

SHAPING THE FUTURE

2019 ATSA Conference | Friday November 8 | 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

F-06

Understanding the Narrative: Dynamic Risk and the Practical Application of Trauma-Informed Care

David S. Prescott, LICSW
Becket Family of Services
Jill S. Levenson, PhD, LCSW
Barry University
Gwenda M. Willis, PhD, PGDipClinPsyc
University of Auckland

Trauma-informed care (TIC) has gained currency in recent years across the field of treating people who have sexually abused. TIC is an overarching approach that, among other things, increases client responsiveness and provides greater explanatory depth to our understanding of risk factors and area of treatment need. TIC is not a specific approach to treating trauma, but rather takes into account the role of trauma in the etiology of abuse, and the cognitive schemas, dysregulation, and behavioral scripts that contribute to abusive behavior.

Trauma and early childhood adversity can contribute to abusive behaviors in many ways. After a very brief introduction to TIC, this workshop specifically explores the role of trauma and adversity in contributing to dynamic risk. The presenters will each describe specific case examples in which the contribution of trauma to dynamic risk factors is described and discussed. In addition, the presenters will provide an overview of research exploring links between trauma and re-offense risk. An end result is that participants will look beyond risk as a collection of factors and also be able to view dynamic risk as unfolding processes. It is one thing to understand risk and quite another to see how the results of early life events interact with current situations and personal functioning to create risk and drive it forward.

Learning Goals:

- Learn about trauma-informed care
- Learn about the processes underlying dynamic risk factors
- Explore how adversity and trauma sequelae influence dynamic risk.
- Conceptualize dynamic risk factors through the lens of early trauma.
- Identify and describe trauma-informed responses for preventing sexual recidivism.

SHAPING THE FUTURE

2019 ATSA Conference | Friday November 8 | 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

David S. Prescott, LICSW, is a past president of ATSA and 2014 recipient of ATSA's Distinguished Contribution award. He serves on the Editorial Board of *Sexual Abuse* and has produced 21 book projects. His work has been translated into Korean, Japanese, French, German, and Polish. Mr. Prescott lectures around the world.

Jill Levenson, PhD, LCSW, is a professor of Social Work at Barry University in Miami. She is also a treatment provider in a sex-offending program in South Florida. She has published over 100 articles and 5 books about treatment and policies designed to prevent sexual abuse. She is a SAMHSA-trained trauma-informed care instructor and has been invited to speak across the U.S. and in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

Gwenda Willis, PhD, PGDipClinPsyc is an Associate Professor of clinical psychology at the University of Auckland, New Zealand, and a clinical psychologist in private practice. Her research and clinical interests focus on strengths-based approaches to working with clients at risk to abuse. She provides training and consultation to clinicians and correctional services internationally, including in trauma-informed care. She is a co-author (together with Jill Levenson and David Prescott) of the book "Trauma-Informed Care: Transforming treatment for people who have sexually abused" published by Safer Society Press in 2017.