PSYCHOLOGY IN LAW
ASSESSMENT CONSULTING SERVICES LTD.

Dr Theresa Kelly, CPsychol, CSci, AFBPsS, NCC
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PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERTISE

Professional Qualification(s)

Chartered psychologist and scientist
Associate Fellow
Assistant Test User and Test User - Forensic Contexts, BPS
HCPC Registered practitioner clinical and counselling psychologist

Areas of Expertise

Assessment of adults, children (ages 7 years and older), adolescents

- Ability to care/parent/protect
- Alcohol and substance abuse/dependency issues
- Learning disabilities and capacity to instruct
- Assessment of mood and anxiety disorders, psychotic disorders, and personality disorders
- Cognitive functioning assessment
- Domestic violence
- Impact of abuse on the cognitive and emotional development of children
- Malingering issues
- Mentally disordered offenders
- Observation of contact between parents and children
- Parenting risks
- Posttraumatic stress disorder assessment
- Protective factors (ability to work with professionals, capacity to change)
- Psychosexual assessment

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

My forensic experiences include working in both community and secure hospital settings. Client populations include adult offenders with mental illness and personality disorders, and civil litigants involved in workplace accidents/assaults. I have provided individual and group treatment, as well as psychological assessment. My experience has also included providing consultation and reflective practice services to multidisciplinary teams.

I have also worked for private practice consulting services, where my reports have been used in criminal and family court proceedings. My reports for legal proceedings focus on defendants' understanding of charges, parents' cognitive and mental health issues and how they impact parenting capacity, and the impact on children's mental health and cognitive development. Recently, I was invited to present a talk to a group of judges, solicitors, and other legal professionals about attachment, trauma and family court.

Outside of forensics, I have contributed to Education, Health and Care Plans about the impact of emotional and mental health needs on achievement and learning. I also have previous experience providing specialised assessments for those experiencing mental health injuries

resulting from workplace trauma. Reports addressed diagnostic opinions, prognosis, and recommended accommodations.

In addition to my applied clinical work, I also provide supervision and mentoring. My areas of interest are in psychological assessment and testing, expert witness work, and quantitative research. I have also facilitated a reflective practise group for forensic mental health staff.

REPORTS

I have prepared reports for civil, criminal, and family court proceedings. These reports have covered the following areas:

- Assessment of learning disability
- Assessment of alcohol and substance abuse/dependency
- Assessment of mental illness
- Assessment of parenting capacity
- Assessment of capacity to return to work following workplace accidents/assaults
- Assessment of mental disordered offenders' treatment needs

My reports for education tribunals and individualised education plans addressed:

- Assessment of mental health needs and learning
- Assessment of cognitive functioning and learning

QUALIFICATIONS, TRAINING & RESEARCH

Education

- PhD, Counselling Psychology, University of Toronto (Canada)
- MA, Community Counselling, The George Washington University (United States)
- BA, Psychology, The George Washington University (United States)

Training

- Understanding People with Substance Use Disorders and Addictions
- Introduction to Understanding and Assessing Attachment in the School Years
- BPS Expert Witness Workshops 1-4
- Understanding and Diagnosing Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in Late Adolescents and Early Adults
- High conflict parenting post separation: Introduction to the assessment and treatment of children caught between parental acrimony
- Working systemically with domestic violence: Risk, responsibility, collaboration
- The Two Sides of Trauma: Victim and Offender Experience
- Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule, 2nd Edition – Clinical and reliability certified

Research

- Sexual assault reporting
- Jury decision-making in sexual assault cases
- Impact of sexual assault on victims
- Sexual offender mental health needs

MEMBERSHIPS & PUBLICATIONS

Professional Memberships

- BPS Registered Applied Psychology Practice Supervisor
- Registered EuroPsy psychologist, European Federation of Psychologists' Associations
- BPS Expert Witness Register
- International Affiliate, American Psychological Association
- National Certified Counsellor, National Board for Certified Counsellors (US)

Publications & Presentations
A full list of presentations and publications is available on request

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION
I hold personal professional indemnity insurance.

I am an Associate Lecturer at The Open University.