

Lisa Ahern, PhD

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Work Address

Hartford Upper Elementary School
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Education

Duke University, Durham, NC

Post Doctoral Fellowship, Clinical Psychology, August 2006 – August 2008

NC State University, Raleigh, NC

PhD in Psychology, School Psychology major, May 2006

Dissertation Title: Links Between Violence and Conflict History in the Family of Origin and Conflict Resolution of Emerging Adults: An Examination of Gender Differences

MS in Psychology, School Psychology major, May 2004

Master's Thesis Title: Psychometric Properties of the Parenting Stress Index – Short Form

University of Richmond (UR), Richmond, VA

BS Magna Cum Laude in Psychology with Departmental Honors, May 2000

Licensure

New Jersey Licensed Psychologist (pending – board approved as of May 2013)

New Jersey Certified School Psychologist

Pennsylvania Licensed Psychologist (PS016969)

Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP)

Professional Affiliations

American Psychological Association (APA)

National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)

Clinical Experience

The Center for Emotional Health of Great Philadelphia

06/13 – present

Licensed Psychologist – Duties include providing cognitive behavioral therapy and ERP (exposure/response prevention) for anxiety/OCD/trichotillomania, providing psychological and psychoeducational assessment for children ages 4 through early adulthood; parent training and organizational skills training; school consultation.

Mount Laurel Public Schools

09/12 – present

School Psychologist - Hartford Upper Elementary School in Mount Laurel, NJ – Duties include case management, psychological testing, behavioral consultation, counseling, social skills training, membership on the I&RS and Section 504 committees, and staff training.

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), Pennsylvania

05/11 – 09/12

Licensed Psychologist in the Center For Management of ADHD – Duties include providing psychological and psychoeducational assessment for children ages 4 through 17; parent training and organizational skills training; school consultation; supervising trainees (CHOP is an APPIC training site). (Supervisors: Dr. Thomas Power and Dr. Steven Soffer)

Psychologist in the Anxiety Behaviors Clinic (ABC) - Duties include providing cognitive behavioral therapy and ERP (exposure/response prevention) for anxiety/OCD. (Supervisor: Dr. Katherine Dahlsgaard)

3-C Family Services, Cary, NC

01/09 – 04/11

Licensed Psychologist – Duties included providing psychological and psychoeducational assessment (including ADHD and learning disability evaluations) for children ages 4 through young adulthood; school consultation; parent training and organizational skills training; director of the TOPS group (Teen Organization, Planning, and Study Skills) intervention for middle school, high school, and college students; and intern supervision. In addition, I provided individual therapy for children and adults with ADHD, primarily focused on organizational skills and time management but occasionally using cognitive behavioral techniques, such as Coping Cat, to help reduce anxiety. I am also trained in a full-team model to participate in Collaborative Divorce processes as a child specialist and parent coach. In this role, I interviewed children and parents to help them develop a co-parenting plan during the divorce.

Duke ADHD Program, Duke University Medical Center
5/09

8/06 –

Faculty Member and Clinical Associate (08/08 – 5/09), Post-Doctoral Fellow (8/06-8/08)

2007-2009, Creator and Director of Learning Disorders Clinic in the Duke ADHD Program. Duties included coordination and direct supervision of interns and graduate students for cases requiring psychological and psychoeducational/academic assessment for children and adults. Assessment included evaluation of information processes underlying learning disabilities to add to or in some cases, replace, traditional discrepancy models. Duke is an APPIC training site.

2006 to 2009, Clinician for Duke ADHD Program. Duties included psychological assessment and consultation for patients ages 4 through adulthood, school consultation, and individual and group therapy with children, parents, and adults. Psychological issues included ADHD, anxiety disorders, and mood disorders. Also provided multiple presentations and workshops both on and off-site, including school presentations, regarding ADHD assessment, school strategies, and treatment.

2007 to present, Developer and Coordinator of TOPS Summer Program (Teen Organization, Planning, and Study Skills) for adolescents with ADHD.

2006 to 2009, Therapist for Organization, Time Management and Planning (OTMP), a multi-site, NIMH-funded clinical research study investigating psychosocial treatments for organizational skills deficits in children 3rd through 5th grade with ADHD. Additional duties included psychological evaluations of potential participants, training of new therapists, revision of therapy manuals, and creation of a Time-Telling assessment measure (Primary Investigators – Karen Wells, PhD and Howard Abikoff, PhD).

2006 to 2009, Assistant for NSF-funded virtual reality research study examining social information processing in children with behavior problems. Duties included assisting in the development of the virtual reality measure, administration of a virtual reality social information processing measure, and

scheduling and evaluation of participants (primarily adolescent boys without behavior problems and boys with conduct disorder) – (Primary Investigators – David Fitzgerald, PhD and Janet Whidby, PhD).

2006 to 2009, Clinician for Clinical Trials and Other Research Studies. Duties included diagnostic interviewing both informally and using structured methods such as the K- SADS, assessing for adverse events and improvement on medication in coordination with psychiatrists, and cognitive screening.

Wake County (NC) Public Schools and NC State University Psychoeducational Clinic 8/05 – 5/06

- School Psychology Predoctoral Intern
 - o Hunter GT Magnet Elementary School, Raleigh, NC - Academic, behavioral, and socioemotional assessment, teacher consultation, SST and IEP Team participation, and Wake County Autism Team participation including administration of the ADOS (Supervisors: Lynne Myers, PhD and Shawn Kreig, PhD).
 - o NC State University Psychoeducational Clinic – Academic, behavioral, and socioemotional assessment of children ages 5-21 (issues same as indicated below), supervision of graduate students in clinic practicum, development, implementation, and evaluation of a group academic coaching intervention for high school students (Supervisor: Patsy Collins, PhD).

NC State University Psychoeducational Clinic 5/04 – 8/05

- Clinical Assistant - Academic, behavioral, and socioemotional assessment of children ages 5 – 21, report writing, parent interviews at intake and feedback sessions (64 cases). Issues of concern include: Learning Disabilities, Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Depression, Anxiety, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, Asperger's Syndrome, and Tic Disorders.

Family and Youth, Inc., Raleigh, NC 1/04 – 6/04

- Child Behavior Support Professional - Provided in home family and individual therapy for families in the Raleigh area, developed behavior management systems, provided parent training, provided anger management therapy, and attended treatment team meetings to facilitate school and home communication.

Green Hope High School, Cary, NC 8/02 – 5/03

- School Psychology Practicum Student - Participated in Student Support Team (SST) and IEP meetings, assessed academic and behavioral/emotional difficulties, provided anger management therapy and study skills training/academic coaching for students ages 14 – 19.

NC State University Psychoeducational Clinic 1/02 – 12/02

- School Psychology Practicum Student - Three limited cases and seven full cases. Academic and socioemotional assessment of children ages 6 – 18, report writing, and parent interviews at intake and feedback.

Study Skills at the Psychoeducational Clinic, NC State University 8/02, 8/03, 8/04, 7/05

- Coordinator and instructor for a week-long summer study skills course for middle school students.

- Academic Coaching for Educational Success (ACES), NC State University* 8/01 – 12/01
- Coach for weekly study skills/academic coaching intervention with ADHD adolescents ages 12-13.
- Academic Support Program for Student Athletes, NC State University* 1/01 – 5/01
- Tutor – duties included assistance in test preparation, term paper organization, and term paper revision for a student athlete taking Personality Psychology.
- Heritage Park Community Learning Center, Raleigh, NC* 1/01 – 5/01
- Facilitator for social skills and anger management groups with at-risk elementary school students ages 6-11.
- Communities in Schools Mentoring Program, Richmond, VA* 9/98 – 5/00
- Mentor for an at-risk girl during her 4th and 5th grade years
- School Psychology Undergraduate Internship, Richmond, VA* 9/98 – 5/00
- Undergraduate intern - Observation and assistance in two elementary schools: included experience with mild, moderate, and severe and profound mental retardation self contained classrooms, a pre-school autism class that used the TEACCH method, a class for the deaf and hard of hearing, a self-contained gifted classroom, a pre-school developmental delay classroom, a head start classroom, an LD classroom, and several regular education classrooms in grades K-5.
- Henrico County Juvenile Detention Center, Richmond, VA* 1/98 – 5/98
- Undergraduate intern - Participated in administration of substance abuse screening questionnaires and observation of therapy sessions with inmates.

Selected Training Experiences

April 2013 - *20th Annual National Conference on Hair Pulling & Skin Picking Disorders*: Multi-day conference (Newark, NJ): Dr. Fred Penzel, Dr. Charles Mansueto, Dr. Suzanne Mouton-Odom, Dr. Ali Mattu, Dr. Marla Deibler. Addressed treatment of trichotillomania and other body focused repetitive behaviors (BFRBs).

November 2012 – *Special Education Law in New Jersey*. Full day workshop on special education law in New Jersey (Cherry Hill, NJ): John B. Comegno, II.

February 2012 – *Pushing Past Perfectionism*. Full day workshop presented by the Children’s Center for OCD and Anxiety (Plymouth Meeting, PA): Dr. Deborah Ledley and Dr. Lynne Siqueland. Addressed use of CBT and other therapeutic techniques for dealing with perfectionistic behaviors in children.

November 2011 - *Cognitive-Behavior Therapy for Childhood OCD: Working with Complex Cases*. Full day workshop presented by the Children’s Center for OCD and Anxiety (Plymouth Meeting, PA): Dr. Tamar Chansky, Dr. Deborah Ledley, and Dr. Lynne Siqueland. Addressed use of CBT and ERP for children with complex cases of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder.

October 2010 – *Advanced Mediation: Using Nonviolent Communication to Resolve Conflict in Family Law Cases*, (Louisburg, NC). Presented by Cat J. Zavis, Counselor at Law. Three-day training attended by psychologists and lawyers to learn “Nonviolent Communication,” originally developed by Marshall Rosen-

berg, Ph.D., as a strategy for mediation of conflict during collaborative divorce cases. This method is used to help resolve many types of conflict throughout the world. <http://www.cnvc.org/>

April 2010 – *Interdisciplinary Collaborative Divorce Training presented by the Collaborative Divorce Institute*. (Raleigh, NC). Three-day training attended by psychologists, lawyers, and financial professionals included developing an understanding of the full-team collaborative divorce process, understanding psychologists' roles as coaches for parents and child specialists, and practice of these roles. As a child specialist, I interviewed children to understand their perspective about their lives and the divorce and be the voice of the children in the collaborative divorce process.

March 2008 – *Nonverbal Learning Disabilities from Diagnosis Through Strategies for Home and School*. (Raleigh, NC). Presented by Dr. Dean Mooney, PhD, NCSP through Medical Educational Services, Inc. Full day training in diagnosing and treating NVLD.

Teaching Experience

Guest Lecturer Spring 2007 & Fall 2008 – Child Interventions (undergraduate course) at Duke University (primary instructors - Dr. Kristi Hardy & David Fitzgerald); Topics: Organization Skills Training for ADHD Children, Interventions for Children with Learning Disorders

Guest Lecturer Spring 2007 – Child Behavior Therapy (graduate course) at North Carolina State University (primary instructor - Dr. Mary Haskett); Topic: Treatment of ADHD in Children, Adolescents, and Adults

Guest Lecturer Fall 2006 & Fall 2007 – Child Assessment (undergraduate course) at Duke University (primary instructor - Dr. Kristi Hardy); Topic: Intelligence and Learning Disabilities

Guest Lecturer Fall 2006 – Child Assessment (graduate course) at Duke University (primary instructors - Dr. David Fitzgerald, Dr. Kelly Anthony, & Dr. Janet Whidby); Topic: Assessment of Learning Disabilities

Co-Instructor for an Independent Study course (Psy 499) during the Spring 2005 semester at NC State University – supervision of undergraduates collecting data for a research study

Primary instructor for Theories of Personality (Psy 370) during the Fall 2003 and Spring 2004 semesters at NC State University

Teaching Assistant for Educational Psychology (Psy 304) and Behavioral Research Methods (Psy 243) at NC State University – instruction of computer laboratory sections

Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Psychology (Psy 200) at NC State University

Primary Instructor for Educational Psychology (Psy 304) and Theories of Personality (Psy 370) during summer sessions at NC State University

Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Psychological Science Course (Psy 100) at the University of Richmond – instructor for computer laboratory sections

Publications

Haskett, M. H., Ahern, L. S., Ward, C. S., & Allaire, J. C. (2006). Construct and predictive validity of the Parenting Stress Index/Short Form. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*, 35(2), 302-312.

Haskett, M. E., Smith Scott, S., Willoughby, M., Ahern, L., & Nears, K. (2006). The Parent

Opinion Questionnaire and Cognitive Vignettes for use with Abusive Parents: Assessment of Psychometric Properties. *Journal of Family Violence*, 21(2), 137-151.

Conference Presentations

Ahern, L., Power, T., Mautone, J., & O'Dell, S. (2012, June) *When Parents Have ADHD, Too: Implications for Behavioral Treatment of Children with ADHD*. Workshop accepted to be presented at the Pennsylvania Psychological Association Annual Convention in Harrisburg, PA.

Shook, S.E., Ahern, L., Hardy, K., Murray, D., Abikoff, H., Wells, K., & Gallagher, R. (2010, October). *Time Telling Ability in Children with ADHD: Gender Differences and Associations with Cognitive Functioning*. Poster presented at the annual meeting for the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) in New York, NY.

Ahern, L. S., Lynn, A. E., Longmire, K., Evans, R. G., & Haskett, M. E. (2006, April). *The relation between family conflict history and conflict resolution in emerging adulthood*. Poster presented at the Conference on Human Development in Louisville, KY.

Ward, C. S., Ahern, L. S., McPherson, A. V., & Haskett, M. E. (2005, August). *Determinants of abusive and nonabusive parents' perceptions of children's behavior*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.

Ahern, L. S., Haskett, M. E., & Sabourin Ward, C. (2004, August). *Validation of the parenting stress index – short form*. Poster presented at the North Carolina School Psychology Association Conference in Wilmington, NC.

Ahern, L. (2004, March). *Assessment in family violence research*. Paper presented at a symposium at Sandhills Regional Psychology Conference in Wilmington, NC.

Ahern, L. S., Haskett, M. E., & Sabourin Ward, C. (2004, April). *Validation of the parenting stress index – short form*. Poster presented at the Conference on Human Development in Washington, DC

Haskett, M. E., Smith Scott, S., Willoughby, M., Ahern, L., & Nears, K. (2001, August). *The parent opinion questionnaire and cognitive vignettes for use with abusive parents: assessment of psychometric properties*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco.

Newcomb, A., Bagwell, C., Schmidt, M., Senatore (Ahern), L., & Vose, K. (2000, April). *The effect of pre-adolescent friendship and peer status on adult adjustment: A longitudinal study*. Poster presented at the student research symposium at the University of Richmond.

Selected Community and University Presentations

08/13/10 – St. Mary Magdalene School, Apex, NC – Teacher Training Presentation; Topic: Helping Students with Learning Differences.

5/16/10 – Chesterbrook Academy, Cary NC – PTO Lecture Series Presentation; Topic: “Don’t Worry, It’s Only a Test!” Helping Your Child Prepare for and Relax about Tests.

2/24/10 – SAS, Inc., Cary, NC – Work/Life Lecture Series; Topic: Helping Struggling Students Navigate High School.

2/3/10 – SAS, Inc., Cary, NC (with Sharon Leuenberger, Ph.D.) – Work/Life Lecture Series; Topic: Help-

ing a Child with Reading Difficulties.

1/21/10 – SAS, Inc. Cary, NC (with Sharon Leuenberger, Ph.D.) - Work/Life Lecture Series; Topic: Psychoeducational Testing: When, Why, and How?

1/15/10 – Duke University ADHD Program – Didactic Series; Topic: Distinguishing between ADHD and Learning Disabilities

12/16/09 – SAS, Inc., Cary, NC – Work/Life Podcast Series; Topic: Helping Your Child with Organizational Skills

9/12/08 - SRAHEC, Fayetteville, NC (with David Fitzgerald, Ph.D.) – Continuing Education Presentation; Topic: School Age Children with Special Needs

3/7/08 - Orange County/Chapel Hill-Carrboro Public Schools – Counselor Training Presentation; Topic: Strategies for School Success for Children with ADHD

10/22/07 - Partnership Elementary School, Raleigh, NC – Teacher Training Presentation; Topic: Strategies for School Success for Children with ADHD

10/15/07 - Duke University ADHD Program Parent Education Series – Topic: Strategies for School Success for Children with ADHD

4/20/07 - GiftsNC Conference for homeschooling parents – Topic: ADHD Assessment and Treatment

3/17/07 - Durham Parent Academy (Durham Public Schools) – Topic: ADHD Assessment and Treatment

9/14/06 - Durham Technical Community College – Topic: Current Trends in ADHD Research

Employment Experiences in Technology and Research

Office of Assessment, Division of Undergraduate Affairs, NC State University 1/03 – 7/03

- Research Assistant – duties included interviewing faculty participants in a qualitative diversity study and analysis of qualitative data obtained during interviews.

School Psychology Traineeship, NC State University 8/02 – 5/03

- Research Assistant – duties included training in diagnosing and treating reading difficulties; training in the DIBELS for assessment of pre-reading in kindergarten students; and data collection in a kindergarten classroom.

NC State University School Psychology Program 8/01 – 12/02

- Webpage designer and webmaster for the School Psychology Program Website. Current URL: <http://www.ncsu.edu/psychology/graduate/conc/school/index.htm> - approved for Section 508 compliance.

Henrico County Schools, Richmond, VA 8/99 – 5/00

- Research Assistant – duties included working with pre-school Autistic children in their self-contained classrooms and then testing them using the PEP-R as part of a dissertation study examining the effects of familiarity with the examiner on test performance.

University of Richmond Student Activities Office 8/97 – 5/99

- Office Assistant – duties included managing multi-line phone system and completing jobs for various student affairs personnel using Microsoft Office products and other graphics programs

University of Richmond Psychology Department 5/97 – 5/99

- Technology Fellow – duties included assistance of faculty and students with software and hardware problems; teaching of classes in web design, acrobat, and power point; development of online course materials for a Child Development course using Adobe Acrobat and the Intro to Psychological Science course using WebCT; department webpage design as well as webpage design for courses and other organizations such as Psi Chi.

Honors and Awards

Psychology Emeritus Fund Award for Graduate Student Research, NCSU Psych Dept. – Spring 2005
 Student speaker at the UR Honors Convocation – Spring 2000
 UR Psychology Department Most Outstanding Undergraduate Award – Spring 2000
 Omicron Delta Kappa: National Leadership Honor Society – Member 2000
 Psi Chi – Member since Spring 1998, Secretary and Webmaster of UR chapter 1999-2000
 Golden Key National Honor Society – Member 1998-2000, President of UR chapter 1999-2000
 John Neasmith Dickinson Research Award at University of Richmond -1999