

Laurie Stein LLB, MSW, RSW

586 Eglinton Avenue East
Suite 301
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1P2

(647) 435-1089 ext. 3
laurie.connections@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Therapist/Mediator/Collaborative Family Professional - Connections Child and Family Counselling

Private practice working with individuals, families, children and youth. Work includes individual, couple, play therapy, mediation and collaborative family professional. Expertise working with families experiencing separation, divorce and blending, and child and adolescent development and behaviour.

www.connectionschildandfamily.com

Faculty International Academy of Collaborative Professionals (IACP)

Provide training to lawyers, family professionals and financial professionals on the essentials of collaborative practice and interdisciplinary team work. 2016-present

Toronto Collaborative Training Team

Provide training to lawyers, family professionals and financial professionals on the essentials of collaborative practice and interdisciplinary team work. 2015-present

Social Worker, Families in Transition, Family Service Association (Toronto)

Provide individual and group counselling for parents, children and youth on issues of separation, divorce and remarriage. Included in this work is individual therapy, parent-child work, play therapy, couple counselling and mediation. A significant part of this work involves the exploration of appropriate boundaries, communication and methods of conflict resolution. Conduct workshops on child support, step-parenting and the separation process. Also was the Co-Principal Investigator of a study addressing the needs of Iranian families facing separation and divorce in Toronto. 1995-2006

Project Co-ordinator, For Kids' Sake Program, Family Court Clinic, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (formerly the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry), Toronto

Developed and implemented a pilot project designed to treat and resolve high conflict family separations and divorces. Clinical work included assessments, group and individual therapy with children and parents, and mediation of child focused issues. Project responsibilities included co-ordinating the program, community outreach and liaising with the relevant community organizations. 1993-1995

Social Worker, Families in Transition, Family Service Association (Palo Alto, California)

Co-facilitated groups for children of high conflict, divorcing families. Focused on issues of adjustment, loss, coping and family violence. Also facilitated community consultation groups on reform of California divorce and custody legislation, and consulted on law reform issues. 1993

Research Clinician, Center for the Family in Transition (Corte Madera, California)

Worked on two projects. The first involved assessment and treatment of high conflict and high risk divorcing families that have experienced violence. The second project involved investigating, interviewing, and assessing families where a parental kidnapping had occurred in the context of divorce. 1992-93

Counsel, The Children's Lawyer, Ministry of the Attorney General (Toronto)

Independent representations of children and youth, including court appearances, mediation and facilitating settlement discussions, and relevant research in the areas of child protection and administrative law. 1989-1991

EDUCATION

Masters of Social Work, University of Toronto 1994

Called to the Ontario Bar 1990

Bachelor of Laws, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University 1988

Bachelor of Social Work, McGill University, 1985

Graduated with "Great Distinction".

James McGill Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement (1983-85)

University Scholar (1982-85)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Annual Narrative Trainings 2005-2017:

Traumatized Children

Bereavement

Community Justice

Domestic Violence

Children and Anxiety

Adolescents and Depression

Navigating Life Transitions

Mindfulness for Children and Adolescents

Collaborative Practice Training - Levels I and II: 2008 and 2009

Interdisciplinary Collaborative Practice – Lonestar Texas Trainers 2008
Emotionally Focused Couple Therapy – Sue Johnson 2008
Narrative Therapy: Summer Intensive 2007

PRESENTATIONS

Collaborative Practice Levels I and II, with the Toronto Collaborative Training Team 2015-17.

The Family Professional in Collaborative Practice: A deeper exploration of our work, with Sheila Brown and Stella Kavoukian 2016 - 2017.

Parenting Plans Unpacked, with Sheila Brown and Stella Kavoukian 2016 – 2017.

Interdisciplinary Collaborative Practice, with IACP faculty, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan June 2017.

Managing Difficult Personalities with Stella Kavoukian Collaborative Practice Toronto 2016.

Collaborative Practice Consultation, with Deborah Graham to create a strategic plan with the Collaborative Group in Barrie, Ontario 2016.

Addressing the Myths of Collaborative Practice as an Obstacle to Practice, presented to the Durham Collaborative Practice Group 2015.

New Strategies for Working with Conflict and Impasse, Ontario Association of Collaborative Professionals (OACP) with Victoria Smith 2015.

Guest lecturer at Collaborative Family Law Course, Osgoode Hall 2012-2013.

A New Approach to Integrating Advocacy and Neutrality to Avoid and Manage Impasse, with Victoria Smith and Stella Kavoukian at the International Association of Collaborative Professionals (IACP) Chicago 2012.

A New Approach to Integrating Advocacy and Neutrality to Avoid and Manage Impasse, with Victoria Smith Ontario Association of Collaborative Professionals (OACP) Barrie, Ontario 2012.

Play Therapy with Children Resisting Visitation, presented at the Ontario Association of Family Mediators (OAFM) Ottawa 2006.

PUBLICATIONS

- 2004 “Reconnecting with Absent Parents: A Model of Intervention” *Family Court Review*, 42, 439-59 (with Freeman, R., Abel, D. and Cowper-Smith, M.)
- 2002 “Transitions: Meeting the Needs of Iranian Families Facing Separation and Divorce”, Toronto: Family Service Association (with Dilmaghani, S.)
- 1995 “For Kids Sake Manual: Intervention for High Conflict Divorcing Families ,” Toronto: Clarke Institute of Psychiatry, Family Court Clinic.
- 1994 “Children in Diverse Families” *The Social Worker*, 62(2) (with Goldberg, K. and Gaber, S.)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Ontario Association of Professional Social Workers

Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers

Member of Collaborative Practice Toronto