

Ofra Schaham, Ph.D., LMFT

Tel: (972) 54-647-4277

ofaviv@gmail.com

Work Experience

Tel Aviv University, Israel – Faculty **1997 – present**

School of Health Professions, Medical School

Courses taught: “Introduction to Psychology”, “Developmental Psychology”, “The Patient’s Family”, “Contextual Family Therapy Theory and Application”, and others. Received Tel Aviv University Teaching Awards of “Excellent Lecturer” for the years 2012 and 2016.

Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel – Adjunct Faculty **1994 - 2014**

School of Occupational Therapy, Medical School

Courses taught : “The Patient’s Family”, “Contextual Family Therapy Theory and Application”, and others. Received the Hebrew University Teaching Awards of “Excellent Lecturer” for the years 2002, 2003, 2005 and 2006

Private Practice **1993 - present**

Offering workshops, supervision, counseling and therapy

Conducting “Exploring Family of Origin legacies and loyalties” workshops for professionals; providing counseling and therapy for couples, families and individuals as well as supervision to family therapists and interns.

Public Health Management Corporation - Program Supervisor **2001 - 2010**

ChildLink, Early Intervention Program, Philadelphia

Directly responsible for staff development, training and evaluations. Coordination of early intervention services for infants and toddlers with developmental delays. Monitored all direct service activities for compliance and quality. Inaugural supervisor for newly established satellite clinic, supervising the provision of early intervention services.

Charter Fairmount Institute, Philadelphia **1991 -1992**

Adolescent Psychiatric Inpatient Unit Intern

Internship in family therapy treating adolescents and families: Emphasis on substance abuse and addictions, delinquency, depression, anxiety, personality disorders and impulse control difficulties

Einstein Medical Center, Philadelphia **1990-1991**

Psychiatric Inpatient and Outpatient Units Intern

Internship including provision of couple and family therapy to inpatients and their families coping with psychotic and mood disorders, substance abuse and addictions, depression and anxiety disorders.

Mental Health Clinic, Children and Youth Unit Afula Medical Center, Israel **1980-1990**

Occupational Therapist, Art Psychotherapist and Family Therapist

Treated children, adolescents, parents and families with a wide range of mental health issues: anorexia, suicide attempts, incest, child abuse, phobias, encopresis, and relationship difficulties. Facilitated group therapy for parents of children with psychiatric disorders. Provided clinical supervision to Occupational Therapy and Art Therapy students

Education and Special Training

Ph.D., Capella University, School of Social and Behavioral Sciences,
Doctor of Philosophy in Counseling Studies

2010

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Introductory and Intermediate Level training in Clinical Hypnosis	2006
Pennsylvania MFT license	2002
Approved Supervisor , Israeli Marriage and Family Therapy Association	1994
M.F.T. , Hahnemann University, Philadelphia - Marriage and Family Therapy	1992
Certificate in Strategic/Systemic Family Therapy, Theory and Illustrations. The Training Center for Child and Family Therapy, Tel Aviv, Israel	1989
Registered Art Therapist , Haifa University, Israel	1983
B.A. , Occupational Therapy, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel	1981

Professional Registrations

- *Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in PA*, License # MF000281
- *American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy* – Clinical Member
- *Israeli Association of Marriage and Family Therapy* – Approved Supervisor and Clinical Member

Dissertation: "A Correlational study of the Relationship between Self-Esteem, Need-To-Belong, and Ballroom Dancing".

Master's Thesis: "Destructive Parentification: Impact on Sibling Relationships."

International Presentations:

- *Hidden forces within the family: Bringing Contextual Therapy Approach to diverse mental and physical health professionals*, International Contextual Therapy conference, Ede, Netherlands, April 19, 2018
- *Client's Family and OT Education: Revealing the hidden forces in every family*. ENOTHE – European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education Conference, Athens, Greece, October 19, 2019

Publications

Schaham, O. (2017). The patient, the family, and the rehabilitation system through the lens of Contextual Therapy. In A. Shalev & N. Hadas-Lidor (Eds.), *From invisibility to partnership: Coping with, and recovery from psychiatric illness in the family* (Hebrew), pp. 179-189. Tel Aviv, Israel: Ono Academic College.

Draeger-Muenke, R., Horowitz, H., & Schaham, O. (2006). Quick mood fixes vs. sustained relational giving - how to hold on to feeling and being happy. *Family Therapy Magazine*, 5, 22-27.

Schaham, O. (2005). An illustration of contextual family therapy. *Family Therapy Magazine*, 4, 34-37.

Schaham, O. (1995). Contextual family therapy: Principles and a case study. *Family (Israeli AMFT Journal)*, 38, 60-68.

Awards and Honors

Teaching award: 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006 – Hebrew University, Medical School.

Teaching award: 2012, 2016: Tel Aviv University, Medical School.