

Dr. Rona Preli
Strategic Solutions
Individual, Couples and Family Therapy
63 Cherry Street
2nd Floor
Milford, CT 06460
(203) 283-9358

Partial Vita

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Marriage and Family Therapy
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Blacksburg, Virginia, June 1987
- AAMFT Accredited Ph.D. Program in Marriage and Family Therapy
Dissertation: Structural Dimensions of Alcoholism Within the Family System
- Certificate Post Masters Certification in Strategic Marital and Family Therapy,
Family Therapy Institute of Washington, D.C. (Jay Haley and Cloe Madanes), Chevy Chase, MD. May 1983
- M.S.W. Social Work
University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Social Work
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 1981
- Specialization in Juvenile and Criminal Justice. Thesis: Child Abuse and Delinquency
- B.S. University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut, May 1979
Specialization in Human Development and Family Relations

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Faculty Advisor. Graduate School of Education and Allied Professions.

Associate Dean. Graduate School of Education and Allied Professions.

Associate Professor, Department Chair/Program Director. COAMFTE Accredited Marriage and Family Therapy Program, Fairfield University. Tenured.

Assistant Professor, Program Director, Clinic Director. Marriage and Family Therapy Program, Fairfield University. Tenure-track clinical family member of 57-credit Masters Program. Position includes clinical supervision, instruction of course work, student advisement, and administrative responsibilities. Fairfield, Connecticut, 1988-1992.

Assistant Professor. School and Community Counseling Program, Fairfield University. Faculty member of CACREP accredited Masters Program. Responsibilities include instruction of course and supervision of internship component. Fairfield, Connecticut. 1988-1990.

Instructor. Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Instructed 120 undergraduate students in a prerequisite Family Studies course entitled "The Individual and Marriage", Blacksburg, Virginia. 1985-1987.

Instructor. Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Instructed and supervised undergraduate Human Services and Family Studies students in their field placement. Blacksburg, Virginia. 1985-1987.

Instructor. Court Services. Instructed professionals employed by the Justice Department in structural and strategic family therapy. Blacksburg, Virginia. 1985-1986.

Instructor/Facilitator. Western Maryland Consortium. CETA funded program to train potential residential support counselors. Facilitated and instructed 200 hours of classroom and field placement. Cumberland, Maryland. 1983.

CLINICAL AND SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE

Therapist and Supervisor. Strategic Solutions. Individual, couple and family therapy. Private practice. Milford, CT.

Supervisor, Fairfield University Koslow Center for Marriage and Family Therapy. Clinical supervisor and trainer for on-campus clinical training facility of the accredited Masters program in Marriage and Family Therapy. Fairfield, Connecticut.

Marriage and Family Therapist. David Israel and Associates. Provider for U.S. Healthcare in a group private practice setting. Stamford, Connecticut.

Supervisor. Fairfield Office. Supervision of graduates in Marriage and Family Therapy in a private practice setting. Fairfield, Connecticut.

Therapist. Bristol Hospital Counseling Center. Clinical work with individuals, couples, and families. Supervision of students in the AAMFT accredited post Masters family therapy training program. Facilitation of stress management groups. Bristol, Connecticut.

Director/Therapist. Southwest Virginia Treatment Center. Developed and administered a satellite outpatient counseling service. Facilitated inpatient substance abuse treatment groups, counseled families, couples, individuals, coordinated and presented various training and educational programs. Salem, Virginia and Blacksburg, Virginia.

Family Therapist. St. Albans Psychiatric Hospital. Worked with hospitalized adolescents and their families in a private psychiatric setting. Facilitated inpatient group therapy with adolescents and worked as a member of the adolescent unit treatment team. Radford, Virginia. Clinical Internship

Family Therapist. Family Services. Counseled families, couples and individuals on an outpatient basis. Blacksburg, Virginia.

Social Worker. Thomas B. Finan Center. Multifaceted role including therapy with individuals and families. Facilitated group therapies including the direction of Psychodrama, as well as casework for a cottage of 18 adults in a state psychiatric hospital setting. Cumberland, Maryland.

Therapist. Community Counseling Center. Provided counseling to couples, families, and individuals in a group, private practice setting, facilitated groups in assertiveness training and play/art therapy with victims of child sexual abuse. Cumberland, Maryland.

Social Worker. Women Organized Against Rape. Counseled and provided supportive services to rape and incest victims. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Field experience.

Caseworker. Montgomery County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Emergency Service, Crisis intervention and casework within a multi-disciplinary team approach. Norristown, Pennsylvania. Field experience.

PUBLICATIONS, RESEARCH, AND GRANTS

O'Brien, N.B., Bordoloi, S.D., Edwards, L.E., & Preli, R. (2010). Creating a thriving professional identity: Why AAMFT needs to advocate for same-sex marriage. Manuscript submitted to the Journal of Marital and Family Therapy.

Preli, R. (2003). In Search of Social Justice. Family Therapy, Jan./Feb.

Preli, R. (2001-2003). President's Report. Connecticut Connection.

Preli, R. (2001) Role and influence of family functioning, in J.F. Carlson and B.B. Waterman (Eds.), Personality Assessment of School-age Children. Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Gill-Lopez, P. and Preli, R. (1997). Building Bridges: A Workshop for Developing Cultural Competence. Conference Proceedings for the Second Annual Conference on Multiculturalism and Diversity in Catholic Education.

Preli, R. (1994). Discipline Versus Specialty: To Debate or Not to Debate. Connecticut Connection. Spring, 1994.

Preli, R. and Carlson, J.F. (1994). Family Adaptability and Cohesion Evaluation Scales, for D.J. Keyser and R.C. Sweetland (eds.), Test Critiques, Volume X. Austin, TX: Pro-Ed, Inc.

Carlson, J.F. and Preli, R. (1994). Marriage Adjustment Inventory, for D.J. Keyser and B.C. Sweetland (Eds.), Test Critiques, Volume X. Austin, TX: Pro-Ed, Inc.

Preli, R. and Bernard, J. (1993). Making Multiculturalism Relevant for Majority Culture Graduate Students. Journal of Marital and Family Therapy. January 19 (1).

Terry, L. and Preli, R. (1991). The Reentry Female Student in Marriage and Family Therapy Training. Contemporary Family Therapy. August 13 (4).

Hartney, D.W., Fox, R.A., and Preli, R. (1991). Behavior Disorders. In Schwenn, J.O., Rotatori, A.F. and Fox, R.A. (Eds.), Understanding Students With High Incidence Exceptionalities: Categorical and Noncategorical Perspectives. Springfield, IL: Charles Thomas.

Preli, R., Protinsky, H., and Cross, L. (1990). Alcoholism and Family Structure. Family Therapy. San Diego, CA: Libra Publications, XVII, 1.

Preli, R. and Protinsky, H. (1988). Aspects of Family Structure in Alcoholic, Recovered, and Non-Alcoholic Families. Journal of Marital and Family Therapy. 14 (3), 311-314.

Protinsky, H. and Preli, R. (1987). Intervention in Strategic Supervision. Journal of Strategic and Systemic Therapies. 6 (3), 18-28.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Presenter, “Changing the Context: The application of Structural Family Therapy to coaching and athletic performance”. International Family Therapy Congress. Malaga, Spain, March 2017.

Presenter, “Marriage and Family Therapy Student Mentorship: A Model for Training”, American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. Austin, Texas, September 2015.

Presenter, “Why AAMFT Needs to Advocate for Same-Sex Marriage”. National Council on Family Relations National Conference, Milwaukee, Minnesota, November 2010.

Invited Participant, AAUP New Leaders Workshop, Washington D.C., February 26-27, 2010.

Presenter, "New Directions for AAMFT". Leadership Conference of AAMFT, Washington D.C., July 22-24, 2009.

Presenter, "Students' Perceptions of Supervisor's Competence", 66th Annual Conference of AAMFT, Memphis, Tennessee, October 2008.

Presenter, "Training Site Visitors", Annual Conference of AAMFT, 1998-2003.

Presenter, "Accreditation Workshop", Annual Conference of AAMFT, October 2003.

Presenter, "Integrating Diversity into the Strategic Plan: Report of the Strategic Plan Task Force", Leadership Conference, April 2001.

Presenter, "Building Bridges: A Model for Multicultural Training", 56th Annual National Conference of AAMFT, October, 1998.

Presenter, "Inaugural Research Development Conference", AAMFT Research and Education Foundation. Santa Fe, New Mexico, August, 1997.

Co-Presenter, "Raising Cultural Awareness: Multicultural Issues in Relating to Others." Second Annual Conference on Multiculturalism and Diversity in Catholic Education, Fairfield, Connecticut. February, 1997.

Presenter, "Handling Emotionality in Divorce Mediation." Annual Conference of Divorce Mediators. Waterbury, Connecticut, June, 1996.

Presenter, "DeFining Dual Relationships in a Cultural Context." 54th Annual National Conference of AAMFT, October, 1996.

Presenter, "Structural Characteristics of Families With a Disabled Child." Annual National Conference of AAMFT. October, 1993.

Presenter, "Call Out Supervision." National Conference of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. September, 1992.

Presenter, "Sensitizing Students of Multiculturalism in Families." 50th Annual Conference of AAMFT. October, 1991.

Presenter, "Training Graduate Students in Multiculturalism." North Atlantic Regional Convention for the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. October, 1990.

Presenter, "Counseling Skills for Teachers." Bridgeport School System for Professional Development. March, April, 1990.

Guest Speaker, "Parent-Child Communication." Fairfield Parent Teacher Association. February, 1990.

Presenter, "Alcoholism and Family Structure." 45th Annual National Conference of AAMFT. October, 19987.

Presenter, "Use of Paradox in Strategic Family Therapy." Radford University School of Social Work. February, 1987.

Presenter, "Children of Alcoholics." Alcoholic and Drug Seminar, Roanoke School of Social Work. May, 1984.

Presenter, "Networking with Professionals." National Association of Drug and Alcohol Counselors National Conference. April, 1984.

NEWSPAPER AND JOURNAL RECOGNITION

"Strengthening Family Stability: Recommendations to the New Administration." Fairfield Now, February, 1994.

"Values Spur Political Hype." Connecticut Post. September 7, 1992.

"Three-Generational Households Share Costs, Love." Bridgeport Post, December 29, 1991.

"When Opposites Attract." Bridal Guide. July/August, 1991.

"Holidays Bring Stress for Families." Connecticut Post. November, 1990.

Preli, R. "Stresses, Difficulties Often Bring Need for Family Therapy." Fairfield County Catholic. December, 1990.

"Do Long Courtships Make Better Marriages?" Women World. December, 1990.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND CREDENTIALS

American Family Therapy Academy (AFTA), 1998-present

Connecticut State Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, 1991-present

Connecticut State Licensed Social Worker, 1998-present

Approved Supervisor of American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT).

1990-present

Clinical Member of American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). 1987-present

American Association of University Professors, 1997 - present

American Association of Colleges and Teacher Education, 1992-present

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ethics Consultant, Department of Public Health, State of Connecticut, 2014-present.

Chair, Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education, (COAMFTE), 2003-2004.

Commissioner, Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education, (COAMFTE), 1998-2004.

Reviewer, Journal of Marital and Family Therapy. 2001-2008.

Abstract Reviewer, National Conference of AAMFT. 2001-present.

Past President, Connecticut Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, 2003-present.

President, Connecticut Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, 2001-2003.

President-elect, Connecticut Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, 1999-2001.

Secretary, Connecticut Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, 1993-1999

Site Visitor, American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, 1990-present.

Connecticut Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Elections Committee, 1990-1993.

Connecticut Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Legislative Committee Chair, 1990-present.

Connecticut Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Awards Committee, Chair 1991-1993.