

CURRICULUM VITAE
LAURIE LEVENTHAL-BELFER, PHD
CA LICENSE PSY 13235

Private Practice

4275 Los Palos Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94306

Adjunct Lecturer

Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Stanford University School of Medicine

EDUCATION

Stanford University Medical Center

1990–1991

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Psychology
Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Division of Child Psychiatry & Human Development

**Lucille Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford/
Children’s Health Council**

1989–1990

Predoctoral Internship in Clinical Psychology

University of California, Berkeley

1984–1990

PhD, Clinical Psychology

University of Chicago

1982–1983

M.A., Social Sciences

Tufts University

1975–1979

B.A., Magna cum laude

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Private Practice

1995–present

Individual Psychotherapy with young children, adolescents, couples and families. Assessments of social-emotional issues. Work with children presenting with stress and anxiety related to issues and the demands of school, health issues, and social relationships. I also conduct individual therapy with children who have Asperger’s Disorder and their families. Facilitator of a group program for women who are married to high functioning men who have been diagnosed with Asperger’s Disorder, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, or who have characteristics of ASD.

The Friends Program (Private Practice)

2002–present

Founder and Director of a therapeutic program that addresses the needs of young children with Asperger’s Syndrome and their families. The program provides therapeutic group programs as well as ongoing support and education to parents, educators, clinicians, and partners of individuals with Asperger’s Syndrome.

- Children's Health Council** **1992–2002**
 Creator and Director of the Friend's Program, a therapeutic program for children aged 3-8 who have difficulty adapting to social situations at home and in school. The program provided consultation to the child's school, dyadic and family therapy, and included research on the diagnostic and therapeutic process.
- Postdoctoral Fellowship** **1990–1991**
 The Children's Health Council
 Child and Family therapy with preschoolers, school age children, and adolescents. Mental health evaluations for infants and preschool children. Primary investigator of a study on the long-term effects on parents and their relationship of having a child "survivor" of childhood cancer.
- Day Care Project** **1990–1992**
 The Children's Health Council
 Mental Health consultant for an interdisciplinary team providing services to childcare providers, such as individual child consultation, curriculum consultation, staff development.
- Infant Mental Health Consultant** **1985–1989**
 Marilyn Reed Lucia Child Care/Study Center at UCSF
- Psychology Intern** **1985–1987**
 Psychology Clinic, UC Berkeley
- Parent-Infant Development Services** **1980–1984**
 Child Psychiatry, The University of Chicago
 Directed the PIDS mother's group and participated in the development of parent-infant interventions and assessments.
- RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**
- Disruptive Behavior in Preschool Children** **1997–1999**
 Primary investigator of a study on the diagnoses of preschool children referred to CHC with the presenting problem of disruptive-ADHD like behavior. The study has established an assessment protocol that integrates the Zero to Three Diagnostic Criteria for young children with DSM-IV criteria.
- Preschool Children's Narratives about their Child Care Experiences** **1993–1997**
 Primary investigator of a study that examines young children's perceptions of their relationships with their primary caregivers, teachers, and peers. The narratives also look at the children's perceptions of daily stresses and their capacity to cope with these stresses.
- Long-term Effects of Childhood Cancer** **1991–1992**
 Primary investigator for a study on the long-term effects that "surviving" childhood cancer may have on the child and his/her parents. The study examined areas of continuing concern for the parents, their ways of coping with these concerns, and the ways that the medical and mental health community may help them.

Dissertation Research**Spring, 1990***Child Care, Parents, and Partners: A New Perspective*

The study investigated aspects of parental satisfaction with their child care arrangements and how this relates to the parent's mental health and adaptations to parenthood when their first child was 6, 12, 18, and 42 months old.

Master's Thesis Research**Spring, 1986***Parental Stress, Coping, and Marital Satisfaction: A Study of Parents of Children Who Were Born Prematurely*

The study examined the long-term impact that a premature birth may have on the child and his/her family's mental health.

Research Assistant for the Becoming a Family Project**1985–1988**

Co-Principal Investigators: P.A. Cowan & C.P. Cowan

A longitudinal study on the impact the transition to parenthood had on women, men, their marriage, parenting, and the development of their children. Director of the research team that examined the parents and children's adaptation to school.

Research Assistant for the Parent-Infant Development Service**1980–1984**

The University of Chicago, Division of Child Psychiatry

Developmental Assessment, home observation, design of parent-infant relationship assessment tools. Conducted clinical interviews

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecture: Stanford University: Vaden Health Center CAPS Didactic
College Students with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder

April, 2017

Stanford Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

Stanford University School of Medicine

Division of Child Psychiatry

Lecture for the Advanced Cognitive Therapy Course

The Friends Program

April, 2017

Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor**2015–2017**Course: *Asperger's in Adults: A Developmental and Clinical Perspective.*

The Division of Adult Psychiatry 4th year residents.

Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

Stanford University School of Medicine

Continuing Education Course for Concern-EAP**June 5, 2015**Course: *Asperger's in Adults: A Developmental and Clinical Perspective.***Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor****1993–2017**

Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

Stanford University School of Medicine

Adjunct Seminar Instructor: Asperger's Syndrome**2004–2008**

Children's Health Council &
Stanford University Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Assistant

PUBLICATIONS

Leventhal-Belfer, L (2013) *Who Needs Friends? A Guide to The Friends Program. An Intervention Program that helps Young Children on the Autism Spectrum/ Asperger's Disorder and their Parents explore and expand their social world.* Charleston, SC: Createspace.

Leventhal-Belfer, L (2008) *Why Do I Have To? A Book for Children Who Find Themselves Frustrated by Everyday Rules.* London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

Leventhal-Belfer, L. & Coe, C. (2004) *Asperger Syndrome in Young Children: A Developmental Approach for Parents and Professionals.* London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

Leventhal-Belfer, L., Baker, A., & Russo, C. (1993) Parents of childhood cancer survivors: A descriptive look at their concerns and needs. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, Vol. II (2)

Leventhal-Belfer, L., Cowan, P.A., & Cowan, C.P. (April 1992) Satisfaction with childcare arrangements: Effects on adaptation to parenthood. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*. 62 (2)

Leifer, M., Wax, L., & Leventhal-Belfer, L. (1989) The use of multi-treatment modalities in early intervention: A quantitative case study. *Infant Mental Health Journal*, 10.

MEMBERSHIPS

American Psychological Association-Division of Child and Adolescent Psychology
California Psychological Association
Society for Research in Child Development