

TARMEEN K. SAHNI, PH.D.

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CURRICULUM VITAE

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

New York State Licensed Psychologist #021631

New Jersey State Licensed Psychologist #35SI00568800

EDUCATION

May 1998

Bachelor of Arts (Cum Laude)

Major: Psychology (Departmental Honors)

Minor: English

State University of New York (SUNY)/

University at Albany, Albany, New York

May 2000

Masters of Arts

Forensic Psychology

City University of New York (CUNY)/John Jay College
of Criminal Justice, New York, New York

August 2009

Doctor of Philosophy

Clinical Psychology (Forensic Concentration)

Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

American Psychological Association- Accredited program

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

October 1998-March 2001 Records Clerk

O'Melveny & Myers LLP,

New York, New York

- Duties comprised of data inputting, filing, and maintenance of legal documents.
- Involved in legal research and the production of a new database for individual client matters.

May 2001-March 2002

Project Coordinator

Nassau County Coalition Against Domestic Violence
(NCCADV), Hempstead, New York

- Supervised education department and developed programs to promote awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault, and advocated for violence prevention.

- Conducted educational programs on domestic/dating violence, rape/sexual assault, substance abuse, and elder abuse for college campuses, high schools, and junior high schools.
- Provided trainings for hospitals, police departments, mental health professionals, and other community based organizations.
- Outreached to elementary schools and provided workshops for promoting violence prevention.
- Ran weekly psycho-educational sessions for women at the Nassau County Correctional facility.
- Researched and maintained accurate statistics to facilitate educational programs.
- Wrote articles, press releases, and assisted with newsletter production.

May 2001- July 2004

Residential Mental Health Counselor
Mental Health Association, Hempstead, New York

- Assisted clients in developing independent living skills.
- Supervised daily activities and promoted client training to improve quality of life.
- Engaged in projects to enhance community integration.
- Maintained and updated client progress notes.
- Facilitated medication management.

March 2002-July 2004

Forensic Specialist
Office of Court Administration, New York Supreme Court,
Brooklyn, New York

Brooklyn Mental Health Felony Court

- Developed and implemented new court procedures for the first felony Mental Health Court in New York City.
- Initialized relationships and coordinated closely with the court clinical team, treatment providers, and housing providers to address appropriate treatment of mentally ill offenders in relation to public policy.
- Conducted psycho-social assessments to determine eligibility for participation in the Mental Health Court.
- Placed defendants in community integrated treatment based on individual evaluations and monitored compliance.
- Devised recording system to monitor mentally ill offenders, to advise the court on appropriate course of action.

Brooklyn Domestic Violence Felony Court

- Developed and managed new case management unit established for domestic violence offenders with a mental illness and/or substance abuse problems.
- Constructed an enhanced monitoring unit to aid in holding the offender accountable and ensuring the victim's safety.

- Conducted thorough clinical assessments to determine eligibility and obtained appropriate placement.
- Assessed threat to community by obtaining collateral information, evaluating prior documentation, and performing risk assessments.
- Placed defendants in individually tailored treatment programs and developed treatment plans.
- Coordinated closely with treatment providers, housing providers, victim advocates, child coordinator, and the court to aid in intensive monitoring.
- Liaised with the District Attorney's office, Department of Probation, Department of Corrections, and the defense bar.

May 2005-January 2007 Forensic Psychology Assistant
Forensic and Clinical Psychology Associates, P.A.,
Miami, Florida

- Administered psychological tests for a private practice to address clinical concerns raised by Defense counsel or the State's Attorney for Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach counties.
- Scored psychological testing to address clinical concerns related to forensic clients including adolescents and adults.
- Conducted literature reviews and legal searches in areas of assessment and forensic psychology to assist in psychological evaluations.
- Participated in data collection related to competency to waive Miranda rights and the Gudjonsson Suggestibility Scales (GSS).

September 2004- September 2009 Production Editor/Graduate Assistant
Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale,
Florida

- Performed editorial tasks for journal articles in the final phase of the production process for *The Qualitative Report*, an online, open access journal.
- Copyedited, proofread, checked references, carried out file conversions, and uploaded articles to website.
- Applied the American Psychological Association (APA, 2001) format and style to all articles ready to be published.
- Communicated closely with local and global authors to facilitate a smooth and efficient production process and engage authors in final revisions.

September 2009-March 2010 Staff Clinical Psychologist/Postdoctoral Resident
Patton State Hospital, Patton, CA

- Unit psychologist at State hospital with forensic patients committed by California courts under various Penal Codes.
- Performed psychological testing, administered forensically relevant instruments, and completed integrated psychological evaluations.

- Conducted insanity and competency evaluations, risk assessments, malingering assessments, and wrote court reports.
- Provided individual psychotherapy and facilitated treatment groups.
- Participated in a multidisciplinary team approach to working with patients to develop and attain individual treatment goals and meet discharge criteria.
- Conducted monthly, quarterly, and annual reviews involving the primary treatment team and the patient to assess and/or update individualized treatment plan and review barriers to discharge.
- Involved in crisis intervention on the unit.

April 2010-April 2012

Adjunct Faculty Psychology Professor
Hudson County Community College
Jersey City, NJ

- Taught undergraduate courses for the Humanities & Social Sciences Division, Psychology Department.

August 2010-July 2011

Clinical Psychologist I/Clinical Psychologist
Anne Klein Forensic Center
Special Treatment Unit, Avenel, NJ

- Co-facilitated treatment groups and psycho-educational modules for residents civilly committed under the NJ Sexually Violent Predator Act.
- Conducted bi-annual reviews to assess treatment progress, wrote individualized treatment plans, and determined treatment goals as part of a multidisciplinary team.
- Performed crisis intervention.
- Presented at Grand Rounds to Department of Human Services (DHS) staff.
- Participated in specialized and general clinical didactic trainings.

July 2011-January 2017

Clinical Psychologist II/Assessment Psychologist
Anne Klein Forensic Center
Special Treatment Unit, Avenel, NJ

- Evaluated and assessed treatment progress and risk of sexual recidivism of individuals civilly committed under the NJ Sexually Violent Predator Act.
- Evaluate and determine whether individuals who are temporarily civilly committed meet statutory criteria as a NJ Sexually Violent Predator and assess risk to re-offend.
- Developed specific and individualized treatment recommendations.
- Provided consultation, supervision, and training to staff and graduate students.
- Assessed level of risk to reoffend by examining stable and dynamic factors and utilizing actuarial instruments.
- Testified as an expert witness on evaluation findings including the likelihood of future sexual recidivism and ongoing treatment needs.
- Participated in didactic trainings related to specialized forensic assessment and

treatment.

August 2016-present Independent Contractor/Psychological Consultant
Selfhelp Community Services, Inc.
Community Guardian Program, New York, N.Y.

- Conduct evaluations and assess New York City residents who have been appointed guardianship status under the Mental Hygiene Law and are court monitored.
- Provide recommendations offering the least restrictive interventions to ensure maintenance of an incapacitated person's quality of life and sense of independence.

January 2017-present Clinical Psychologist II/Assessment Psychologist
Anne Klein Forensic Center
Outpatient Evaluation Program, Trenton, N.J.

- Conduct competency to stand trial evaluations for individuals who are facing criminal charges.
- Assess level of risk and restorability of competence to stand trial.
- Evaluate and assess the mental state at the time of the offense for individuals facing criminal charges.
- Prepare forensic reports and provide expert testimony on evaluation findings.
- Perform inpatient assessments and utilize forensically relevant instruments for a criminal mental health population to complete integrated psychological evaluations examining violence risk, age-related, diagnostic clarification, and/or neuro-cognitive issues.
- Co-facilitate formal manual-oriented competency restoration groups.
- Provide consultation, supervision, and training to staff and graduate students.

June 2018-August 2019 Clinical Psychologist
Let's Talk Psychological Wellness
New York, N.Y.

- Provide individual psychotherapy to professionals of culturally diverse backgrounds at a rapidly growing metropolitan practice. Practice areas range from anxiety, panic, depression, trauma, relationship issues, professional guidance, and/or alcohol misuse.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

September 1995-December 1995 Teaching Assistant
State University of New York (SUNY),
University at Albany
Women's self-defense course

August 2005-December 2005 Teaching Assistant

	Nova Southeastern University Forensic Psychology course
January 2006-May 2006	Teaching Assistant Nova Southeastern University Clinical Psychology course
August 2006-December 2006	Teaching Assistant Nova Southeastern University Forensic Psychology course
April 2010-April 2012	Adjunct Faculty Hudson County Community College Professor for undergraduate psychology courses

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

September 1996- May 1998 Department of Psychology, State University of New York (SUNY), University at Albany
Research adviser: Donn Byrne, Ph.D.

- Dissertation research pertaining to the theoretical analysis of differences in sexual attitudes among homosexual, bisexual, and heterosexual men and women and its link to socialization and various sexual scripts.

January 1997-May 1998 Department of Psychology, State University of New York (SUNY), University at Albany
Research adviser: Jeanette Altarriba, Ph.D.

- Research Assistant involved in inputting and coding data for research related to psycholinguistics.

October 2004-May 2005 Center for Psychological Studies, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Research adviser: David Shapiro, Ph.D., ABPP

- Analysis of legal research and case law to examine and identify mitigating factors surrounding the death penalty according to each state.

October 2004-May 2005 Center for Psychological Studies, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Research adviser: Lenore Walker, Ed.D., ABPP

- Entered data and coded variables in SPSS for research involving female juvenile defendants to investigate the presence of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

October 2004-January 2006 Center for Psychological Studies, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Research adviser: Lenore Walker, Ed.D., ABPP

- Data collection, coding, and analysis examining a misdemeanor Mental Health Court's impact on the resources and services provided to non-violent defendants and the availability of service providers as well as examining specific characteristics of defendants.

October 2004-June 2007 Center for Psychological Studies, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Research adviser: Lenore Walker, Ed.D., ABPP

- Conducted detailed interviews in the local community as well as forensic facilities to obtain data for battered women's research and compare it to internationally gathered data.

March 2005-May 2008 Center for Psychological Studies, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Research adviser: Lenore Walker, Ed.D., ABPP

- Development of a Hip-Hop driven intervention program designed to promote personal growth, enhance healthy identity development, increase constructive forms of coping and expression, and raise awareness of community mental health resources with at-risk adolescents and juveniles.
- Concentrating on applying for grant funding to implement Hip-Hop intervention and conduct a preliminary study to measure and compare effectiveness of program.

July 2006-December 2007 Forensic and Clinical Psychology Associates, P.A., Miami, Florida
Supervisor: Bruce Frumkin, Ph.D., ABPP

- Collected data and performed literature searches to aid in the examination of competency to waive Miranda rights and the efficacy of the Gudjonsson Suggestibility Scales (GSS).

January 2007-June 2007 Center for Psychological Studies, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Research adviser: Lenore Walker, Ed.D., ABPP

- Data collection to examine the efficacy for a felony mental health court research project.

DISSERTATION TOPIC

Center for Psychological Studies, Nova Southeastern

University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Research adviser: Lenore Walker, Ed.D., ABPP

- Dissertation study investigating Asian-Indians immigrants residing in the United States and the affects of acculturation status and culturally traditional practices on reported rates of domestic violence.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

January 2000-June 2000

Psychology Extern
Forensic Psychiatric Unit, Bellevue Hospital
Center, New York, New York
Supervisor: Sanford Drobb, Ph.D.

- Administered, scored, and interpreted psychological testing for an all-male acute forensic psychiatric inpatient unit.
- Completed comprehensive psychological reports.
- Conducted intake interviews, discharge summaries, and assisted in short term counseling sessions.
- Participated in competency evaluations and weekly groups focusing on anger and stress management, psychotherapy, and housekeeping issues.

September 2005-August 2006

Psychology Trainee
Program for Seriously Emotionally Disturbed, Nova
Southeastern Center for Psychological Services,
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Supervisor: Jan Faust, Ph.D.

- Provided expressive psychodynamic psychotherapy to seriously emotionally disturbed adults and adolescents of culturally diverse backgrounds at a local community mental health center.
- Provided family therapy to assist in examining the structure and interactions of the family unit and addressed difficulties experienced between family members.
- Completed clinical interviews and psychological reports to diagnose, conceptualize, and develop treatment plans.
- Monitored progress and relapses in treatment and provided regular updates to case managers, probation officers, and residential facilities for mandated clients.
- Worked with Department of Children and Family Services to help indigent clients receive funding for treatment.
- Completed discharge summaries upon termination, transfer, or completion of treatment.

August 2006-December 2006

Psychology Trainee
South Florida Evaluation and Treatment Center,
Miami, Florida

Site Supervisor: Armando Collado, Ph.D.
Practicum Supervisor: Lenore Walker, Ed.D.,
ABPP

- Performed forensic assessments and psychological evaluations to determine cognitive and behavioral functioning on an all-male unit for a privatized forensic hospital.
- Conducted competency restoration groups and individual sessions.
- Participated in monthly treatment team meetings as part of a multidisciplinary approach to assessing client's competency status and psychological functioning.
- Completed monthly reports evaluating patient's psychological functioning and determining competency status.

September 2006-August 2007

Psychology Trainee
Broward County Guardian Ad Litem/Legal Aid
Society, Fort Lauderdale Florida
Supervisor: Lenore Walker, Ed.D., ABPP

- Conducted comprehensive clinical interviews for cases referred by Legal Aid and Guardian Ad Litem attorneys to assist in parental fitness, parental termination, child custody, and child abuse and/or neglect cases.
- Administered, scored, and interpreted cognitive, personality, and trauma assessments as well neuropsychological screenings.
- Completed psychological reports to aid in legal decisions regarding termination of parental rights, parental fitness, custody and visitation issues, and presence of child abuse or neglect.

January 2007-August 2007

Psychology Trainee
House of Hope/Stepping Stones Inc.,
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Supervisor: Lenore Walker, Ed.D., ABPP

Conducted clinical interviews and psychological testing with forensic clients to provide comprehensive reports for a dual diagnosis residential treatment facility.

Administered, scored, and interpreted cognitive, personality, and trauma assessments along with neuropsychological screenings for an all-male culturally diverse clientele.

Completed comprehensive psychological reports to assist in assessing mental illness and substance abuse, formulating diagnosis, treatment planning, and court reports.

September 2008- September 2009

Clinical Psychology Intern
Patton State Hospital, Patton, California
Director, David Glassmire, Ph.D., ABPP

- Conducted psychological assessments and clinical interviews for forensic patients and provided recommendations relevant to patient needs.
- Wrote integrated psychological reports guided by referral questions.
- Completed a neuropsychological rotation which consisted of neuropsychological testing, scoring, interpretation, and report writing guided by referral question.
- Provided long-term individual psychotherapy and co-led group therapy.
- Consulted with multidisciplinary treatment teams in regards to patient's treatment plan.
- Conducted forensic assessments and wrote forensic court reports related to competency to stand trial, readiness for release evaluations for individuals adjudicated not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI), Mentally Disordered Offender evaluations, sex offender evaluations, and violence risk assessments.

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Sahni, T., Arecco, M. R., Hernandez, D., & Scatigno, C. (2005, March). *The mental health court project*. Poster session presented at the 3rd annual Student Research Conference, Nova Southeastern University Center for Psychological Services, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Sahni, T., Arecco, M. R., Hernandez, D., & Scatigno, C. (2005, March). *Mental health court: An outcome study*. Paper presented at the 3rd annual Student Research Conference, Nova Southeastern University Center for Psychological Services, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Sahni, T., Arecco, M. R., Scatigno, C., & Hernandez, D. (2005, August). Analysis of a misdemeanor mental health court. In Lenore E. Walker (Chair), *Psychological screenings for mental health court interventions*. Symposium conducted at the meeting of the 113th annual American Psychological Association Convention, Washington, DC.

Chenail, R. J., St. George, S., Wulff, D., Duffy, M., Laughlin, M., Warner, K., & Sahni, T. (2006, January). *Mentoring qualitative research authors globally: The Qualitative Report experience*. Paper presented at the 19th Annual Conference on Interdisciplinary Qualitative Studies, Georgia Center for Continuing Education, Athens, Georgia.

Chenail, R. J., St. George, S., Wulff, D., Duffy, M., Laughlin, M., Warner, K., & Sahni, T. (2007). Mentoring qualitative research authors globally: The Qualitative Report experience. *The Qualitative Report*, 12(1), 67-81. Retrieved from <http://www.nova.edu/ssss/QR/QR12-1/chenail.pdf>

Sahni, T., & Walker, L. E. (2007). *Domestic violence against women in India: Cultural values of a patriarchal society and its effects on women*. Manuscript in preparation, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Sahni, T. (2007, August). Domestic violence within Asian Indian immigrant communities in the United States. In Lenore E. Walker (Chair), *Traumatic effects of Battered Woman Syndrome*. Symposium conducted at the meeting of the 115th annual American Psychological Association Convention, San Francisco, CA.

Sahni, T. (2009). Cross-cultural and cross-national issues. In L. E. A. Walker (Ed.), *The battered woman syndrome* (3rd ed., Chapter 12). New York: Springer

Publishing Company.

HONORS

1995-1997	Dean's Honor Roll List, University at Albany
1996	Spellman Achievement Award
1996-1998	Departmental Honors in Psychology, University at Albany
1996-present	Golden Key Honors Society
1997	Spellman Achievement Award
1998	Cum Laude, University at Albany
1999-2000	Dean's Honor Roll List, John Jay College
2000-present	PSI CHI National Honors Society in Psychology

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2004-2007	Florida Psychological Association- Student Member
2004-2007	Student Organization for the Advocacy of Psychology (SOAP), Nova Southeastern University- Member
2004-2007	Ethnic Minority Association of Graduate Students (EMAGS), Nova Southeastern University- Member
2004-2009	American Psychological Association- Student Affiliate, Division 41
2004-2009	American Psychological Association of Graduate Students- Member
2004-present	South Asian Psychological Networking Association (SAPNA)-Member
2007-2009	Asian American Psychological Association- Student Member

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES/COMMUNITY SERVICE

September 1995 - September 1997	Student Counselor Middle Earth Peer Crisis Counseling Center, State University of New York (SUNY), University at Albany
March 2005-January 2008	Habitat for Humanity
June 2006-May 2008	American Red Cross Disaster Mental Health Training

SPECIALIZED TRAINING EXPERIENCE

- Certified Victim Advocate- Survivor's Advocate for Emergency Room training program
- Certified in administration of the Functional Assessment Rating Scale
- Certified in First Aid and CPR

New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS)
Certifications in:

- Substance Abuse and Addictions

- Psychological Trauma and Trauma Recovery
- Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, Bisexual Communities and Domestic Violence
- Cultural Diversity and Awareness

New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence Certifications in:

- Women and Children living with Mental Illness
- Children and Sexual Abuse:
- Batterers Groups
- Domestic Violence and Substance Abuse

Sex Offender/Violence Risk Assessment:

- Static 99, Static 99R
- STABLE 2000, STABLE 2007
- ACUTE 2000, ACUTE 2007
- HCR-20
- PCL-R
- V-RAG
- SORA

Trauma Assessments:

- Trauma Screening Inventory (TSI)
- Trauma Screening Questionnaire (TSQ)
- Brief Trauma Questionnaire (BTQ)
- Life Events Checklist for DSM-5 (LEC-5)
- Life Stressor Checklist - Revised (LSC-R)
- Potential Stressful Events Interview (PSEI)
- Trauma History Questionnaire (THQ)
- Battered Woman Questionnaire (BWQ)