

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 April, 2017  
College Students with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder

Stanford Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences April, 2017  
Stanford University School of Medicine  
Division of Child Psychiatry  
Lecture for the Advanced Cognitive Therapy Course  
The Friends Program

**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. (2020) *College on the Autism Spectrum: A Parent's Guide to Students' Mental Health and Wellbeing*. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

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  
Anxiety and Depression Association of America  
California Psychological Association  
Society for Research in Child Development  
Stanford Medical Abilities Coalition (SMAC)