

LINDA CHODOS MSW RSW

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Assessor • Parenting Coordinator • Mediator • Arbitrator • Consultant • Counselor

Education

1971-1972

Master of Social Work

Focus: Children and Families within the school system
McGill University

1968-1971

Bachelor of Social Work

McGill University

Continuing Education

Domestic Violence Screening program

Phil Epstein and Hillary Linton, April 2010

Screening for Domestic Violence and Power Imbalances

Claudette Reimer and Lisa Wice, January 2008

Assessment Screening for Domestic Violence and Power Imbalances

Desmond Ellis Ph.D, January 2007

Family Law Arbitration Training Seminar for Non -Lawyers

Hillary Linton, January 2007

Family Law 101: Custody and Access

Lorne H. Wolfson, LLB, LLM (Torkin Manes Barristers & Solicitors) & Dr. Barbara Landau, PhD, LLM, C. Med. (Cooperative Solutions), May 2007

Seminar on Arbitration Act and Family Statute Law Amendment

Philip Epstein, 2007

Negotiation Theory and Practice

Hillary Linton, 2006

Collaborative Practice Interdisciplinary Training

Victoria Smith, Sheila Brown, and Jane Tremblay, October 2006

Advanced Clinical Skills in Collaborative Practice

Linda Solomon, September 2006

Arbitration Course (emphasis on Family Law)

Philip Epstein, June 2001

Certificate program in the theory and practice of conflict resolution

Centre for Dispute Resolution of Boulder, Colorado, 1990

Family mediation training program

McWhinney, Metcalfe and Associates, 1985

Osgoode Hall Bar Admission Course

Audited Family Law segment, 1985

Short Term Marriage Counseling

University of Toronto, 1981

Divorce Mediation

University of Toronto, 1981

Selected workshops and conferences

1972-present

Professional Affiliations

Ontario Association of Social Workers

Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts – Ontario Chapter

Toronto Family Mediation Pilot Project Roster

Ontario Association for Family Mediation

Professional Experience

- Independent Practice (Current)** 1989-present
- Counselling for individuals, couples and families.
 - Clinical assessments in custody/access disputes (Section 30 C.L.R.A)
 - Mediation, Arbitration, and Mediation/Arbitration Services
 - Parenting coordination for high conflict families
 - Separation counseling for individuals, couples and families
 - Parent Child contact problems
 - Parent education and coaching relating to the impact of separation and divorce on children
 - Training for Professionals.
 - Employee Assistance Services
 - Team Member Of Family Solutions (2004-present)
 - Consultation to lawyers and mental health professionals
 - Counselling for the Gestational Carrier program at I.V.F. Canada.
- Approved Adoption Practitioner** 1989-2007
- Approved by the Ministry of Community and Social Services to complete home-studies and post placement supervision of adoptive homes.
 - Counselling services to relinquishing birth parents.
- Clinical Consultant** 1986-1997
- Provided consultation to social workers.
 - Planned training and development programs for social workers in Toronto and throughout the province.
 - Acted as consultant to T.V. Ontario "Family Matters", adult education television series (1987).
 - Acted as external consultant to the Interdisciplinary Committee on Guidelines for Custody/Access Assessments.
 - Appeared on Television, Expert panel member "Children of Divorce" (1990).

Agent of the Children's Lawyer 1980-1986

- Conducted investigations in custody/ access disputes.

Clinical Consultant to the Office of the Children's Lawyer (formerly the Official Guardian's Office) 1986 - 1997

- Served as a member of the Social Work Management Team assisting in the assessment and co-ordination of staff needs.
- Developed criteria for Children's Lawyer involvement.
- Conducted seminars for child representation lawyers.
- Recruited and trained social work agents and legal staff for the Office of the Children's Lawyer
- Co-author of report entitled "Focus on the Child", with Doug Finlay, which led to legislative changes to the Courts of Justice Act (unpublished, 1986).

Toronto Board Of Education 1972-1978

Clinical social worker in a multidisciplinary setting

- Provided child and family assessments.
- Provided short term counseling to children and families of diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds.
- Conducted groups for children and adolescents experiencing behavioral and learning difficulties.
- Provided in-service training and consultation to teachers relating to child development.
- Conducted parent education child management groups.

Professional Committees

Ontario College Of Social Workers And Social Service Workers 2004- 2009
Standards of Practice Committee Member

Ontario Interdisciplinary Association of Custody / Access Assessors
AFCC Ontario organizing Committee 2007 - present
Co-chair 1995-1998

Ontario Association Of Social Workers
Private Practice Committee 1989-1996

Ontario Legal Aid Plan, Civil Area Committee
Board member 1990-2001
Review of appeals of applicants refused Legal Aid Certificates.

Ontario College of Certified Social Workers

Oral examiner

1989-1990

Complaints Committee

1997-2001

Ontario Association Of Family Mediation

Member of committee developing code of conduct for mediators 1985

Recent Presentations and Workshops

Teaching/training:

Chodos, L, Vanbetlehem, J, Geraldo, L, Mingorance, J, (June 2-5, 2010). AFCC 47th Annual Conference: *Traversing the Trail of Alienation: Rocky Relationships, Mountains of Emotion, Mile High Conflict*. Paper presented at the 47th annual meeting of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC), Denver, Colorado.

Chodos, L.Huddart, J., Paulseth, Justice D., Perkins, Justice C., Schmidt, P., Sutton, P., (April 28, 2010). High Conflict Forum Symposium: *It's All Your Fault! Managing High Conflict People within a Legal and Clinical Context*. Panel Discussion moderated by Michael Enright, CBC.

Chodos, L. Nicoll, J.(January 20, 2010) "*Key Provisions in Parenting Agreements*", The Advanced Guide to Negotiating, Challenging and Drafting Domestic Contracts. Presentation at Osgoode Hall Professional Development.

Chodos, L., & Fidler, B.J. (2009, October). *Parenting Coordination: Advanced Seminar* (1-day).

Chodos, L., Fidler, B.J., Nelson, C. & Vanbetlehem, J. (2009, May). *Alienation: Effective and Ineffective Legal and Clinical Interventions*. Paper presented at the 46th annual meeting of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC), New Orleans, Louisiana.

Chodos, L., McColley,D., Harper, J., Goldberg, D., Jordan, K., Panel Discussion (March 5, 2009) Family Law- The Voice of the Child, "*Receiving Evidence from Children*", Donald Lamont Learning Centre, Law Society of Upper Canada.

Chodos, L., & Fidler, B.J. (2008, November). *Parenting Coordination: Advanced Seminar* (1-day).

Chodos, L., & Fidler, B.J. (2008, October). *Parenting Coordination: Foundations Workshop* (2-day).

Chodos, L., Martin, L., (2008, September). *Section 30 Assessments and the OCL*, 3- hour seminar in course for the part-time LLM specializing in Family Law. Osgood Hall Law School, Toronto, ON.

Chodos, L., & Fidler, B.J. (2008, April). *Parenting Coordination: Foundations Workshop* (2-day).

Chodos, L., Shuber, J., Family law and the Child: Custody, Support and Enforcement,(April 3, 2008) *"Dispute Resolution Mechanisms in Custody/Access Matters"*. Ontario Bar Association

Chodos, L., Fidler, B.J., & Linton (2008, January). *Parenting Coordination: Foundations Workshop* (2-day).

Chodos, L., Brown, B., McWhinney, R., and moderator Nyman, H., Panel Discussion (November 13, 2007). Mediation/Arbitration in Family Law, *"The Non-Lawyer as Mediator/Arbitrator"*. Donald Lamont Learning Centre, Law Society of Upper Canada.

Chodos, L., (October 2007) *"The Emotional Impact of Divorce"*. Smart Divorce Series for Parents.

Chodos, L., Fidler, B.J. & Linton (2007, October). *Parenting Coordination: Family Law, Foundations and Advanced Applications* (2.5 day workshop).

Chodos, L., (2006 April) *"Parenting Coordination: The Cutting Edge of Conflict Management with Separated/Divorced Families"*. Special Lectures 2006. Family Law, Toronto.

Chodos, L., Fidler, B.J. (2006 January, 2006 May, 2006 October) *"Parenting Coordination: Practice-Focused Training Seminar"* (16- hour workshops).

Chodos, L., Fidler, B.J., Carere, Horowitz, T., & Radovanovic, H. (2005 April). *"The alienated child: Characteristics and treatment approaches"*. Symposium on High Conflict Families of Separation and Divorce: Best Practice Approaches for Professionals Sponsored by JFCS in conjunction with Children's Services Network-North Quadrant, Toronto.

Chodos, L. (2002-2008). *"Developing parenting plans: A child Centered Approach"*. Toronto Advanced Professional Education Services (TAPE). Instructor, Continuing Education Family Mediation Program, Toronto ON.

Chodos, L., Fidler, B.J., Jones, L., & Benotto, M. (2004, September). *"Parenting coordination: Practice issues and challenges"*. Presentation at Family Mediation Canada, 19th Annual National Conference, Toronto, ON.

Chodos, L. (2001 June). *“High Conflict Custody Cases: Defining Cases and Accepting Responsibility for Conflict Reduction”*. Panel Presentation at International Society of Family Law Conference, Kingston, ON.

Chodos, L. (1999-2001). *“Mediation training and coaching”*. University Of Toronto-Department Of Continuing Education.

Chodos, L., Litvack, A. (1997 April). *“Understanding Separation and Divorce Through Your Child’s Eyes”*. Presentations for Nabisco Foods and Bank of Nova Scotia.

Chodos, L., Litvack, A. (1997 April). *“Strategies For Supporting Children’s Adjustment Through Separation and Divorce”*. Presentation for Bank of Nova Scotia.

Chodos, L. (1996 June). *“Assessment Report Writing”*. Presentation for Office of the Children’s Lawyer

Chodos, L. (1998-2004). *“Family Information Sessions: Ontario Court, General Division”*. Panel member.

Publications

Chodos, L., *“Parenting Coordination: The Cutting Edge of Conflict Management with Separated/Divorced Families”*. Law Society of Upper Canada Special Lectures 2006, Epstein, P., Irwin Law Publishers, February, 2007.

Austin, G., Bartoletti M., Chisholm, B., Chodos, L., Landau, B., Litvack, A., & Waiser, H. (2005). *Custody and access assessment guidelines*. In D. Steinberg, E. Lenkinski, & A. James (Eds.), *Ontario family law practice* (pp. B-1 to B-9). Butterworths. Also published (1998) as a professional resource guide. Psychology Foundation of Canada.