

The Washington State Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers

Presents



**The 2015 Spring Research,
Evaluation & Treatment Conference**

**Suncadia Resort
Cle Elum, Washington
*March 6 – March 8, 2015***

Conference Schedule

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2015

11:00 - 1:00 PM

Registration

1:00 - 1:15 PM

Conference Welcome

WATSA President

1:15 - 5:30 PM

J. Robert Wheeler, Ph.D

Sexual Homicide and the case of the Green River Killer

Summary

The presentation will consist of two parts. The first will be a selective overview of contemporary theory and research regarding sexually motivated murders. The majority of the presentation will consist of an in depth presentation of the Green River Killer (State v. Gary L. Ridgway) case, including investigation of the killings. Ridgway's predatory strategies and tactics, avoidance of detection for two decades, psycho-social history, psycho-sexual functioning, and self-appraisal. Approximately 40-45 minutes of video recordings of Dr. Wheeler's interviews of Ridgway will be used to illustrate salient aspects of his psychological functioning and self-appraisal, and discussion of some of the challenges of interviewing forensic examinees.

3:15 - 3:45 PM

Break

6:00 - 7:00 PM

No Host Bar - Pre-conference Area

7:00 - 8:30 PM

Dinner *Provided for all attendees*

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2015

7:30 - 9:00 AM

Continental Breakfast

Provided for all attendees

9:00 AM - 5:30 PM

Stephanie Vaughn, Psy.D

Validating the Difficult to Validate. Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) Skills and Interventions for Challenging Issues.

Summary

Formulating a non-pejorative interpretation of behavior is a cornerstone of Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT). Rather than blaming the patient, the DBT assists one another in identifying how even the most egregious behaviors actually make sense when taken into context. It is this focus on a non-judgmental understanding that opens the door to intervention. Therapists assist patients in identifying opportunities to intervene with DBT skills along a chain of events leading to a problem behavior, coaches the patient in how to use self-management techniques, and offers creative solutions instead of shaming. In this seminar, you will learn the 6 levels of validation according to DBT, how to conduct a Behavioral Chain Analysis (BCA), and practice a few of the notorious DBT skills adapted from Dr. Marsha Linehan's newest workbook. While participating in role-plays, examining clinical vignettes, and engaging in hands-on learning, you are likely to experience a paradigm shift that changes how you view your most challenging patients

9:00—Noon

Morning Session

10:15 - 10:45 AM

Break

12:00—1:15 PM

Lunch

Provided for all attendees

1:30 - 5:30 PM

Afternoon session

3:00 - 3:30 PM

Break

Evening

Dinner on your own

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2015

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Continental Breakfast

Provided for all attendees

9:00 - Noon

Problem Solving Panel

Do you have Ethical Dilemmas or Burning Clinical Problems or Questions?

Need Consultation?

Come ask our experts.

Moderator: **Maureen Saylor RNMA**

Panel Members:

- **Bran Meryhew, JD**
- **Michael O'Connell, PhD, MSW**
- **Dan Knoepfler, MC**

10:00 - 10:15 AM

Break

12:00 PM

Conference Closes

** 3 hrs. Ethics CEUs will be given for the Sunday workshop. Attendees must be present for the full workshop to receive credits.*

Presenters

Stephanie Vaughn, Psy.D.

Stephanie Vaughn is a National Speaker for Premier Education Solutions Incorporated (PESI), an Affiliate Professor for Vanderbilt University Medical Center, a military assessment provider for Logistics Health Incorporated (LHI), and the founder and owner of Psyche, PLLC in Nashville, TN. Dr. Vaughn practices as a Licensed Clinical Psychologist-Health Service Provider and has served as a clinical consultant to hospitals, clinics, individual therapists, and private schools throughout the country. She has a reputation for practical problem-solving, specializing in "difficult-to treat" populations, creating and sustaining rapid behavioral change for life-threatening issues, reducing and eliminating treatment-interfering-behaviors, and improving treatment provider's motivation and empathy. Dr. Vaughn has participated in a 2-year Intensive Training created by the founder of Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Marsha Linehan, Ph.D., and she is considered to be an expert in DBT as well as in Prolonged Exposure Therapy (PE) for trauma, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) for mood disorders, and applied behavior analysis techniques.

J. Robert Wheeler, Ph.D.

Dr. Wheeler is a forensic psychologist and certified as a sex offender treatment provider. He has been in full-time independent practice since 1988. His practice currently focuses on psychological evaluations related to sexual violence risk assessment, unprofessional conduct by health care professionals and clergy, criminal responsibility, claims of personal injury stemming from allegations of abuse, and parenting abilities related to child maltreatment. He has conducted psychological evaluations in more than 60 sexually violent predator cases, approximately 30 murder cases, (including State v. Gary L. Ridgway), and hundreds of SSOSA/SSODA/SAY cases. He is a consultant to the Harborview Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress Foster Care Assessment Program and a member of the Advisory Committee of the Twin Rivers Sex Offender Treatment Program. From 2002 to 2004 he was a member of the Archdiocese of Seattle's Special Cases Review Board.

Michael O'Connell, Ph.D., M.S.W.

Michael O'Connell's introduction to social service work began in 1974, when he served as director of a Navy Correctional Center – i.e. the brig. He got his MSW from the University of Washington, intending to continue his career in correctional administration, but lost his way and ended up as a therapist doing inpatient substance abuse treatment. He began a private practice in 1980. In 1981, desperate for referrals, he began to work with sex offenders. He continues that work, today. Along the way he earned a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology at the University of Washington, including doing research on using polygraph testing with sex offenders. He co-authored a book, "Working With Sex Offenders" which outlines standards of practice for community-based treatment of sex offenders.

Brad Meryhew, J.D.

Brad Meryhew has been in private practice as a criminal defense attorney since 2003, focusing on felony and sex based offenses. He began his legal career as a staff attorney for Society of Counsel Representing Accused Persons handling misdemeanor and felony trials from 1997 to 2003. He practices in State and Federal courts throughout western Washington. He is a 1994 graduate of the University of Puget Sound School of Law and a 1980 graduate of the University of Utah. Brad represents the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers on the Washington Sex Offender Policy Board.

Dan Knoepfler, M.C.

Dan Knoepfler is a Certified Sex Offender Treatment Provider. He has provided community-based treatment for the last 20 years in south King County to juveniles and adults. Prior to this he worked for 7 years in a residential treatment facility for juveniles with sexual behavior problems. He consistently has affiliate providers working in his program as a way to mentor new SOTPs in the field. He has been a member of ATSA for 20 years and is a current WATSA board member. He also focuses some of his time on public policy issues relating to juveniles who have sexually acted out.

Continuing Education Credit

WATSA is recognized as an approved provider of continuing education credits for mental health professionals by the Washington Department of Health.

- 10 hours of continuing education credit/units are being offered for participation in both the Friday and Saturday workshops.
- 3 hours of continuing education credit/units in *ethics* will be given for the Sunday workshop. Attendees must be present for the full workshop to receive credit.

Registration Information

To register for the 2015 WATSA Spring conference, please visit www.watsa.org to either register on-line, or download a printable registration form. Payment can be made via check, or on-line. *There are no fees for on-line payments.*

Registration Fees:

	Before 1/31	After 1/30
WATSA/OATSA Members	\$320.00	\$330.00
ATSA Only Members	\$330.00	\$340.00
Non-Members	\$350.00	\$360.00

Registration Fees Include: Admission to all sessions; all handouts; dinner on Friday night; lunch on Saturday and Continental Breakfast on Saturday & Sunday. Coffee, tea & other beverages will be provided for scheduled breaks for all conference attendees.

ABOUT WATSA

WATSA is the Washington chapter of The Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, ATSA.

ATSA is an international organization focused specifically on the prevention of sexual abuse through effective management of sex offenders and is strongly committed to the following goals:

- ❖ The elimination of sexual victimization.
- ❖ The protection of our communities through responsible and ethical treatment of sex offenders.
- ❖ The prevention of sexual assault through effective management of sex offenders.
- ❖ The maintenance of high standards of professionalism and integrity within its membership.



DRIVING DIRECTIONS

From Seattle: Drive east on I-90 for approximately 80 miles to the Roslyn/ Salmon La Sac (exit 80). Turn left at the exit onto bullfrog road and follow the signs to Suncadia.

From Tacoma: Drive north on I-5. Follow signs for I-405 north. Proceed until the I-90 interchange and take I-90 east toward Spokane. Continue east on I-90 for approximately 80 miles to the Roslyn/Salmon La Sac exit (exit 80). Turn left at the exit onto bullfrog road and follow the signs to Suncadia.

From Spokane: drive west on I-90 for approximately 215 miles to the Roslyn/ Salmon La Sac exit (exit 80). Turn right at the exit onto bullfrog road and follow the signs to Suncadia.

Please Post!

WATSA
Spring
Conference
www.watsa.org

For Further Information, Contact:

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