



DIFFICULT CHILDREN

When Parents and Teachers demand, "Fix this Kid!!"

Processes and Tools for Assessment & Diagnosis and Treatment & Intervention
that also Teach and Train Parents and Teachers (with Integrity)

Trainer: Ronald Mah, M.A., Ph.D., L.M.F.T.

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Therapists are often presented with "difficult children" to "fix." However, there are often complex issues and circumstances that make a child or teen "act out" or become moody. Effective treatment comes from appropriate assessments of these issues and circumstances that lead to theoretical clarity that subsequently imply treatment approaches and interventions. Several diagnostic tools (in the form of short written guides or worksheets) will be presented that the presenter has developed over years of working with children, teens, parents, and teachers and other school personnel.

Main Points:

The presenter will discuss cases from pragmatic, therapeutic, and theoretical perspectives from experiences with teens in a variety of clinical, consulting, and personal situations.

Diagnostic principles will be presented to help systematically conceptualize the core of problematic child behavior. Presenting specific tools for diagnosis and interventions with the theoretical foundations behind them will follow this.

Outline of Topics in Training / list of handouts

- ✧ Why Difficult Children Are "Difficult"
- ✧ From Assessment & Theories to Results
- ✧ Diagnostic Order for Understanding & Approaching Difficult or Conflictual Behavior

- ✧ Temperamental Evaluation & Goodness of Fit Evaluation
- ✧ Quick Check for Learning Style
- ✧ A Family Intake w/o Temperament Focus
Assessing the Same Family Using Temperament & Goodness of Fit Theory

- ✧ Learning Disabilities & Child Behavior
- ✧ Incentive Based Behavioral Modification Program for Oppositional Defiant Children

- ✧ The Working It Out Plan
- ✧ What Happened...To Me?...To Him/Her?...Them? What's Next?
A Reflective Process After Trouble Strikes

- ✧ RIPS- Respect, Identify, Power & Control, Security
- ✧ Stages of Relationship Devolution
For Assessment & As a Guide for Rebuilding Relationships

- ✧ A Process for Success & Growth

- ✧ Ainsworth's Patterns of Attachment Theory
- ✧ 6 Reasons Why Children/Teens Join Gangs

INSTRUCTOR: Ronald Mah, M.A., Ph.D., L.M.F.T., CEU provider #PCE3298 The workshop presenter has a successful private practice (including many adolescents and young children, families and couples). He is also a credentialed elementary and secondary teacher. He has taught, directed, and owned child development centers. He is on the Board of Directors of both the California Association of Marriage & Family Therapists (CAMFT) and the California Kindergarten Association (CKA). He has extensive clinical experience with children and teenagers, including clinically supervising therapists in an inner city high school teen clinic. He has trained about youth to various human services and counseling agencies over the years. He also has two very positive and powerful teenage/ young adult children who have successfully passed through adolescence with a minimum of unnecessary drama! Ronald has teacher and parent education presentations available on dvds at www.FixedEarthFilms.com; he is also the author of "Difficult Behavior in Early Childhood, Positive Discipline for Pre-K-3 Classrooms and Beyond," Corwin Press, 2006, "The One-Minute Temper Tantrum Solution, Strategies for Responding to Children's Challenging Behaviors," Corwin Press, 2008, and "Getting Beyond Bullying and Exclusion, PreK-5, Empowering Children in Inclusive Classrooms," Corwin Press, 2009.

Course meets the qualifications for continuing education for MFT's and LCSW's as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences.