



# JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS DIVISION  
CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS

## **2017 FAMILY LAW EDUCATION PROGRAMS** *Real Challenges/Real Life: Empowering Families*

### **Family Dispute Resolution Statewide Educational Institute: Workshop Descriptions**

**April 6-7, 2017**

Sheraton Gateway Hotel  
6101 West Century Boulevard  
Los Angeles, California 90045

# Family Dispute Resolution Statewide Educational Institute

## PROGRAM AGENDA

**THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017**

**Welcoming Remarks and Keynote Plenary:** Project WHAT! \* BBS M E JDM

Thursday, April 6, 2017. Start: 1:00 pm End: 2:00 pm

**Description:** Project WHAT! is a unique youth-led initiative that purposefully raises awareness about the impact of parental incarceration on youth with the long-term goal focusing on the improvement of services and policies that affect children of incarcerated parents. Participants will hear directly from youth about their personal experiences dealing with their parents' incarceration.

**This plenary is designed to help you:**

- Describe the challenges faced by millions of children across the nation whose parents are incarcerated.
- Recognize and discuss the factors that impact these children.
- Discuss recommendations for improving services and policies.

### Faculty

*Valarie 'Val' Axtle, Project WHAT! Youth Advocate*

*Jakaela Foster, Project WHAT! Peer Mentor*

*Alisha Murdock, Project WHAT! Program Coordinator*

*Matice Moore, Project WHAT! Program Manager*

## Concurrent Workshops—Series I

**I-A** *Safely Mediating: Screening, Separate Sessions, and Safety Planning in Domestic Violence Child Custody Mediation Cases* ◆ MCLE \*BBS M E DV JDM

Thursday, April 6, 2017. Start: 2:15 pm End: 3:45 pm

**Description:** This session will provide participants with the opportunity to consider the complexity of intimate partner violence cases and how the mediation process can be used to enhance safety and accountability for participants. The course will focus on practical approaches to developing agreements and parenting plans when parties are meeting in separate sessions and provide attendees with the chance to exchange thoughts on some of the challenges and opportunities when working on these cases.

**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Discuss California Rules of Court, rule 5.215.
- Explain when separate sessions may be required or appropriate.

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- Utilize support persons and other ways to structure mediation sessions using promising practice approaches.

**Faculty**

*Carol Park, Director, Family Court Services, Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino*  
*Julia Weber, Supervising Attorney, Judicial Council of California Center for Families, Children & the Courts*

**I-B *Perinatal Mental Illness, Attachment, and Affect Communication*** ◆ MCLE \* BBS M E JDM © PSY  
 Thursday, April 6, 2017. Start: 2:15 pm End: 3:45 pm

**Description:** Perinatal mental illness is a global public health concern that affects mothers and their babies. All countries confront the challenge of prenatal and postpartum depression and anxiety, but low-to middle-income countries face the greatest burden. This presentation makes visible perinatal mood and anxiety disorders that are often overlooked and affect the offspring. Transgenerational patterns of prenatal stress contribute to a constitutionally compromised neonate that is challenging for a depressed or anxious mother to regulate and bond. Infants remain vulnerable to risks and open to protective factors for healthy development throughout the early years and into adulthood. Attachment plays a central role in how children develop and cope with stress. Secure attachments buffer children from high stress and are critical for the development of emotion regulation. There exists a recommended relationship based intervention that treats the mother’s mental illness and facilitates secure infant attachment and emotion development (Perez, Peifer, & Newman, 2002).

**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Identify risk factors that contribute to perinatal and mood disorders.
- Recognize that prenatal anxiety leads to increased levels of the stress hormone cortisol, which may lead to constriction of blood vessels and poor growth of the fetus resulting in low birth weight and preterm delivery.
- Examine perinatal mental illness as a caregiver risk factor that affects early physical and emotional development.
- Discuss a relationship-based model of psychotherapy that treats the mother’s mental illness and facilitates emotionally attuned caregiver interactions to foster secure attachments and self-regulation.

**Faculty**

*Linda Perez, Ph.D., Licensed Clinical Psychologist, Professor of Education and Co-Director of the Mills Infant Mental Health Program, Mills College, and Clinical Director, Epiphany Center Family Treatment Program*

**I-C *Probate Guardianship Investigations*** M E  
 Thursday, April 6, 2017. Start: 2:15 pm End: 3:45 pm

**Description:** TBD

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## Faculty

*Dean Silliman, Managing Probate Attorney, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles*

### **I-D** *Art in Identifying and Processing Trauma in Children and Families of Divorce*

\* BBS M E DV JDM © PSY

Thursday, April 6, 2017. Start: 2:15 pm End: 3:45 pm

**Description:** Working with parents and children in mediation services often calls for the need to implement creative interventions in order for participants to effectively engage in the mediation process. Standard conversations are often strained or charged due to the family conflict or fear of court processes. Further, the process is challenged by language barriers which often exist for participants who are non-English or English as a second language speaking, in the absence of a court interpreter. This session will explore the use of art modalities to enhance communication, interpret drawings, and as a healing intervention. This will be a didactic and experiential presentation on the utilization of art in identifying and processing trauma in children and families of divorce.

#### **This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Identify and apply specific interventions utilizing art modalities to assist children through their parents' divorce.
- Utilize the process of interpreting drawings as a talking point and to build rapport in mediation.
- Explain the benefits of utilizing art as a healing intervention when children experience trauma through their parents' divorce.

## Faculty

*Nadine Blaschak-Brown, Senior Analyst, Judicial Council of California Center for Families, Children & the Courts*

*Sharon Burnett, PhD, MFT, Founder and Executive Director, West Valley Counseling Center*

### **I-E** *Overcoming Distrust in Family Mediation: Historical and Cultural Considerations*

◆ MCLE (Bias credit) \* BBS M E DV JDM

Thursday, April 6, 2017. Start: 2:15 pm End: 3:45 pm

**Description:** Over the years, a number of state and national studies have found a low level of public trust and confidence in the courts and justice system in general, particularly among some racial and ethnic groups. In child custody mediation, people bring their histories, experiences, biases and beliefs into the process, which shapes their responses and willingness to agree. This session will identify and explore 1) the cause of the distrust from a cultural and historical perspective; 2) common signs when distrust is an issue during a mediation session; and 3) techniques, strategies and approaches for increasing the level of trust in the mediation and family law process. Participants will be encouraged to share successful practices in working with distrustful individuals and families.

#### **This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Describe the contemporary, cultural and historical context for distrust in the courts and justice system.

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- Explore techniques, strategies and approaches for increasing the level of trust for individuals and families in the mediation and family law process.
- Share successful practices in working with distrustful individuals and families.

### Faculty

*Vida Castaneda, Senior Analyst, Judicial Council of California Center for Families, Children & the Courts*

*Eddie Estrada, Child Custody Recommending Counselor, Family Court Services, Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo*

*Michael Roosevelt, Senior Analyst, Judicial Council of California Criminal Justice Services*

## Concurrent Workshops—Series II

### II-A *Immigration Issues and Child Custody Recommendations: Improving Safety, Access, and Fairness in Cases Involving Domestic Violence* ◆ MCLE \* BBS M E DV JDM

Thursday, April 6, 2017. Start: 4:00 pm End: 5:30 pm

**Description:** As our country grapples with policies related to immigration, domestic violence victims/survivors accessing the court system may be overwhelmed with fear and anxiety about safety and stability. In this course, presenters will discuss the courts obligation to ensure access to all litigants and how concerns raised by families with potential immigration issues can be addressed.

#### **This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Describe laws and ethical considerations implicated when information regarding immigration status is presented to the court.
- Prepare strategies to use when immigration issues are raised by one or more parent.
- Utilize resources for families with potential immigration issues.

### Faculty

*Frances Ho, Attorney, Judicial Council of California Center for Families, Children & the Courts*

*Khanh Nguyen, Attorney, Judicial Council of California Center for Judicial Education and Research*

### II-B *Understanding and Treating Traumatic Stress in Infants and Young Children*

\* BBS M E DV JDM ◎ PSY

Thursday, April 6, 2017. Start: 4:00 pm End: 5:30 pm

**Description:** Traumatic stress is a national public health concern that profoundly affects infants and young children. According to National Children’s Alliance (2014), more than 700,000 children fall victims to maltreatment in the US annually, primarily from their parents (78%). Neglect is the most common (80%), followed by physical abuse (18%), and sexual abuse (9%), and some endure more than one form of maltreatment. Infants in their first year of life are the most vulnerable with the highest rate of victimization, 24.4/1,000 in the national population of the same age. These alarming statistics often interact with other environmental stressors such as hospital experiences and broken attachment

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relationships, and may not be representative of the actual prevalence. This presentation intends to increase understanding and treatment of traumatic stress in infants and young children. Evidence shows traumatic experiences negatively impact infants and young children's physiology and early brain development (Perez, 2009). Importantly, they remain open to protective environmental factors that reduce traumatic stress and improve healing and healthy development throughout the early years and into adulthood. Caring adults who attune to infants and young children's needs and foster feelings of safety buffer them from high stress, promote physical health, and emotional development.

**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Describe contributors of traumatic stress.
- Analyze the psychological effects of traumatic stress on children's development.
- Discuss multi-theoretical and multi-disciplinary collaborative approaches to create favorable conditions to promote physical health and emotional development.
- Discuss prevention strategies to prevent secondary traumatic stress in professionals treating young children.

**Faculty**

*Linda Perez, Ph.D., Licensed Clinical Psychologist, Professor of Education and Co-Director of the Mills Infant Mental Health Program, Mills College, and Clinical Director, Epiphany Center Family Treatment Program*

**II-C *Probate Conservatorship Investigations*** M E  
Thursday, April 6, 2017. Start: 4:00 pm End: 5:30 pm

**Description: TBD**

**Faculty**

*Hon. Brenda Johns Penny, Commissioner, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles*

**II-D *Legal and Practical Guidance on Providing Testimony and on Acquiring Collateral Contact Information for Recommendations to the Court*** ◆ MCLE \* BBS M E DV JDM  
Thursday, April 6, 2017 Start: 4:00 pm End: 5:30 pm

**Description:** In this session participants will learn about the rules and expectations for collecting information that can form a basis for reports and recommendations and that can put professionals in a good position to provide testimony and be cross-examined in child custody matters, including those where allegations of domestic violence have been made. Issues of maintaining confidentiality in making collateral contacts, working within one's professional limitations, and adhering to requirements regarding qualifications and procedures will also be presented. For those working in courts that do not provide reports and recommendations, information will be provided on how to support maintaining confidentiality and what recommendations regarding minor's counsel, evaluations, and restraining orders might be appropriate or permitted. Depending on the size of the group, participants may be working in smaller groups with colleagues doing similar work.

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**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Explain how to collect collateral contact information that can form a basis for reports and recommendations and that can put them in a good position to provide testimony and be cross-examined.
- Demonstrate how to maintain confidentiality in making collateral contacts, work within one's professional limitations, and adhere to requirements regarding qualifications and procedures.
- Compare how maintaining confidentiality and providing recommendations differ in courts with child custody recommending counseling and those with mediation where recommendations are not made.

**Faculty:**

*Jacquetta Adewole, LMFT, Family Court Services Supervisor, Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino*

*Julia Weber, Supervising Attorney, Judicial Council of California Center for Families, Children & the Courts*

**II-E FILM: SPLIT TEENS**

***Teens Looking Back at Family Change-What Worked and What Could Have Been Better: What Can We Learn From Them? Follow up From the Film SPLIT! \* BBS M E JDM***

Thursday, April 6, 2017. Start: 4:00 pm End: 5:30 pm

**Description:** This 30-minute work-in-progress features the original SPLIT kids as teens. Moving and deeply insightful, it weaves together the stories of where they were then with where they are now as young adults. Following the screening, we will address important themes for professionals to highlight in their work. Practical strategies will be offered for collaborative teams, mental health professionals and court staff on how to use SPLIT to help parents get unstuck, bypass litigation and better understand the implications of their decisions. Other professionals currently using SPLIT materials with great success throughout the country will also share their experiences. Three years ago the film SPLIT opened many eyes to the realities of divorce from the perspective of twelve children ages 6-12. The SPLIT Outreach team recently re-interviewed these kids, now in their teens, to see how their families and lives have changed, and to understand what – in retrospect- most profoundly influenced their experiences as kids of divorce. This session will begin with a screening of 30 minutes of SPLIT material – a work-in-progress compilation of the child and teen material, organized thematically around the 4-5 issues which present themselves most strongly in the material. Screening will be followed by 15 minutes of Q&A and brief discussion of the film. The session will then turn to practical ways these children's experiences can be of use to collaborative teams, mental health professionals and court staff as a tool to help parents bypass litigation, better understand the implications of their decisions, stay focused on their children's long-term needs and effectively use the court system. Additionally three or four participants from various disciplines will highlight ways the material is being used with great success throughout the country.

**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Describe the long-term effects of divorce for children and the implications of decisions made by parents in the early stages of divorce.

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- Describe specific ways children – as teens- view their relationships with parents, how schedules are handled and how life changes over time.
- Utilize increased awareness to create better agreements that stand the test of time for divorcing families.
- Engage in an interactive discussion regarding ways SPLIT can be used to better meet collaborative goals and enhance client participation.

### **Faculty**

*Ellen Bruno, Filmmaker*

*Christina McGhee, Coach, Speaker, Writer Divorce Expert, and Author, Parenting Apart*

## **FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2017**

### *Welcome*

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 8:15 am End: 8:30 am

***Plenary: Cultural Competency in Domestic Violence*** ◆ MCLE \* BBS M E DV JDM

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 8:30 am End: 9:45 am

**Description:** This presentation will address the definition of cultural competency and its importance in domestic violence cases. Speakers with expertise in providing services to traditionally underserved populations will identify cultural challenges for the victims they serve.

### **This plenary is designed to help you:**

- Explain the importance of cultural competency in domestic violence cases.
- Discuss how culture shapes the experience of domestic violence victims.
- Assess challenges for domestic violence victims from different communities.

### **Moderator**

*Danielle McCurry, Analyst, Judicial Council of California Center for Families, Children & the Courts*

### **Faculty**

*Rev. Traci Jackson Antoine, Director, Domestic Violence Training and Education Program, Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts*

*Nunu Kidane, Director, Priority Africa Network*

*Keely Linton, Operations Director, Strong Hearted Native Women's Coalition*

*Arlene Meza, Staff Attorney, Rural Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Assistance Program Center for Community Solutions*

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## Concurrent Workshops—Series III

### III-A *The Necessary Details for Custody Reports, Evaluations, and Testimony*

◆ MCLE \* BBS M E DV JDM

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 10:00 am End: 12 noon

**Description:** Judicial officers rely on custody reports and on testimony for getting necessary information about a family and children in order to make informed and enforceable custody orders. This course will provide an opportunity for judicial officers and family court mediators to have a conversation about what information is needed, the challenges in getting that information and how best to overcome those challenges.

#### Faculty

*Hon. Gail O’Rane, Judge, Superior Court of California, County of Riverside*

*Jacquetta M. Adewole, Family Court Services Supervisor, Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino*

*Timothy Van Schooten, Family Court Services Manager, Superior Court of California, County of Shasta*

### III-B *Current Issues in Child Custody and Domestic Violence Cases: Family Code Section*

*3044, 3011, and More* ◆ MCLE \* BBS M E DV JDM

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 10:00 am End: 12 noon

**Description:** New appellate court cases and research about the effects of domestic violence on children are continuing to reshape the policy landscape in the complex area where child custody and domestic violence intersect. This course will focus on the current statutory and rule framework for handling family law child custody cases where domestic violence is alleged or has been found to have been perpetrated. The course will provide information for both judicial officers and child custody mediators/recommending counselors/evaluators.

#### This workshop is designed to help you:

- Describe the significance of current legislation on domestic violence and child custody.
- Apply information on policy addressing domestic violence and child custody to the role attendees play in the court process as judges, evaluators, mediators, or child custody recommending counselors.
- Utilize improved court procedures in child custody and domestic violence matters to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

#### Faculty

*Hon. Mark Juhas, Judge, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles*

*Julia Weber, Supervising Attorney, Judicial Council of California Center for Families, Children & the Courts*

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### **III-C *The Poverty Simulation* ◆ MCLE \* BBS M E**

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 10:00 am End: 12 noon

#### **Description:**

Some participants will take on the role of a person living in a low-income community, with details about the role provided. Other participants will play the roles of business and agencies in the community, such as the bank, an employer, a pawnshop, etc. Participants playing family roles will go through four 15-minute “weeks” and do what families everywhere do: Go to work if they have a job, get any kids to school, feed the family, pay the bills, keep the family safe. Challenges arise in the course of the “month” to which families must also respond. After the “month” is over, there will be an extensive debrief to discuss individual challenges, particular issues, and what people realized or took away from the simulation, as well as the impact of what was learned on clients or programs.

#### **This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Discuss the challenges that can arise for families with varying economic access and privilege that may impact family dynamics and responsibilities.
- Apply the insight learned from these challenges to their work with their own clients.
- Utilize the experience to inspire ideas for innovative program design, client interaction, and client services.

#### **Faculty**

*Tiela Chalmers, Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel, Alameda County Bar Association and Volunteer Legal Services Corporation*

### **III-D *On the Ground: Current Challenges for Domestic Violence Victims* \* BBS M E DV JDM**

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 10:00 am End: 12 noon

**Description:** A panel of domestic violence experts will discuss current challenges their clients face in leaving abusive relationships and accessing the court. Attendees and panelists will work together to identify culturally specific strategies to help domestic violence victims effectively access the court system.

#### **This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Explain challenges for domestic violence victims in accessing court system for help.
- Discuss changes in policy that can increase domestic violence victims’ access to the courts system.

#### **Faculty**

*Rev. Traci Jackson Antoine, Director, Domestic Violence Training and Education Program, Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts*

*Nunu Kidane, Director, Priority Africa Network*

*Keely Linton, Operations Director, Strong Hearted Native Women’s Coalition*

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### **III-E *Designing for Our User's Experiences* M**

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 10:00 am End: 12 noon

**Description:** The session, "Designing for our User's Experiences" focuses on incorporating human-centered design thinking into the day-to-day work of all professionals involved with self-represented litigants. The goal is not only to “hear” the litigant voice. It is also to reorient our entire way of thinking about the justice system so that our habit is to start and end every decision with the court-user in mind. Designing for our User’s Experiences is a fun, interactive session with videos, creative exercises, and opportunity to practice some of the new skills learned.

#### **This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Explore the concept of human-centered design.
- Consider the court-user’s perspective in day-to-day interactions.
- Discuss strategies for improving written communications with court-users.

#### **Faculty**

*Kyanna Williams, Attorney, Judicial Council of California Center for Families, Children & the Courts*

### **12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. WORKING LUNCH**

Please take this time to discuss key concepts you have learned during the conference and how they will enhance your work. If you have not already completed your course evaluations, please do so now and turn them in at the information desk.

## **Concurrent Workshops—Series IV**

### **IV-A *Beyond Kale and Pedicures: What Works to Manage Compassion Fatigue and Secondary Trauma***

\* BBS M E DV

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 1:15 pm End: 2:45 pm

**Description:** 2015 marked the 20th anniversary of the publication of Charles Figley’s pioneering book *Compassion Fatigue*, which explores the potentially negative impact of trauma exposure on helping professionals. Since then, the field of Compassion Fatigue and Secondary Trauma has grown exponentially, and new research has emerged suggesting effective ways for therapists and other helping professionals to sustain and protect themselves. New findings suggest that in order to reduce compassion fatigue and secondary trauma, we need to adopt a multi-pronged approach—self-care, hot baths, and company picnics are simply not enough. Although helping professionals cannot be expected to fix an entire system, they do remain responsible for their own well-being—it is an ethical responsibility for themselves, their clients, and the community in which they live. This presentation will explore where we are at, and what has been found to work, for organizations, professionals, and for us as individual helpers.

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**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Define “Trauma Exposed Workplaces” and related terms.
- Describe the history of addressing “Secondary Trauma”.
- Use options for assessment of impact of trauma exposure.
- Discuss 10 key strategies for addressing trauma in the workplace.

**Faculty**

*Cambria Walsh, Project Manager, California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare and the Chadwick Trauma-Informed Systems Dissemination and Implementation Project*

**IV-B *Difficult Parents, Difficult Decisions: Interventions for High Conflict Families, Part 1***

\* BBS M E JDM

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 1:15 pm End: 2:45 pm

**Description:** This workshop will focus on improving effectiveness of working with high conflict or personality disordered parents who are going through the mediation process. Participants will explore the key dynamics that are present in high conflict divorce and then examine and apply strategies for improving positive outcome and achieving agreement in mediation. This is a two- part workshop. The first part will focus on not only understanding the dynamics of high conflict parents but begin to use strategies for de-escalating the conflicts. The second half of the workshop will explore more in-depth key dynamics for improving communication and creating safety for the children.

**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- List three indicators of a difficult parent.
- Utilize two interventions for managing manipulative behavior.
- Describe three key dynamics that are present in the codependent style of relationship that is present with personality-disordered parents.
- Apply three strategies for increasing contact with children of personality-disordered parents.

**Faculty**

*Mary Ruth Cross, MS, MFT, NCC, RPT-S, Treehouse Family Counseling Services*

**IV-C *Let’s Get Visual: Opportunities to Leverage the POWER of Visual Communication in Dispute***

*Resolution* \* BBS M E JDM

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 1:15 pm End: 2:45 pm

**Description:** Have you ever watched people in conflict struggle to hear what each other is saying, or even to understand what you’re saying to them? Of course you have. Whether it be in an arbitration, a mediation or in a contested court proceeding: no matter where you sit in the legal system...you have seen this. Now imagine a new scenario... the important things people are trying to communicate to each other are not just being spoken and then evaporating into thin air. The key messages and points in the conflict resolution process are being visually recorded: the parties can see their comments in real time,

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confirm their meaning and reflect on them? How will that impact the process of coming to agreements? Come to this session to learn how visual communication is being applied to family mediation to make communication more effective and the mediation process more creative, engaging and interactive. Leave knowing how you too can strategically apply visual communication to help the people you serve.

**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Describe why visual communication is a powerful tool for parties in resolving conflict.
- Apply groundbreaking visual mediation methods.
- Describe key points in the process of working with your clients where visual communication could really help.
- Analyze ways you can get started working visually.

**Faculty**

*Lisa Arora, Family Mediator, Get the Picture*

**IV-D Social Media and Electronic Information: Use, Abuse, and Considerations for Judges, Mediators and Evaluators** ◆ MCLE \* BBS M E, DV JDM

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 1:15 pm End: 2:45 pm

**Description:**

Social media plays an increasing role in the way we communicate. In a family law setting, we are confronted with texts, e-mails, photographs and other electronic bits of evidence that may be of great interest and have great effect on a custody decision. This workshop explores how the electronic world may affect mediation by understanding how it can be used in court.

**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Recognize how the “evidence” they see in mediation will be admissible or not admissible at the time of an evidentiary hearing.
- Analyze how the parental right of free speech impacts potential orders, or agreements made at the time of mediation.
- Describe how the context of any electronically stored information (ESI) submission may distort the actual meaning of the submission, the means by which the submission may have been altered, and some ways to reduce the chances for out-of-context communications.
- Assess how parents use computers, other electronic devices, and the Internet to harass the other parent, sometimes to the degree that qualifies as domestic violence.

**Moderator**

*Robert Bayer, Family Court Services Director, Superior Court of California, County of Ventura*

**Faculty**

*Hon. Mark Juhas, Judge, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles*

*Danny Paskin, PhD, Associate Professor, Journalism and Mass Communication, California State University, Long Beach*

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DV = Domestic Violence – Rule 5.230 (d) (1)-(2); and Rule 5.215 (j) (2) JDM= Juvenile Dependency Mediators – Rule 5.518(e)(3)&(g)

**IV-E *The Millennials are Coming* \* BBS M E JDM**

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 1:15 pm End: 2:45 pm

**Description:** Millennials are the largest, most populous generation in American history, outpacing baby boomers 2:1. While the group is not monolithic, these socially connected, digital natives are driving seismic change in every industry, sector and community. It is becoming increasingly clear that as Millennials approach their age of ‘conscious uncoupling’, family law courts will be expected to change to meet the expectations of this generation. This workshop will provide information on how the most innovative courts, attorneys and co-parenting professionals are modifying their services and practices to serve the unique needs of this demographic. Faculty will provide insight into generational trends, characteristics and expectations and learn how courts can increase judicial, mediation and self-help efficiencies in family law matters.

**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Describe the significance of the millennial demographic as parents accessing the courts.
- Apply information on promising, innovative practices that can help coparents and children.
- Utilize improved court procedures in child custody matters to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

**Faculty**

*Hon. Sherrill Ellsworth, Ret., Presiding Judge, Superior Court of California, County of Riverside*  
*Jonathan Mooney, Speaker, Author, Millennial Expert & Chief Social Impact Officer, coParenter*  
*Jonathan Verk, Entrepreneur*

**Concurrent Workshops —Series V**

**V-A *Beyond Kale and Pedicures: What Works to Manage Compassion Fatigue and Secondary Trauma***

\* BBS M E DV

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 3:00 pm End: 4:30 pm

**Description:** 2015 marked the 20th anniversary of the publication of Charles Figley’s pioneering book *Compassion Fatigue*, which explores the potentially negative impact of trauma exposure on helping professionals. Since then, the field of *Compassion Fatigue and Secondary Trauma* has grown exponentially, and new research has emerged suggesting effective ways for therapists and other helping professionals to sustain and protect themselves. New findings suggest that in order to reduce compassion fatigue and secondary trauma, we need to adopt a multi-pronged approach—self-care, hot baths, and company picnics are simply not enough. Although helping professionals cannot be expected to fix an entire system, they do remain responsible for their own well-being—it is an ethical responsibility for themselves, their clients, and the community in which they live. This presentation will explore where we are at, and what has been found to work, for organizations, professionals, and for us as individual helpers.

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**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Define “Trauma Exposed Workplaces” and related terms.
- Discuss the history of addressing “Secondary Trauma”.
- Select options for assessment of impact of trauma exposure.
- Discuss 10 key strategies for addressing trauma in the workplace.

**Faculty**

*Cambria Walsh, Project Manager, California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare and the Chadwick Trauma-Informed Systems Dissemination and Implementation Project*

**V-B *Difficult Parents, Difficult Decisions: Interventions for High Conflict Families, Part 2***

\* BBS M E JDM

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 3:00 pm End: 4:30 pm

**Description:** This workshop will focus on improving effectiveness of working with high conflict or personality disordered parents who are going through the mediation process. Participants will explore the key dynamics that are present in high conflict divorce and then examine and apply strategies for improving positive outcome and achieving agreement in mediation. This is a two- part workshop. The first part will focus on not only understanding the dynamics of high conflict parents but begin to use strategies for de-escalating the conflicts. The second half of the workshop will explore more in-depth key dynamics for improving communication and creating safety for the children.

**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- List three indicators of a difficult parent.
- Utilize two interventions for managing manipulative behavior.
- Describe three key dynamics that are present in the codependent style of relationship that is present with personality-disordered parents.
- Apply strategies for improving communication and creating safety for children.

**Faculty**

*Mary Ruth Cross, MS, MFT, NCC, RPT-S, Treehouse Family Counseling Services*

**V-C *Understanding the Trajectories of Vulnerable Children Through Cross-Sector Data: An Overview of Recent Research from California*** \* BBS M E JDM

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 3:00 pm End: 4:30 pm

**Description:** The Children’s Data Network - a data and research collaborative – will present recent updates on using administrative records and data linkages to track the health, education, and safety of California’s children and families. In partnership with public agencies, philanthropic funders, and community stakeholders, they seek to advance evidence-rich policies that will improve the health, safety, and well-being of our children.

**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Define linked data and understand the secure linkage process.

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- Recognize the value of linked data in answering epidemiological questions, evaluating programs, and improving service provision, and informing policy.
- Review recent CDN research using linked cross-sector data.
- Brainstorm other data sources that would enhance our understanding of children and families in California.

### Faculty

*Regan Foust, Ph.D. Director of Strategic Partnerships and Research Scientist, Children's Data Network*

*Andrea Lane, Ph.D. Student and Teaching Assistant, School of Social Work, University of Southern California, Child Development and Children's Services Cluster*

### V-D "He's an Alcoholic!" "She's an Addict!" Navigating the She Said/He Said to Address Substance Use Disorders, Parenting Ability, and Child Safety \* BBS M E JDM © PSY

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 3:00 pm End: 4:30 pm

**Description:** This workshop will be co-led by two presenters, one with experience in substance use treatment and court advocacy and the second with experience evaluating and studying substance use treatment programs. Both will present the latest information on substances of abuse, their prevalence, and how substance use impacts child care and safety. They will also provide resources for low cost / no cost testing and treatment options. The workshop will include opportunities for questions, and some limited discussion and reviews of vignettes presented to determine the best course of action.

#### This workshop is designed to help you:

- Discuss limited basic and more advanced information concerning substance use disorders, their prevalence, and treatment options.
- Describe specific techniques to determine the likelihood of the presence of a substance use in parents.
- Assess the impact of substance use disorders on parenting.
- Practice knowledge learned during the workshop through the use of vignettes and scenarios.

### Faculty

*Desiree A. Crevecoeur-MacPhail, PhD, Research Psychologist & Principal Investigator, UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs (ISAP), Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at the David Geffen School of Medicine*

*Paula Rice-Sherman, MS, CAS, Senior Community Health Programs Representative, UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs, Semel Institute of Neuroscience and Behavior at the David Geffen School of Medicine*

### V-E Understanding, Measuring and Improving Coparenting Quality \* BBS M E JDM © PSY

Friday, April 7, 2017. Start: 3:00 pm End: 4:30 pm

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**Description:** Irrespective of marital or residential status, coparenting deals with how parents coordinate and support/undermine one another in rearing children. Understanding the science behind successful coparenting can fundamentally impact success metrics- especially in moderate to high conflict situations. The presentation will explain the key dimensions of coparenting distilled from two decades of research. Dr. Feinberg will present a research-based overview of how coparenting is critical for both parents' and children's mental health as well as for parenting quality. He will then review validated measures that assess coparenting among intact families and suggest ways these can be adapted for use with separated and divorced families. Finally, he will describe a program that has successfully improved coparenting among first-time parents, and which could have far-reaching impact on those families who later separate/divorce.

**This workshop is designed to help you:**

- Describe the significance key dimensions of coparenting.
- Apply information on from research on coparenting to address parent and child mental health.
- Utilize information from successful coparenting program(s) that can assist first-time and divorcing or separating families in the work attendees do in family courts.

**Faculty**

*Mark Feinberg, Research Professor of Health and Human Development, The Pennsylvania State University*

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**Thank you for attending this conference!**

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