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## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**David Martindale, Ph.D.**, diplomate in forensic psychology (ABPP), is the co-author, with Jonathan Gould, of *The Art and Science of Child Custody Evaluations*. He is the co-author of three chapters in the recently released second edition of *The Scientific Basis of Child Custody Decisions*.

Dr. Martindale has written and co-authored articles on the utilization of improper assessment techniques in investigating child sexual abuse allegations, the rights of attorneys to psychological test data, the assessment of allegations of domestic violence, role delineation in forensic psychological consulting, confirmatory bias and other biases affecting evaluators, and cross-examining mental health professionals in child custody litigation.

Dr. Martindale has been in private practice as a psychologist since 1972, initially as a treatment provider and, subsequently (1986 – 2000), as a court appointed custody evaluator for the courts in New York. Since 2000, Dr. Martindale has limited his practice to consulting with psychologists, attorneys, and state regulatory boards concerning evaluation methodology, ethics, and malpractice. He is a member of the AFCC's Task Force on Child Custody Consultation.

## FACULTY

**Linda Cavallero, Ph.D.**, is a psychologist and Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry in the Department of Psychiatry at UMASS Medical School where she is the Director of Court Clinics in the Child and Family Forensic Center. She developed the Brief, Focused Family Assessment (BFA) model at the Family Court Clinic. Dr. Cavallero has presented nationally on the BFA as well as on other issues in court-ordered family assessments.

**Anne Cremonini, L.I.C.S.W.**, was the Assistant Chief Probation Officer at the Norfolk Probate and Family Court from 1979 until August, 2010. She also served as a Clinical Associate of Simmons School of Social Work supervising M.S.W. interns in their field placement in the GAL practicum program at Norfolk Probate Court. Ms. Cremonini presently serves on the Board of Directors for both MAGAL and AFCC, Massachusetts Chapter

**Jo Ann Citron, Ph.D., J.D.**, is the principal at Citron Law in Boston concentrating in divorce and non-marital dissolution, especially in complex or high-conflict child custody litigation. She holds a Ph.D. in English from Boston University and a J.D. from Northeastern University. Prior to establishing Citron Law, she was a fellow at the Wellesley College Centers for Research on Women and an Assistant Professor of Women's Studies at the college.

**Andrew Clark, M.D.**, is Clinical Associate in Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital and the Medical Director of its *Children and the Law* Program. Dr. Clark has presented many times on such topics as child and adolescent psycho-pharmacology, juvenile justice, and child maltreatment and he has co-authored chapters on post-traumatic stress disorder.

**Phyllis Federico, J.D.**, is a graduate of Suffolk Law School and is a founding partner in the Boston law firm of Schmidt & Federico, P.C. She specializes in complex domestic relations matters and high-conflict disputes. She is co-editor of the *Massachusetts Divorce Law Practice Manual*. Having often presented at and published articles for MCLE, Ms. Federico has long been recognized as one of the best lawyers in the region by various publications.

**Sharon Gordetsky, Ph.D.**, is currently an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and the Director of Training at the Tufts Medical Center's Comprehensive Family Evaluation Center. In addition, she maintains a clinical practice in Brookline, MA that focuses on the diagnostic and treatment needs of children, adolescents, and families, including families navigating separation and divorce.

**Honorable Spencer Kagan** is a graduate of Suffolk University Law School. He was appointed to the bench in 2000 and is an Associate Justice in the Middlesex Probate and Family Court. Prior to that, he was a partner in the law firm of Kagan & Kagan, specializing in family and probate law. Judge Kagan has been on various probate court committees, including the steering committee.

**Mira Z. Levitt, Ph.D.**, is a co-founder of The Co-Parenting Assessment Center in Natick, Massachusetts where she does GAL evaluations, serves as a parenting coordinator, and offers a range of other services to divorcing families. She is the current Chair of the Education Committee.

**John A. Moos, J.D.**, is an experienced trial attorney in Cambridge whose practice emphasizes complex domestic relations litigation, mediation and collaborative law. He has been recognized as one of the best attorneys in collaborative family law and mediation by various publications.

**Honorable Eileen Shaevel (Ret.)** served as an Associate Justice of the Probate and Family Court from 1990 to 2001, after practicing family law for 15 years. Since her retirement from the bench, she has been engaged in a private dispute resolution practice in Boston offering mediation, arbitration, and case evaluation in family law, probate, and equity matters.

**Vicki Shemin, J.D., L.I.C.S.W., A.C.S.W.** is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of The Johns Hopkins University and Boston University School of Law. Currently, she is *of counsel* to Boston Law Collaborative, LLC, where she serves as Mediator, Collaborative Law Attorney, Parenting Coordinator, Divorce Coach/Consultant, and Guardian *ad Litem*. Previously, Ms. Shemin was an Adjunct Professor at Boston University School of Law and School of Social Work

**Richard Wolman, Ph.D.**, is a clinical psychologist, teacher, and researcher, who has been a member of the faculty of the Harvard Medical School for over 25 years. Dr. Wolman provides psychotherapy, counseling, and consulting services for individuals, families, and children. He also serves as guardian ad litem in custody disputes, consults with lawyers and families experiencing the divorce process, and conducts ongoing therapy and support groups for parents and partners. Dr. Wolman is affiliated with the Boston Law Collaborative, LLC.

## In the Best Interest of the Child Series

# The Myth of Neutrality: Recognizing Bias in GAL Evaluations

October 1 & 2, 2010

Regis College  
Wellesley Street  
Weston, Massachusetts

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### Keynote Speaker:

**David Martindale, Ph.D.**  
**St. Petersburg, FL.**

Co-author:

***The Art and Science of Child Custody  
Evaluations. Guilford Press (2007).***

Co-sponsored by:

**The Massachusetts Association of  
Guardians ad Litem, Inc.  
and the Division of Psychology at  
Children's Hospital**

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 Call: 781-329-9729  
 Refund Policy: Full refund prior to September 20, No refund thereafter.  
 Registration Will Be Limited

CE CREDIT: This program is co-sponsored by the Psychology Division at Children's Hospital and Massachusetts Association of Guardians ad Litem, Inc. The Children's Hospital Psychology Division is approved by the American Psychological Association to offer continuing education for psychologists. The Children's Hospital Psychology Division maintains responsibility for the program and its content. The program will provide 7 hours for continuing education credit, to include risk management issues. Continuing education credits for Social Workers, LMFT, and LMHC will be sought. CPCS/CAFL has granted 8 continuing education credits. Certificates of attendance will be provided for other disciplines. No partial credit will be awarded.

**In the Best Interest of the Child Series  
 The Myth of Neutrality: Recognizing Bias in GAL Evaluations**

**October 1&2, 2010  
 Regis College, Weston, MA**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2010**

8:00 - 8:30 A.M.  
 Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 - 8:45 A.M.  
 Welcome  
*Mira Z. Levitt, Ph.D.*

8:45 – 10:00 A.M.:  
**Understanding cognitive biases and transitory attitudinal biases**  
*David Martindale, Ph.D.*

10:00-10:15 A.M. Break

10:15 - 11:30 A.M.  
**What's in a name? Biases, prejudices, paradigms, and values**  
*David Martindale, Ph.D.*

11:30 A.M. - 12:00 Noon  
 Audience Questions

12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.  
Lunch/Professional Networking/Presidential Remarks  
*Richard Monahan, Ph.D.*

1:00 – 2:30 P.M.  
**Identifying biases and inappropriate paradigms in evaluators' reports**  
*David Martindale, Ph.D.*

2:30 - 2:45 P.M.  
 Audience Questions

2:45 – 3:00 P.M.  
 Break

3:00 - 4:00 PM.  
**Panel: Bias at work - perspectives from the bench, in professional training, and in specialty areas of evaluation**  
*Linda Cavallero, Ph.D.*  
*Andrew Clark, M.D.*  
*The Honorable Eileen Shaevel (Ret.)*  
*Vicki Shemin, J.D., L.I.C.S.W., moderator*

4:00 - 4:30 P.M.  
 Audience Questions

4:30 P.M.  
 Day Ends

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2010**

8:30 – 9:00 A.M.  
Continental Breakfast

9:00 – 9:15 A.M.  
 Welcome  
*Mira Z. Levitt, Ph.D.*

9:15 – 10: 45 A.M.  
**Mock Trial**  
*The Honorable Spencer Kagan*  
*Phyllis Federico, J.D.*  
*Sharon Gordetsky, Ph.D.*  
*John Moos, J.D.*

10:45 – 11:00 AM.  
 Audience Questions

11:00 – 11:15 A.M.  
 Break

11:15 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.  
**Panel: Changes in families, the law, and the legal system as a reflection of shifting societal values**  
*Anne Cremonini, L.I.C.S.W.*  
*The Honorable Spencer Kagan*  
*Richard Wolman, Ph.D.*  
*Jo Ann Citron, Ph.D., J.D., moderator*

12:15 – 12:45 P.M.  
 Audience Questions and Discussion

12:45 P.M.  
 Conference Ends

**FRIDAY - Continental Breakfast & Lunch  
 SATURDAY - Continental Breakfast**

**DIRECTIONS**

Regis College  
 235 Wellesley Street  
 Weston, MA 02493  
 781-768-7000

**North on Rt. 95/128.** Exit 24 to Rt. 30 west. Continue approx. 2 miles to right onto Wellesley Street. Regis is on left.

**South on Rt. 95/128.** Exit 26 to Rt. 20 west. Continue approx. 2 miles to left onto Wellesley Street. At fork, bear right. Regis will be on the right.

**Mass Pike West.** Exit 15 to Rt. 30 west. Continue approx. 2 miles to right onto Wellesley Street. Regis is on the left.

**Mass Pike East.** Exit 14 to Rt. 30 west. Same as above.

**Rt. 30 East** from Framingham/Natick. Rt. 9 to Rt. 27 North to Rt. 30 east to Wellesley Street on left. Traffic is heavy on Rt. 30 in the morning.

**Conference Room: 202 College Hall**

**FREE PARKING**

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

Mira Z. Levitt, Ph.D., Chairperson  
 Jane Appell, Ph.D.  
 Deborah Bergstrom, Business Administrator  
 Jo Ann Citron, Ph.D., J.D.  
 Eugene D'Angelo, Ph.D., Liaison – Children's Hospital  
 Sheara Friend, J.D.  
 Marsha G. Greenstein, Ph.D.  
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 Robert A. Zibbell, Ph.D.