

Mathis V. Kennington, Ph.D., LMFT-S
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D.** Marriage and Family Therapy, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 2013
Dissertation topic: *Ambiguous Freedom: A Grounded Theoretical Analysis of Life Outside Prison*
Blacksburg, VA
Concentration: Marriage and Family Therapy, COAMFTE Accredited
Chair: Joyce Arditto, Ph.D.
- M.MFT** Abilene Christian University, 2009
Marriage and Family Therapy, COAMFTE Accredited
Major Professors: Jaime Goff, Ph.D., & Jackie Halstead, Ph.D.
- B.A.** Abilene Christian University, 2007
Christian Ministry

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and Supervisor.* (2015, July) Licensed by the Texas State Board of Examiners for Marriage and Family Therapy (License No. 201883)
- Master Online Instructor.* (2010, June). Certified by the Institute for Distance and Distributed Learning, Virginia Tech University.
- Externship Certification in Emotionally Focused Therapy.* (2010, January). Certified by the International Centre for Excellence in Emotionally Focused Therapy, Alliant University.
- Conference Certification in Narrative Therapy.* (2008, March). Certified by the Dulwich Centre for Narrative Therapy, Texas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.
- Certified Counselor: PREPARE/ENRICH.* (2008, February). Certified by Life Innovations Inc., Abilene Christian University.

HONORS/AFFILIATIONS

- Inaugural Al Gurman Memorial Scholar,* American Family Therapy Academy, January, 2014
- Minority Fellow,* Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, October 2010
- New Writers Fellowship,* Family Process Institute, May, 2013
- Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society,* Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Inducted October, 2009
- Marriage and Family Institute Outstanding Intern Award,* Abilene Christian University, August, 2009

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Elected Positions

- Member-at-Large,* Texas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, 2015-Present
- President-Elect,* Texas Student Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, 2009
- Treasurer,* Texas Student Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, 2008-2009

EMPLOYMENT

Associate Faculty, Austin Family Institute, Austin, TX 2013 - Current

- Increased gross revenue by 60% in 12 months
- Established revenue-building relationships with for-profit and non-profit organizations
- Expanded an additional satellite location in South Austin
- Co-facilitated expansion of a third satellite location in Central Austin
- Redesigned and implemented a new marketing strategy including website development
- Supervised graduate and post-graduate interns
- Developed training curricula

Private Practice, Austin, TX 2013 – Current

- Created a self-sustaining fee-for-service private practice within 10 months
- Implemented a successful individual marketing and business plan
- Developed community referral relationships with local professionals and organizations

Site Coordinator II, Communities in Schools of San Antonio, San Antonio, TX 2012-2013

- Assessed and provided clinical services to continuous caseload of 40 students and families
- Developed decriminalization strategies for students in the penal environment
- Organized community resources for student and family needs
- Collaborated with the juvenile justice board to promote just policies

Clinical Experience

Family Therapy Center of Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 2009-2011

Marriage and Family Institute, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX 2008-2009

Abilene Hope Haven, Abilene, TX 2008-2009

Salvation Army of Abilene, Abilene, TX 2008-2009

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, *Clinical Fellow*, 2007-Present

American Family Therapy Academy, *Early Career Member*, 2013-Present

Austin Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, *Clinical Fellow*, 2013-Present

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed

Arditti, J. A., Kennington, M. V., Grzywacz, J. G., Jaramillo, A. L., Isom, S., & Quandt, S. (In press). Fathers in the fields: Father involvement among Latino migrant farmworkers. *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*.

Goff, J., Kennington, M. V., & Halstead, J. (2009). Dual relationships in professional mental health counseling: Secular versus religious contexts. *Public Knowledge*, 1(2). Retrieved from http://pkjournal.org/blog/?page_id=542

Book Chapters in Edited Books

Kennington, M. V. (2012). Just Therapy. In A. Rambo, C. West, A. Schooley, & T. Boyd (Eds.), *Family Therapy Review: Contrasting Contemporary Models*. New York: Routledge.

Book Reviews

Kennington, M. V. (2011). [Review of *Six Steps to Successful Child Advocacy*.] New York: Sage.

Other

Kennington, M. V. (2013). Treasures in the attic: How academics obscure good scholarship with bad authorship. Retrieved from <http://www.familyprocess.org/newwriters/treasurers-in-the-attic/>

Kennington, M. V. (2010, Fall/Winter). A community response to the Westboro Baptist Church protests. *Human Development Newsletter*. Retrieved from http://www.humandevelopment.vt.edu/graphics/documents/HD_Newsletter_Fall_2009.pdf

RESEARCH

Funded Projects

Project Coordinator. October 1, 2010-September 31, 2012. *Family reunification and reentry pilot program for female offenders*. Funding awarded by the Virginia Department of Corrections [Arditti, J.A. (PI) Virginia Tech].

- Co-developed protocols for recently incarcerated mothers
- Conducted interviews with formerly incarcerated mothers and family during the probationary period
- Coded and categorized qualitative data
- Supported article dissemination

Project Coordinator. January 1, 2011-December 31, 2012. *Mentoring children of prisoners*. Research funded by the Jerome Niles Dean's Faculty Research Award, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. [P.I. J. Arditti].

- Conducted 60 field interviews with caregivers of children with an incarcerated parent
- Coordinated with research sites
- Analyzed data
- Supported article dissemination

Assistantships

Assistant to Dr. Vickie Fu, Professor, Director of the Child Development Center for Learning and Research, Department of Human Development, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA 2010-2011

- Conducted assessments with children using the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test
- Supported grant writing and manuscript development including quantitative and qualitative data analysis

Assistant to Dr. Mark Benson, Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Human Development, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA 2009-2010

- Assembled relevant literature for scholarly publication
- Edited submitted journal articles

Assistant to Dr. Jaime Goff, Assistant Professor, Clinical Director, Marriage and Family Institute, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX 2008-2009

- Scheduled and Conducted interviews with pre-eminent marriage and family therapy scholars
- Coded qualitative student responses

Assistant to Dr. Eric Gumm, Office of the First Year, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX, 2006-2007

- Conducted student interviews and coded qualitative data
- Submitted findings to Abilene Christian University provost

GRANTS AND SUPPORT

External Support

Kennington, M. V. *Funding Award for Attendance to the 2013 AAMFT Leadership Conference* \$1000. (March 2013). American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. Selection based on submission from a competitive application pool.

Kennington, M. V. *Minority Fellowship Research Grant*, \$3000. (July 2012 – July 2013). Minority Fellowship Program: American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Kennington, M. V. *Minority Fellow*. \$20,000 annual support. (October 30, 2010-May 30, 2012). Minority Fellowship Program: American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Internal Support

Kennington, M. V. (PI). *Attachment and incarcerated fathers*. \$325 (March 1, 2010-March 30, 2011). Human Development Research Grant Support, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Goff, J. (PI), & Kennington, M. V. (Co-I). *The use of mobile integration technology in graduate marriage and family therapy education*. \$2,500 (July, 2009-August, 2010). Mobile Learning Fellowship, Abilene Christian University.

PRESENTATIONS

Professional/Refereed

Jaramillo Sierra, A. L., Johnson, J., Kennington, M. V., Chen, J., Cox, N., Brown, T. & Arditti, J. A. (2012, February). *Internally displaced families in Soacha, Colombia: Family advocacy and implications*. Annual Quint State Conference, Blacksburg, VA.

Jaramillo Sierra, A. L., Johnson, J., Kennington, M. V., Chen, J., Cox, N., Brown, T. & Arditti, J. A. (2012, January). *Developing a parent training program for internally displaced families in Soacha, Colombia*. Paper presented at the inaugural Human Rights Forum, College of Liberal Arts, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Blacksburg, VA.

Arditti, J.A., Kennington, M. V., Jaramillo, A., & Grzywacz, J. (2010, November). *Missing fathers?: Father involvement and Family Relationships among Latino migrant farm workers*. Symposium paper for "Families Surviving in the Shadows: Coping and resilience among Latino migrant and transnational families" (Bethany Letiecq. Chair). Annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations Minneapolis, MN.

Goff, J. D., Kennington, M. V., & Perkins, S. (2010, June). *The 21st century classroom: Mobile learning in graduate education*. Paper presented at the annual conference for the American Association of University Professors, Washington, D.C.

Goff, J. D., & Kennington, M. V. (2010, March). *Connecting minds: Mobile technology in MFT education*. Poster presented at the annual conference for the Texas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, San Antonio, TX.

Wages, S., Kennington, M. V., Perez, C., Emery, J., Hoffsommer, B., & Lott, J. (2009, February). *An evaluative study of the potential impact of curricular and co-curricular modalities on marital readiness*. Paper presented at the conference for the Texas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Fort Worth, TX.

Others

Kennington, M. V., Chen, R., & Beddingfield, A. B. (2010, October). *Who needs a helicopter parent?* Presented to the fall assembly of the Virginia Tech Family Day. Blacksburg, VA.

Kennington, M. V. (2010, July). *The marriage dance: Increasing intimacy through secure attachment*. Invited presentation at the summer assembly of the marriage and family mini-conference developed by the New Life Christian Fellowship. Blacksburg, VA.

Dolbin-MacNab, M., & Kennington, M. V. (2010, March). *Marriage and family therapy*. Presented to the March assembly of the Virginia Tech Psychology Club. Blacksburg, VA.

Kennington, M. V., Williams, I., & Klemme, T. (2009, November). *How to handle difficult situations: Dating*

violence, depression/anxiety, and body image. Presented to the fall assembly of Virginia Tech Upward Bound/ Talent Search. Blacksburg, VA

Goff, J., Kennington, M. V., & Mennenga, K. (2009, March). Differentiating Between Psychology, Social Work, and Marriage and Family Therapy. In K. Mask (Instructor), *PSYC 4332 Intro to Counseling and Psychotherapy*. Department of Psychology and Family Studies, Howard Payne University, Brownwood, TX.

Kennington, M. V. (2006, May). *The first year experience of transferring students at Abilene Christian University*. Paper presented at a seminar sponsored by the First Year Office at Abilene Christian University. Abilene, TX.

Kennington, M. V., & Henderson, L. (2007, October). Building Success in Your First Year as a College Student. In L. Henderson (Instructor), *U-100 University Seminar*, College of Biblical Studies, Abilene Christian university, Abilene, TX.

INSTRUCTION

Kennington, M. V. (Ongoing). CNSL 6366: *Contemporary Couples Therapy*. Master of Arts in Counseling, St Edwards University. Austin, TX.

Kennington, M. V. (Ongoing). CNSL 6331: *Techniques in Family and Couple Therapy*. Master of Arts in Counseling, St Edwards University. Austin, TX.

Kennington, M. V. (Ongoing). CNSL 6368: *Practicum*. Master of Arts in Counseling, St Edwards University. Austin, TX.

Kennington, M. V. (2014, Spring). *PSYN 625: Domestic Violence: Cognitive and Behavioral Approaches to Family Treatment* (online instruction). School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, NY.

Kennington, M. V. (2012, Summer). *HD 4354 Family Law and Public Policy*. Department of Human Development, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA.

Kennington, M. V. (2012, Spring). *HD 1004 Human Development I*. Department of Human Development, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA.

Kennington, M. V. (2010, Fall). *HD 2314 Human Sexuality* (online instruction). Department of Human Development, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA.

Kennington, M. V. (2009-2010). *HD 2304 Family Relationships* (traditional and online instruction). Department of Human Development, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA.

Assistantships

Assistant to Dr. Cynthia Smith, Associate Professor of Human Development, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA, Fall 2011

- Contributed to course maintenance of *HD 1004 Human Development I*
- Engaged in a one-year teaching apprenticeship

Assistant to Dr. Joyce Arditti, Associate Professor of Human Development, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA, Spring 2011

- Contributed to course maintenance of *HD 4354 Family Law and Public Policy*
- Independently developed HD 4354 for online instruction for the Department of Human Development

Assistant to Dr. Megan Dolbin-MacNab, Assistant Professor, Department of Human Development, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Fall 2009

- Contributed to course maintenance of *HD 2304 Family Relationships*
- Engaged in a one-year teaching apprenticeship

Assistant to Dr. Jaime Goff, Marriage and Family Therapy Institute, Abilene Christian University, 2009

- Assisted with course development for *BMFT 601 Pre-Internship* to a class of 20 master's students
- Maintained grades and developed supplemental coursework

Assistant to Dr. Larry Henderson, Professor, College of Biblical Studies, Abilene Christian University, 2007-2008

- Graded coursework of *U-100 University Seminar* and developed course syllabus
- Aided course instruction