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Expert Profile:

Dr. Heller has more than 40 years of experience as a licensed, treating psychologist and a forensic psychologist. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, where his doctoral dissertation was titled "Criminal Behavior and Arousal: Test of a Theory." Dr. Heller has received extensive training on Forensic Psychological assessments and treatment, for victims of domestic and interpersonal violence, child abuse, sexual abuse, and trauma. He is retained by both plaintiff and defense counsel to assess plaintiffs for emotional and mental injury. Dr. Heller has presented to the American Psychological Association and the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, and has had works published in the journal *Interpersonal Acceptance*.

Dr. Heller has been qualified to serve as an expert psychologist in courts across the country. He has also been included in contract as a forensic psychologist for the Department of Justice's Executive Office of Immigration Review. In addition, Dr. Heller is a court-appointed Psychologist Expert for the Assigned Counsel Plan for the Supreme Court of the State of New York (2006-current) and for New York State Family and Integrated Domestic Violence Courts (2006-2021). He is a fully vetted and approved forensic Psychologist for the N.J. Office of the Public Defender as well as other Public Defender Offices (Federal Public Defender, Public Defenders for the States of MO, IL, IA, KY, MI, MT, PA and others) as well as Legal Aid in all five boroughs of New York City. He served as the Forensic Psychologist consultant for the Rockland County (NY) Department of Mental Health Forensic Unit, Court Evaluation Service (2006-2018) providing court ordered forensic evaluations involving family and criminal court assessments. He served as staff Forensic Psychologist for Rutgers-The State University of NJ, Biomedical and Health Services, University Behavioral Healthcare (2012-2021) assigned to East Jersey State Prison in Rahway. He has been qualified as a Psychologist expert in State and Federal Courts. As an expert witness, he has been qualified numerous times as a Psychologist, Child Psychologist, Forensic Psychologist, Expert in Child Sexual Abuse, Expert in Domestic violence, Expert in Child Custody Cases, Expert in Emotional Abuse, Expert in False Allegations, Expert in Coercion/Control, Expert in Counterintuitive Behavior in Victims of Domestic Violence or Sexual Assaults and other areas. He is considered an expert in the assessment of Defendants charged with murder, providing comprehensive reports for trial, post-conviction or post-plea mitigation evaluations as well as risk assessments for parole.

Areas of Expertise:

- Psychological Record Review
- Evaluations and Testimony
- Addictions and Alcoholism
- Criminal Defense
- Critical Incident Stress Effects
- Agency Administration and Supervision
- Disabilities (emotional, mental, retardation, Autism)
- Litigation Consultation
- Battered Woman Syndrome
- Domestic /Intimate Partner Violence
- Assessment of potential for false allegations of child sex abuse or domestic violence
- Sexual Abuse/Assault
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Alcoholism/Drugs
- Psychological Autopsy
- Risk Assessment for Re-Offense of Sexual
- Assault and other Violent Crime
- Police Officers and Stress
- Assessment of Pain and Suffering
- Child Custody, Visitation & Family Issues
- Independent Medical Examinations
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Standards of Treatment in Group Homes
- Prison Suicide
- Murder/Multiple Murder
- Interpersonal Acceptance-Rejection Syndrome Suicide
- Assessment of Capacity to Waive Miranda Rights
- "Rejection Crisis" Related to Homicide
- Consultation to Insurance Company Regarding Aspects of Suicide
- Counter Intuitive Victim Behavior
- Pre-Parole Risk Assessments
- Rebuttal to Child Sexual Abuse Accommodation Syndrome (CSAAS) and Rape Syndrome
- Emotional Suffering
- Clergy Sex Abuse

Professional Experience:

2012- 2021: Forensic Psychologist, Rutgers Biomedical Health Service (UCHC)
 2006- 2018: Forensic Consultant: Rockland County Forensic Mental Health Unit
 2006-Present: Psychologist expert: Assigned Counsel and Law Guardian Programs, State of New York
 1981-Present: Independent Clinical Practice
 1988-1993: Clinical Director, Dutchess County Clinic for Multi-Disabled
 1983-1988: Director of Mental Health, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma
 1982-1983: Consulting School Psychologist, New York City Board of Education

License/ Certifications:

Licensed Psychologist (NY, NJ)
 Licensed Marriage and family Therapist (NY)
 National register of Council of health Service Providers in Psychology
 Certificate of Professional Qualification in Psychology (State Reciprocity)
 Certificate in Clinical Training in Psychology (NJ)
 Certificate in Family Forensics (Washington Square Institute, NY)

Education:

Ph.D. 1979: University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI Dissertation: "Criminal Behavior and Arousal: Test of a Theory"
 M.A. 1974: St. John's University, Jamaica, NY (Clinical Psychology)

Professional Memberships/ Associations:

American Psychological Association
 The American Assoc. for Marriage and Family Therapy, Clinical Member
 The Virginia Satir Avanta Network
 Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards
 Association of Family and Conciliation Courts
 American Professional Society on The Abuse of Children (APSAC)

Recent Presentation:

With Linda Gunsberg, PhD "A Child's Preference for the Batterer in Child Custody Cases: An Assessment Protocol." A workshop presented at the 49th Annual Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC). Chicago, IL: June 7, 2012.

Recent and Future Publications:

Submitted for publication: "A Child's Paradoxical Preference for the Batterer in Child Custody Cases: Consideration of domestic violence, diminished parental capacity, impaired attachment, traumatic bonding, parental alienation, as well as developmental failures and short and/or long-term psychological injuries to the child."

Heller, C. 2009. Applications of parental acceptance-rejection theory and evidence to forensic psychology. *Interpersonal Acceptance*, 3, 3, 1-2, 5.