisted Reproductive Technologies) to create a family. The legal framework will be explored, including collecting all the details at the consultation, drafting surrogacy and other ART contracts, including pre-birth orders, and providing guidance for implementing parenting plans.

Nadia A. Margherio, JD, MSW, Sodoma Law, Charlotte, NC

Nicole Sodoma, JD, Sodoma Law, Charlotte, NC

71. Child Friendly Divorce

This workshop will explore reforms to improve outcomes for children, including a biannual review of custody agreements, giving increased weight to children's custody modification requests, the bifurcation of financial and custody matters, and removing custody matters from adversarial procedures.

Sondra M. Miller, LLB, McCarthy, Fingar LLP, White Plains, NY

Hon. Mark A. Juhas, Los Angeles, CA

David Kuroda, LCSW, Torrance, CA

Ruth Bettelheim, PhD, Fresh Ideas, Inc., St. John, Virgin Islands

5:30pm-7:00pm

Silent Auction and Reception

7:00pm-9:30pm

AFCC Annual Banquet

9:30pm-12:00am

AFCC Hospitality Suite

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Dr. Philip M. Stahl and Dr. Robert A. Simon

Forensic Psychology Consultants and Expert Witnesses in Child Custody Litigation



SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2013

6:30am-7:15am	Yoga
7:30am-12:30pm	Conference Registration
8:00am-12:30pm	Exhibitor Forum
8:00am-12:30pm	Poster Gallery
8:00am-9:00am	Coffee and Rolls
8:00am-9:00am	AFCC Membership Meeting

9:15am-10:45am Workshops 72-81

72. World Family Justice Models

This workshop will present two international family justice models. The German Consensus Model is a model where parents, judges, lawyers and social workers work together in a non-adversarial cooperative system that cuts short the tremendous emotional and financial costs, and prioritizes the best interests of the child. The second presentation from two Irish researchers is a proposal for the development of a World Family Justice Model, assisted by technology. The model proposes state supported mandatory conciliation programs that wrap around national substantive law, capable of adaptation on religious cultural or sovereign grounds. The presentation will look at the future role of technology, including the development of secure inter-jurisdictional information sharing, virtual personal assistants and online ADR.

Ursula Kodjoe, MA, Emmendingen, Germany

Roisin O'Shea, Waterford, Ireland

Shane Dempsey, Dip BSc MSc, Waterford, Ireland

73. Fighting the Urge to Presume

There is little science in the art of re-forming the family after parents end their relationships. Lawmakers establish presumptions based on their belief in what is good for children. Judges make child custody and parenting time decisions using legal presumptions. Mental health professionals evaluate the family needs based on the presumptions they acquire in their training and on professional guidelines. Parents presume to know what is best for their children. Are these presumptions truly in the best interests of children?

Nancy Zalusky Berg, JD, Walling, Berg & Debele, Minneapolis, MN

Susan Rhode, JD, Moss & Barnett, Minneapolis, MN

Anne-Marie Hutchinson, JD, OBE, Dawson Cornwell, London, United Kingdom

74. The Nexus Between Parent Deficiencies and Parent-Child Interactions

Custody evaluations often focus on allegations of parenting deficiencies and mental health diagnoses. This session examines the connection between allegation-based evaluations and parenting skills; how depression, substance use, domestic violence, DSM-5 personality disorders and other concerning behaviors adversely impact parent-child interactions. Research on the harmful impact of parenting deficiencies is examined in reference to three parenting skills—nurturing, teaching and co-parenting.

David Weinstock, JD, PhD, Scottsdale, AZ

John Moran, PhD, Phoenix, AZ

75. Impact of Family Violence Reforms in Australia

This session will offer critical analysis of the impact of major amendments to the Australian Family Law Act in the area of family violence, twelve months after their commencement. The perspective of a senior family court judge and an experienced childhood development expert will be brought to bear in assessing whether the reforms have succeeded in better protecting children and families at risk of violence and abuse.

Hon. Steven Strickland, Adelaide, Australia

Pam Hemphill, MSW, Adelaide, Australia

76. Mediating Same-Sex Dissolutions

The constantly changing landscape of same-sex marriage laws is confusing enough; dissolving some of these relationships presents legal and emotional challenges as well. This presentation will grapple with the legal and psychosocial issues regarding same-sex partnerships and parentage. Some of the gray areas that can lead to conflict and confusion, adding to the complicated legal and emotional quandaries of LGBT couples, will be summarized.

Stacey Shuster, PhD, San Francisco, CA

Frederick Hertz, JD, MA, Oakland, CA

77. Judicial Interviewing of Children: The New Zealand Family Court

New Zealand is recognized internationally for its innovations in child-centered practice. This workshop outlines the history of judicial interviewing in New Zealand and presents the findings from a 2012-2013 study that documented how judicial interviews are conducted with children in the Family Court. The findings are set in the context of international research and previous surveys indicating that as judicial interviewing becomes more routine, judges' concerns about engaging directly with children are significantly reduced.

Hon. Peter Boshier, Law Commission of New Zealand, Wellington, New Zealand

Nicola Taylor, LLB, PhD, Univ. of Otago, Auckland, New Zealand

John Caldwell, LLM, Univ. of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand



78. Using Prevention to Reduce Youth Problems and Criminal Justice Costs

This presentation describes a fifteen-year follow-up of a randomized trial of the effects of the New Beginnings Program for children from divorced families. The program was found to reduce rates of youth depression and substance abuse and to reduce costs of youth involvement in the criminal justice system and youth and parent use of mental health services fifteen years later.

Irwin N. Sandler, PhD, Prevention Research Center, Arizona State Univ., Tempe, AZ

Sharlene Wolchik, PhD, Prevention Research Center, Arizona State Univ., Tempe, AZ

Nicole Mahrer, MA, Arizona State Univ., Tempe, AZ

79. Cultural Fluency for Family Law Professionals

Differing parenting styles and different family structures, informed by different cultural underpinnings, are often misunderstood and judged as inappropriate without a deeper cultural understanding of the multi-layered impacts and intersections of identities. Family law professionals must be open to the different contexts in which their clients define "family" based on their backgrounds, values and beliefs. This workshop will examine culture and identity definitions including children's culture and value orientations and, in particular, the distinctions between individualist and collectivist cultures. Presenters will discuss the impact of a collectivist worldview on family law and a practical examination of intercultural communication.

Fareen L. Jamal, LLB, LLM, Bales Beall, LLP, Toronto, ON, Canada

Victoria Starr, LLB, LLM, Starr Family Law, Toronto, ON, Canada

80. Understanding Vicarious Trauma and Compassion Fatigue

High conflict divorce and family court litigation often create trauma for children and their parents. Thus, families involved in high conflict divorce are often in need of a variety of intense professional interventions, including counseling, evaluation, representation and parenting coordination. These cases can be stressful; therefore, it is not uncommon for court professionals to feel emotionally and physically fatigued. This session will explore factors leading to vicarious trauma, compassion fatigue and burnout. Particular emphasis will be given to self-care.

Ann Ordway, JD, EdS, Mountain Lakes, NJ

Ruth O. Moore, PhD, LPC, Savannah, GA

Joshua D. Francis, LPCC-S, LICDC, Tipp City, OH

81. Child Protection Mediation: A Life Jacket for Attorneys

Attorneys representing clients in child protection cases face a multitude of challenges, including the reality that they have ethical responsibilities beyond those owed to their client. Nonetheless, active participation in the dialogue by attorneys and their clients is essential to successful mediation. This session will explore some of the challenges attorneys are likely to encounter in child protection mediation, and strategies to address those challenges and reconcile the attorney's obligations to the client, the minor, other participants and the court during the mediation process.

Susan M. Storcel, JD, Circuit Court of Cook County, Chicago, IL

Marsha Lichtenstein, PhD, Statewide Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinator, Santa Fe, NM

10:45am-11:00am Break and Exhibitor Forum

11:00am-12:30pm Workshops 82-91

82. Dancing with Lone Wolves: Issues Facing Evaluators and Self-Represented Litigants

With the increase of self-represented litigants grows the likelihood that a child custody evaluator, attorney or judicial officer will encounter an unrepresented party in a custody dispute. Many of these litigants know little about the legal process, which has an impact on all aspects of the custody evaluation. This workshop will focus on the practical, legal and ethical challenges facing the custody evaluator involved in contested custody matters with a self-represented party, and offer suggestions for day to day practice.

Jacqueline Singer, PhD, Sonoma, CA

Brandon R. Blevans, JD, Blevans & Blevans, LLP, Napa, CA

Hon. Louise Bayles-Fightmaster, Santa Rosa, CA

83. Families Change: An International Website Collaboration

Regions have different legal requirements and court processes, but the emotional experience of divorce can be much the same for parents and children. This workshop will demonstrate how California was able to capitalize on British Columbia's existing web resources to produce new family resources specific to California law. Presenters will provide information on the collaboration that illustrates how two innovative Canadian websites, including an online parenting education program, were reworked to offer relevant information for families in California.

Julia F. Weber, JD, MSW, Center for Children, Families & the Courts, San Francisco, CA

Dave Nolette, Justice Education Society of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada



84. The Impact of Psychopathy in Family Court

Psychopathy is a serious syndrome of personality pathology. Psychopaths are frequently irresponsible, fail to honor commitments and often display antisocial behavior. Presenters in this workshop will provide an overview of psychopathy and its relevance for family court judges, attorneys, and mental health professionals. They will discuss how psychopathic traits in individuals can impact family court cases including: divorce, custody and supervision of minor children, mediation, alimony and child support, domestic violence, and jury selection.

Jill L. Ricke, PhD, Tallahassee, FL

Robert Schug, PhD, Long Beach, CA

85. Family Restructuring Therapy

Family restructuring therapy is an active, directive process with families in conflict to modify maladaptive interactions. This session will describe both individual and team therapeutic interventions that can be used between a parent and an estranged or alienated child to re-establish appropriate relationships. While the focus is on the alienated child and the rejected parent, the preferred parent is an important part of the treatment.

Stephen P. Carter, PhD, Edmonton, AB, Canada

Bonnie F. Haave, PhD, Edmonton, AB, Canada

Shirley J. Vandersteen, PhD, Edmonton, AB, Canada

James P. Bateman, MA, Edmonton, AB, Canada

86. Providing Expert Testimony

When high-conflict cases go to court, parenting coordinators and custody evaluators are likely to be called as expert witnesses. What are the keys to providing credible and effective expert testimony? What can you expect at deposition or trial, and how should you prepare? How can you avoid common "pitfalls for the unwary"? How do you get paid? If you have not yet had the pleasure of sitting in the witness stand, this workshop is for you.

Jennifer E. Joseph, JD, St. Paul, MN

Karen Irvin, PhD, LMFT, St. Paul, MN

87. Families Impacted by Incarceration

This panel addresses how the era of mass incarceration is profoundly impacting families. Presenters will examine the complicated ways in which parents become incarcerated and how these same pathways act as barriers to family reunification on reentry. Within the framework of "best interests of the child," how to protect and re-build parent-child relationships during incarceration and after the parent's release will be presented from the legal and mental health perspectives.

Katherine Ojeda Stewart, JD, MA, Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law, Los Angeles, CA

Meredith Alexander, JD, Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law, Los Angeles, CA

Ian Russ, PhD, Encino, CA

88. Implementing and Sustaining a Statewide GAL Education Program

Supreme Court of Ohio staff and guardian ad litem education program faculty chairpersons will share how a statewide GAL education program was instituted. They will describe how to develop and coordinate faculty, how to develop the curriculum and offer the courses, methods for evaluation and revision of the course content and delivery, and program sustainability suggestions.

James Landon, MBA, Supreme Court of Ohio Judicial College, Columbus, OH

Hon. Ali Frantz Rufo, Canton, OH

Terri Worthington, MSSW, LISW-S, Ohio State Univ. Extension, Chardon, OH

89. Mediator Ethics

Family mediators are often faced with ethical challenges. This workshop will consider challenging situations mediators face that involve the suitability of cases for mediation, impartiality and neutrality of the mediator, confidentiality of mediation communications, full disclosure, empowerment, self-determination and more. The Model Standards of Practice for Family and Divorce Mediation will be provided and the panel and audience will explore how these standards apply to practical situations.

Joy Borum, JD, Family Mediation Center, Scottsdale, AZ

Wayne F. Regina, PsyD, Prescott College, Prescott, AZ

Kathy McCormick, CP, ADR Program Manager, Superior Court, Prescott, AZ

90. International Divorce: A Multicultural Interdisciplinary Approach

International divorce is becoming more prevalent. This interdisciplinary panel addresses the thorny issues that international couples face when they divorce, such as conflicting or overlapping laws between nations that affect jurisdiction, the validity of a divorce, the determination and enforcement of custody, support and property division matters, child kidnapping, domestic violence and same sex partnerships. The panel will explore The Hague Convention's rules in connection with a real world case study as well as techniques for effective conflict resolution.

Sherri F. Donovan, JD, New York, NY

Alberto A. Yohananoff, PhD, New York, NY

Kai W. De Graaf, JD, New York, NY

Hon. Andrea Phoenix, New York, NY

91. Crossing the Divide Between Family and Juvenile Courts

This workshop will focus on the similarities and differences between child welfare and high conflict cases. It will focus on the services offered in each court and the innovations each has made over the past fifty years. Hypothetical examples will be presented regarding how each would best be served by one or the other court system, with an emphasis on high conflict cases that have become abusive and would potentially be better served in juvenile court.

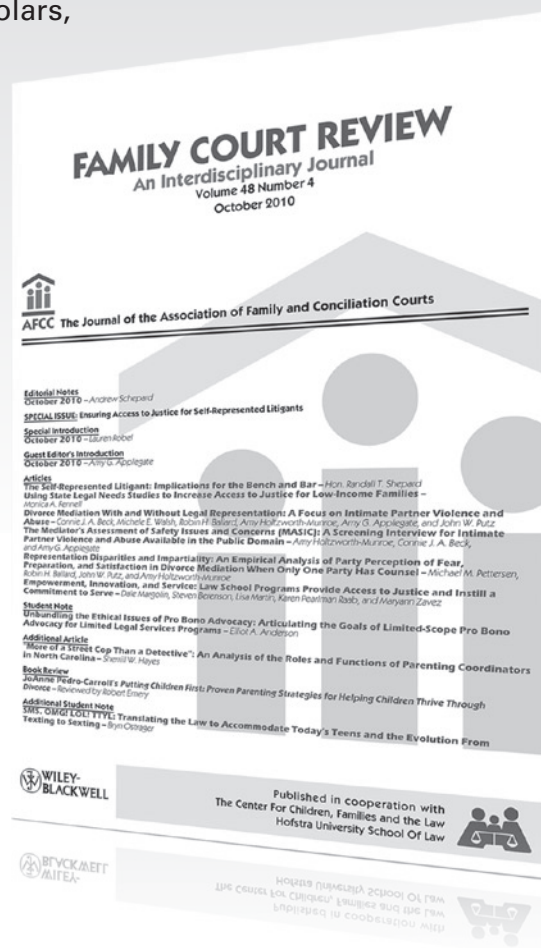
Rebecca M. Stahl, JD, LLM, Pima County Office of Children's Counsel, Tucson, AZ

Hon. Lisa A. Abrams, Tucson, AZ



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Contact

Franca Sachs
*Executive Director of Pro Bono,
Externship and Fellowship
Programs*

Maurice A. Deane School of Law

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Hempstead, NY 11549
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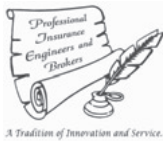
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The Steve Frankel Group (SFG) is an Online Continuing Education Company dedicated to supporting associations such as AFCC with the following programs:

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The 15th Annual AFCC Silent Auction will take place Friday, May 31, immediately before the annual banquet. The auction opens at 5:30pm. Bidding on the first group of items closes at 6:30pm and on the second group at 7pm. Past items have included sports memorabilia, original art work, fine wines, vacations and many one-of-a-kind items. Auction proceeds help support special AFCC projects and initiatives. Contributions will be recognized in the silent auction catalog and in the *AFCC eNEWS*. If you would like to donate an item, please contact Erin Sommerfeld at esommerfeld@afccnet.org or (608) 664-3750.

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AFCC will provide a certificate of conference attendance for a processing fee of \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. *The certificate will verify attendance at conference sessions and may be used to apply for continuing education credits with the registrant's accrediting institution.* A complete list of conference sessions eligible for continuing education credits will be available at the AFCC registration desk.

Psychologists: AFCC is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. AFCC maintains responsibility for the program and its content. The program is eligible for up to 19.5 hours of continuing education for psychologists.

Mental Health Professionals: Continuing education approval from the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is pending for up to 20.5 CE credits; however, individuals will need to verify approval with their credentialing or licensing boards.

AFCC is approved by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences to offer continuing education for MFT and LCSW professionals in California, PCE#4630. The pre-conference institutes provide 6 hours and the conference program provides up to 13.5 hours toward continuing education required by BBS.

AFCC is an NBCC-Approved Continuing Education Provider (ACEP™) and may offer NBCC-approved clock hours for events that meet the National Board of Certified Counselor requirements. The ACEP is solely responsible for all aspects of the program. Up to 20.5 hours may be earned.

Mediators: All conference sessions are eligible for continuing education units through the Association for Conflict Resolution.

California Custody Evaluators and Mediators: Applications will be submitted to the Judicial Council of California, Administrative Office of the Courts. The views expressed in the program are those of the faculty and do not necessarily represent the official positions or policies of the Judicial Council of California or the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Certified Specialist Program: This program will be submitted for accreditation by the Law Society of Upper Canada toward the Family Law professional development requirement for certification.

Attorneys: Approval will be submitted to the California State Bar for up to 19.5 hours of continuing legal education. California attorneys must self-report hours at their re-certification.

MCLE: The pre-conference institutes provide 6 hours and the conference program provides up to 13.5 hours of MCLE credits. Attorneys must sign in on the sheets provided at each session.

CFLS: The pre-conference institutes provide 6 hours and the conference program provides up to 13.5 hours in the following required topics toward the educational requirement for CFLS certification: dissolution of marriage; mediation; custody of children; psychological and counseling aspects of dissolution of marriage; problems of the non-marital family; and problems of domestic violence.

Audio Recording

Conference sessions will be recorded and MP3 downloads of the sessions will be available at the conference through Digital Conference Providers, Inc. and may be ordered online at www.dccprovidersonline.com/afcc after the conference concludes. No personal audio-recording of sessions is permitted.

Conference Scholarships

Thanks to the support of AFCC members who contributed to the scholarship fund, scholarships are available for the AFCC 50th Anniversary Conference. Scholarships include conference registration; pre-conference institute registration; a ticket to the awards luncheon and annual banquet; AFCC hospitality suite; and a certificate of attendance. A limited number of scholarships will include a stipend to help recipients offset the cost of travel and accommodations. Preference for scholarships with stipends is given to applicants with higher travel costs, international applicants and those who demonstrate financial need. Scholarship recipients are responsible for any additional costs associated with travel, lodging, meals and/or other expenses. The scholarship application is available on the AFCC website at www.afccnet.org/conferences/afcc_conferences.asp; the application deadline is March 1, 2013. Recipients will be notified mid-to-late March.

Exhibitor Forum

The Exhibitor Forum will be open during conference hours. A learning opportunity in itself, the Exhibitor Forum provides a chance to meet face-to-face with representatives and discuss your product needs and services. AFCC publications will be available for purchase. If you are interested in renting exhibit space or distributing materials to conference delegates, please contact Erin Sommerfeld at esommerfeld@afccnet.org or (608) 664-3750.

Conference Bookstore

If you would like to have your book displayed, please email Megan Hunter, UnHooked Books, at megan@unhookedbooks.com with "AFCC Bookstore" in the subject line.

AFCC Hospitality Suite

The AFCC hospitality suite will be open for informal networking and refreshment on Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00pm-12:00am and on Friday from 9:30pm-12:00am. Please wear your name badge. The hospitality suite location will be posted at the AFCC registration desk. Space is limited, so first-come, first-served.

Taste of Los Angeles

Thursday evening is your opportunity to enjoy the area with friends and colleagues. Sign up before 1:00pm on Thursday and join a group of 8-10 for dinner at a restaurant in the Los Angeles area. A variety of restaurant menus and sign-up sheets will be available onsite. Participants are responsible for food, beverage and transportation costs.

Special Needs

If you have special meal requests or other special needs, please note this on the registration form. The JW Marriott's meeting facilities, its guest rooms, common areas and transportation services are in compliance with the public accommodation requirements of the ADA.

Registration Information

Please read before completing your conference registration form!

AFCC Members Save up to \$160 on Registration Rates: Register and pay by March 8, 2013, to receive the best rates on registration! The early bird special rates are available only to AFCC members. Not a member? Check the new membership special rate, register at the AFCC member rate and save up to \$160!

New Membership Special: Join AFCC when you register for the conference and receive a twelve-month membership for \$150—a \$10 discount—and save up to \$160 by registering at the AFCC member rate! To join, simply check the new membership special rate on the registration form. The new membership special rate is available only to first time AFCC members.

Pre-conference Institute Registration: Includes attendance at a pre-conference institute, refreshment break and institute materials. *Institute registration is separate from registration for the full conference.*

Conference Registrant Meals: Conference registration rates include a portion of actual food and beverage costs. In order to keep conference registration fees as low as possible, while ensuring sufficient space and quantity, we ask that you indicate which meals you will attend on the registration form. The banquet supplement defrays the overall cost of food and beverage. **Meal attendance must be confirmed by May 24, 2013. There will be no onsite sales of meal tickets.**

Conference Registration: Includes all conference sessions, electronic conference proceedings, refreshment breaks, opening reception, awards luncheon, annual banquet and AFCC hospitality suite. *Pre-conference institutes require a separate registration fee.*

Spouse/Guest Registration: Available only to a spouse, significant other or personal friend, NOT a business associate or staff colleague, accompanying a full conference registrant. Includes all plenary sessions,

opening reception, awards luncheon, annual banquet and AFCC hospitality suite.

Conference Presenter Registration: Available only to conference presenters. Includes admission to conference plenary and workshop sessions, electronic conference proceedings, opening reception, awards luncheon, annual banquet and AFCC hospitality suite. *A separate registration fee is required for presenters who wish to attend pre-conference institutes.*

Full-Time Student Registration: Includes admission to conference plenary and workshop sessions only and electronic conference proceedings. Meal functions are not included; however, meal tickets may be purchased separately. Registration must include proof of full-time student status. *Separate registration is required for pre-conference institutes.*

Certificate of Attendance Registration: Includes a certificate indicating total hours attended at conference plenary sessions, workshops and institutes. Forms will be available at the AFCC registration desk and will include continuing education information. Fill out and return a verification of attendance form to obtain a certificate.

Additional Awards Luncheon Ticket

The awards luncheon is included in the conference registration fee. Additional tickets are available for \$70. Meal ticket prices reflect the estimated cost to AFCC.

Additional Annual Banquet Ticket

The annual banquet is included in the conference registration fee (with payment of a \$10 supplement). Additional tickets are available for \$95. Meal ticket prices reflect the estimated cost to AFCC.

AFCC reserves the right to cancel or substitute any presenter or session should circumstances arise beyond our control.

Travel and Lodging Information

Hotel Information

JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE
900 W. Olympic Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90015
Phone: (213) 765-8600

The JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE is the focal point of L.A. LIVE, which offers world-class entertainment, sports and unique dining in Los Angeles' downtown district, adjacent to Staples Center, Nokia Theatre, The Grammy Museum, The Conga Room and ESPN Broadcast Studio and Regional Headquarters. The hotel includes a rooftop swimming pool, a 3,000 square-foot fitness center and guests of the JW Marriott can access the Ritz-Carlton Spa; appointments required. Hotel information is available at www.lalivemarriott.com.

Make your reservations today! The JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE is offering a special rate to AFCC conference registrants of \$180 per night for single or double occupancy. Triple occupancy is \$200 per night. *All rooms are subject to availability and early reservations are encouraged to ensure a room at these great rates.* On May 7, 2013, any non-reserved rooms in the AFCC block will be released to the public for general sale and the special AFCC rate will not be guaranteed after that date. Please remember that hotel rooms may be sold out before the room block release date. Make your reservations by calling toll-free (877) 622-3056 and requesting the AFCC special rate, or go to <http://resweb.passkey.com/go/AFCC2013>.

Air Travel Information

The **Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)** is located approximately 17 miles from the JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE and **LA/Ontario International Airport (ONT)** is 42 miles from the hotel. International and major airline carriers provide service to the Los Angeles International Airport. More information on both airports can be found at Los Angeles World Airports, www.lawa.org.

Ground Transportation

Taxi fare is currently a flat rate of \$46.50 from The Los Angeles International Airport to the JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE and takes 30-40 minutes, depending on traffic. Shuttle (shared ride) service is available through Prime Time Shuttle and SuperShuttle at the current rate of \$18 each way. Visit www.primetimeshuttle.com, (310) 536-7922, or www.supershuttle.com, (310) 782-6600 for more information, cost and reservations. These shared vans pick up passengers on the Lower/Arrivals Level in front of each terminal. Please look for signs that read "Shared Ride Vans" at terminal curbside near the exits from baggage claim areas.

Rental Car Information

The following rental car companies are permitted to pickup and dropoff customers at the airline terminals using courtesy shuttles: Advantage, Alamo, Avis, Budget, Dollar, Enterprise, Hertz, Fox, Payless, National and Thrifty. These companies are allowed to meet arriving customers under the purple sign "Rental Car Shuttles" on the Lower/Arrivals Level Islands outside baggage claim. Customers of other rental car companies can arrange for pick-up by contacting the company using free phones attached to the Interactive Visitors Information Centers (VICs) located in baggage claim areas of each terminal.

Parking

Parking rates at the JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE are \$10 for the first 2 hours and \$5 for each half-hour thereafter, up to a maximum of \$40. Overnight parking is \$40.

Climate

In late May/early June, temperatures in Los Angeles range from a high of 78°F to a low of 58°F (26°/14°C). Meeting rooms, restaurants and hotel facilities can be cool, so take a light jacket or sweater.

Conference Registration Form

AFCC 50th Anniversary Conference • May 29-June 1, 2013 • Los Angeles, CA

Please register by April 26, 2013 to ensure that your name appears on the list of conference attendees included in the electronic conference proceedings.

Register online at www.afccnet.org

1 Please type or print clearly. This form may be duplicated.

First Name (Dr./Mr./Ms./Judge) _____ M.I. _____ Last Name _____ Degree _____

First name or Nickname (as you would like it to appear on your name badge) _____

Title/Profession _____ Organization _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Country _____ Postal Code _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Name of Spouse/Guest _____

(If they are registering below at the Spouse/Guest rate)

Is this your first AFCC Conference? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have any special needs?

☐ Luncheon/Banquet Meals ☐ Access ☐ Other Please provide details: _____

Professional Designation (Select one please)

- ☐ Academic
- ☐ Court Administrator
- ☐ Court Commissioner
- ☐ Custody Evaluator
- ☐ Financial Planner
- ☐ Judge
- ☐ Lawyer
- ☐ Mediator
- ☐ Mental Health Professional
- ☐ Parenting Coordinator
- ☐ Parent Educator
- ☐ Researcher
- ☐ Other: _____

2 Registration Rates

Please check the appropriate amount(s) when making your selections and enter your total at the bottom

New Membership Special

Join AFCC for 12 months and register at AFCC member rates! For first time members only.

Pre-conference Institute Registration Rates

Full Day Institute Registration – AFCC Member

Full Day Institute Registration – Non-member

Conference Registration Rates

Conference Registration – AFCC Member

Conference Registration – Non-member

Conference Presenter Rate – AFCC Member

Conference Presenter Rate – Non-member

Full-time Student Rate – AFCC Member

(ID required. No meals included)

Full-time Student Rate – Non-member

(ID required. No meals included)

Conference Registrant Meals

Meal attendance must be confirmed by May 24, 2013 in order to ensure sufficient space and quantities.

Please indicate which meals you will attend; additional meal tickets will not be available onsite.

Wednesday Opening Reception ☐ yes ☐ no

Thursday Awards Luncheon ☐ yes ☐ no

Friday Annual Banquet ☐ yes ☐ no

Other Registration Rates

Conference meal tickets for students, non-registered spouses or guests:

Additional Luncheon Ticket

Additional Banquet Ticket

Spouse/Guest Registration Rate

(Meals and plenary sessions only)

Certificate of Attendance – AFCC Member

Certificate of Attendance – Non-member

TOTAL

	Paid by March 8	Paid by May 3	Paid after May 3
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$160	<input type="checkbox"/> \$170
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$195	<input type="checkbox"/> \$195	<input type="checkbox"/> \$205
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$440	<input type="checkbox"/> \$470	<input type="checkbox"/> \$495
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$550	<input type="checkbox"/> \$550	<input type="checkbox"/> \$600
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$240	<input type="checkbox"/> \$240	<input type="checkbox"/> \$260
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$270	<input type="checkbox"/> \$270	<input type="checkbox"/> \$290
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$70	<input type="checkbox"/> \$70	<input type="checkbox"/> \$80
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$95	<input type="checkbox"/> \$95	<input type="checkbox"/> \$105
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$240	<input type="checkbox"/> \$240	<input type="checkbox"/> \$260
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

3

Institute Selections—Wednesday, May 29, 2013

If you have registered for an institute, please **check only one** of the following boxes:

Pre-conference Institutes 9:00am-4:30pm

- ☐ 1. The Best Interests Parenting Plan Choice...
- ☐ 2. Judicial Officers Institute...
- ☐ 3. Threats to Neutrality...
- ☐ 4. Risk Assessment for Family Law Professionals...
- ☐ 5. Increasing Creativity in Mediation...
- ☐ 6. Introduction to International Child Custody...
- ☐ 7. Listening to Children in Divorce Processes...
- ☐ 8. Parenting Coordination, Co-parenting and Child Adjustment...

4

Conference Workshop Selections

Seating is not guaranteed and will be first-come first-served. Your selections will ensure that sessions with more attendees are scheduled in larger meeting rooms.

(Please write in one workshop number per time slot)

Thursday, May 30	10:30am-12:00pm	1-14 _____
Thursday, May 30	1:30pm-3:00pm	15-28 _____
Thursday, May 30	3:30pm-5:00pm	29-43 _____
Friday, May 31	1:30pm-3:00pm	44-57 _____
Friday, May 31	3:30pm-5:00pm	58-71 _____
Saturday, June 1	9:15am-10:45am	72-81 _____
Saturday, June 1	11:00am-12:30pm	82-91 _____

5

Method of Payment

Registrations must be paid in full prior to attendance.

☐ Payment of \$ _____ is enclosed (US currency only please)

☐ Please charge \$ _____ to my ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard
☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Credit card transactions will be processed in US dollars; exchange rate on day of transaction will apply.

Card Number _____

Exp. Date ____/____/____ Security Code _____

Card Holder's Signature _____

Purchase Order # _____

You may register online at www.afccnet.org or return the completed form and payment to:

AFCC

6525 Grand Teton Plaza

Madison, WI 53719

Phone: (608) 664-3750

Fax: (608) 664-3751

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 May 6, 2013 will be issued a full refund minus a \$75 service fee. Written notice received by fax or postmarked by May 17, 2013 will have the \$75 service fee deducted and the balance will be issued as a credit for future AFCC conferences, publications or membership dues. No refunds or credits will be issued for cancellations received after May 17, 2013.



6525 Grand Teton Plaza
Madison, WI 53719

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts
AFCC 50th Anniversary Conference

LOS ANGELES

**Riding the Wave of the Future:
Global Voices, Expanding Choices**

**JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE
May 29-June 1, 2013**

Conference Sessions Include:

**The Family Court of the Future
Taking the Testimony of Children
Showdown at the PC Corral
Providing Expert Testimony
A Recommitment to Mediation
Sexual Abuse Allegations
in Child Custody Evaluations
LGBT Domestic Violence
Never Just a One Night Stand:
Never Married Parents
Children Resisting Contact
with a Parent Post Separation
Online Dispute Resolution
Managing Potential Bias,
Maximizing Credibility**

Platinum Sponsors:

**Kolodny & Anteau
Law Offices of
Judith R. Forman, P.C.
OurFamilyWizard.com**



**Register online at
www.afccnet.org**