

RHONDA J. POLAKOFF, PH.D.

CURRICULUM VITA

EDUCATION

Institution	Degee	Year	Field
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas	Ph.D.	1996	Clinical Psychology
Southern Methodist University	M.A.	1988	Medical Anthropology
Southern Methodist University	B.A.	1987	Anthropology

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

October 1998 to present- Initiating and maintaining a behavioral health practice (**Treehouse In Home Psychological Services for Kids and Their Families**) with specialization in working with children and families within TDPRS custody. Experience includes: providing developmental assessment, psychological assessment, sibling assessment, bonding assessment; supporting a high level of expertise with highly experienced psychologists; working with Medicaid, caseworkers, case managers, prosecutors, judges, direct care staff, social workers to foster the well being of children; and, developing and efficient and effective service to facilitate the transition for children from an abusive home environment to a fostering community.

June 1996 to October 1998- Full time Senior Psychologist at **Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children (TSRHC)**. Experience included: assessment and therapy services to patients and their families as well as consultation services to physicians, educators, and families. Psychological instruments utilized: MMPI-2, MMPI-A, MACI, PRF-E, 16 PF-R, BDI, CDI, Rorschach, TAT, RCMAS, CBC, Conners, TOVA, WISC-III, SB4E, Leiter, Vineland, WIAT, WJ-R, etc. Biofeedback for pain management and relaxation. Supervision of post-doctoral fellow and practicum students. Departmental Policy Development. Coordinating community outreach. Ongoing research on the psychosocial impact of specific medical conditions. Public presentations describing the hospital and the psychosocial correlates of specific medical conditions.

April 1995 to June 1996- Full time educational clinician in the Child Development Department at **TSRHC**. Experience included: Administration of comprehensive educational assessment and reporting, especially for Dyslexia. Instruments administered included: WISC-III, SB:4E, Leiter, WIAT, WJ, Bracken, CELF, CELF-R, TALS, PLS-3, DST, CHES, TOWL, BASC.

August 1994 to March 1995- Part-time polysomnographic technician at **Children's Medical Center at Dallas (CMC)**. Experience included: Polysomnography, clinical interviews and brief assessment for psychopathology.

August 1994 to December 1994- Staff behavioral therapist at **TSRHC**. Experience included: Brief individual and group therapy as well as preoperative assessment and reporting. Instruments included: MMPI-2, Rorschach, MMPI-A, WISC-III, WIAT, PIC-R, Conners, CBC, SB:4E, WRAT-R.

May 1991 to August 1994-Clinical Psychology Intern at Southwest **Adult Psychiatric Clinic**. Experience included: Personality assessment, individual psychotherapy, and group psychotherapy. Supervised in Rational Emotive Therapy and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. Group therapy was supervised in psychodynamic technique.

August 1993 to September 1994-Clinical psychology intern at **University of Texas at Arlington**. Experience included: Individual, group, and couples counseling for university students. Supervised in Rational Emotive and Cognitive Behavioral technique.

May 1991 to May 1993-Clinical psychology intern at **Parkland Memorial Hospital Psychiatric Emergency Room**. Experience included: Emergency assessment and triage of severe psychopathology and crisis intervention.

May 1992 to August 1992-Clinical psychology intern at **Parkland Memorial Hospital Inpatient Psychiatric Unit**. Experience included: Psychological assessment, group psychotherapy, individual psychotherapy, and consultation.

May 1991 to May 1992-Clinical psychology intern at the Dallas County Juvenile Detention Center. Experience included: Psychological assessment, group psychotherapy, individual psychotherapy, parent effectiveness training classes, and sex offenders group therapy.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

August 1992 to April 1996-Visual evoked potential research for doctoral dissertation. Research was conducted in the Sleep Disorder Laboratory at the **University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center**.

December 1988 to August 1990- Research assistant at the Sleep Disorders Laboratory at the **University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and Children's Medical Center at Dallas**.

December 1988 to August 1990- Data analyst/consultant for a study on physical and sexual abuse. The study was conducted by a nonprofit shelter for battered women.

May 1987 to August 1988- Data analyst for **Southern Methodist University's President's Commission on Women's Status**.

May 1987 to December 1988- Research assistant to James Pennebaker, Ph.D. at **Southern Methodist University**.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 1993 to Spring 1994-taught *Introduction to Psychology* at **Tarrant County Junior College**.

PUBLICATIONS

Polakoff, R., Morton, A., Koch, K. & Rios, C.M. (1998). The Psychosocial Impact of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. *Seminars in Pediatric Neurology*, (5(2), 1-8.

Polakoff, R. (1996). *The Visual Evoked Potential and Impaired Vigilance*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation,

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Texas.

Herman, J., Laijiani, K., Polakoff, R., Armitage, R., Roffward, H., & Hirshkowitz, M. (1992).
Human vigilance and the Visual Evoked Potential. *Sleep Research*, 21, 24.

Herman, J., Steinberg, J., Roffward, H. Becker, P., Jameson, A., Brown, D. Davis, W. Fox, N., Polakoff, R., &
Hirshkowitz, M. (1990). Vigilance and Sleepiness in the Hypersomnolent Child. *Sleep Research*, 19,
119.

ASSOCIATIONS, WORKSHOPS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Child Welfare League

Understanding & Treating Reactive Attachment Disorder

The Aging Brain, The Aging Mind

Stens Corporation Biofeedback Seminar

The Child with Special Needs

Texas State Board of Examiner's of Psychologists, Certification

American Psychological Association

Madness & Creativity

Primary Certificate in RET

AIDS & Psychotherapy