

The California Psychologist



Summer 2018 ■ Volume 51 ■ Number Three

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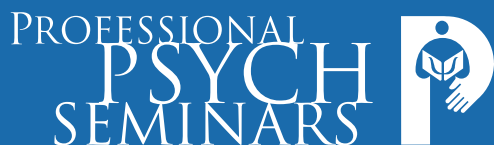
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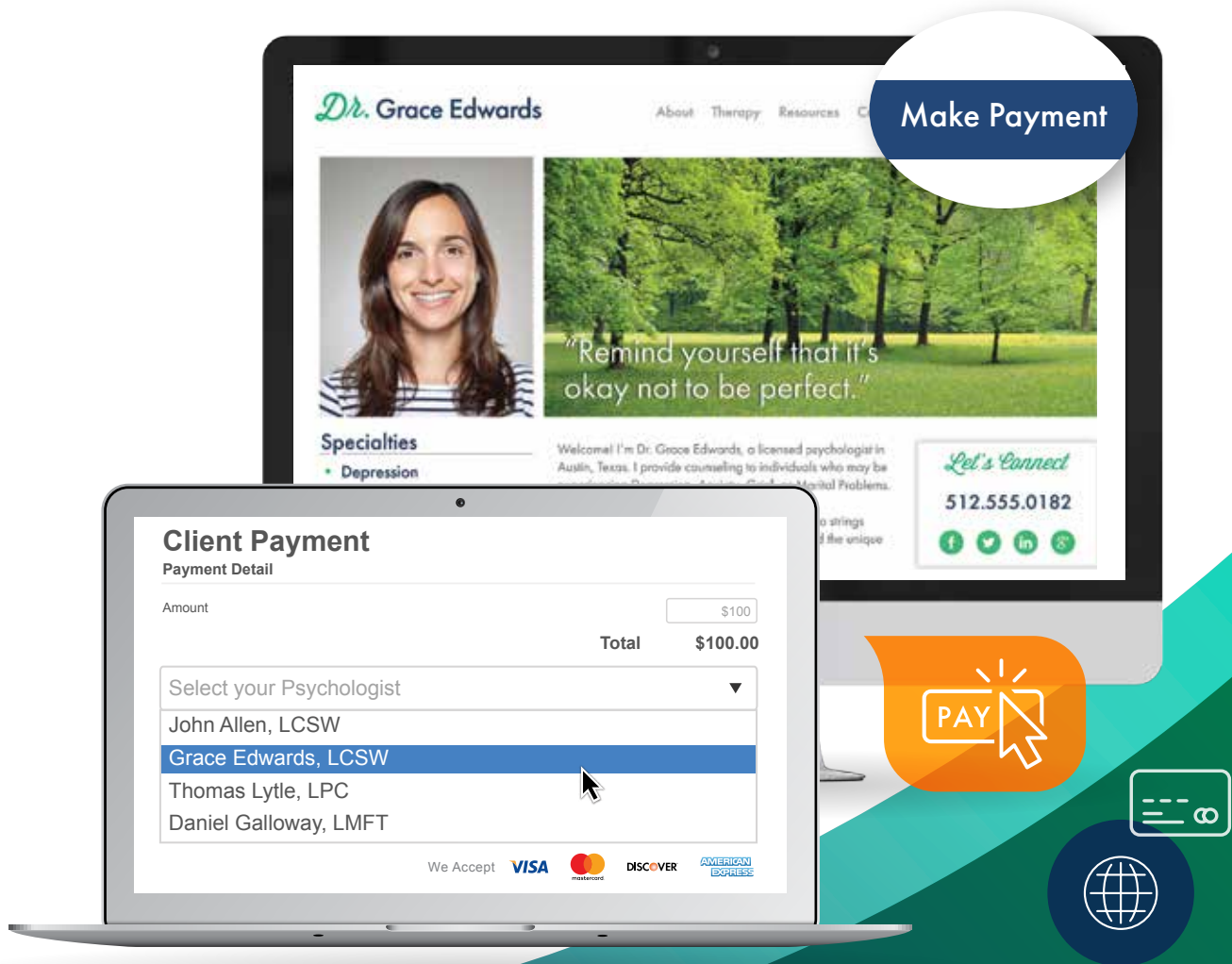


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Politics is Personal

Valerie B. Jordan, PhD

This issue addresses a selection of themes where politics and psychology intersect. Probably most of us have lived with politics as part of lives, and hopefully have some positive memories of special moments in our lifetime about certain political events and experiences. One of my favorite childhood memories is waiting with my mother in long lines to vote, accompanying her into the voting booth, pulling the curtain, and then her letting me pull the lever! The unspoken message of the responsibility and necessity of voting was not lost for me (see below for a photo of a vintage voting booth!).



This issue addresses the important field of political psychology, an area of study new to me. First, Dr. Paul Marcille describes the many ways that our brains process and react to political events and ideas. Next, Dr. Daniel Rockers discusses the psychology of political groups and describes several misperceptions from both sides. He then discusses the effect of, and relationship between the media and politics, especially in the current political climate. Next, Dr. Mark Kamena and Dr. Lori Futterman describe some key aspects of CPA's political activities at the state and national level, and the necessity of this involvement and advocacy for the profession and the public we serve. Finally, Ms. Amanda Levy, CPA's Director of Government Affairs, describes some of the year-round advocacy efforts at the state and federal level that involves both psychologists and students in these outreach activities.

Given the current political climate, it is encouraging to learn about the role psychology can play both in understanding the complexities of political behavior among voters and politicians alike, as well as the necessity of political advocacy for the profession. I also recommend visiting both CPA's Advocacy and Government Affairs website (<https://cpapsych.site-ym.com/page/46?>), and APA's resources on advocacy at the Government Relations Office of the Public Interest Directorate (<http://www.apa.org/pi/gr/index.aspx>). ■

FROM THE EDITOR



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The Intersection of Psychology and Politics

Paul J. Marcille, PhD



Paul Marcille, PhD

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Welcome to the Summer issue of the *CP Magazine*, the theme of which is Psychology and Politics. Anyone who follows the news can't be anything but astonished, amazed, delighted or appalled by what is happening in the world of politics in our country. Those familiar with the history of politics in the US are aware that there have been tumultuous and scandalous behaviors and rancorous relations between the political parties in the past. However, the current presidential administration and the relations between the Democratic and Republican parties may have reached an all-time low. Why??

Many of us were astonished and in disbelief about the potential results of the 2016 presidential election, while others were delighted about the disruption the Trump administration might bring to Washington, DC. Some psychologists have called into question the mental health of the President, and others have denounced such behavior as unprofessional and treasonous. Psychology has much to offer in helping us understand the behavior of our elected officials, the influence of the media, our choice of political candidates and party affiliations, and voting behaviors and political campaigns. This issue of the CP magazine introduces the field of political psychology, which attempts to understand the psychological underpinnings and consequences of political behavior.

In my position as a professor at Palo Alto University this quarter, I am teaching a senior seminar course on Political Psychology. The senior seminar is a topics course about a particular issue which psychology can help inform. Previous seminar topics have included addiction, evil, climate change, technology, career development, etc. My students, who are in the last quarter of their studies prior to receiving their Bachelor degree, have completed four years of general education and studies in psychology. The seminar provides them with an opportunity to apply what they have learned to make sense of a current issue, and this seemed to be an ideal time to challenge them to apply their knowledge to our current political situation.

In the advocacy work I've done at the local, state, national and international level, I have learned that many psychologists consider politics to be dirty business better left to politicians and lobbyists. We tend to be a quiet and apolitical tribe. Unfortunately, you can ignore politics but politics won't ignore you. Ours is a profession that is regulated by government and consumer protection agencies; the organizations in which many of us work are funded by government budgets; the reimbursement for our services are determined by government agencies; and the government funds programs that assist millions of mentally ill individuals. Other professions are eager to reduce our scope of practice and provide the services that psychologists are uniquely competent to provide. If psychologists do not understand or participate in the political process, we risk becoming irrelevant. Please get involved. Register to vote and do so. Use your knowledge, skills, and expertise to educate and influence your elected officials, and continue to support CPA to help us advocate for our profession and the people that we help. ■

Politics for Breakfast

Jo Linder-Crow, PhD

“Ever since I was a little girl, I’ve had politics for breakfast.” That was the opening sentence of an essay I wrote in the 5th grade. I won a statewide contest and my essay was printed in the Congressional Record at the request of Arkansas’s long-time Senator John McClellan. I remember it as a proud moment! It made sense in a family where my father was a District Attorney for ten years and where my formative years were spent campaigning in the hot Southern summers. Politics were discussed a lot at my house!

Not much has changed, really. I start most days with a dose of current news and current politics, and we all know there is plenty of that available these days. I understand now that there are politics and there is policy and that it is hard some days to know which one is winning. It is also hard sometimes to sort through the nuances of policy issues and navigate the intersection of the policies and the politics to move forward on the issues that are important to psychology. The work is not for the faint of heart since there are days when not much makes sense and times when being “right” doesn’t mean we will win.

For every professional group in California, there is a professional organization jockeying for position and for the attention of the policy-makers. There are a lot of sharp elbows in “the building” (as the Capitol is fondly called). This is where CPA comes in because we are the organization for psychology. It’s our job to represent you and the issues that are important to you and your patients and clients. Many of these organizations have bigger bank accounts than we do, so we make up that difference with the voices of psychologists who tell their stories about the important work that you do. We need every psychologist to join in the fight to protect your hard-won rights!

This issue will shed some light on what that work looks like from a variety of perspectives. The small, and large, actions that are taken every day make the difference between outcomes that will help you and outcomes that might hurt you. Most of what we do you will never even know about, so we hope that this issue gives you a flavor of what it takes to navigate the world of politics and policy as your professional association.

If you are not already one of our strong advocates for the profession I hope this issue convinces you to join in! CPA is the Voice of Psychology in California, but we need your voice as a part of that chorus! ■

FROM THE CEO



Jo Linder-Crow, PhD

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The Political Brain

Paul Marcille, PhD



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As the Trump Administration advances into its second year in office amongst a special counsel investigation and tremendous bipartisan tension in Congress, this seems an appropriate time to examine the psychology behind some of the political behaviors that we are witnessing. Political Psychology is the field of social scientific inquiry, with roots in political science and psychology and connections to a range of other social sciences. Political psychologists attempt to understand the psychological underpinnings and consequences of political behavior (SUPPRG, 2016).

A great deal of political behavior seems to defy explanation: the dismantling of laws designed to protect the environment and people's finances and privacy; military conflicts that seem pointless and result in the deaths of millions; acts of terrorism that kill innocent civilians; scandal-plagued politicians who cannot resist perpetrating acts of sexual harassment and extra-marital affairs; and votes by our fellow citizens that seem to not be in their best interests. Unless one understands the thoughts and feelings of the people who make such decisions, we cannot understand why they occur. Psychology provides a lens for such understanding.

The founders of our nation had a vision of government and politics based on the concept of a rational mind that makes decisions by weighing the evidence and reasoning to arrive at the most valid conclusions. They feared the distorting influence of emotion on the rational thought necessary for good decisions in a democracy (Marcus, 2002). Unfortunately or fortunately, this approach bears little resemblance to how the human brain actually works. Decades of research by psychologists reveal that behavior is anything but rational at times.

A more accurate picture of human beings as political actors is one that acknowledges that we are all driven or motivated to act in accordance with our personality characteristics, our values, beliefs, emotions and our membership in and attachments to groups. Psychologists have discovered that we are imperfect information processors, selectively attending to only certain elements in our environment and selectively seeking and discovering evidence to support our attitudes and beliefs (confirmation biases) including our political ones. We employ logical, but often faulty, perceptions of others (stereotypes and prejudices), and we are often unaware of the causes of our own behaviors. We often behave in ways that seem contrary to



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our own interests, values, and beliefs. For example, a common argument is that people vote in accordance with self-interest; therefore, people in higher income brackets will vote for Republican candidates and those in lower income brackets will vote for Democratic candidates. The result from the last presidential election, where a significant number of lower income Americans voted for a Republican candidate, who later supported tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations, belies that.

Traditional explanations of political behavior often fail to adequately explain some of the most important political decisions and actions people take. Psychology has helped to shed light on the political brain. Psychology has demonstrated that personality traits influence behavior, including political behavior and that personality is at the core of our political brain. Political Psychology has a long history of conducting “psychobiographies” on political figures and presidents and has demonstrated how certain personality traits and motivations can explain the behavior of our elected officials. For example, Watt et al. (2013) found that grandiose narcissism in US presidents is associated with public persuasiveness, effective crisis management, agenda setting and allied behaviors, and with other positive indicators of performance, such as winning the popular vote and initiating legislation. But grandiose narcissism has also been associated with congressional impeachment resolutions and unethical behaviors.

Among voters, there is evidence that the Big Five personal-

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ity traits have predictive validity in determining political behavior. For example, individuals who score higher on the trait of Openness to Experience tend to have liberal attitudes and voting preferences, are more likely to respond favorably to liberal social policies, which often involve acceptance of unconventional behaviors, and liberal economic policies which may involve support for government involvement in the economy. In contrast, individuals high on Conscientiousness tend to be attracted to conventional social norms and achievement striving; they are more likely to reject challenges to social norms that often accompany liberal social policies, and liberal economic policies, which may be seen as undermining incentives for individual effort (Gerber et al., 2013).



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Recently, the neurosciences have been used to explain such political psychology concepts as voting behavior, in-group bias, and party affiliation. Amodio et al. (2007) found that on average, conservatives show more structured and persistent cognitive styles, whereas liberals are more responsive to informational complexity, ambiguity and novelty. They conducted EEG studies on liberals and conservatives and found that greater liberalism was associated with stronger conflict-related anterior cingulate activity, suggesting greater neurocognitive sensitivity to cues for altering a habitual response pattern.

Westen (2007) and his colleagues at Emory University have studied activity inside the brains of partisans who are presented with information that puts their candidate and the opposing candidate in a poor light. Using fMRI scans, they studied the brains of fifteen strong Democrats and fifteen strong Republicans as they were presented with contradictory statements supposedly made by both their favored and disliked candidates. Their results indicated that areas of the brain that deal with contradiction and negative affect were activated and then quickly removed the inconsistency in the case of their preferred candidate. This research provided neurological evidence for political party identification. There is also strong evidence that identical twins share much higher concordance in terms of political views than do fraternal twins, providing further evidence that there may be a neurological contribution to the political brain's preference for liberal or conservative politics (McCourt et al., 1999).

The political brain is also influenced by values and identity. These consist of our deeply held beliefs about what is right and wrong (values) and a deeply held sense of who we are (identity). Values include a strong emotional component and we generally feel strongly about our beliefs, our goals, people we care about, and our political principles. For example, we may have strong values about marital fidelity, and a politician who has extra-marital affairs, regardless of his or her politics, may be someone for whom we cannot vote. An individual whose identity is strongly religious would likely agree with the political views of his or her church. Values, emotions, and identities are deeply held and fairly permanent and exert a strong influence on the political brain.

The political brain has attitudes. Attitudes have a cognitive component (e.g., knowledge) and an emotional response (likes, dislikes, etc.). Attitudes are subject to change based on new information, changes in feeling, or persuasion. Attitudes are the focus of attention in political psychology when it comes to voting decisions, political socialization, the impact of the media on how and what people think, and important political issues such as immigration, health care, taxes, etc.

Emotions affect all aspects of the political brain. Values, identities, and attitudes are emotional and have emotional components. Most phenomena in politics involve emotions and feelings rather than "cold" information-processing. Virtually all political concepts are charged with emotion, either positive or negative, something that many psychologists refer to as "hot cognitions." Political stimuli often provoke strong

emotions, such as liking, dislike, happiness, sadness, anger, guilt, gratitude, disgust, revenge, joy, insecurity, fear, anxiety, and so on. We do not look at politics neutrally, as some kind of super-advanced, artificially intelligent computer might. For example, very few people can look at a photograph of Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton without *feeling* something.

When Adelai Stevenson was running for president against Dwight Eisenhower, a woman enthusiastically expressed to the Democratic candidate that, "Every thinking person will be voting for you." Stevenson replied, "Madam, that is not enough. I need a majority." (1952) What Stevenson was responding to is what politicians have learned, that emotional statements and campaigns win votes. The Republican Party has learned this lesson well. They employ Hollywood producers and Madison Avenue marketing experts to develop their campaigns, and they avoid the facts, figures, logic and reasoning often employed by the "liberal elites" in the Democratic Party.

Psychology has provided decades of research about cognitive processes which are the brain's methods for processing information. Our cognitive processes help us organize the environment into understandable and recognizable units and filter information so that we do not have to consciously assess every piece of information in the environment. They are an essential aspect of the political brain. Cognitive schemas, heuristics, cognitive maps, cognitive consistency and dissonance, attribution theory, reasoning, levels of processing, language and memories, problem solving and decision making are just some of the cognitive processes that political psychologists examine to understand political behavior. The fundamental attribution error is the tendency for people to attribute internal characteristics (personality) to explain someone else's behavior in a given situation rather than considering external factors, which we do when explaining our own behavior. The publication of Hillary Clinton's campaign memoir "What Happened" set off a round of finger-pointing over what caused the 2016 presidential election result. Many argued that the Democratic candidate did not accept enough blame for her own defeat, particularly conservatives, while many liberals assume that President Trump's current legal challenges are a result of his personality rather than his lack of political experience and experienced advisors.

Finally, in politics, people often act as part of a group, and their behavior as part of a group can be very different from their behavior when they are alone. Therefore, the psychology of groups is an essential part of the political brain. Social identity derives from membership in groups such as nationality, gender, age, race, ethnicity, oc-

cupation, and political party. One's groups are characterized in terms of in-group and out-group effects. Membership in one group can create stereotypes, discrimination, and ethnocentrism towards another group, and the current state of bipartisanship in American politics is a perfect example of in-group and out-group effects. These have a powerful influence over people's views and behaviors toward their political party and the opposing political party.

For many of us, the current political climate is disturbing and worrying. However, the science of psychology can help explain much of the political phenomena we are witnessing. Such knowledge can help improve communication and develop empathy and understanding between political parties and reduce the partisan and destructive impasses that we are currently witnessing in Washington, DC. Psychologists and CPA have a role to play in educating our legislative representatives about the psychological phenomena that contribute to issues, such as gun violence, health care, immigration and other critical issues that they are wrestling with. The knowledge gained from studying Political Psychology can help each one of us to think more critically about the political challenges our elected officials are dealing with and can help each one of us make more educated decisions at the polling booth. ■

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Polarizing

Daniel M. Rockers, PhD



Daniel Rockers, PhD

(daniel.rockers@gmail.com) is the current Local Advocacy Network (LAN) Chair. He is also the Immediate Past President of the Sacramento Valley Psychological Association, and President-Elect of the California Psychological Association. He enjoys being active in local and state organizations, as well as doing advocacy work. Dr. Rockers is known as an idea generator and change agent.

Every election cycle it seems political attack ads get worse. In media interviews politicians don't seem to listen to the questions asked, but instead use the interview as an opportunity to skewer their opponent. Why is this happening and is there anything that we as psychologists can do about it?

The Political Psychology of Groups: Misperceptions and Stereotypes

Group membership is acquired early in life and is a persistent need; our survival depends on it. This is likely the reason that any form of group membership, even trivial – like dot-counting or random assignment – triggers positive feelings for the in-group and negative feelings for the outgroup (Billig & Tajfel, 1973). Humans are tribal, group-oriented, and social. We have an ingrained need to belong. Most people belong to multiple groups, but generally one of those groups is at the top of the hierarchy. The top spot may be due to dispositional factors such as someone's loyalty to the group, or characteristics of the information environment – like the number of times someone is reminded of their affiliation to the group. (Gaertner et al., 1993; Oakes, 1987).

With membership in a group there is advantage but also a cost: when we become group members, we tend to not see so clearly. We can see some salient examples in today's embattled political parties. Misperceptions about the other party (Republicans and Democrats) are quite significant (Ahler & Sood, 2016). The researchers wanted to find out just how much and what kinds of things were misperceived. In the study, Democrat participants were asked about typical misperceptions, such as what proportion of Republicans are senior citizens, Southern/evangelical, or earn upwards of \$250,000. Republicans were asked what proportion of Democrats are black, atheists/agnostics, union members or LGBT. The striking results: Democrats think that 44% of Republicans make more than \$250,000 per year, but the true figure is that only 2% do. Democrats believe that 44% of Republicans are senior citizens, but the number is actually half that at 21%. Similar misperceptions exist on the other side: Republicans think that 36% of Democrats are atheist/agnostic, but it really is about 9%, and that 38% are LGBT, while the reality is 6%. Why do these misperceptions – stereotypes, really – exist?

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Part of the reason this happens is built in; the human mind categorizes so it doesn't have to make decisions every time a situation comes up. If I didn't have some kind of shorthand decision method – also called a heuristic – I would never get things done. The ability to do this well is considered a component of intelligence, measured in psychological assessment through measures like the Wisconsin Card Sort or the Category test. But back to the cost of being a group member: when we split into in-group and out-group, it is usually set up psychologically in an adversarial stance: us vs. them.

The human tendency is to see “them” in a more negative light, and to see “us” in a more positive light. And, as humans, we tend to exaggerate the differences: the position that Democrats hold is not as extreme as Republicans think, and vice versa. The stronger the partisan, the less accurate the assessment will be. The psychological term for this is *systematic exaggeration of polarization*.

In addition, as humans we tend to generate stereotypes based on morals which are rooted ideologically. For example, conservatives think that liberals lack respect for authority and tradition, and liberals think that conservatives lack compassion and fairness. Both liberals and conservatives exaggerate the prevalence of these moral stereotypes on both sides. Moderates are the least likely to suffer from such *ideological moral stereotypes*.

Finally, when we humans are involved in groups, we tend to think of the individuals in the outgroup as all being the same, and as noted above, not in a good way. Think of any catch phrase stereotypes for either progressive or conservative ideologies, or any the negative stereotypes for ethnic groups. This *outgroup homogeneity bias* further prevents us from seeing individuals in a group. All we see is a dehumanized “group.”

In terms of perception, we humans are better at dealing with individuals than with groups. We tend to see individuals in a better light, and direct a lower level of hostility towards individuals than at the abstract (political party) level. This *person-positivity bias* (Sears, 1983) is something that can be intentionally utilized when we are constructing methods for reducing group bias.

That humans tend to stereotype and misperceive is not really news nor is the idea that attack ads and counterattack ads are increasing. From the ideas just reviewed, we can easily see why the attack ads work so well. But how does media and technology contribute?

Media Contributions: Art Imitates Life

More people are turning to technical social media outlets for news. With the increase (and ease of creating) social media news outlets, some speculate that it is simply a matter of time before America separates more fully. In the *segregation hypothesis* individuals fear that with increasing technology we will begin to isolate into ideological silos which simply reinforce one's own views and separation from the other side. People tune in to such “echo chambers” because of a tendency to

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seek out others whose views are sympathetic. It is also known that partisan media does create more extreme views in those who already have extreme views. But this increased polarization of ideology (Levendusky, 2013) isn't where the problem really lies.

The problem is in a different kind of polarization. In addition to the ideological polarization noted above, there can be polarization on the partisan level – that is, the party (generally Democrat vs. Republican) level. In this kind of polarization, people don't like others just because they belong to the other party. Partisan polarization is a type of emotional, or affective, polarization; it is primary, primordial and not principled. Partisan identity has only weak ideological underpinnings; partisan identity is primarily an affective attachment. In fact, most Americans have a problem knowing where the parties are with respect to issues (Delli Carpini & Keeter, 1993). One's attachment to one's political party is mostly affective (Converse, 1964; Lane, 1959).

Taking advantage of this affective attachment, American presidential campaigns have become more negative and more attack-oriented; more time is spent attacking than promoting. In addition, the negative ads are then recycled by the news media (Geer, 2010). For example, when John Kerry was running for President in 2004, more news stories were generated from attack ads about John Kerry's Swift Boat incident than the Iraq war. Appealing to affect is effective because it reaches people where it is remembered, and the news media outlets seize on such stories because of their viewership value. Unfortunately it just further polarizes people's views.

Since media outlets are increasingly adding presence on social media channels, we can wonder how technology has influenced this polarization. Technology in this sense makes it easier to find "partisan friendly" news – seeking sources which routinely denigrate the outgroup or out party. A market for partisan news means that there will be a proliferation of partisan-oriented news channels. This is what has happened. In this way, technology promotes the segregation hypothesis that we will become isolated into partisan silos.

But in a counterintuitive twist, social media like Twitter actually may make people more moderated in their views, as opposed to being polarized. This is because Twitter networks are more heterogeneous and the network is loosely connected. Our social networks on Twitter are comprised of many different kinds of people, and many of them we don't really know all that well. We may not know their specific beliefs and political orientations if we don't know them that well, which means we will be exposed to many different views on social and political issues. In this respect Twitter may actually reduce the tendency to live in an echo chamber!

Finding Solutions

Democracy requires freedom of speech – that is, the freedom to exchange ideas openly. Unfortunately, this is often corrupted as if it were freedom to verbally attack the other side.

But attack only begets attack, just as hate begets more hate. When this approach is used in a democracy, the loss of decorum is discouraging and demoralizing to the population. While our democracy was set up to encourage debate and due consideration by virtue of a bicameral legislature, I don't think that character assassination and demonization was what they had in mind. That doesn't create solutions.

The solution to the problem, as I see it, is much the same as the solutions to our individual difficulties: an increasing awareness and volitional action. Specific manifestations of these two principles are truly listening, resisting temptation to demonize, and super-optimization.

How can I listen to the other side – truly listen – so that I can process it and include it in the solution? F. Scott Fitzgerald (1936) said that first-rate intelligence is “the ability to hold two opposed ideas in the mind at the same time, and still retain the ability to function.” Gaddis (2018) interpreted that a possible meaning of Fitzgerald's quote is taking the best from contradictory approaches while rejecting the worst. When we do this, we are resisting the natural temptation to demonize and dehumanize the opposing side, and employing the person-positivity bias – a good thing! Moreover, if we truly gather information from both sides, we will come up with a better solution than either one initially proposed. Known as super-optimization (Nagel, 2002), it is a skill that is badly needed in our political system.

How can you participate in this process and be a part of the transformation of our system? There are many ways: get involved in your chapter's PAC; help educate legislators on the psychological aspects of political process that are outlined in this article; and create mini-trainings for your local high school classes on political psychology. What else can you think of? Probably the most important part, though, is to take some kind of action. It is easy to put it off, or to think that someone else will do it. Taking action is the most important thing you can do. ■

Complete references for this article can be found at www.cpapsych.org – select *The California Psychologist* from the **Professional Resources** menu.

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California Psychological Association's Federal Advocacy

Mark Kamena, PhD, ABPP and Lori Futterman, RN, PhD



Mark Kamena, PhD, ABPP

(markkamena@comcast.net) is board certified in police and public service psychology (PPSP). He is the Director of Research and a co-founder of the First Responders Support Network, a volunteer, non-profit organization that includes the West Coast Post-trauma Retreat and a

separate program for first responder spouses and significant others. He is a co-author of *Counseling Cops: What Clinicians Need to Know* (Guilford Press). Dr. Kamena is a co-founder of the First Responder Specialty at the Wright Institute, consisting of five courses: Introduction to PPSP, Assessment, Intervention, Consultation and Operations. He is a past president of the California Psychological Association (2013), current Federal Advocacy Coordinator for Northern California to APA, and CPA Foundation Treasurer.



Lori Futterman, RN, PhD

(laf1@cox.net) is in clinical practice and has done clinical research concentrated on two subspecialty areas, women's health and sexual medicine. Her private practice is in San Diego where she uses a wide range of techniques and current research to customize care. She is an Assistant

Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the University of California San Diego (UCSD) coordinating and teaches sexual medicine to the psychiatry residents. She is currently on the CPA Div I Board of Directors. She has been appointed to the position of Federal Advocacy Coordinator (FAC) for the American Psychological Association and spearheads the CPA FAC Student Mentoring Project.

The California Psychological Association (CPA) actively participates in advocacy and lobbying efforts at both the state and the federal level. In terms of federal advocacy, there are 53 Congressional districts in California. Dr. Lori Futterman is the CPA Federal Advocacy Coordinator (FAC) for southern California and Dr. Mark Kamena is the CPA FAC for northern California. The CPA President appoints the FACs each year. Their responsibilities include attending the practice leadership conference in Washington DC annually to lobby Representatives and Senators concerning legislation identified by the APA Practice Organization as vital to the interests of psychology as a whole and to the individuals and groups we serve. In addition, the FACs disseminate information alerts and action alerts to all APA members within California throughout the year. Issues that may be addressed range from expanding the scope of practice of psychologists, fighting attempts to limit that scope, advocating for the expansion of mental health services, advocating against the use of harmful therapeutic practices, etc. These alerts provide a quick way to communicate with your elected legislators, and the practice organization provides simple templates to send emails and faxes.

Historically, FACs have made sure that each Congressional district has at least one constituent, a key psychologist, who acts as a liaison with APA. In the last three years we have expanded this model to include having a student key contact for each district who can team up with the key psychologist and experience a mentoring opportunity. This model, known as the CPA FAC Student Mentoring Project, was created to expand the existing federal advocacy efforts to include training graduate students in federal advocacy. This project has been receiving national recognition for its coordination of congressional district teams. Their mission is to discuss relevant federal issues with their representatives and to be available for consultation.

CPA has created and provides a brochure entitled "The Distressed Constituent Guide" to legislators and their staff. CPA offers to provide training to legislative staff, both in Sacramento and at their district offices about how to more effectively cope with constituents who are upset or disturbed.

Another important part of advocacy concerns "the Ask." CPA and APA often identify a bill that we want to co-sponsor or support. In these cases, the FAC, CPA's lobbyist or CPA mem-

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bers will visit a legislator and provide them with information and a rational to endorse such legislation. Psychologists who are content area experts may be asked to testify in committee hearings in support of or against a particular piece of legislation. For example, a recent visit was made to Congresswoman Doris Matsui's office in Sacramento to support legislation that would increase access to mental health care (also referred to as "the physician definition bill" because psychologists are the only doctoral level group that is not covered under Medicare's definition of a "physician"). The staffer asked for a list of co-sponsors and noted that Congresswoman Anna Eshoo's name was missing and wondered why. Congresswoman Eshoo's psychologist contacts were called, which resulted in a visit to her office and an agreement was reached in which the Congresswoman signed on as a co-sponsor to the bill. This updated information was taken back to Congresswoman Matsui's office. Although we are still awaiting her response, this coordination demonstrates the effectiveness of advocacy and teamwork to support legislative interests of psychologists.

Advocacy educates and informs. We discuss pros and cons of legislation, the costs and benefits of legislation, develop co-sponsor lists, and identify supporters and those who oppose legislation. Without advocacy at both the state and federal level, psychologists and our profession would be forgotten both to the detriment of ourselves and the clients with whom we work. ■

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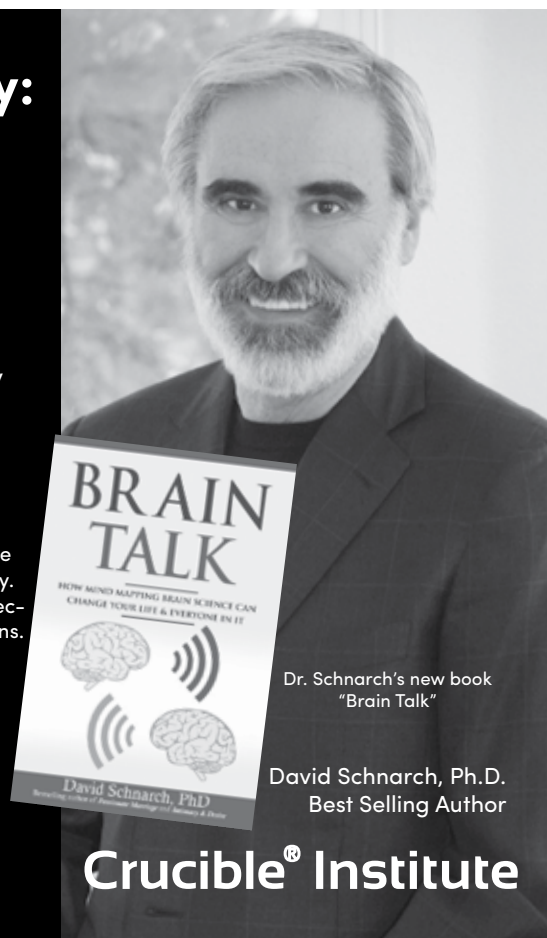
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Amanda Levy, Director, CPA Government Affairs



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The California Psychological Association (CPA) is one of hundreds of health care lobbying organizations based in Sacramento. We lobby the 80 Assembly Members and the 40 Senators in the California Legislature for better access to mental health care, broader coverage of mental

health care in state and private programs, and changes to a psychologist's scope of practice. I have been CPA's registered lobbyist since 2004. However, I cannot do the work alone. A typical day in the Capital for me includes meeting one-on-one with legislators and their staff members on bills of interest to CPA, attending and testifying in committee hearings, and representing CPA at community and mental health coalition meetings. The professional relationships that I have built over the years with elected officials and their staff have helped CPA to achieve our legislative goals. However, as in many provider organizations that are membership based, CPA asks its members to actively participate in advocacy related events throughout the year.

Here is a glimpse of the major advocacy activities in which CPA members can participate during the year. We hope you will consider working with CPA and your local chapter to attend at least one advocacy event each calendar year.

CPA Leadership and Advocacy Conference and Lobby Day (Spring)

For over a decade, CPA's Division I (Clinical and Private Practice) has generously sponsored a leadership conference preceding CPA's Lobby Day in March. This conference brings together Chapter Presidents, Division Chairs, and Local Advocacy Network (LAN) Representatives to Sacramento to discuss ways to build leadership in local chapters, increase grassroots advocacy efforts, and learn more about CPA's fundraising arm, the CPA-Political Action Committee (CPA-PAC). Attendees also get a chance to discuss CPA's legislative agenda and position on more than 100 bills. The Leadership and Advocacy conference is designed for current chapter leaders but is open to all CPA members.

Our premier legislative event is the annual Lobby Day. CPA staff arranges more than 100 meetings and we meet with

nearly every legislative member. Over 100 psychologists and graduate students convene for a morning of lobbying/advocacy training followed by an afternoon of boots-on-the ground lobbying at the Capitol! These consist of meetings with Assembly or Senate members and psychologists from their district to discuss particular pieces of legislation important to CPA members or related to mental health issues and our clients. The legislators and their staff with whom we meet appreciate hearing from residents of their district and appreciate the insight and perspectives psychologists have to offer. Occasionally, a CPA member will be asked to return to Sacramento by their representative to testify in a committee meeting and provide expert testimony for a particular bill or legislative position. Registration for Lobby Day opens the first week in January and typically fills up quickly.

District Office Meetings and “Meet and Greets” with Psychologists and Students (Summer/Fall)

For psychologists who cannot come to Sacramento for Lobby Day, we can bring the Capitol to you! Every legislator has at least one field office located in the legislative district they serve. Legislators spend every Friday in their district holding meetings with concerned citizens and attending events arranged by

community members. CPA regional chapters organize meetings with the legislators from their district in order to learn what’s happening in Sacramento and to express concerns and offer feedback. Consider scheduling a half hour meeting with your legislator to orient them to the work of your local chapter and CPA. Or invite them to a previously scheduled board meeting or chapter event. This allows the legislator to get to know you as individuals and better understand the important roles your chapter members serve in their community.

CPA Fundraisers (Fall/Winter)

Once you’ve dipped your toes into the advocacy water, dive in further by attending or hosting a fundraiser for a legislator. The CPA-PAC works year-round to connect local psychologists and students with their legislators and helps to sponsor them to attend events. A pancake breakfast, a firefighter BBQ, a wine or beer tasting - attendance at these events increases CPA’s and your chapter’s visibility in the area, helps you to build relationships with the legislators, and can be a fun night out!

As you can see, CPA advocacy activity occurs year-round, and we need and want our members to be involved, making your voice heard and having an impact on the decisions made by our legislators in Sacramento. Psychology and psychologists have much to contribute to the legislative process. ■

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A Los Angeles native, Dr. Govan holds a clinical doctorate from the California School of Professional Psychology, where he also obtained a master's in organizational behavior. He is the originator of the theory of the evolving psyche and moderate psychotherapy. Currently living in Portland, Oregon with his wife and children, he is in private practice as a clinical and health psychologist. His writing debuted in North American Review ("Fighting Fish"), and he was a finalist for a Glimmer Train award. His story "Glow," published in Palo Alto Review, was deemed "flawless" and "brilliant" by Shenandoah literary review.

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A WORD FROM THE AUTHOR FOR THE CPA COMMUNITY

It seems like a mad world nowadays. Much attention is on topics like political chaos, mass shootings, climate change, and privacy issues, but what's missing from the conversation are the more fundamental problems of accelerating (exponential) technology and information overload. Life is moving so fast, people no longer have much time to think before they act. If you can ask Siri or Alexa anything, what happens to memory, to problem solving? What happens to the validity of IQ testing and ADHD diagnosis rates if people are more and more inattentive and forgetful? Is a sense of urgency normal nowadays, or is it "anxiety"? Are people more accessible but more disconnected than ever? Who gets lost behind the "selfie"? Who gets left behind? Ghosting, missile test errors, and Oscar envelope blunders are not merely flukes. In the new world of error, we lose control.

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Dynamex: New Guidance on Independent Contracting

Adam Alban, PhD, JD and A. Steven Frankel, PhD, JD, ABPP

Although the primary vehicle of revenue for most psychologists is either self-employment or an employment contract with an employer such as a group or agency practice, a significant minority of psychologists perform work as independent contractors, either with an agency, colleague or group practice.

Such an arrangement provides a significant amount of flexibility to practitioners who wish for additional sources of revenue yet maintain the flexibility that comes from contract work. From the perspective of a business owner, hiring independent contractors has several additional advantages as well. When hiring individuals as employees, employers bear the responsibility of paying social security, most taxes, workers compensation insurance, as well as compliance with laws concerning working conditions, hours, and wages. These are not small tasks and add significantly to the administrative resources associated with running a business. It is no surprise, then, that many business owners would prefer to bring in new workers as independent contractors, as this designation effectively shifts those responsibilities from the employer onto the contractor.

Prior to April 30, 2018, California utilized a multi-part test to distinguish between employees and independent contractors, which has been relied upon throughout our economy. Businesses throughout California have benefitted from their own expansive interpretations of the permissibility of independent contractors to fulfill those roles, and to do so have considered the California Labor Code, California case law, as well as a six-factor test used in other jurisdictions. The result has been a gradual profusion of independent contractors throughout California, including our robust technology startup industry, which relies in part upon the availability of independent contractors to drive, deliver and provide services. Many psychologists, too, have relied upon these expansive interpretations of the role of independent contractors.

On April 30, 2018, the California Supreme Court issued a long-awaited unanimous ruling in *Dynamex Operations West, Inc. v. Superior Court of Los Angeles County*, (*Dynamex Operations W. v. Superior Court*, 4 Cal. 5th 903 (Cal. 2018)), which upended the prevailing status quo in California concerning the distinction between independent contractors vs. employees. In this landmark decision, the California Supreme Court elected to adopt the usage of a three-pronged ("ABC") test, which is in-



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tended to facilitate the State's assessment of whether workers are truly engaged in a separate business or whether a business is merely using the designation of independent contractor to evade tax and related obligations.

Under this new test, the legal presumption is that workers are employees, but can be properly considered an independent contractor if the hiring entity establishes all of the three prongs of the following three-part test:

- (A) That the worker is free from the control and direction of the hirer in connection with the performance of the work, both under the contract for the performance of such work and in fact; and
- (B) That the worker performs work that is outside the usual course of the hiring entity's business; and
- (C) That the worker is customarily engaged in an independently established trade, occupation, or business of the same nature as the work performed for the hiring entity (*Dynamex*, 4 Cal. 5th at 964).

Prong A indicates that workers who are subject to the type of control typically exercised over employees should not be considered independent contractors, especially if the hiring business/practitioner is subject to the types of direction typically used on employees. As a practical matter, if a business provides workers with procedures, management, and/or review over the performance of the work, that oversight might be presumed to fall outside the scope of that can be considered independent. “A business need not control the precise manner or details of the work in order to be found to have maintained the necessary control that an employer ordinarily possesses over its employees, but does not possess over a genuine independent contractor” (*Dynamex*, 4 Cal. 5th at 958).

Prong B, which is likely to be the most relevant prong for practicing psychologists who wish to work with other psychologists, speaks to the extent to which workers are performing work that is within the usual course of the entity’s business, versus a situation where the worker is providing services to the business in order to allow the hiring entity to conduct a type of business that is reasonably different than that of the worker’s activities. “Workers whose roles are most clearly comparable to those of employees include individuals whose services are provided within the usual course of the business of the entity for which the work is performed and thus who would ordinarily be viewed by others as working in the hiring entity’s business and not as working, instead, in the worker’s own independent business” (*Dynamex*, 4 Cal. 5th at 959). In other words, if others would reasonably believe that the worker is part of the hiring entity’s business, that may preclude or restrict the designation of independent contractor. So, for example, a restaurant contracting with a plumber or electrician is an arrangement that would clearly satisfy this prong. The “hiring entity must establish that the worker performs work that is outside the usual course of its business in order to satisfy part B of the ABC test” (*Dynamex*, 4 Cal. 5th at 958). We hope that it will be possible for a practitioner or group to satisfy Prong B contracting with an expert who provides service content or process that differs from those offered by existing employees, but it is not clear whether this prong can only be satisfied via the use of a worker that is entirely outside the profession or trade of the hiring entity. Returning to the example of the restaurant contracting with a plumber, above, though such an arrangement is outside the usual course of the hiring entities business and would thus satisfy prong B, other examples are not so clear. What if, for example, that same restaurant wanted to offer cooking classes but had no expertise providing food-education and wanted to hire an part-time cooking instructor as an independent contractor? We strongly suggest that readers consult their own attorney to determine the scope of what constitutes a “usual course of the hiring entity’s business.”

The final prong, C, which must also be met to establish the existence of a bona fide independent contractor, refers “to an individual who independently has made the decision to go into business for himself or herself. . . Such an individual generally takes the usual steps to establish and promote his or her independent business – for example, through incorpora-

tion, licensure, advertisements, routine offerings to provide the services of the independent business to the public or to a number of potential customers, and the like. When a worker has not independently decided to engage in an independently established business but instead is simply designated an independent contractor by the unilateral action of a hiring entity, there is a substantial risk that the hiring business is attempting to evade the demands of an applicable wage order through misclassification. A company that labels as independent contractors a class of workers who are not engaged in an independently established business in order to enable the company to obtain the economic advantages that flow from avoiding the financial obligations that a wage order imposes on employers unquestionably violates the fundamental purposes of the wage order. The fact that a company has not prohibited or prevented a worker from engaging in such a business is not sufficient to establish that the worker has independently made the decision to go into business for himself or herself” (*Dynamex*, 4 Cal. 5th at 962). The challenges associated with Prong C, as stated, is the uncertainty of what is required to establish that an independent contractor has “decided” to establish an independent practice. Would the fact that a potential independent contractor simply states or writes (on the Independent Contractor Agreement) that s/he intends to establish his/her own independent practice suffice? For how long can such an intention satisfy Prong C, when the practitioner has not, as yet, actually established an independent practice? Future developments may articulate the answers to these questions but they are currently unanswered.

This decision has real-world implications for psychologists who are expanding their practices via the use of contractors, or for master contract holders who subcontract with other clinicians to fulfill terms of the contract. For the average psychologist who is looking to hire a psychological assistant, this decision reinforces the existing conventional wisdom against hiring psychological assistants as independent contractors to their supervisors, as such an arrangement would imply a level of independence that is unlikely to be consistent with the laws governing our training process. For all other questions about independent contracting under this new decision, a call to counsel appears prudent because there are several uncertainties that flow from the opinion, including the question of whether and how *Dynamex* applies to contracts that are currently in existence.

Fortunately, for those psychologists who currently utilize the services of independent contractors, if consultation suggests that a conversion of existing independent contractors to employee status is advisable, the reclassification process is not likely to be overly burdensome. There are many services that provide payroll services, perform withholdings, and otherwise automate many of the administrative aspects of the employer/employee relationship. The immediate task, however, is to consult with counsel to determine whether this new law will apply to you and your work. ■

Dynamex Operations W. v. Superior Court, 4 Cal. 5th 903 (Cal. 2018)

The E-rosion of Confidentiality

Keely Kolmes, PsyD

Many of us have colleagues to whom we regularly make referrals. But when we need to seek care for someone who isn't the right fit for a known colleague, we often turn to listservs and email. Such referral requests are inviting both subtle and blatant breakdowns to confidentiality, the cornerstone of our ethical responsibilities.

One example is how referral requests are written. There have been a number of helpful articles on how to write such emails by describing the clinician you're seeking rather than the client the referral is for (Behnke, 2007; CPA, 2013; Donner, 2007; Rosenberg & Nye, 2011). This is an excellent way to protect the identity of the person seeking care while emphasizing the expertise you seek.

However, a newer and more severe breakdown in confidentiality is the forwarding of emails from clients seeking referrals to individual clinicians or to public listservs. Some of these emails have included the client's full name, email address, phone numbers, and previous diagnoses. Given that confidentiality is our primary obligation, these disclosures are concerning:

4.01 Maintaining Confidentiality

Psychologists have a primary obligation and take reasonable precautions to protect confidential information obtained through or stored in any medium... (APA, 2010).

When I have sought to address such messages with colleagues, I have received some explanations including that the client gave consent to forward the email to a listserv. In other cases, people have noted that the person had never been a psychotherapy patient, and therefore, there was no obligation to provide confidentiality. These are compelling responses because they call attention to the gray and conflictual aspects of professional ethics.

The first case raises questions of client autonomy and self-determination as well as our need to weigh beneficence versus harm. These are aspects of the aspirational General Principles of the ethics code. What should a clinician do if a client gives consent to release PHI to hundreds of clinicians? It is notable that aspirational principles do not have the same weight as the enforceable standard identifying confidentiality as our primary duty. We might also consider that clients may give us permission to do many things that are at odds with our professional roles and duties, such as meeting socially outside of the office. Client consent does not release us from professional du-



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ties. A conservative clinician will likely believe that confidentiality always comes first, whereas a clinician who believes in a client's autonomy or self-determination, or someone looking exclusively at Standard 4.05, Disclosures, might allow for a client to release this duty.

The second case invites us to consider whether we owe a duty of confidentiality to someone who has not become a psychotherapy client – or, rather, when does the psychotherapy relationship begin? (Bucky & Caudill, 2018). Another way to examine this question is to ask whether a person contacting us for care or referrals might have a reasonable expectation of confidentiality (Fridhandler, 2015). Another consideration is what it might be like for a client to get several dozen emails from clinicians soliciting business. It is atypical for psychologists to email potential clients to make bids for establishing care. If one is going to take on the task of seeking referrals for a client, it seems appropriate for them to take on the work of gathering the referrals and passing them on directly.

It is clear that the ease of forwarding an email to hundreds of colleagues and the time savings in not having to be the go-between in making referrals can allow for the wearing away of confidentiality on both a small and a mass scale. We need to protect our profession from such erosions to confidentiality. We should be teaching trainees and experienced clinicians how to avoid unnecessary and preventable intrusions to privacy on email. We also need to consider how such casual disclosures can affect clients', colleagues' and the public's perceptions about how seriously we take our professional responsibilities. ■

Complete references for this article can be found at www.cpapsych.org – select *The California Psychologist* from the Professional Resources menu.

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A Mission to Achieve Advanced Training in Psychopharmacology and Prescriptive Authority for Specialty Trained Clinical Psychologists in California

Alan Lincoln, PhD, MSCP, BCBA-D, Chair Division V



Alan Lincoln, PhD, MSCP, BCBA-D
(alincoln@alliant.edu) received his Ph.D. from CSPP-SD and completed his post-doctoral fellowship in the Department of Neuroscience at the University of California, San Diego. He received his Master of Science in Clinical Psychopharmacology from CSPP. Dr. Lincoln has been involved for the past 30 years in NIH sponsored

programmatic research on neurodevelopmental disorders. He is chair of CPA's Division V, Clinical Psychopharmacology and is the Director of the Center for Autism Research, Evaluation and Service, a subsidiary of Mental Health Systems in San Diego, CA.

Division V of CPA is actively pursuing a plan for helping psychologists in California secure training in clinical psychopharmacology and to develop a bill that would help address the severe crisis of mental health access to properly trained prescribers by allowing advanced trained psychologists to prescribe certain types of medications.

Education in Clinical Psychopharmacology

Division V will again offer its annual conference in clinical psychopharmacology on September 14 and 15, 2018 at Alliant International University in San Diego, CA. The conference theme will be "Essentials in Clinical Psychopharmacology for Aging Adults: New Approaches to Aging Problems."

The board of Division V voted unanimously to advocate that the Board of Psychology (BOP) follow its legislative mandate to "encourage" graduate programs to train psychology graduate students in psychopharmacology and to "encourage" licensed psychologists to receive training in psychopharmacology and the biological bases of mental disorders.

Expanding Access to Mental Health Care

The scope of the problem of access to mental health care in California and the United States was made in a compelling presentation at the 2018 CPA convention this past April by Division V (Saurabh Gupta, PhD.; Alan Lincoln, PhD, MSCP.; and Morgan Sammons, PhD). The problem of access to care was described as a moral crisis and a clear direction for advanced trained psychologists. To this end, Division V is actively implementing a plan approved by the division and supported by CPA to develop the infrastructure, funding and support necessary to introduce a bill as early as 2019. It is essential that we have sufficient financial reserves to support such an effort. You can donate to the fund on the CPA website at: <http://www.cpa-psych.org/?431>.

Division V board members are providing local chapters with information about the crisis of access to mental health care and the role psychologists can fill to help meet this need. Presentations have been given or are planned for the San Diego, Los Angeles County and San Mateo Psychological Association. ■

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AWARDS OF HONOR 2018

CPA annually honors psychologists and others for their commitment to the betterment of the Association, the profession and public mental health. These awards were presented at the CPA Annual Convention on April 26-28, 2018.

Silver Psi

Craig Lareau, JD, PhD, ABPP

Bronze Psi

Crystal Faith Cajilog, MA

Sean P. Rose, MA

Distinguished Contribution to Psychology as a Profession

Jo Linder-Crow, PhD

Distinguished Contribution to Psychology

Amanda Levy

Distinguished Humanitarian Contribution

Alette Coble-Temple, PsyD

Distinguished Scientific Achievement in Psychology

Ilan H. Meyer, PhD

Lifetime Achievement

Jeffrey Tirengel, PsyD, MPH (posthumously)

Jerry Clark Advocacy Award

Lori Futterman, RN, PhD

Student Advocacy Award

Amanda Bernice Eyges, MA

Outstanding CPA Chapter

Sacramento Valley Psychological Association

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Any questions?

Please email Amanda Levy
at alevy@cpapsych.org.

Central Coast Psych Assn has expanded community engagement while continuing our successful social and professional development activities. Drs. Rob Clayton and Joe Hollifield appeared on local talk radio to represent the profession's perspective on the Parkland school shooting and gun violence. We hosted a Meet-and-Greet with Judge Hernaldo Baltodano, recently appointed to the bench and running in a contested race. Judge Baltodano is scheduled to preside over the Mental Health Treatment Court if elected and was eager to hear members' perspectives on the intersection of mental health and the criminal justice system. In April, we hosted a well-attended Members Dine Out event at McPhee's Grill in Atascadero. Dr. Laurie Ferguson is presenting on working with autism spectrum disorders for CE in June.

Los Angeles County Psych Assn is preparing for our 30th annual convention, October 27th in Culver City. After a full morning CE program and networking luncheon, we are very excited to welcome our keynote, Dr. Shauna Shapiro, who will speak on *The Art and Science of Mindfulness*. Dr. Shapiro is a professor at Santa Clara University, a clinical psychologist, and an internationally recognized expert in mindfulness. She has published over 150 journal articles and chapters and co-authored the critically acclaimed texts, *The Art and Science of Mindfulness* and *Mindful Discipline*.

Marin County Psych Assn (MCPA) sponsored two well-attended spring CE events: one covered exposure therapy for anxiety in children and the other was titled *Classic Adlerian Depth Psychotherapy*. Our members like to socialize and a good number were able to make it to the "Business Meeting" in February. The Social Chairs are busy organizing a summer swim party and informal get-togethers are planned for the fall. Please check the MCPA's website www.marincountypsych.org for upcoming events.

Monterey Bay Psych Assn Representatives began offering our Thirsty Therapist Thursday series and had our first CE event of the year entitled *Cannabis: The Science and the Social Impact*. We hope to offer more CE opportunities with discounted prices for MBPA members throughout the year. In addition to planning a major re-vamp to our website, we have also begun planning for our Summer membership party. Please join us! It is a great time to be a member of MBPA!

Napa Solano Psych Assn (NSPA) welcomes both psychologists and students to join and participate in NSPA activities. Learn more about us at www.napapsychologists.org or email napiotrowski@yahoo.com for information. Members may join board meetings via conference call; gather for social events, learning, and networking with other professionals; and advocate together for psychologists and those we serve! We offer a

special welcome to our new president-elect Dr. Bret K. Johnson. We also proudly congratulate Dr. Markley Sutton on his recognition from Division IV, Psychologists in Public Service, for *Distinguished Service* to the profession! Save the date for our holiday party December 19th. Visit our Facebook page for announcements and learn about our discussion group for members.

Sacramento Valley Psych Assn started May by participating in NAMIWalks and hosted a CE event on Suicide Risk Assessment. On June 8th we are having a mixer for LGBTQ+ therapists at Mango's and on June 10th we will be marching in the Sacramento Pride Parade. Community members were very appreciative of the presence of psychology last year! June 12th we are hosting a CE program on providing Gender Transition Services by Dr. Malakai Coté. On June 16th we are hosting an all-day event entitled *The Business of Private Practice: The Graduate Course You Never Had* by Dr. Larry Waldman.

Santa Barbara County Psych Assn has weathered fires, smoke, and a "debris flow" that killed 21 local residents, moving from disaster response to resiliency and recovery. SB CPA psychologists provided psychological first aid at Red Cross stations, command posts, memorial services, disaster information events, schools and offices. In addition, we conducted hundreds of hours of counseling at low- or no-cost to those requiring more intensive interventions. By spring, SB CPA members were speaking about resiliency at local mental health events and psychiatric grand rounds. Psychologists themselves were not unscathed by the disaster that unfolded between December and March with five evacuations. A survey of 61 members found that 62% were personally impacted by the events, while 91% said their practices were impacted by traumatized clients/patients/students, increased work time, and/or logistical difficulties. Fully 72% said they had personally experienced traumatic symptoms.

Santa Clara County Psych Assn is proud that our own Dr. Paul Marcille is the President of CPA. This year, SCCPA introduces the Committee for Social Action. This committee is responding to the increased racism, bigotry, violence and marginalization over the last couple of years. We support agencies that help immigrants by offering pro bono therapy and immigration evaluations. Our psychologists volunteered to help Supervisor Dave Cortese with his Gun Safety Summit in San Jose. Our psychologists volunteered to help victims of the fires and recent shootings that had left so many traumatized. In short, SCCPA has stepped up to the plate in a big way this year! Join us!

Division of Education and Training (Div II) hosted their annual supervision course in February presented by Dr. David A.

CHAPTER AND VERSE

Jobs entitled *Clinical Suicidology: Effective Supervision of the Assessment and Treatment of Suicidal Risk* with large turnout of training directors, professors and clinical supervisors. We would especially like to thank Rosemead School of Psychology (Biola University) for hosting us! We presented a workshop by Drs. Enyedy, Jenks, Ellis-Blie, and Belik at the recent CPA convention titled *Watching our Supervisees at Work: Using Live Observation/Recorded Sessions to Address Competency Concerns and Problems*. Attendees had an opportunity to practice giving difficult feedback to supervisees and to brainstorm ways of helping trainees increase their competence.

Division of Media, Technology, and Communication (Div VI) at CPA's recent convention, we awarded our first scholarship to Emory Strickland, a PsyD student at the Wright Institute (Congratulations to our future leader!) and provided free drink tickets for our annual Division meeting with fun for all. Actively updating our bylaws, we plan to provide the polished version by fall 2018. With the new academic year, we will start accepting applications to our second Division VI Scholarship! We look forward to your applications and further participation in our awesome division!



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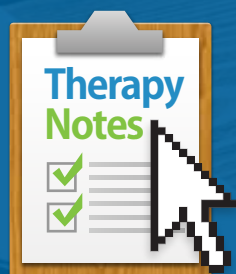
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Progress Note
Treatment Plan

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