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## Researchers from Louisiana Present at Am Psych Assn

Louisiana psychological scientists and researchers from Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Tulane University Health Sciences Center, Tulane University New Orleans, and Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans presented at the August national conference of the American Psychological Association. Presentations included the following.

Louisiana State University

Mary E. Barnes, Matthew L. Willis, and Katie E. Cherry, PhD of LSU Baton Rouge, authored “Memory Self-Efficacy in Oldest-Old Adults.” According to the abstract: Subjective perceptions of memory play an important role in cognitive adaptability in later life. Self-reported memory is typically assessed using objective surveys. Few studies have examined what older people may

Cont pg 6

## Dr. Leonhard, Award Recipient, Grateful to Late Janet Matthews

Dr. Christoph Leonhard, founder and first department chair of the Chicago School of Professional Psychology at Xavier, is the 2023 recipient of the Janet R. Matthews, Ph.D. Outstanding Psychology Mentor Award, announced by the Louisiana Psychological Association.

Spokesperson Dr. Amanda Raines, said, "This award recognizes and honors Dr. Janet R. Matthews for her lifetime of mentoring work and the impact she had on psychologists in Louisiana. This award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions in their mentoring of others in psychology. This year we are recognizing Dr. Christoph Leonhard.

"Dr. Leonhard is a Professor of Clinical Psychological at the Chicago School of

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## Dr. Joy D. Osofsky Acknowledged for Scientific Contributions

Dr. Joy Osofsky's achievements were recently acknowledged by the Louisiana Psychological Association when they named her the recipient of the Award for Contributions in Psychological Science.

Dr. Osofsky, clinical and develop-mental psychologist, is the Ramsay Endowed Chair and Barbara Lemann Professor of Child Welfare at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans where she is director of the Harris Center for Infant Mental Health.

She has published widely and authored or edited numerous books on trauma in the lives of children. She has established an international reputation has an expert in this area and recently testified at a congressional panel. Currently, with three colleagues, she is editing the *WAIMH Handbook of Infant and Early Childhood Development*.

Cont pg 8

## Dr. Buckner Awarded Grants: Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Microaggressions for Blacks

Dr. Julia Buckner, Professor in the Department of Psychology at LSU and the Director of LSU's Anxiety and Addictive Behaviors Laboratory & Clinic, has been awarded two grants, totaling over \$800,000, to study alcohol and drug abuse for Black persons including the impact of microaggressions.

Dr. Buckner is also a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at LSU-Health Sciences Center and a Visiting Professor at the London South Bank University School of Applied Sciences. She is also a licensed clinical psychologist.

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# Editorial Page – Opinions

## *Aunt Lee* by J. Nelson

My Aunt Lee turned 105 last month.

In 2018 we celebrated her 100th birthday, joining the multitudes of relatives and friends that gathered at her home on Sibley Lake in Natchitoches, where she lived by herself (Uncle Bill died some years ago), surrounded by books (she retired from teaching and from her job as Librarian at Northwestern) and walls of photos of her five children, grandchildren and greats.

She's watched the disappearance of outhouses, pedal operated sewing machines, and party-lines. She's put away her black & white television, manual typewriter, and encyclopedias. She lived through the Great Depression and WWII, witnessed a cure for polio, and watched the moon landing.

Like everyone else, her life has not been without its tragedies. When Lee was eight years old, her father died in an accident, described in the headline in a 1926 issue of the *Shreveport Times* – "Auto Plunges from Highway, Man Drowned."



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Journalism Consultant:  
Robert Holeman,  
*Editor (Ret.), The Coushatta Citizen,  
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Columnists/Reporters:  
Susan Andrews, PhD, the late Alvin Burstein, PhD

Cartoonists: Jake Nelson-Dooley,  
Jonny Hawkins

Photography: Mike Dooley, MBA  
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Copy editor: Susan Brown

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*Coushatta, Dec. 19 (Special).— Charles Hunter, 27 years old, of Creighton, was drowned at 6 o'clock Sunday night, his wife was severely bruised and shaken and the 14 months old baby was lacerated about the head, when the automobile in which they were riding plunged over an embankment two miles from of Creighton, pinning Hunter beneath the car which landed in a ditch filled with water. He was drowned before aid could be summoned. The wife and baby escaped death by being thrown free from the car as it plunged over the embankment.*

Aunt Lee has always expressed her emotions freely, including about the accident, and how her father, Charlie, was playing chicken with a friend, Jeter Adams, on Highway 1 south of Shreveport, when one of them miscalculated and turned stupidity into tragedy, making a widow of my grandmother, Julia, and giving my mother, the 14 month-old, a scar at her hairline to remember her father.

Lee details of the stories of a young widow with three little girls, coping with losses and change, embraced by the close-knit relationships of a rural, farming community, of men who worked long days in the fields and women who sat in a quitting circle or shelling peas together on the front porch. And at all times, shared a connection to others at church on Sunday mornings.

In his *Lost Connections: Uncovering the Real Causes of Depression*, author Johann Hari shows that mental illness is social. "You need to have a community," he writes. He quotes the World Health Organization who says, "...the presence or absence of mental health is above all a social indicator...". The rise in suicide and mental illness, Hari writes, is not because we need more pills, but because we are suffering from a "... social and spiritual imbalance in how we live."

She thinks nothing about her age, she said, or death for that matter. I asked Aunt Lee once if she was afraid of dying, and she said, "I don't give it a second thought."

Her key to a long life is living it in "a wholesome way." She seems to have lived a life of balance, with equal measures of faith, family, community and her meaningful contributions to it all.

[Julie Nelson, PhD, a licensed psychologist for over 40 years, has now turned journalist and publisher of the Times. She also holds other positions in the community. However, her opinions here are those of her own, and do not represent any group or association. She and the Times receive no compensation other than paid advertising. Email her at [drj@drjulienelson.com](mailto:drj@drjulienelson.com), —she welcomes feedback.]

## Corrections & Clarifications

No corrections were received for last month's issue. We made a few edits of our own. Please send your corrections to:  
[psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com](mailto:psychologytimes@drjulienelson.com)

State & National News

Appeals Court Upholds Transgender Procedures Ban in Tennessee, Kentucky

The US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit ruled to allow Tennessee and Kentucky to enforce bans on certain medical procedures on children, reported Caitlin Williams of jurist.org.

According to Williams, "The decision makes the Sixth Circuit the second federal appeals court to uphold a state ban on gender-affirming care for minors. In August, the Eleventh Circuit upheld a similar ban in Alabama. Conversely, district courts in Arkansas, Texas, and Georgia, as well as a state court in Montana have blocked similar bans."

"In a 2-1 vote," reported Williams, "the court dismissed a challenge brought by families of transgender minors, holding that the bans did not discriminate on the basis of sex." The laws under review "prohibit medical providers from administering hormone therapy, puberty blockers, and procedures for the purpose of alleviating gender dysphoria."

"In their complaints for injunctive relief, the plaintiffs in Tennessee and Kentucky alleged that the bans are unconstitutional under the Fourteenth Amendment of the US Constitution and 'will cause severe and irreparable harm.' However, the court disagreed, finding that the right to gender-affirming care is not constitutionally protected."

The Appeals Court rejected the claim that there was a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause, reported Williams, rather finding that there was "no 'deeply rooted' tradition of impeding the government's ability to regulate medicine, particularly on the behalf of children. The court dismissed the plaintiffs' argument that parents have a right to make medical decisions for their children. Instead they found that while this is true to an extent, parents do not have a right to do so where it violates 'democratically enacted laws.'"

The Appeals Court also rejected the idea that there was a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment's Equal Protection Clause. Instead they found that these laws " 'treat similarly situated individuals evenhandedly,' whether they classify on the basis of age, sex or medical condition. The court further dismissed the argument that transgender status qualifies as a suspect class, noting that "the bar for recognizing a new suspect class is a high one."

In their opinion, the Appeals Court wrote: "This is a relatively new diagnosis with ever-shifting approaches to care over the last decade or two. Under these circumstances, it is difficult for anyone to be sure about predicting the long-term consequences of abandoning age limits of any sort for these treatments. That is precisely the kind of situation in which life-tenured judges construing a difficult-to-amend Constitution should be humble and careful about announcing new substantive due process or equal protection rights that limit accountable

elected officials from sorting out these medical, social, and policy challenges."

On July 18, Louisiana lawmakers overturned Governor Edwards' veto of a bill banning certain medical procedures for transgender children, House Bill 648.

Representative Firment's HB 648 bans the use of puberty-blockers, hormone treatment and gender-reassignment surgery for children under age 18. The veto required a super majority in both the House and the Senate chambers of the state. The House vote was 76 to 23 to override. The Senate vote was 28 to 11.

Edwards said in a statement, "Today, I was overridden for the second time, on my veto of a bill that needlessly harms a very small population of vulnerable children, their families, and their health care professionals. I expect the courts to throw out this unconstitutional bill as well."

Dr. Clifton Mixon psychologist and employee of a gender care clinic, testified in opposition to HB 648.

Dr. Jesse Lambert, also testified in opposition to HB 648, representing the Louisiana Psychological Association. Lambert said, "A lot of research has been discussed today scientifically sound research that indicates that this is a true phenomena and that individuals who are trans have suffered greatly."

Louisiana Reaches Lowest Unemployment Rate in History

On September 19, the Louisiana Workforce Commission announced that federal data shows Louisiana once again hit its lowest ever unemployment rate.

The unemployment rate is 3.3%, the lowest in history, and the number of unemployed individuals is 68,814, also the lowest in history, said officials.

"Louisiana is not only consistently breaking records for low unemployment, we are ahead of the nation," said Governor John Bel Edwards.

"Louisiana's record-low unemployment rate of 3.3% is well below the national rate of 3.8%, and it's a testament to the talent and work ethic of our people."

"When I took office in January 2016, the unemployment rate was 6%, and the budget situation we inherited was a mess. My administration has worked across party lines to fix our state's finances and invest in job creation and workforce training, and that hard work is paying off."





State & National News

Evidence continues to mount

# COVID Vaccines Linked to Increased Overall Mortality

A research study published Sept. 17 by Correlation Research in the Public Interest, "COVID-19 vaccine-associated mortality in the Southern Hemisphere," examined the vaccine-dose fatality rate for all ages.

Researchers assessed all-cause mortality in 17 countries and found COVID-19 vaccines did not have any beneficial effect on reducing overall mortality.

The researchers did find however that unexpected peaks in high all-cause mortality in each country—especially among the elderly population when COVID-19 vaccines were deployed—coincided with the rollout of third and fourth booster doses.

"This would correspond to a mass iatrogenic event that killed  $(0.213 \pm 0.006)$  % of the world population (1 death per 470 living persons, in less than 3 years), and did not measurably prevent any deaths," the authors said.

The researchers conducted an analysis of all-cause mortality using data from the World Mortality Dataset for 17 equatorial and Southern Hemisphere countries, including Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Malaysia, New Zealand, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Suriname, Thailand, and Uruguay. Equatorial countries have no summer and winter seasons, so there are no seasonal variations in their all-cause mortality patterns.

Key findings from the 180-page report include:

- In all countries included in the analysis, all-cause mortality increased when COVID-19 vaccines were deployed.
- Nine of 17 countries had no detectable excess deaths following the World Health Organization’s March 11, 2020, declaration of the pandemic until the beginning of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign.
- Unprecedented peaks in all-cause mortality were observed in January and February 2022, during the summer season of Southern Hemisphere countries coinciding with or following the rollout of boosters in 15 of 17 countries studied.
- Excess all-cause mortality during the vaccination period beginning January 2021 was 1.74 million deaths, or one death per 800 injections, in the 17 countries studied.

By examining mortality and vaccination data from Chile and Peru by age and dose number, researchers observed clear peaks in all-cause mortality in July through August 2021, January through February 2022, and July through August 2022 among elderly age groups. The increase in all-cause mortality observed in January and February 2022 in both countries coincided with the rapid rollout of Chile’s fourth COVID-19 vaccine dose and Peru’s third dose.

It is unlikely that the rise in all-cause mortality coinciding with the rollout and sustained administration of COVID-19 vaccines in all 17 countries could be due to any cause other than the vaccines, researchers said.

"There is no evidence in the hard data of all-cause mortality of a beneficial effect from the COVID-19 vaccine rollouts. No lives were saved," Denis Rancourt, co-director of Correlation Research in the Public Interest with a doctorate in physics, told *Epoch Times*. "On the contrary, the evidence can be understood in terms of being subjected to a toxic substance. The risk of death per injection increases exponentially with age. The policy of prioritizing the elderly for injection must be ended immediately."

All Correlations reports and this study can be found at <https://correlation-canada.org/research/>

# Inspector General Report Points to Gaps in Medicaid Opioid Treatment

More than half a million Medicaid recipients diagnosed with opioid use disorder did not receive medication to treat it in 2021, according to a new report released Friday by the inspector general of the Department of Health and Human Services, *DNYUZ* and the *NY Times* said last week.

Individuals seeking treatment often face barriers such as difficulty finding providers who are authorized and/or willing to prescribe or dispense MOUD and stigma surrounding its use. For example, until recently, only providers with a Federal waiver could prescribe or administer buprenorphine for opioid use disorder in an office setting. Research also suggests that particular demographic groups, such as adolescents or people of certain races, may be less likely to receive MOUD."

The authors said the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, an agency of the Health and Human Services Department, should work to close the gaps.

The authors noted, "Nearly 81,000 people died from opioid overdoses in the United States in 2021, an increase of 17 percent from the previous year. Treating opioid use disorder with MOUD [Medications for Opioid Use Disorder] is essential to reducing overdose deaths; however, many individuals in need experience difficulties accessing this potentially life-saving treatment. For example, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) found that fewer than one in five Medicare enrollees with opioid use disorder received MOUD in 2021.

"Medicaid is uniquely positioned to achieve these goals given that the program is estimated to cover almost 40 percent of nonelderly adults with opioid use disorder," the report said.

The half-million people who did not receive treatment amounted to about one-third of all Medicaid recipients with opioid use disorder.





# Louisiana Department of Health Seeks to Destigmatize 988 Use

In a September 13 press release, the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) said it is launching a new marketing campaign aimed at raising awareness, destigmatizing the need for mental health treatment and services, and increasing Louisiana 988 usage statewide.

A key goal of the campaign is reaching vulnerable populations about the services available through 988, including individuals who are Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC), LGBTQ+ people and veterans.

A series of historic storms, the COVID-19 pandemic and other traumatic events have taken a major toll on the mental health and emotional well-being of Louisianans of all ages in recent years, said the officials. Because of these challenges, the message from LDH has been clear: It's OK to not be OK, and Louisiana 988 has counselors ready to assist anyone seeking help.

"LDH recognizes that stigma and even fear may deter individuals from seeking support from 988. This campaign is designed to address those barriers and encourage Louisiana residents to reach out whether they are in a mental health crisis or just having a bad day," said LDH Secretary Stephen Russo.

"Our hope for this new marketing initiative is to reach a wider audience, including vulnerable communities, so that all Louisianans know how to utilize 988 and what to expect. All of us need help sometimes, and LDH is committed to eliminating the stigma around mental health and substance use. The 988 helpline ensures everyone has easy and confidential access to high-quality emotional support, regardless of why the support is needed."

According to the announcement, one in five adults in the U.S. lives with a mental health condition. Death by suicide is the 14th leading cause of death in the state, and it is the third leading cause of death for Louisianans ages 10-34. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, 689 Louisianans died by suicide in 2021.

LDH noted that their campaign is informed by field research that identified three primary barriers to individuals contacting 988: Not knowing what to expect when calling 988; Fear of being let down when someone is feeling most vulnerable; and Fear of overstepping personal boundaries or making things worse for someone else when calling for help.

Key components of the campaign include an aggressive paid media strategy starting with social media advertising, a new website — [Louisiana988.org](https://Louisiana988.org) — for people to learn more, and a platform for community partners, advocates and local influencers to generate their own 988 promotional materials. To help kick off the new marketing campaign, and in recognition of National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, the Governor's Mansion lit up in purple on the evening of Wednesday, September 13.

In July 2023, Louisiana, along with other U.S. states transitioned to using the 988 dialing code to strengthen and expand the existing Lifeline. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) sees 988 as a first step toward a transformed crisis care system in America, said the officials.

LDH believes 988 to be an important resource for residents to get immediate support when they need it. According to national studies, the helpline works — individuals who contact 988 are significantly more likely to feel less depressed, less overwhelmed and more hopeful after speaking to a counselor. Almost 98% of people who call, chat or text the 988 helpline get the support they need and do not require emergency services in that moment, according to SAMHSA.

# OCD Louisiana New Orleans "Million Steps Walk" on October 8 to Raise Awareness

In a recent press release, OCD Louisiana President, Dr. Kristin Fitch, announced that the *New Orleans One Million Steps for OCD Walk* will take place on Sunday, October 8 at Washington Square.

Co-hosted by the International OCD Foundation, the *One Million Steps for OCD Walk* is the nation's largest grassroots awareness-building and fundraising campaign to highlight obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) and related disorders, including body dysmorphic disorder and hoarding disorder.

Officials noted that the OCD Walk aims to reduce the stigma associated with OCD and mental illness in general and funds raised support the important work of the IOCDF and its partnering Affiliates, including OCD Louisiana. These programs aim to drive change through advocacy, education, research, and resources that improve the lives of those living with OCD and related disorders, said officials.

"It's estimated that 1 in 100 adults and 1 in 200 children live with OCD. Despite its prevalence, OCD is often misunderstood and misrepresented in the media as a personality quirk or helpful trait that keeps people organized. In reality, OCD is debilitating and severely impacts those living with the disorder, as well as their friends and family. The World Health Organization (WHO) has ranked OCD in the top ten of the most disabling illnesses of any kind in terms of lost earnings and diminished quality of life."

The IOCDF is the world's largest non-profit organization focused solely on improving the lives of those impacted by OCD and related disorders. OCD Louisiana is an official affiliate of the IOCDF with the goal of furthering the IOCDF's mission in Louisiana.

OCD Louisiana said they invite all members of the community to join the *New Orleans OCD Walk* this Sunday, October 8 at Washington Square to raise awareness, funds, and hope. Washington Square is a dog friendly, shaded, historic park with a playground in the Marigny. The Walk Route is between 1 - 2 miles and we will also have a "Why I Walk" photo station, Awards ceremony, and Raffle. To learn more, visit [iocdf.org/neworleanswalk](https://iocdf.org/neworleanswalk)



# Researchers from Louisiana Present at American Psychological Association *continued*

by James Glass

have to say about their own memory in everyday life. In the present research, authors examined older adults’ memory self-efficacy appraisals using a mixed method approach that included objective and subjective measures. Participants were young-old (60-74 years), old-old (75-89 years) and oldest-old (90 + years) adults in the Louisiana Healthy Aging Study.

Kamile Geist, PhD, and Eugene Geist coauthored “The Impact of Music-Based Strategies on Caregivers and Infants At-Risk Families.” According to the program: It is well known that engaging in the arts throughout the lifespan can positively impact long-term health and well-being (Fancourt & Perkins, 2018). The evidence of the positive impact on public health with families at risk due to trauma, substance abuse, and low socioeconomic status is building.

Tulane University

Aditi Morumganti contributed to the “Compounding Structural Vulnerabilities Faced by People Living with HIV and Cancer in Vietnam.” In contrast to the robust subsidized HIV-related health care services provided in Vietnam, cancer care presents a significant cost burden, said the author. Further, people living with HIV have higher rates of many cancers, and thus are a group that disproportionately bears these high costs. Participants reported that the current health care infrastructure in Vietnam leads to later diagnosis of cancer and poorer cancer prognoses. Costs of cancer care were discussed as a major concern. In general, participants also noted that HIV care tends to be siloed from other medical care, including cancer care.

Aditi Morumganti also coauthored a presentation for “A Qualitative Exploration of Sociocultural Perceptions of Cancer and Their Interplay with Stigma,” and “Cancer Stigma and Discrimination in Employment and Housing in Viet Nam.”

The author noted in the abstract that, "Living with HIV can threaten one’s ability to achieve [...] cultural capabilities due to perceptions of people living with HIV as contagious, engaged in immoral or illegal activity, and unemployable. On the other hand, taking HIV treatment and maintaining employment were seen as enabling people living with HIV to retain social standing."

And, "Cancer patients can face multilevel stigma related to their cancer and its treatment, including discrimination in employment and housing. This discrimination has significant social, economic, and emotional effects, yet remains underexplored in many contexts, including Viet Nam. As cancer incidence continues to rise in Viet Nam’s aging society, comprehensive interventions for cancer patients and public education against cancer stigma will be increasingly necessary."

Tochukwu Awachie coauthored with Heidi P. Breaux, DSW of Louisiana State University

on the “BIPOC Trans and Nonbinary Liberation: Practice and Advocacy Strategies.” This was for Transgender and gender nonconforming and Ethnic Minority Studies.

Tochukwu Awachie collaborated on the “Generic and Culturally Relevant Coping May Mediate the Reasons for Living – Suicide Resilience Link.” According to the abstract: African American women historically have shown impressive resilience to suicidal behavior. Authors focus attention to the association between suicide resilience and reasons for living or culturally-relevant factors that may explain the association, since both constructs are protective factors for suicidal behavior.

Tochukwu Awachie presented “Personhood & Power: The Therapeutic Value of Embracing AfroDiasporic Cosmologies in Clinical Spaces.” Author noted limitations of mainstream psychology in service of Black therapy clients and offered recommendations for more culturally-enriched psychotherapy. Mainstream or Western psychology posits Eurocentric philosophies and theories as standards against which cultural psychology, the psychology of people of the global majority, is contrasted (Sutherland, 2011). African psychology is a protest psychology that centers African ways of knowing and being and reclaims African images and narratives from Euro-American discursive contexts (Nwoye, 2015).

Michael Cunningham, PhD and Ramal R. Rauf, BS, presented on the “Dimensions of Racial Identity: Protective Factors for African American Girls.” This research examined the relationship between stressful life events and mental health challenges among African American female adolescents, and how that is moderated by dimensions of racial identity.

Authors identified these relationships among 245 African American female adolescent participants at a school in the southern United States. The linkages between SLEs and mental health challenges are assessed through the lens of Spencer’s PVEST framework.

Tulane University Health Sciences Center

Sangkyu Kim and S. Michal Jazwinski collaborated on “Memory Self-Efficacy in Oldest-Old Adults.” The abstract noted: Subjective perceptions of memory play an important role in cognitive adaptability in later life. Few studies have examined what older people may have to say about their own memory in everyday life. In the present research, we examined older adults’ memory self-efficacy appraisals using a mixed method approach that included objective and subjective measures. Participants were young-old (60-74 years), old-old (75-89 years) and oldest-old (90 + years) adults in the Louisiana Healthy Aging Study (LHAS).

Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans

Stephanie M. Grant, PhD, presented on the “Co-creating anti colonial learning spaces: Building communities of resistance.” The author noted: This session will be focused on exploring the tenets of the collaborative, non-hierarchical, anti-colonial approach to collective learning through community while providing a direct model of a session with participants. We will briefly review the tenets of an anti-colonial learning collaborative as well as findings from the initial 8-session learning collective completed in the summer of 2022 (approximately 10 minutes) and proceed to model a sample learning session with participants. This content will serve as the cornerstone of a non-hierarchical discussion around anti-colonial approaches to knowledge dissemination and community building.

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People

# Dr. Joy D. Osofsky Acknowledged for Scientific Contributions, continued

Dr. Osofsky is also Past President of Zero to Three and of the World Association for Infant Mental Health. She currently serves on the Board of Zero to Three. She has served as Co-Principal Investigator of four Centers within the National Child Traumatic Stress Network since 2003. She is currently President Elect of Division 7(Developmental) for American Psychological Association.

The Louisiana Association spokesperson, Dr. Amanda Raines, said, "Dr. Osofsky is a Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry with the LSU Health Sciences Center and the Paul J. Ramsay Chair. She is an internationally recognized expert in infant and child mental health. Dr. Osofsky has published hundreds of peer-reviewed manuscripts, books, and book chapters and received support for her work through various agencies."

The nominating individual said, "Dr. Osofsky's decades-long career embodies the heart of excellence in bringing the science of psychology to the benefit of others, through applications, education, writing and scientific investigation. She is a clinical psychologist, professor, author, researcher, and she brings her integrative thinking to the education of tomorrow's leaders and innovators. She exemplifies what it means to advance psychology for the benefit of the larger society."

In 2007, Dr. Osofsky received the Sarah Haley Award for Clinical Excellence in work with trauma by the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. In 2010 she was recognized with the Lourie Award for leadership and outstanding contributions to the health and welfare of children and families. In 2020, she was awarded the Translational Research Award from the International Congress on Infant Studies and in 2021 she received the Zero To Three Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dr. Osofsky has been recognized many other times for her contributions. These include Honorary President Distinction, World Association for Infant Mental Health; Presidential Commendation from the American Psychiatric Association for leadership in mental health recovery following Hurricane Katrina; the Nicholas Hobbs Award by Division 37 of the American Psychological Association for contributions to public policy; the Medal of Honor by the Mayor of New Orleans; the 2000 Role Model by Young Leadership Council, New Orleans; Best social science reference text, American Publishers Association for the WAIMH Handbook of Infant Mental Health (four volumes), as just a few examples.

Dr. Osofsky serves as Clinical Consultant, Safe Babies Court Teams, Zero to Three, in Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia,

Arkansas, Connecticut, Nebraska, Iowa, New York, Cherokee, NC. She is the Past-President, Zero to Three: National Center for Infants, Toddlers and Families and Member of Executive Committee of Zero to Three (2000-2007); Member of Board of Directors (1986-present); Member Committee on the Board (2006-present); Program Chair, National Training Institute (2009-present).

The *Times* asked her what she feels are her most significant contributions.

"I have contributed over many years to recognizing the importance of understanding of the effects of trauma on children and on their families, and ways to help them recover and gain resilience," she said. This includes contributing to an understanding of preparation, response and recovery following major disasters including recently the intersection and inequities related to the COVID-19 pandemic, she explained.

"I have developed one of the few programs in the country offering training to psychology interns and postdoctoral fellows and child psychiatry fellows in infant and early childhood mental health including training in evidence based clinical practice for young children under the age of six years," Dr. Osofsky said.

Her work has been acknowledged through numerous grants including:

Louisiana Association of United Ways/Red Cross funding for Family Resiliency Project, Co-Project Director with Howard J. Osofsky, M.D., Ph.D., 2008-2009, \$554,246;

Louisiana Rural Trauma Services Center-Substance Abuse Mental Health Administration. Principal Investigator, Center in National Child Traumatic Stress Network, 2008-2012, \$1,999,000 (50% time);

Mental and Behavioral Health Capacity Project for the Gulf Region Health Outreach Program, Funded as part of the Medical Settlement following the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, Co-Director, 2012-2017, \$14,400,00 (80% time);

Terrorism and Disaster Coalition for Child and Family Resilience, National Child Traumatic Stress Network, Co-Principal Investigator, 2016-2022, \$1999,000 (50% time); and

Harris Foundation funding for Prenatal and Perinatal Behavioral Support for Maternal and Infant Well-Being, (MIST Program). Co-Principal Investigator, 2017-2024. \$630,000, 20% time.

Examples of her extensive publications include:

Osofsky, H.J., Osofsky, J.D., Hansel, T.C., Lawrason, B., & Speier, A. (2018). "Building resilience after disasters through the Youth Leadership Program: The importance of community and academic partnerships on youth outcomes." *Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education, and Action*, 12. Special Issue, 11-21.

Weems, C. F., Osofsky, J. D., Osofsky, H. J., King, L. S., Hansel, T. C., & Russell, J. D.

Cont next pg



Dr. Joy Osofsky testifying at Congressional hearing in D.C. Dr. Osofsky was the expert in mental health, speaking about the effects of trauma on children. (Photo courtesy of Congress.)



# Dr. Joy D. Osofsky Acknowledged for Scientific Contributions, continued

(2018). Three-year longitudinal study of perceptions of competence and well-being among youth exposed to disasters." *Applied Developmental Science*, 22(1), 29–42.

Osofsky, J.D. & Osofsky, H.J. (2018). "Challenges in building child and family resilience after disasters." *Family Social Work*, 21,115-128.

Osofsky, J.D. and Osofsky, H.J. (2020). "Hurricane Katrina and the Gulf Oil Spill: Lessons Learned about Short and Long-term Effects." *International Journal of Psychology*.

Osofsky, J.D., Osofsky, H.D., Mamon, L.Y. (2020). "Psychological and social impact of COVID-19." *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*.

Osofsky, J.D. & Osofsky, H.J. (October 2022, in preparation). "The importance of building regional coalitions to support resilience for children and families in response to disasters and violence."

Osofsky, J.D., Osofsky, H.J., Frazer, A., Olivieri, M., Many, M., Selby, M., Holman, S., & Conrad, E. (February-March, 2021). "The importance of ACEs in an intervention program during the perinatal period." *American Psychologist*, 76.

She has produced over 70 books and book chapters and hundreds of scientific presentations, invited presentations and seminars. Her works include:

Osofsky, J.D. (Ed) (2011) *Clinical Work with Traumatized Young Children*. New York: Guilford Publishers.

Thomas, K. & Osofsky, J.D (Eds) (2012). *Emerging Issues in Infant Mental Health*. Zero to Three Journal., Washington, DC.

Osofsky, J.D., Cohen, C., Huddleston, J., Hudson, L., Zavora, K., Lewis, M. (March, 2017). *Questions Every Judge and Lawyer Should Ask About Infants and Toddlers in the Child Welfare System* (Update). Reno, NV: National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

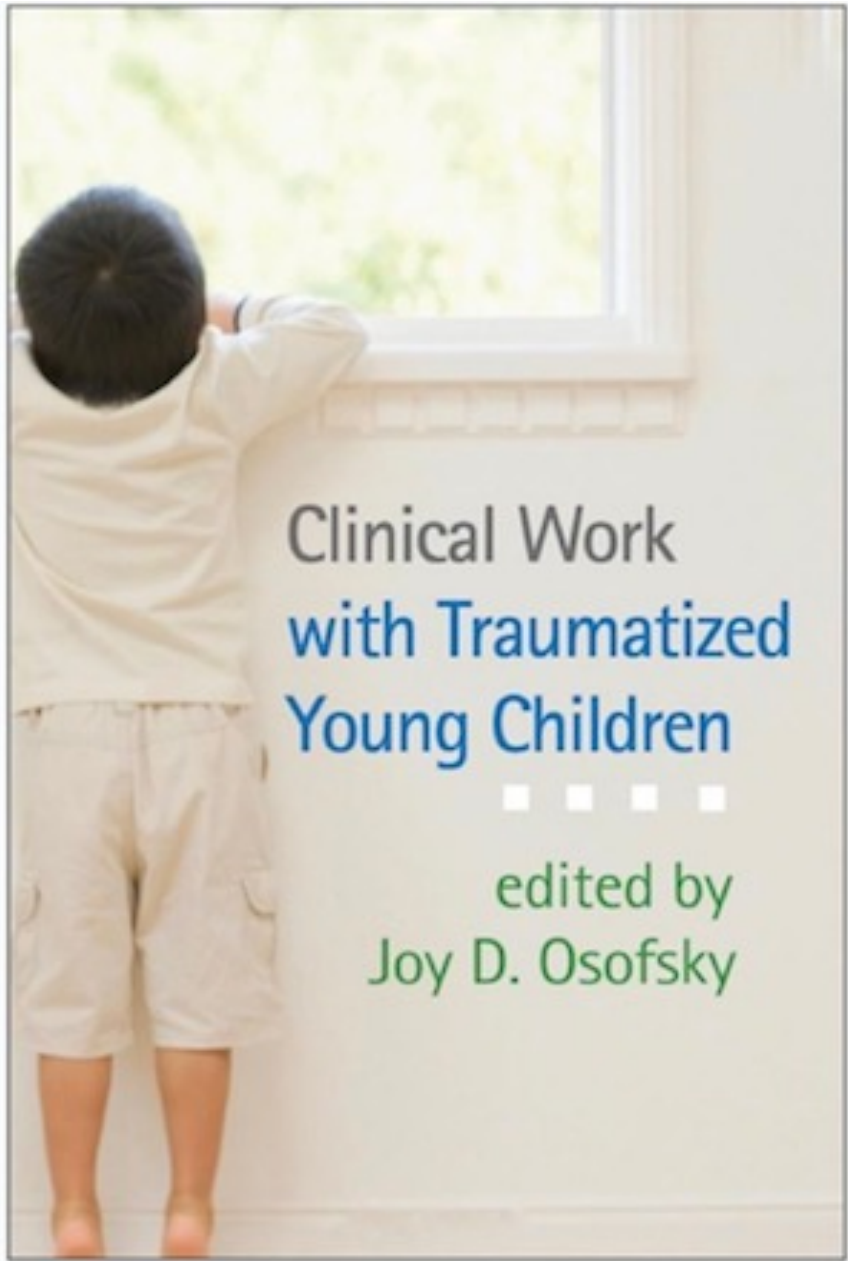
Osofsky, J.D., Stepka, P., & King, L.C. (2017). *Treating Infants and Young Children Impacted by Trauma: Interventions That Promote Healthy Development*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Osofsky, J.D., Fitzgerald, H., Keren, M., Puura, K. (Eds) (2021, in preparation). *WAIMH Handbook of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health, Two Volumes*, Springer Publishers

Invited Plenary, "Lessons learned from children exposed to trauma." Early Intervention and Education Meeting, St. Petersburg, Russia, July, 2013



Dr. Joy Osofsky  
(LSUHSC Photo)



Invited Conference, "Trauma through the Eyes of a Young Child," Hong Kong Infant Mental Health Association, Hong Kong, March 2017.

Invited Master Lecture: "Recognizing the Effects of Trauma and Adverse Childhood Experiences during the Perinatal Period," World Association for Infant Mental Health, Brisbane Australia Virtual June 2021

Legacy Interview: "How to Heal Childhood Trauma," MindinMind, UK, October 2022

What are her plans for the future?

"Currently, I continue to provide training and supervision in infant and early childhood mental health," Dr. Osofsky said. "I initiated 4 years ago and am director of a support program with several excellent LSUHSC faculty that also has an evaluation component – Mother-Infant Support Team (MIST) for high risk pregnant mothers at University Medical Center."

She said she will continue to do presentations, virtually and in person, on the effects of trauma on children and families and ways to support resilience, including components related to inequities, in the United States and internationally.

"I also do presentations on the impact of vicarious trauma and compassion fatigue when working with trauma and how to provide support for providers," she said.

"I am working as lead editor with three colleagues, two of whom are international, on the two volume World Association for Infant Mental Health Handbook on Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health which will go to press at the end of September 2023."



# Dr. Leonhard, Award Recipient, Grateful to Late Janet Matthews, continued

Professional Psychology at Xavier University," Raines said. "In his current and previous roles, he has tirelessly mentored dozens of students and chaired numerous doctoral dissertations. Dr. Leonhard has also mentored faculty within the department to aid in their transition to academia. In sum, he consistently goes above and beyond to cultivate competent and diverse professionals."

Dr. Leonhard told the *Times* that he is particularly grateful for his connection to Dr. Janet Matthews.

"My first feeling about the award was gratitude toward the late Dr. Janet Matthews, whom the award is named after. When I arrived in New Orleans about a dozen years ago with the idea to possibly start a PsyD program here, folks quickly directed me to Janet. Her mentorship and support were instrumental in helping get the program started," Dr. Leonhard said.

This is a legacy award developed by Dr. Laurel Franklin, who was mentored by Dr. Janet Matthews. Dr. Janet Matthews passed away in 2019.

Margaret Smith, PsyD, the current Department Chair/Director of Clinical Training/Professor at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology at Xavier University of Louisiana, said, "Dr. Christoph Leonhard was the founder of our program at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology at Xavier University. He worked tirelessly with our students ensuring that they would have opportunities to present posters at the Xavier Health Disparities conference as well as at the Louisiana Psychological Association annual conventions. He has mentored a number of our students to successfully publish articles and has

provided guidance and mentorship to our adjunct and core faculty members over the years. He has also provided me with mentoring on administrative program responsibilities."

Dr. Leonhard also said, "Additionally, I feel very honored that the LPA recognized me for the mentoring I do with our PsyD students. Working one-on-one with our students is the most rewarding part of my job. I feel very humbled by the award because the bulk of this honor really belongs to my mentees. The very essence of mentorship is the collaboration between the mentor and the mentee - with the heavy lifting being done by the mentee. Most of my mentoring centers around professional development with a focus on research and clinical skills. Doing research, writing proposals, dissertations, conference presentations, and publications is all done by the mentees with only sporadic input from me. Ditto for clinical skills development. I can mentor and guide all I want but ultimately, it's the mentee who is attending that workshop, reading that book, or working in supervision to develop that new skill."

What does he think are his most important achievements so far?

"Even if it is now unfortunately closing, my bringing a Chicago School clinical PsyD program to New Orleans in collaboration Xavier University is my proudest achievement," he said. "We have been able to train a goodly number of much needed psychologists, many of whom represent historically marginalized populations. And we will graduate several more as the program is being taught out. Most of our graduates are now practicing locally and are bringing much needed mental health services to this underserved area," Dr. Leonhard said.

"With the PsyD program closing, I am transitioning to focusing on my consultation

practice. For the past three years, I've been writing about statistical and methodological problems with using neuropsychological tests to determine whether an examinee is malingering. There are huge social justice implications of this work that I plan to pursue in the future. As luck would have it, some of my mentees are also interested in this work," Dr. Leonhard said.

Dr. Leonhard has a Google Scholar Ranking at Institution: 10th most productive (1,323 Citations, h-index: 12), he was named the Chicago School of Professional Psychology: Distinguished Teaching Award for Diversity and International Psychology

He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Cognitive and Behavioral Psychology, Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy: Honor Roll, and Illinois School of Professional Psychology: Faculty of the Year Award.

He has served as Visiting professor at University of Malta, Visiting professor at Beijing Normal University, and Instructor at the Institut für Verhaltenstherapie und Sexuologie.

His research positions include Research Consultant at Institut für Verhaltenstherapie und Sexuologie, Nuremberg, Germany, where he worked in designing, implementing, and publishing research on the topic of mindfulness-based Self-Practice/Self-Reflection in the advanced training of CBT therapists.

He also has served as Research Consultant at "RAI Ministries-Camp Restore", a social justice program in New Orleans East. He has served as Program Evaluation Consultant at "The Way Back In," a residential and outpatient clinic for patients with substance abuse problems.

Examples of his publications include:

Leonhard, C. & Leonhard, C. (in press). Neuropsychological Malingering Determinations: Science or Fiction of Lie Detection? *Georgia Law Review*, 58(2).

Leonhard, C. (2023) *Quo Vadis Forensic Neuropsychological Malingering Determinations?*Reply to Drs. Bush, Faust, and Jewsbury. *Neuropsychology Review*.

Leonhard., C. (2023). Review of Statistical and Methodological Issues in the Forensic Prediction of Malingering from Validity Tests: Part II: Methodological Issues. Paper accepted for publication in *Neuropsychology Review*.

He will be conducting a Forensic Grand Rounds organized by Alberta Hospital Edmonton and the University of Alberta via Zoom on October 11 at 10AM Central Time. The title of the presentations is *Neuropsychological Determinations of Malingering: A Forensic Junk Science?*. The event is free and open to all who are interested with prior registration required at

<https://ualberta-ca.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJY1duqgrD8vEtPq2gntqD2BDjmYiSgXli11>



Xavier researcher Efehi Edomwonyi (L) speaks with Dr. Christoph Leonhard at a past SEPA conference. Dr. Leonhard was then Chair at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology at Xavier.



# LSU's Dr. Buckner Awarded Grants: Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Microaggressions for Blacks, continued

The first grant is for the project, "Black Hazardous Drinkers: Ecological Momentary Assessment of Racial/Ethnic Microaggressions." The agency is the National Institute On Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and the amount is \$402,835.00.

According to the project materials, "Black persons are the second largest racial minority group in the U.S., accounting for over 13% (44 million) of the population. Black persons evince numerous health inequalities, particularly as it relates to alcohol consumption and negative affect (NA; e.g., sadness). Indeed, Black individuals evince the greatest increase in average daily volume of alcohol consumed such that it is 41% greater among Black compared to White individuals who consume alcohol.

"Further, Black Americans report increases in drinking frequency and heavy drinking episodes at rates greater than most other racial/ethnic groups. And when Black persons experience alcohol use disorder (AUD), their symptoms tend to be more chronic than non-Hispanic/Latin White individuals. Minority stress-based models of substance use and mental health outcomes tend to propose that marginalized groups such as Black Americans are vulnerable to risky substance use via the interplay of several domains including interpersonal (e.g., experiences of racial discrimination) and individual factors (e.g., emotional symptoms). Indeed, meta-analytic data indicate that racial discrimination is positively related to alcohol consumption, heavy/binge drinking, at-risk drinking, and drinking-related problems among Black persons. [...]

"There is a need to understand the proximal and longitudinal nature of MAs [microaggressions] and alcohol use motivation (i.e., greater alcohol craving, intention to drink, and coping-oriented motives for alcohol use) and drinking (i.e., greater alcohol consumption, greater frequency of drinking, and more negative consequences from drinking) among this health disparities group."

The second grant is for the project, "Ecological Momentary Assessment of Racial/Ethnic Microaggressions and Cannabis Use among Black Adults." The agency is the National Institute On Drug Abuse and the amount is \$419,904.00.

From the materials, "Black individuals who use cannabis use cannabis more frequently and are more likely to use riskier cannabis use methods (e.g., blunts), associated with greater exposure to carcinogens and toxins and with greater risk for cannabis use disorder (CUD). In fact, Black individuals who use cannabis are more likely to meet criteria for CUD than White or Hispanic/Latin persons. This is concerning given rates of cannabis use (including daily use) appear to be increasing among Black adults in the U.S.

"Minority stress-based models of substance use and mental health outcomes propose that marginalized groups, such as Black Americans, are vulnerable to risky substance use via the interplay of several domains including interpersonal (e.g., experiences of discrimination) and individual factors (e.g., emotional symptoms). Yet, despite meta-analytic data indicating that racial discrimination (a source of significant minority stress) is positively related to adverse drinking outcomes among Black individuals, the impact of racial discrimination on cannabis use behavior

among Black individuals has received little empirical attention. [...] there is a need to understand the longitudinal nature of MAs and cannabis use motivation (i.e., greater cannabis craving, intention to use, coping-oriented motives for cannabis use) and cannabis use and related problems among this population."

Dr. Buckner's program of research primarily focuses on: (1) psycho-sociocultural causal and maintaining factors implicated in substance use disorders and co-occurring anxiety-substance use disorders; and (2) development and evaluation of empirically-informed treatment and prevention protocols for substance use disorders, including treatment for co-occurring anxiety-substance use disorders.

Dr. Buckner has had over 190 publications and she has utilized a variety of methodological procedures in her research, including ecological momentary assessment, affect and craving induction paradigms, attentional processing paradigms, technology-based interventions, and randomized clinical trials.

She has been involved in several NIH grants as PI, co-PI, consultant, and sponsor and is currently Project Director on a graduate education training grant from the US Department of Health & Human Services' HRSA. She has also received awards from organizations such as the American Psychological Association, College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Anxiety Disorders Association of America, and Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT) Addictive Behaviors & Anxiety Disorders Special Interest Groups.





## "There's Something Out There..." Presented by Jung Society this Friday

The C. G. Jung Society of New Orleans will present, "There's Something Out There...and In Here!" at St. George's Episcopal Church, 4600 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, this Friday, October 6, 7:30 pm.

The presenter will be Mike Box, LPC, Jungian Analyst.

According to the program materials, "In the 1950s, Jung wrote an essay addressing the highly popular idea of UFOs from the perspective of analytical psychology. When viewed as an image, Bigfoot lends itself to understanding 'splitting' and 'projection.' It also serves as a mirror, allowing us to reflect on our relationship with the natural world, our place in it, and some of what may have been lost in our continual movement away from the natural world. We will explore this phenomenon psychologically and imagine what it may suggest about our relationship with the world around us."

Mike Box is a Jungian Analyst practicing in Jackson, Mississippi. The focus of his practice has been assisting clients in working through their addictions and overcoming trauma. His interests lie in the intersection of psychology, spirituality, and Nature. He completed graduate work at the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology in Palo Alto, California, and received analytical training from the Inter-regional Society of Jungian Analysts. He is a faculty member of the Memphis-Atlanta Jung Seminar.

1.5 CE credit hours for LPCs and Social Workers. For information go to [jungneworleans.org](http://jungneworleans.org)

## LPA Hosts The Trust for Ethics Workshop November 17 at Lake House in Baton Rouge

The Louisiana Psychological Association will hold their fall workshop on Friday, November 17, 2023, at the Lake House Reception Center in Baton Rouge.

The association will host the The Trust Professional Liability Insurance Company who will present a six-hour ethics continuing education workshop on ethics, risks, and vulnerabilities in the practice of psychology, titled, "Ethics, Risk Management and Vulnerabilities: Yours, Mine, and Ours."

Dr. Leisl Bryant, clinical and forensic psychologist and consultant with The Trust, will present an updated review of decision science and its implications for bias and vulnerability in clinical, ethical and risk management decision-making. She will discuss strategies for reducing the impact of these vulnerabilities, issues arising in remote services beyond the pandemic, boundaries in advocacy by professionals on behalf of their clients/patients, and the risk- management implications of self-care (or its absence) for psychologists.

Dr. Bryant is a licensed New Hampshire and Massachusetts-based clinical and forensic psychologist, with board certification in Forensic Psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology. She received her B.A. from the University of West Florida, her M.A. and Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Duquesne University, and completed a forensic postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Massachusetts Medical School Law and Psychiatry Program.

Working in both criminal and civil arenas, Dr. Bryant has maintained a private practice in clinical and forensic psychology for nearly two decades and has provided psychological services in a variety of forensic and therapeutic settings.

A continental breakfast and lunch is included with registration with an optional networking happy hour after the workshop, according to the announcement

## Louisiana School Psych Association Annual Conference this November 8-10

The Louisiana School Psychological Association will hold its annual conference this November 8, 9, and 10 at the Lafayette doubletree by Hilton on Pinhook Rd. in Lafayette. The theme for this year's conference is "Seeking Wisdom, Filling Needs."

The keynote speaker for the opening day will be Andrea Clyne, PhD, LP, President of the National Association of School Psychologists for 2023–2024. She is a licensed school psychologist with over 30 years of experience as a school-based practitioner in Colorado.

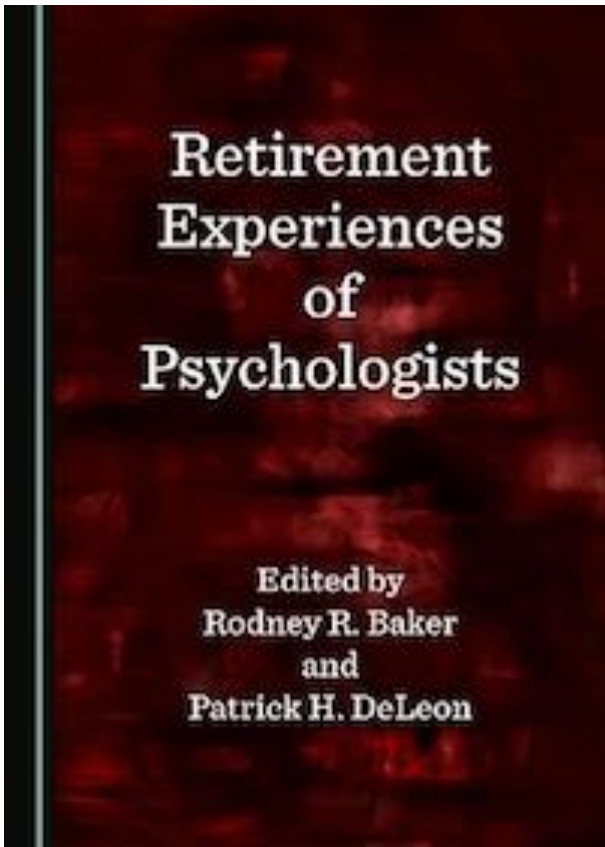
According to her bio, she "has spent many years working with her educator colleagues to advance safe and welcoming school environments, equitable practices, and multitiered systems of support (MTSS). Her leadership experiences include serving as district lead school psychologist; leading her school's special education, PBIS, and MTSS teams; and serving on her district MTSS team."

Keynote speaker for the second day is Dr. Byron McClure, author of *Hacking Deficit Thinking: 8 Reframes that Will Change the Way You Think About Strength-Based Practices and Equity in Schools*. Dr. McClure is a National Certified School Psychologist, Founder of Lessons for SEL, speaker, and best-selling co-author of *Hacking Deficit Thinking*.

"With over a decade of experience working as a practitioner in Maryland and Washington, D.C., Byron has consistently put in the work to shift mindsets from what's wrong to what's STRONG!" notes his bio. "His mission has been the same since day 1 — to improve outcomes, especially for youth and historically marginalized communities."

In his book, he and his co-author "show teachers, administrators, and support staff how to unlearn student blame and reframe thinking to focus on students' strengths."

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# Stress Solutions

by Susan Andrews, PhD

## Salmon and Sardines for Stress Reduction

Benefits attributed to eating oily fish are mounting. Eating fish is now credited with combating depression, reducing the symptoms of arthritis, reducing the risk of heart disease, protecting vision, and most recently with reducing stress and improving working memory. Of course, this is due to oily fish, like salmon and mackerel, being very rich in omega-3 poly-unsaturated fatty acids and protein. White fish have fatty acids too but not as much.

A study published in the *American Journal of Physiology – Regulatory, Integrative, and Comparative Physiology* shows that fatty fish oils can “counteract the detrimental effects of mental stress (read that: the fight or flight reaction) on your heart.” The study, led by Jason Carter of Michigan Technological University, revealed that people who took 9 grams of fish oil supplements a day for over a month experienced less mental stress in measurements of cardiovascular health, including heart rate and muscle sympathetic nerve activity (MSNA) compared to those who took 9 grams a day of olive oil instead.

Oily fish are species of fish that contain significant amounts of oil throughout their body tissues and in their belly cavity. In contrast, whitefish only contain oil in their liver - and much less of it than oily fish. Other examples of oily fish include trout, sardines, kipper, eel, and herring.

The American Heart Association recommends that people eat at least two servings of fish every week. The National Health Service of the United Kingdom also advises people to eat at least two portions of fish a week, including one of oily fish.

It has been known since the famous Avon, England study of all the pregnant women in that city during one



Adobe

year in the 90’s that women who do not eat fish during pregnancy are more likely to experience high levels of anxiety at that time. The University of Bristol longitudinal study suggested that eating fish during pregnancy could help reduce stress levels, which – in turn – has the effect of reducing behavioral and attention problems in the offspring of oily fish eating mums.

My favorite study involved London cabbies, a stressed group who can always use some working memory improvement. The BBC reported on a small group of 10 cabbies who agreed to eat 4 portions of oily fish a week for 12 weeks. They were tested before and after the 12 weeks to see what affect the increased intake of oily fish had on their stress levels and memory.

At the end of the 12 weeks it was found that cabbies were better able to deal with stressful situations and their visualization-based memory had also improved significantly, something Omega 3 is believed to help with. As a group, their stress hormone as a whole was down by 22% and their anti-stress hormone up by 12%.

Since the study included only ten participants and had no control group, the results are only suggestive. However, the cabbies could be heard to exclaim: “So long and thanks for all the fish...”



Dr. Susan Andrews is a Clinical Neuropsychologist, an award-winning writer/author (her book *Stress Solutions for Pregnant Moms*, published in 2013, has been translated into Chinese,) and 2016 Distinguished Psychologist of the Louisiana Psychological Association.



Best of

# A Shrink at the Flicks

## Once Upon a Time in Hollywood

### A Review

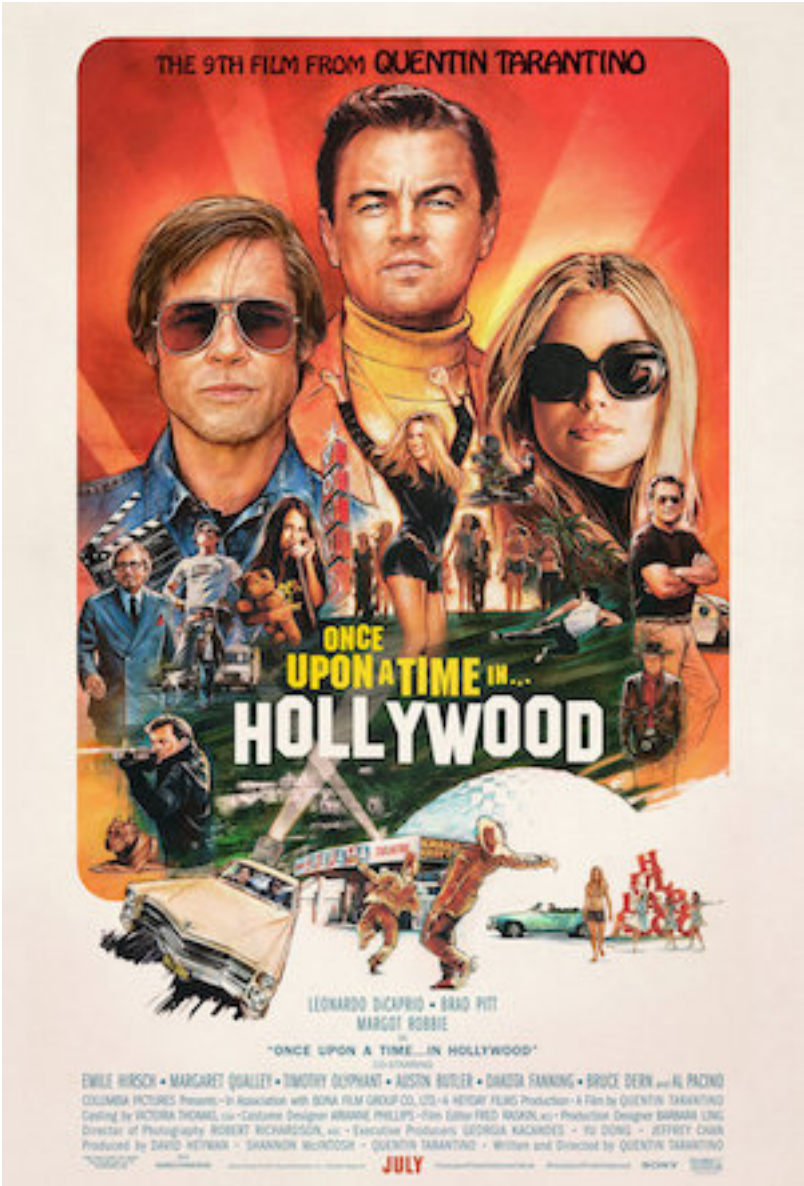
by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD

“Once upon a time” is a phrase signaling the beginning of a fairy tale. Fairy tales are folk tales that persist in a culture because they embody and illustrate that culture’s values. They function as parables. So the title of this film invites us to look for its moral center.

There is another interesting aspect of director Tarantino’s choice of the title. On one hand, the film is deeply rooted in a particular historical moment, the fifties and sixties. On the other hand, the tale is an odd amalgam of fact and fable. Movie actress Sharon Tate, whose tragic 1969 murder by Manson acolytes riveted the public, is a central figure in the film. But the tale the movie unfolds is an alternate history saga: what if the murderers had gone to a neighboring Beverly Hills mansion instead of that occupied by Tate and her famous husband, Roman Polanski?

That second house is owned by the fictional character Rick Dalton, played by Leonardo DiCaprio. Dalton was the star of a western bounty hunter TV series. He is struggling to upgrade his stereotyped small screen television career into a more rewarding one in big screen movies. An integral part of Dalton’s career is his relationship to his stunt double, Cliff Booth, played by Brad Pitt.

Booth is more than a stunt double. He is Dalton’s factotum, and the film makes much of their relationship, intentionally troubling us with the disparity between their rewards and social status, and the nature of their tie to each other. They need each other, but in ways that transcend convenience and utility. Part of the fairy tale element of this film is its providing an opportunity to



make a moral judgment about this pair of characters. The fictional movie star owner of the opulent Beverly Hills mansion next door to Tate and Polanski is less admirable than is his stunt double and body man, an ex-Green Beret who lives in a trailer on a lot behind a drive-in movie screen.

Booth’s “roommate” in his trailer abode is Brandy, a pit bull. In a highly comedic element, Booth feeds his dog Wolf’s Tooth dog food, “Good Food For Mean Dogs.” It comes in two flavors, Rat and Raccoon. Brandy, eager and quivering with hunger, is trained to wait while Booth prepares the dog’s dinner. Not until her owner, at his leisure, gives her the signal, does she lunge slaving to her repast. Brandy later plays a key role in dealing with the misdirected home invasion by Mansonites. She is one of the most admirable characters in the film. The moral point: a creature of simple if urgent impulses, she controls herself out of attachment to Booth. In addition to the contrast between Dalton and Booth, we have a contrast between Dalton and Brandy. Dalton uses Booth and others, Brandy’s devotion is unconditional.

The film is very popular—high ratings from *Rotten Tomatoes*, grossing over a hundred million dollars at this point. Part of its popularity is its focus on an interesting time and place. Another element of its fascination is its look behind tinsel town glitter. It has the allure of a gossip column, a peek at what goes on behind the doors of the rich and famous. In Freudian terms, a peek into the parents’ bedroom.

Dr. Alvin Burstein

Burstein—a psychologist and psychoanalyst, professor emeritus at the University of Tennessee and a faculty member of the New Orleans-Birmingham Psychoanalytic Center with numerous scholarly works to his credit. He was also a member of Inklings, a Mandeville critique group that meets weekly to review its members’ imaginative writings. Burstein published flash fiction and autobiographical pieces in e-zines;



courtesy photo

*The Owl*, his first novelette, is available at Amazon. He was, in addition to being a movie fan, a committed Francophile, unsurprisingly a lover of fine cheese and wine, and an unrepentant cruciverbalist.



# 10 Years Ago!

## What *the Times* was reporting on in October 2013

### OIG Shakes Its Finger at SSA

*Investigation Finds SSA Policy Prohibiting Tests for Malingering Runs Counter to Good Science, Practice*

In a September 17 congressional response report, the Office of Inspector General for the Social Security Administration pointed to flaws in the agency's prohibition against using psychological tests of malingering in disability claims. These flaws could account for over \$20 billion per year in adult mental disorder claimants alone. [...]

In the report, investigators noted that the SSA runs contrary to scientific and medical consensus [...] when it refuses to allow the use of "Symptom Validity Tests," also known as SVTs, in its disability determinations.

### Did SSA Try to Kill the Messenger?

Piecing together information from a series of internal documents, the *Times* has discovered that the state Disability Determination Services officials stopped using New Orleans neuropsychologist Dr. Michael Chafetz shortly after he published results about malingering in Social Security claimants.

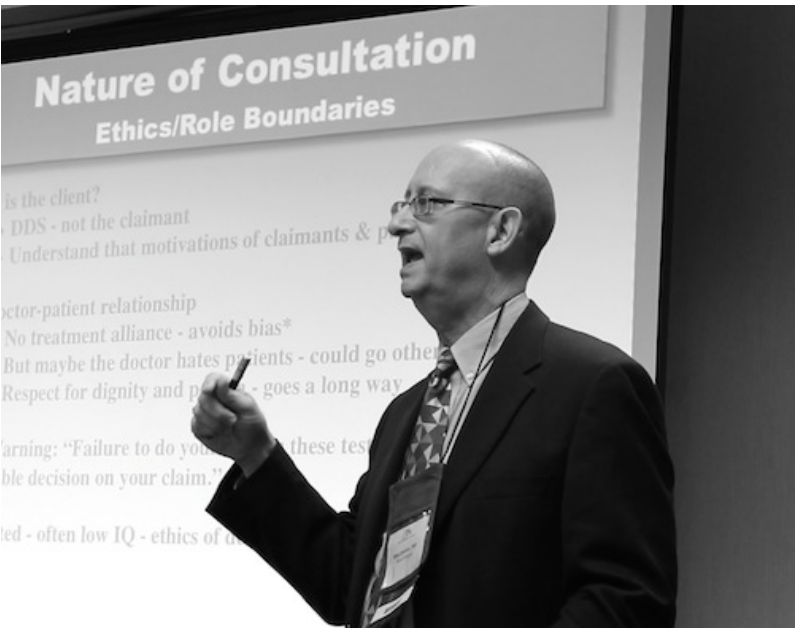
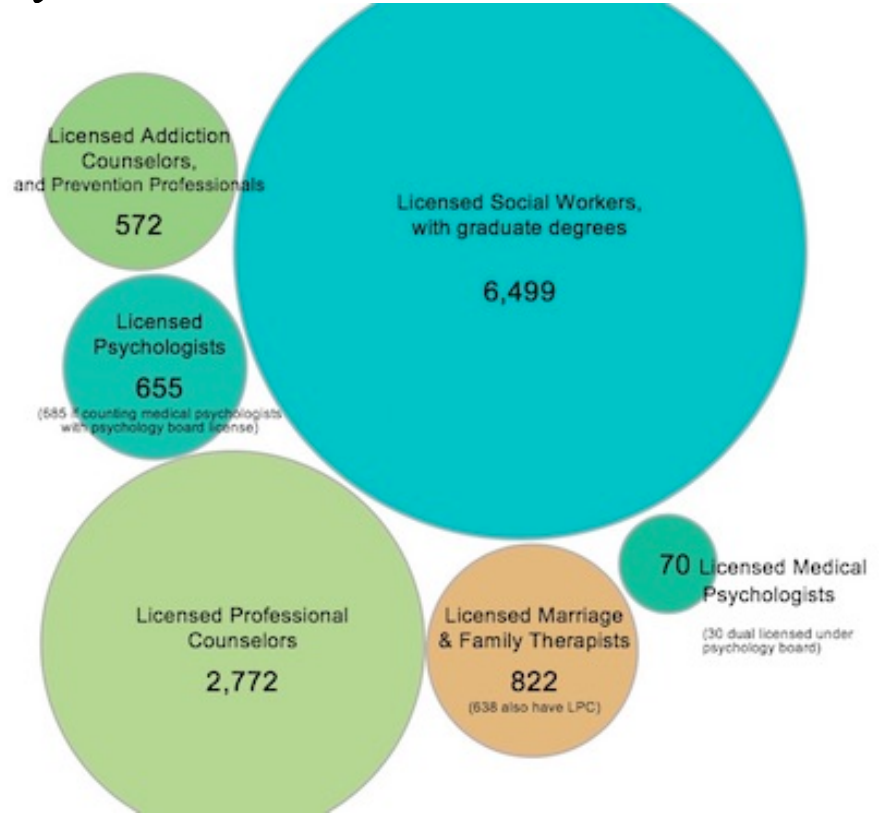
### 963 Attend Standing-Room-Only Conference Record Number Attend Louisiana Counseling Assn Convention

Louisiana Counseling Association (LCA) hosted 963 attendees, a record number, at its 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference held last month in New Orleans. "Not only did conference swell beyond belief," said conference organizer and Executive Director Diane Austin, "but LCA's membership has increased. Last year at this time, we had just over 1800 members, we are now over 2000. [...]"

### LAMP Creates New Non-Profit Corporation

The Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists formed a new organization and they have registered with the Secretary of State. The new name is "Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists, Inc." Dr. Cathy Castille is the organization's president, according to state records. Dr. Michael Berard will serve as Secretary. The registered agent is R. Gray Sexton of Baton Rouge. The new organization was filed July 22, 2013. The offices are located in Baton Rouge, on Leycester Drive.

### By the Numbers



Dr. Mike Chafetz' research has been [was] at the center of both local and national issues regarding testing and SSA. Above, he speaks at a conference of the Louisiana Psychological Assn.

### Putting Behavioral Health into the New Health Care Equation – A Talk with Health Psychologist Dr. Michele Larzelere

Quality care and cost savings dovetail at the primary care level, where psychological and behavioral health professionals can become involved. These savings can reach 30 to 60 percent. This was one of the messages of Dr. Michele Larzelere, health psychologist at the LSU Health Sciences Service Department of Family Medicine, in her 2011 presentation for the Louisiana Psychological Association. Cost savings by including behavioral health at the primary care levels can be dramatic. To put this in perspective, a 10 percent reduction in medical/surgery costs nationwide –by treating the mental or behavioral component– would exceed the entire current national mental health budget.

### Gov. Names Tulane Professor Dr. Larrieu to La Children’s Board

Gov. Bobby Jindal has appointed Dr. Julie Larrieu to the Louisiana Children's Trust Fund Board, according to the press release from the governor's office September 6. Dr. Larrieu is a Professor of Clinical Psychiatry and Pediatrics and Director of Training, Clinical Psychology, at the Tulane University School of Medicine.

### Osofskys Present in November For New Orleans Psychoanalytic Center

Drs. Howard and Joy Osofsky will present "The Importance of Psychoanalytic Integration in Current Mental Health Treatment," on Saturday, November 23, 2013. The presentation is part of the "Psychoanalysis in Action," informal speaker series hosted by the New Orleans-Birmingham Psychoanalytic Center.

### Classic Bookshelf: *Personnel and Organizational Psychology* Laurence Siegel, PhD and Irving M. Lane, PhD

There is a reason that some books are classics. No matter how much new information has been added from new scientific discoveries, the classics hold their value. Maybe it's just me, but I've found find that if you read a classic text through the modern lens, some of the ideas seem richer and more meaningful. Probably it's my age and, hopefully, experience, but there is a feeling for me of visiting an old homestead, with its solid foundations. These ideas and lessons are right where we left them, like a comfortable old shoe. *Personnel and Organizational Psychology* was written by then LSU professors Larry Siegel and Irv Lane, and it's one of those books.

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