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Child Custody Evaluator/Expert Consultant
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EDUCATION:

- Baylor University – B.A. Religion – May 1992
- Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary – M.A. Religious Education – May 1995
- Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary – M.A. Marriage and Family Counseling – May 1995
- Licensed Professional Counselor, State of Texas, License #14323 – October 1997 to present
- Certified Mediator – Family, Divorce, and Child Protective Services – 2000 to 2017

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- 11/03 – Present **Private Child Custody Evaluator/Expert Consultant**
- provide private child custody evaluations throughout the state of Texas – having completed over 580 evaluations to date in the entirety of her career
 - provide private adoption evaluations throughout the state of Texas
 - provide strategic legal support to attorneys and their clients in child-related family law matters
 - serve as an expert witness in family law matters related to issues such as: children under three, relocation, reunification, resist/refuse dynamics, appropriate therapeutic boundaries in high conflict cases, the appropriate roles of Mental Health Professionals in family law matters, etc.
 - provide work product reviews of other mental health professionals' work, including child custody evaluations
- 05/00 – 05/06 **Family Court Counselor**
DALLAS COUNTY FAMILY COURT SERVICES – Dallas, Texas
- completed social studies/child custody evaluations and adoption evaluations
 - conducted mediations for families facing divorce and custody disputes
 - provided services as ordered by the courts, i.e., testimony, counseling, etc.
- 12/99 – 05/00 **Director of High School Activities**
EDUCATION AMERICA, INC. – DALLAS CAMPUS
- developed relationships with 50 high schools' counselors and teachers
 - coordinated and conducted public service presentations for the senior classes of those high schools
- 5/99 – 12/99 **Clinical Coordinator of the Adolescent Intensive Outpatient Programming**
GREEN OAKS PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL AND PLANO CLINIC, Dallas and Plano, TX
- expanded successful IOP programming to include two locations
 - initiated marketing to expand both programs to: allied professionals, residential treatment facilities, schools, churches, probation departments, judges, and attorneys
- 11/98 – 8/99 **Clinical Coordinator of the Adolescent Chemical Dependency Services and IOP**
GREEN OAKS PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL, Dallas, TX
- developed CD services on the adolescent inpatient and day hospital unit
 - coordinated and developed the program and materials to begin IOP

- successfully managed an IOP program with a census up to 10 while balancing patient care for 3 clients and 4 CD group therapy opportunities in the hospital
- individually managed all aspects of IOP programming without assistance, including: group therapy, individual therapy, multi-family groups, family therapy, utilization review, paperwork, etc.

1/98 – 11/98

Clinical Coordinator of the Minirth Christian Program

GREEN OAKS PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL, Dallas, TX

- developed a Christian program and material in coordination with Dr. Frank Minirth and implemented the program into the hospital with all populations
- hired and supervised a staff of 2 therapists plus 4 practicum interns with a program census of up to 25
- coordinated weekly programming to include: group coverage, patient needs, treatment team rounds, discharge planning, and utilization review
- managed a caseload of 5-6 patients in correlation with supervision responsibilities

8/97 – 12/97

Counselor for Pre-natal and Post-partum Women and Children's Services

NEXUS RECOVERY CENTER, Dallas, TX

- managed a caseload of 3-5 clients and families and all services pertaining to their needs and discharge planning
- primary facilitator of Parenting Education and Instruction
- completed weekly treatment plans, treatment plan reviews, biopsychosocial assessments, and discharge summaries for all clients
- provided individual, group and family therapy to all clients within the program to increase their level of functioning and ability to return to society

7/95 – 9/97

Lead Counselor for Dual Diagnosis Team

SUNDOWN RANCH, INC., Canton, TX

- managed a caseload of 10 clients, including families, and utilization review
- lead weekly treatment team meetings
- facilitated 10 hours of group therapy per week
- provided 10-15 hours of family therapy per week
- facilitated 2-4 hours of experiential group therapy per week
- provided educational opportunities for families regarding: chemical dependency, dual disorders, and healthy family coping skills
- facilitated 8 hours of multi-family group therapy per month
- facilitate 24 hours of intensive family programming 4 times per year
- facilitated extensive crisis intervention on an individual and community level as necessary
- completed treatment plans, treatment plan reviews, discharge summaries, and necessary paperwork for all clients in a timely manner

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

- American Bar Association, Associate Member – 2020 to present
- American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children – 2020 to present
- Association of Family and Conciliation Courts – 2000 to present
- Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Texas Chapter – 2000 to present
- Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Texas Chapter Board Member – 2022 to present
- Family Law Foundation, Lifetime Sustaining Member (2016 to present) – 2008 to present
- Family Law Foundation, Mental Health Liaison – 2013 to present
- Family Law Section – 2013 to present

SEMINAR PUBLICATIONS AND PARTICIPATION:

- Co-speaker/Author – *Texas Academy of Family Law Specialists 2007 Trial Institute*, January 2007, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- Co-speaker/Co-Author – *Making the Most of Social Studies and Psychological Evaluations*, 8th Annual Family Law on the Front Lines, June 2008, Galveston, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-Author – *The Sixth Sense: I Hear Voices, But Is the Child Being Heard? (Which Perspective Really Matters to the Court?)*, 2009 Parent-Child Relationships Conference, January 2009, Austin, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-Author – *The Value of Mental Health Evaluations – Different Strokes for Different Folks*, 35th Annual Advanced Family Law Course, August 2009, Dallas, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-Author – *The 2 Steps to the 12 Steps: How to Determine if a Parent is a Druggie, a Drunk or Just Dry*, 2010 Parent-Child Relationships Conference, January 2010, Austin, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-Author – *Parent Coordinators and Parent Facilitators Under the New Statutes*, Collin County Bench Bar Conference, April 2010, Rockwall, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-Author – *The New Parent Coordination/Facilitation Statute: What's in, What's Out*, Marriage Dissolution Institute, May 2010, San Antonio, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-Author – *Who Qualifies as a Parent Coordinator? A Parent Facilitator? What's the Difference, and How Do You Know What You Really Need?*, 11th Annual Family Law CLE “On the Front Lines,” June 2011, Austin, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-Author – *Child Custody Evaluations*, Marriage Dissolution Institute, April 2012, Dallas, Texas
- Speaker/Author – *We're Not The Help: How to Treat Your Mental Health Professionals*, Family Law 101 for the 38th Annual Advanced Family Law Course, August 2012, Houston, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-Author – *Welcome to the Future: Child Custody Evaluations*, 38th Annual Advanced Family Law Course, August 2012, Houston, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-Author – *Custody Evaluations and the Proposed New Statute*, 36th Annual Marriage Dissolution Institute, April 2013, Galveston, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-presenter – *Houston Family Law Trial Institute*, May 2013, Houston, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-Author – *The Top 10 Most Difficult Issues Facing Judges in Their Custody Decisions*, Associate Judges' Workshop, 39th Annual Advanced Family Law Course, August 2013, San Antonio, Texas
- Co-speaker – *Counselors in the Courtroom: How to Survive and Thrive in a Legal Minefield*, Texas Counseling Association Annual Professional Growth Conference, November 2013, San Antonio, Texas
- Co-speaker – *Care and Feeding of Your Child Custody Evaluator: Communications and Records' Issues Every Attorney Should Consider*, Frisco Bar Association Meeting, January 2014, Frisco, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-Author – *You Don't Own Me – Alienation and Reunification*, 2014 – New Innovations – Breaking Boundaries in Custody Litigation, June 2014, Dallas, Texas
- Co-speaker – *Testimony and Examination Issues with Mental Health Professionals: A Mock Trial*, North Texas Families in Transition Professional Workgroup Bi-yearly Conference, October 2014, Fort Worth, Texas
- Speaker – *Effective Report Writing*, AFCC's 11th Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations. November 2014, San Antonio, Texas
- Co-speaker – *Standardizing Access for Infants and Toddlers – Ethics, Research, and Legislation*, Texas AFCC 13th Annual Conference, January 2015, Fort Worth, Texas
- Co-speaker – *Children's Religious Development*, North Texas Families in Transition Professional Workgroup Bi-yearly Conference, February 2015, Plano, Texas
- Co-speaker – *The Elephant in the (Court) Room: When Faith Meets Forensics*, North Texas Families in Transition Professional Workgroup Bi-yearly Conference, February 2015, Plano, Texas
- Co-speaker – *Testimony and Examination Issues with Mental Health Professionals: A Mock Trial*, AFCC's 52nd Annual Conference, May 2015, New Orleans, Louisiana

- Co-speaker – *HB 1449: Child Custody Evaluations and You*, Frisco Bar Association Monthly Meeting, August 2015, Frisco, Texas
- Co-speaker – *HB 1449, Child Custody Evaluations and You*, Denton County Bar Association Meeting, September 2015, Denton, Texas
- Co-speaker – *HB 1449: Child Custody Evaluations and You*, Dallas County Judges’ Meeting, October 2015, Dallas, Texas
- Co-speaker – *HB 1449: Child Custody Evaluations and You*, Austin Family Law Section Monthly Meeting, February 2016, Austin, Texas
- Co-course director/Co-speaker, *Child Custody Evaluations: Opportunities and Challenges for Legal and Mental Health Professionals*, February 2016, Dallas, Texas
- Co-speaker – *The Spectrum of Reunification: How to Know What Your Client Needs*, Family Law Section Monthly Meeting of the Dallas Bar Association, March 2016, Dallas, Texas
- Co-speaker, *The New Custody Evaluations*, 39th Annual Marriage Dissolution Institute, April 2016, Galveston, Texas
- Co-speaker – *HB 1449: Child Custody Evaluations and You*, May 2016, Lufkin, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-Author – *Direct and Cross of a Custody Evaluation Expert – Live Demo* 42nd Annual Advanced Family Law Course, August 2016, San Antonio, Texas
- Co-speaker – *New Rules for Social Studies and Social Study Providers & Mock Trial Presentation of Controverting Expert on a Custodial Evaluation*, 2016 Mexico CLE – Frisco Bar Association, September 2016, Riviera Maya, Mexico
- Co-speaker/Co-author – *Reunification Therapy and Court Orders: Best Practices to Be on the Same Page*, AFCC’s 12th Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations, November 2016, Atlanta, Georgia
- Co-speaker – *Counselors in the Courtroom: How to Survive and Thrive in a Legal Minefield*, Heart of Texas Counseling Association, November 2016, Waco, Texas
- Co-speaker – *There Oughta Be a Law: How to Draft and Pass Effective US Family Law Legislation*, AFCC’s 54th Annual Conference, June 2017, Boston, Massachusetts
- Co-speaker – *Child Custody Evaluations: From Nuts and Bolts to Advanced Issues*; July 2017, McKinney, Texas
- Co-speaker – *Keeping Counselors Out of the Courtroom: An Ounce of Prevention Makes All the Difference*; STARRY Organization, October 2017, Dallas, Texas
- Co-speaker – *Counselors in the Courtroom: How to Survive and Thrive in a Legal Minefield*, January 2018, Lufkin, Texas
- Speaker – *Child Custody Evaluations and You*, University of Texas at Dallas Forensic Psychology Lecture, April 2018, Dallas, Texas
- Co-speaker – *Counselors in the Courtroom: How to Survive and Thrive in a Legal Minefield*, Texas University and College Counseling Center Directors Association, April 2018, Waco, Texas
- Speaker – *Preparing for a Child Custody Evaluation: Love ‘em or Hate ‘em – Know What to do Before, During, and After*, Collin County Family Law Section, May 2018, Plano, Texas
- Speaker - *Help! I Got a Subpoena! When Counseling and Legal Worlds Collide*, B.H. Carroll Theological Institute, September 2018, Irving, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-author – *Preparing Your Client for Trial: Managing Emotions and Expectations*, Advanced Trial Skills for Family Lawyers, December 2018, New Orleans, Louisiana
- Co-speaker/Co-author – *Who Are These People, and Why Are They In My Custody Case? Handling Your Frist Divorce*, October 2019, Austin, Texas
- Co-speaker/Co-author – *Child Custody Evaluations*, Advanced Drafting, December 2019, Dallas, Texas
- Speaker – *The Levitating Woman: Changes in Geographic Restriction Cases and Rules*, Family Law Section of the Dallas Bar Association Bench Bar Conference 2020, February 2020, Dallas, Texas
- Co-course director/Co-speaker – *Advanced Child Custody Evaluation Training Seminar*, February 2020, Plano, Texas
- Co-speaker – *35th Annual TAFLS Trial Institute*, February 2020, Annapolis, Maryland

- Co-speaker – *Advanced Training for Reunification Therapists*, August – October 2020, Virtual Training
- Co-Speaker – *Advanced Training for Reunification Therapists*, October – November 2020, Virtual Training
- Co-speaker – *The Silver Spoon vs. the Spork: Child Custody Evaluations on Any Budget*, AFCC’s 14th Symposium on Child Custody, November 2020, Virtual Conference
- Co-Speaker – *Advanced Training for Reunification Therapists*, April – May 2021, Virtual Training
- Co-speaker – *The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse: Tips for Professionals in Rural and Urban Areas*, AFCC 58th Annual Conference, June 2021, Virtual Conference
- Co-author – *Are You Crazy, or Is It Me? Negotiating Parenting Plans with Disordered Clients*, 47th Annual Advanced Family Law Course, August 2021, San Antonio, Texas
- Co-Speaker – *Advanced Training for Reunification Therapists*, August – October 2021, Virtual Training
- Co-Speaker – *Who Are These People, and Why Are They In My Custody Case?*, Hopkins County Bar Association, October 2021, Virtual Training
- Speaker – *Preparing Your Client For Their CCE*, Collin County Bar Association Family Law Section, October 2021, Virtual Training
- Co-Speaker – *Issues and Evaluations in Family Court: Getting Beneath the Surface*, March 2022, Coppell, Texas
- Co-Speaker – *Training Child Custody Evaluators: A Dying Breed!*, AFCC 59th Annual Conference, May 2022, Chicago, Illinois
- Co-Speaker/Co-Author – *Brief Focus Evaluations*, Innovations: Breaking Boundaries in Custody Litigation, June 2022, Chicago, Illinois
- Co-Speaker – *Positive Parenting When Parents Split*, AAML Webinar, July 2022, Virtual Training
- Co-Speaker/Co-Author – *How to Turn Your 52 Card Pickup into a Royal Flush: Child Custody Evaluations & Expert Witnesses*, 48th Annual Advanced Family Law Course, August 2022, San Antonio, Texas
- Co-Speaker – *Advanced Training for Reunification Therapists*, August – September 2022, Virtual Training
- Co-Speaker – *Terrified of Testifying? Don’t Be!*, Texas AFCC Webinar, September 2022, Virtual Training
- Co-Speaker – *The ABC’s and 123’s of a Child Custody Evaluation*, AFCC’s 15th Symposium on Child Custody, November 2022, Las Vegas, Nevada
- Co-Speaker – *Licensure Boards to Courtrooms: Everything You Need to Know*, Texas AFCC Annual Conference, December 2022, Austin, Texas

RECENTLY ATTENDED RELEVANT SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS:

- “48th Annual Advanced Family Law Seminar.” State Bar of Texas, August 7-11, 2022 (8.25 hours).
- “59th Annual AFCC Conference: The Use, Misuse, and Abuse of Technology in Family Law.” Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, May 11-14, 2022 (18 hours).
- “Innovations: Breaking Boundaries in Custody Litigation.” State Bar of Texas and the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, June 2-3, 2022 (9.5 hours).
- “Competence, Credibility, and Reliability of Children’s Forensic Reports.” Presented by Kamala London, PhD. Forensic Group of Dallas Meeting, March 9, 2022 (1.5 hours).
- “Introduction to Developmentally Appropriate Interviewing using the Revised NICHD Protocol.” Concept Continuing & Professional Studies – Palo Alto University January 25, 2022, through February 22, 2022 (5 hours).
- “Exposing the Deep Dark Roots of Parental Alienation.” Children 4 Tomorrow 4th Annual Symposium on Parental Alienation, October 29, 2021 (5 hours.)

- “DE&I Webinar: Culture Specific Family Conflict: Case Applications.” Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, July 7, 2021 (1 hour).
- “Webinar: Deconstructing a Child Custody Evaluation for the Court.” Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, May 12, 2021 (1 hour).
- “Webinar: Risk Management and Culture: Why You Really Should Care About DE&I.” Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, May 5, 2021 (1 hour).
- “SOAR to Health and Wellness.” Train Texas, December 11, 2020 (1 hour).
- “14th Symposium on Child Custody.” Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, November 9-13, 2020 (17.5 hours).
- “2020 Annual Virtual State Conference.” Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Texas Chapter, November 5-6, 2020 (9 hours).
- “Enhancing Forensic Decision Making.” Presented by Itiel Dror, PhD. ANSI National Accreditation Board Webinar, October 20, 2020 (5 hours).
- “Technology Use and Children: A Focus on the Family System.” Presented by Justin Parent, PhD. Society of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology Webinar, October 7, 2020 (1 hour).
- “In re: C.J.C. The Fit Parent Presumption in Non Parent Custody Disputes.” Presented by Ryan Bauerle, JD; Holly Draper, JD; Michell May O’Neil, JD; Natalia Thompson, JD; and Mary Evelyn McNamara, JD. State Bar of Texas Webinar, September 22, 2020 (1 hour).
- “Responding to Severe Parent-Child Rejection Cases Without a Parentectomy.” Presented by Shely Polak, PhD, and Linda Popielarczyk, MSW, RSW. Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Webinar, July 7, 2020 (1.5 hours).
- “The Blind Men and the Elephant: What We ‘See’ in Professional Literature.” Presented by Aaron Robb, PhD. Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Webinar, June 30, 2020 (1.5 hours).
- “Conducting and Defending a Pandemic-Era Forensic Interview.” Presented by Victor Vieth and Rita Farwell. Dallas Children’s Advocacy Center, June 4, 2020 (1.5 hours).
- “Acting Before It’s Too Late: Prudent Early Intervention in Resist-Refuse Cases.” Presented by Lyn Greenberg, PhD, and the Honorable Robert Schnider (Retired). Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Webinar, May 29, 2020 (1.5 hours).
- “When Mental Health Experts Cite Research: Uses, Abuses, and Evidentiary Concerns.” Presented by Victoria Harvey, PhD; Sarah Baker, MD; Richard Warshak, PhD; and John Zervopolous, PhD. Forensic Group of Dallas, March 11, 2020 (1.5 hours).
- “All Out of Love? Kids, Divorce, and the Courtroom.” Presented by Jennifer Leister, LPC-S; Carie Silvestri, JD; the Honorable Andrea Thompson; the Honorable Jennifer Edgeworth; the Honorable Lindsey Wynne; and George Shake, JD. North Texas Families in Transition Professional Workgroup, February 14, 2020 (6 hours).
- “Advanced Drafting.” The State Bar of Texas, December 12-13, 2019 (10 hours).
- “Handling Your First (or Next) Divorce.” The State Bar of Texas, October 2, 2019 (5 hours).
- “2019 AFCC-AAML Conference on Advanced Issues in Child Custody: Evaluation, Litigation, and Settlement.” Association of Family and Conciliation Courts and American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, September 19-21, 2019 (15.5 hours).
- “Legal and Licensing Issues: What Every Therapist Should Know.” Presented by Michael Flynn, PhD, JD; Michael Puhl, JD; Aaron Robb, PhD; Jane Phillips PhD, LCSW. The North Texas Families in Transition Professional Workgroup, February 22, 2019 (3 hours).
- “Advanced Trial Skills for Family Lawyers.” State Bar of Texas, December 13-14, 2019 (9 hours).
- “13th Symposium on Child Custody.” Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, November 8-10, 2018 (17.5 hours).
- “The Changing Face of Our Social Landscape.” Presented by Victoria Harvey, PhD; Marissa Miller, JD; Michael Flynn, PhD, JD; Aaron Robb, PhD; and Nishendu Vasavada, MD. North Texas Families in Transition Professional Workgroup, October 26, 2018 (5.5 hours).
- “2018 North Texas Facing Family Violence Conference.” Collin County Council on Family Violence, October 17-19, 2018 (9 hours).
- “2018 Annual Conference.” Texas Chapter Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, June 15, 2018 (7.0 hours).

- “PTSD and Trauma: Definitions, Diagnoses, and Legal Challenges.” Presented by Alina M. Suris, PhD; Professor Ellen Pryor; and Professor Tim Cole. Forensic Group of Dallas, March 7, 2018 (1.5 hours).
- “Social Media in Litigation: Practical Issues and Ethical Concerns.” Presented by John G. Browning, JD; Victoria Harvey, PhD; and John A. Zervopolous, PhD, JD. Forensic Group of Dallas, January 10, 2018 (1.5 hours).
- “Challenging Clients and Challenging Topics: Advanced Issues with Clients in Family Litigation.” Presented by Sol Rappaport, PhD; Benjamin Garber, PhD; Kevin Dorsey; and Jennifer Leister, LPC-S. North Texas Families in Transition Professional Workshop, October 12-13, 2017 (8.0 hours).
- “Interviewing Children: How to Talk and How to Listen.” Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Webinar, September 29, 2017 (1 hour).
- “AFCC 54th Annual Conference, Turning the Kaleidoscope of Family Conflict into a Prism of Harmony.” Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, May 31-June 3, 2017 (8.50 hours).
- “Operation Cooperation: Moving through Litigation to Co-Parenting.” Texas Chapter of Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, April 7, 2017 (5 hours).
- “12th Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations: Abuse, Alienation, and Gatekeeping - Critical Issues for Family Court Professionals.” Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, November 3-5, 2016 (16.5 hours).
- “It’s Toddler Time.” Texas Chapter Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, January 23, 2015 (3 hours).
- “11th Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations: Examining Unintended Consequences.” Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, November 6-8, 2014 (17 hours).
- “HIPAA and the Courts – Responding to Subpoenas and How to Stay Out of Trouble.” Presented by Melinda H. Eitzen, JD, (2 hours).
- “2014 Innovations – Breaking Boundaries in Custody Litigation.” The University of Texas School of Law, June 12-13, 2014 (9.5 hours).