

# ROBERT A. SIMON, Ph.D

*Forensic Psychology Consulting*

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Lic. PSY10800

## Curriculum Vitae

### LICENSES HELD:

Licensed Psychologist - State of California, #PSY10800  
Marriage and Family Therapist - State of California, #MW023203

### OFFICE LOCATION:

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### EDUCATION & DEGREES

9/81 - 1/86

California School of Professional Psychology  
San Diego, California  
Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology - 1986

*Dissertation:* An Exploration of the Construct of Alexithymia from  
Behavioral, Cognitive and Psychoanalytic  
Perspectives

M.A. in Clinical Psychology - 1983

9/78 - 6/80

University of Minnesota  
Institute of Child Development  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
M.A. in Child Psychology - 1980

*Thesis:* The Development of Causal Reasoning in the Narrative

9/74 - 9/78

University of California, San Diego  
San Diego, California  
B.A. in Psychology - 1978 (Graduated Summa Cum Laude)

9/71 - 6/74  
Ulysses S. Grant High School  
Van Nuys, California

## **PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY WORK EXPERIENCE**

- 1/87 -           **Licensed Psychologist**  
Independent Private Practice of Forensic and Clinical  
Psychology, Child Custody Evaluation, Forensic Case  
Consultation, Expert Witness and Trial Consultation,  
Mediation, Collaborative Practice, Psychotherapy
- 1/08 -           **Child Custody Mediator**  
National Conflict Resolution Center  
San Diego, CA
- 1/99– 5/02       **Director, Dispute Resolution Services**  
Real Solutions for Children (Volunteer Position)
- 3/86 - 3/87       **Post Doctoral Fellow**  
Mesa Vista Hospital  
Child/Adolescent Treatment program.  
(Duties included group psychotherapy, case  
Consultation, substance abuse recovery counseling  
and psychological testing on a locked inpatient acute  
care and adolescent unit.)
- 6/85 - 3/86       **Psychology Fellow**  
Southwood Psychiatric Residential Treatment Program  
(Duties included group and family psychotherapy,  
substance abuse recovery, program planning, milieu  
consultation.)
- 9/84 - 6/85       **Predoctoral Psychology Intern,**  
Veterans Administration Hospital Medical Center  
La Jolla, California  
(Duties included outpatient emergency triage, inpatient  
consultation and assessment, co-therapist in outpatient  
and inpatient substance abuse recovery groups,  
diagnostic testing. Major focus in psychological aspects  
of medical illness, couples and family psychotherapy.)
- 6/83 - 7/86       **Registered Psychological Assistant**  
Psychotherapy in a private practice setting under the

clinical supervision of a licensed psychologist.

6/83 - 6/84 **Psychology Intern**  
Jewish Family Service of San Diego  
(Duties included individual, couples and family  
psychotherapy, psychological testing.)

8/82 - 7/83 **Psychology Intern**  
California Psychological Services Center, San Diego.  
(Duties included individual, couples and family  
psychotherapy.)

## **EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS**

***Forensic Psychology Consulting In Family Law Matters, Mediation, Collaborative Practice, Psychological Evaluation, Psychotherapy:*** Twenty-four years licensed practice as a Psychologist. Particular interests are in the areas of Forensic Psychology as it applies to family law matters, Custody Dispute Resolution (Custody Evaluation, Parent Coordination, Collaborative Practice, Mediation, and Consultation), Forensic Consultation/Expert Witness, Trial Consultation, Collaborative Practice, Psychotherapy in divorce-related matters.

***Public/Community Service:*** *California Psychological Association* – Member, Ethics Committee, *Journal of Child Custody* - Editorial Board, Founding Member – San Diego Family Law Council for Children, Board of Directors – Kid’s Turn San Diego, Past Member Board of Directors – Collaborative Family Law Group of San Diego, Member (2005-2008), Program Committee – . Association of Family and Conciliation Courts’ 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Annual International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations, Program Committee – Association of Family and Conciliation Courts 44<sup>th</sup>, 45<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Member –Former Director of Dispute Resolutions Services – Real Solutions Center for Children (Volunteer – Non-compensated), Former Volunteer Clinical Supervisor - San Diego Lesbian and Gay Men’s Community Center.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Member, American Psychological Association  
Member, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts  
Member, American Psi-Law Society  
Member, California Psychological Association  
Member, Ethics Committee of the California Psychological Association  
Editorial Board, *Journal of Child Custody*  
Member, Collaborative Family Law Group of San Diego  
Member, Board of Directors, Kid’s Turn San Diego  
Member, Awards Committee, Association of Family & Conciliation Courts  
Member, International Association of Collaborative Professionals

Associate Member, San Diego County Bar Association  
Associate Member, Los Angeles County Bar Association

## **RECENT PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

June 2012 (Upcoming) Do Family Law Professionals Have Privacy Rights?  
Presentation to 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of Family and  
Conciliation Courts. Chicago, IL.

February 2012. Fundamental Differences Between Forensic and Clinical  
Psychology. Presentation to Los Angeles Family Law Attorney Study Group.  
Los Angeles, CA

February 2012. Deconstructing Child Custody Evaluations. Presentation to  
Study Group of Certified Family Law Specialists. Encino, CA.

November, 2011. Guiding the Lives of Children of Divorce and  
Separation: Listening to the Voice of the Child in Family Court:  
Are AB1050 & *Elkins* Good for Children?. 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Seminar of the San Diego  
Family Law Council for Children. San Diego, CA.

October, 2011 Assessing Risk of Violence On Family Law Professionals:  
Knowing When We Need Be Afraid. The Association of Family & Conciliation  
Courts Regional Training Conference. Indianapolis, Indiana.

October, 2011 Ethical Challenges for Family Lawyers in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Pre-  
Conference Institute at The Association of Family & Conciliation Courts Regional  
Training Conference. Indianapolis, Indiana.

June, 2011. Working With Experts. Presentation to the Family Law Section of  
the San Diego County Bar Association.

May, 2011. Forensic Work Product Review and Family Law Litigation  
Consultation: Emerging Trends and Best Practices. 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of  
the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Orlando, FL.

April 2011 A Primer on Behavioral Finance for the Collaborative Professional.  
6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Collaborative Practice – California. San Diego, CA.

April 2011 Forensic Psychology in Family Law Litigation: Emerging and  
Enduring Concepts. American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers – Southern  
California Chapter. Newport Beach, CA.

March, 2011. It's About The Evidence: Forensic Psychology in the Family Law  
Courtroom. Presentation to the Foothills Bar Association. El Cajon, CA.

February, 2011. A Primer on Behavioral Finance – with Pragmatics. Association of Family and Conciliation Courts – California Chapter. San Francisco, CA.

November, 2010. The Role of Mental Health Professionals and Levels of Input in Family Law Litigation. California Western School of Law. San Diego, CA.

October, 2010. Mental Health-Attorney Consultation in Child Custody Cases: From Expert Witness Support to Testimony. Pre-conference symposium at the Association of Family and Conciliation Court's 9<sup>th</sup> Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations. Cambridge, Massachusetts.

October 2010. Behavioral Finance: A Primer with Pragmatics. 10th Annual Texas AFCC Statewide Conference. Houston, Texas.

October, 2010. Strategies for Effective Expert Testimony in Court. 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas AFCC Statewide Conference. Houston, Texas.

August, 2010. Brief/Focused Evaluations: A Primer. Symposium presented to the family law section, North County Bar Association.

August, 2010. Trial Consultation in High Conflict Custody Cases. Presentation at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association. San Diego, CA.

June, 2010. Doing Less with More – Brief/Focused Custody Evaluations. Presentation with The Honorable Jeannie Lowe to the Family Law Section of the San Diego County Bar Association

April, 2010. The Efficacy of Parent Education Programs and Reunification Therapy in Litigated Child Custody Dispute. Presentation to the Certified Family Law Specialists Spring Seminar. San Diego, CA.

March, 2010. An Overview of Behavioral Finance: Overcoming Obstacles to Financial Settlement in Dissolution Proceedings. Presentation to the Financial Planning Association of California. San Jose, California.

February, 2010. Predictors of Positive Adjustment and Adaptation in Children of Divorce. University of San Diego School of Law.

February 2010. Between Psychologist and Attorney: Issues in Objective Review of Child Custody Evaluations. Annual Conference of the California Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Santa Monica, California.

October 2009. Representing Problem People. Presentation to the Certified Family Law Specialists Fall Seminar, San Diego, CA

August, 2009. Overview of Issues in Child Custody – The Psychologist’s Perspective. California Western School of Law.

May 2009. Collaboration in Litigation – Perspectives on Interdisciplinary Consulting in Litigated Cases. Presentation to the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. New Orleans, LA. (Presented with Jonathan W. Gould, Ph.D., ABPP and Dianna Gould-Saltman, Esq, C-FLS)

March, 2009. 3-day Training – Interdisciplinary Team Model of Collaborative Divorce. Phoenix, Arizona.

February 2009. The Good, The Bad and The Ugly: Procedure And Ethics In Objective Child Custody Evaluation Review Work. Presented To The Family Law Staff of Selzer, Caplan, McMahon & Vitek, San Diego, California.

October 2008. A Demonstration of Team Process in a Full Team Collaborative Divorce Case. 7<sup>th</sup> Networking and Educational Forum. International Association of Collaborative Professionals. New Orleans, Louisiana.

September, 2008. Conducting Reviews and Being Reviewed. 8<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations, Albuquerque New Mexico.

May, 2008. Effective Courtroom Technique for the Expert Witness. Full Day Pre-Conference Institute, 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (Co-Sponsored by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy). Vancouver, Canada

April, 2008 What Neuropsychology Tells Us About How People Change And About Collaborative Coaching. 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual European Collaborative Conference, Cork, Ireland.

May, 2007. Expert Testimony – Strategies for Witnesses. 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Washington, DC. Co-presented with Hon. Arlene Rotman (ret), Philip Stahl, Ph.D.,

October, 2006 Expert Testimony and Cross-Examination. A full day pre-conference institute. Association of Family and Conciliation Courts’ 7<sup>th</sup> Annual International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations, Atlanta, GA. Co-presented with Philip Stahl, Ph.D., The Hon. W. Dennis Duggan, R. John Harper LL.B.

June, 2006. “Growing Up In Dual Households” – How Do I Know If My Kid Needs Counseling. Guiding The Lives of Children of Separation and Divorce with Isolina Ricci, Ph.D., Presented by the San Diego Family Law Council for Children, San Diego, California.

May, 2006. "Effective Communication Styles for Reducing Conflict During Collaborative Divorce and Couples Communication." Retreat of the Collaborative Family Law Group of San Diego. San Diego, California.

January, 2006. Emotional Recovery from Divorce. Presentation to the Second Saturday program, Women's Institute for Financial Education, Cardiff-By-The-Sea, California.

July, 2005. Panel Discussant, "Children of Divorce: Long Term Implications: Theory and Practice". Guiding the Lives of Children of Separation and Divorce with Constance Ahrons, Ph.D., presented by the San Diego Family Law Council for Children.

May, 2005. "The Use and Misuse of Psychological Testing in Forensic Custody Evaluations". Invited presentation, Family Law Section, San Diego County Bar Association.

July, 2004. "Modified Custody Evaluations: Indications, Contraindications and Frontiers." Invited In-service Presentation to Family Court Services, Superior Court, County of San Diego.

September, 2003. "Focused Psychological Custody Evaluations." Seminar Provided to the Family Law Section, San Diego Bar Association. (Co-presenters: Hon. James R. Milliken – Presiding Judge; Penny Angel Levy, MSW; Timothy Smith, Esq.; Janet Bowermaster, Esq.)

November 2002. "Making Custody Evaluations More Efficient and Cost-Effective." Fifth International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations presented by the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. (Co-presenters: Hon. H. Ronald Domnitz – Superior Court of California; Nancy Stassinopolous CFLS.)

November 2002. "California Custody Evaluators Supplemental Session." Fifth International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations presented by the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. (This session offered as part of the mandated 40-hour training for California Child Custody Evaluations).

June, 2002. "Building Resilience in Alienated Children." 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Waikoloa, Hawaii.

February 2001. "Understanding Psychological Tests in Child Custody Evaluations." Brown Bag presentation – Family Law Section, San Diego County Bar Association.

June, 2000. "The Mini/Modified Psychological Evaluation." The Eighteenth Annual Summer Seminar – Selected Issues in Family Law Practice and

Procedure – The Certified Family Law Specialists Committee of the San Diego County Bar Association.

## **RECENT PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS**

February 2012. The New Frontier. Annual Conference of the California Chapter, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Santa Monica, CA (20.5 MCEP Hours)

January 2012. 19th Annual Trial Advocacy Institute of the Southern California Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. San Diego CA (12 hours)

December, 2011. 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Seminar of the Certified Family Law Specialists Committee of the San Diego County Bar Association. San Diego, CA (4.0 Hours)

October, 2011 Regional Training Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Indianapolis, Indiana. (12 MCEP Units)

October, 2011 September, 2011 First AAML/AFCC Joint Conference: Advanced Topics. Philadelphia, PA (12 MCEP Units)

May, 2011 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Family Law Symposium – Family Law 2011 – The New Realities. Family Law Section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association. Los Angeles, CA. (6.25 hours)

April, 2011 “Just The Facts” : An Advanced Course in Family Law Evidence: Discover, Obtain, Admit and Exclude it. Association of Certified Family Law Specialists 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Seminar. Indian Wells, CA. (12 Hours)

March, 2011. The Child Custody and Parenting Plan Seminar – Joan B. Kelly, Ph.D. Presented by the California Psychological Association and the North County Bar Association – Family Law Section. Carlsbad, CA (6 MCEP Units)

February, 2011. Annual Conference of the California Chapter, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. San Francisco, CA (16 MCEP Hours)

January 2011. Evidence for Forensic Psychologists. Presented by the American Academy of Forensic Psychology. San Diego, CA (7 MCEP Hours)

January 2011. 18th Annual Trial Advocacy Institute of the Southern California Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. Santa Monica, CA (12 hours)

December, 2010. 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Seminar of the Certified Family Law Specialists Committee of the San Diego County Bar Association.

November, 2010. San Diego Family Law Council for Children's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Seminar. San Diego, CA. (3 MCEP Units)

October, 2010. 9<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations presented by the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Cambridge, MA. (18MCEP Units).

October 2010. Annual Meeting of the Texas Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Houston, TX. (12 MCEP Units).

September, 2010. Annual Child Custody Colloquium of the Los Angeles County Bar Association. Santa Monica, CA. (7 MCEP Units)

February, 2010. Association of Family and Conciliation Courts – California Chapter. Santa Monica, CA. (14 MCEP Units)

November, 2009. Regional Training Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Reno, Nevada. (12 MCEP Units)

September, 2009. Controversies in Parental Alienation. Presented by the Family Law Section of the San Diego County Bar.

June, 2009. Summer Seminar of the Family Law Section, San Diego County Bar Association.

May, 2009. The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. New Orleans, LA. (18 MCEP Units)

April 2009. 4<sup>th</sup> Annual CP-CAL (Collaborative Practice, California) Celebration. Long Beach, CA.

March, 2009. Spring Seminar of the Family Law Section of the San Diego County Bar Association

February 2009. New Ways for Families. An intervention program for high conflict families in the Court system. San Diego, CA 4 MCEP Units.

December, 2008. Winter Seminar of the Family Law Section, San Diego County Bar Association

October, 2008. 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Networking and Educational Forum. International Association of Collaborative Professionals. New Orleans, Louisiana. (16 MCEP Units)

September, 2008. 8<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations. Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Albuquerque, New Mexico. (14 MCEP Units)

June 2008. Parent Coordination Training offered by the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, taught by Joan B. Kelly, Ph.D. Loyola Law Center, Chicago, IL. (12 MCEP Units)

May 2008. 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference - Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. (18 MCEP Units)

February, 2008. Mediation Skills Training. National Center for Conflict Resolution. San Diego, CA (32 MCEP Units)

November 2007. Training the Trainers. 24 hour training in training others to become Collaborative Practitioners. Phoenix, AZ. (24 MCEP Units)

October 2007. 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational and Networking Forum. International Academy of Collaborative Professionals. Toronto, Ontario, Canada. (14 MCEP Units)

October, 2007. California Update on Child Custody Evaluations. San Diego, CA (8 MCEP Units)

October, 2007. Association of Family and Conciliation Courts and National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Regional Training Conference on Family Violence and Alienation. Columbus, Ohio (14 MCEP Units)

May, 2007. 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference - Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Washington, DC. (18 MCEP Units)

March, 2007. First Annual European Conference on Collaborative Practice. Vienna, Austria.

December, 2006. Training In Parent Coordination. Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Baltimore, MD

December, 2006. Ethics and Risk Management for Psychologists. Presented by the American Psychological Association Insurance Trust, San Diego, CA (6 MCEP Units)

October, 2006. 7<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations. Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Atlanta, GA. (14 MCEP Units)

October 2006. 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational and Networking Forum. International Academy of Collaborative Professionals. San Diego, CA. (13 MCEP Units)

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June, 2006. 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Tampa, Florida (17 MCEP Units)

May, 2006. Retreat – Collaborative Family Law Group of San Diego (6 Hours)

September, 2005 – Interdisciplinary Team Training in Collaborative Family Law, Scottsdale, Arizona (24 MCEP Units)

May, 2005. 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Seattle, Washington (16.25 MCEP Units)

November, 2004. Therapists at Risk, Part II: Dual Relationships, Countertransference & the Legal and Ethical Considerations. Home study course offered by Psycho-Legal Associates (6 MCEP Units)

October, 2004. Association of Family and Conciliation Courts' 6<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations, Nashville, TN (17 MCEP Units)

May, 2004. 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, San Antonio, Texas (17 MCEP Units)

March, 2004. Therapists at Risk (Part I) Risks & the Changing Face of Psychotherapy. Home study course offered by Psycho-Legal Associates (6 MCEP Units)

January, 2004. Domestic Violence: Assessment and Treatment. Psycho-Legal Associates. San Diego, CA (7 MCEP Hours)

May, 2003. 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Ottawa, Canada. (16.25 MCEP Units)

November, 2002. Association of Family and Conciliation Courts' 5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations, Tucson, AZ. (13.5 MCEP Units)

June, 2002. 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Kona, Hawaii (18 MCEP Units)

November, 2001. Association of Family and Conciliation Courts' 4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations, Kiawah Island, SC (13.5 MCEP Units)