

# **Institute for Child and Family Development**

*Connie Hornyak, LCSW, Clinical Director*

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## **CONNIE HORNYAK'S EXPERT WITNESS QUALIFICATIONS:**

Connie Hornyak qualifies as an expert witness under California Rules of Court, Rule 1439 (a) (10) (D). She has testified in several California counties (Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, San Bernardino, Santa Clara, and Kern) about the following:

- 1) Attachment issues for children;
- 2) The determination of placement of children in divorce situations, and placement of children with emotional problems caused by early neglect, abuse, and/or abandonment.

HER BACKGROUND includes the following:

Connie Hornyak taught young children in impoverished areas for six years before going to graduate school;

She received her MSW, specializing in social work treatment of children, in 1976;

She served as a Family Reunification social worker for the County of Orange from 1976-1978; her responsibilities included working with birth parents to help them regain physical custody of their children, who were dependents of the Court and residing in foster care;

In 1979, she became a Licensed Clinical Social Worker; at that time, a person with an MSW degree had to complete 4,000 hours of supervised treatment, and pass two exams (written and oral);

In 1980 she began private practice, working with children and parents;

In 1988, she began specializing in working with children who were adopted or in foster care;

In 1990-1991, she began specializing in the treatment of children with attachment disorders.

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#### MEMBERSHIPS:

National Association of Social Workers since 1976;

Academy of Certified Social Workers since 1979;

Association for Treatment and Training in the Attachment of Children (ATTACH) since 1991 (served 9 years as a Board member, 2000-2009);

ATTACH, the leading international attachment education and advocacy association, has a registration process for attachment professionals. A major goal of this registry is to help the parents and guardians of children with attachment difficulties learn about qualified treatment professionals. Those who have completed the registration process have met specific objective requirements, and have agreed to abide by ATTACH's Practice Standards.

Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing International Association (EMDRIA) since 2008; Certified therapist since 2010;

A clinician who is EMDRIA Certified in EMDR has been licensed or certified in their profession for independent practice and has had a minimum of two years experience in their field. They have completed an EMDRIA approved training program in EMDR, have conducted a minimum of fifty clinical sessions in which EMDR was utilized, and have received twenty hours of consultation in EMDR by an Approved Consultant. In addition they must complete twelve hours of continuing education in EMDR every two years.

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION:

Ongoing training in Attachment; 10 Continuing Education Units required annually for ATTACH registration renewal;

Ongoing training in using EMDR to treat traumatized patients: 12 hours every two years for certification renewal;

Connie Hornyak conducts a monthly study group for clinicians who work with children who have attachment disorders and a history of trauma. She also attends a monthly study group for EMDR therapists.