



## **CENTER FOR FORENSIC AND CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY OF NEW JERSEY LLC**

Forensic Psychology Services for Immigration, Civil and Criminal Issues

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### **CURRICULUM VITAE OF NICOLE COLOMBINO, PH.D.**

#### **LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST WITH FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY SPECIALTY**

#### **EDUCATION**

- 2017                      **Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology**  
The Graduate Center, John Jay College of Criminal Justice  
New York, New York  
*Dissertation:* Preventing sexual violence where it most often occurs: An investigation of the situational and structural components of child sexual abuse in residential settings
- 2008                      **Masters of Arts in Forensic Psychology**  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, New York  
*Thesis:* Situational aspects of sexual offending: Implications for residence restrictions and GPS monitoring
- 2006                      **Bachelor of Arts in Psychology *Cum Laude***  
Drew University  
Madison, New Jersey  
Minor: Sociology  
Honors: Dean's List (2003-2006)

#### **CLINICAL POSITIONS**

- 2021 – present            **Clinical Psychologist**  
Center for Forensic and Clinical Psychology of New Jersey, LLC
- Provide clinical-forensic evaluation and consultation services
- 2020                      **Independent Clinical Practice**
- Provide clinical-forensic psychological and consultation services, predominately in the area of forensic mental health assessment and sexual violence risk assessment of adults and juveniles.

2020 – present

**Clinical Supervisor of the Teen Re-adjustment (TREAD) Program**

County of Bergen – Division of Family Guidance

Hackensack, New Jersey

- TREAD is an outpatient program for juveniles adjudicated of perpetrating illegal sexual behaviors. A primary responsibility is to oversee a team of clinicians, comprised of licensed clinical social workers and doctoral level psychologists, who conduct individual and group specialized treatment. There is frequent collaboration and coordination with court and probation, as well as with our local child advocacy's multi-disciplinary team. Another responsibility is to provide orientation and exit interviews of juveniles entering and exiting the program. A further responsibility is to oversee the program curriculum and training of the clinicians.

2019 – present

**Forensic Unit Clinical Supervisor**

County of Bergen – Division of Family Guidance

Hackensack, New Jersey

- Primary responsibility as the forensic unit supervisor is to oversee the forensic unit psychologists who conduct specialized court-ordered evaluations that include psychosexual risk assessment evaluations for post-adjudicated sexually abusive youth and psychological evaluations for pre- and post-adjudicated juveniles. The evaluations require in-person expert testimony. Responsibilities also require oversight of suicide and violence risk assessments, as well as educational evaluations, to be completed as requested.
- There is frequent consultation with the court, the Prosecutor's office, and the Office of the Public Defender within Bergen County.
- Employment duties further involve overseeing and coordinating diversion programming for juveniles who are diverted from the court system. This often involves coordination with local law enforcement, the prosecutor's office, and probation.
- Provide trainings to Family Guidance staff, as well as to other parties, such as the Juvenile Officer's Association and the Prosecutor's Office.
- Participate as a member of our local, accredited, Child Advocacy Center's Advisory Board and member of the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) at the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office.
- Clinical externship director for doctoral level psychology students and supervise one student each academic year.
- Responsible for writing and submitting a successful application for APA sponsorship for continuing education credits for psychologists. Committee member of Division of Family Guidance's APA continuing education sponsorship committee.

2017 – 2019

**Clinical Psychologist – Forensic Unit**

County of Bergen – Division of Family Guidance  
Hackensack, New Jersey

- Primary responsibility was to conduct specialized court-ordered evaluations that include psychosexual risk assessment evaluations for post-adjudicated sexually abusive youth and psychological evaluations for pre- and post-adjudicated juveniles. The evaluations required in-person court appearances to provide sentencing and treatment recommendations to the court.
- Provided specialized individual psychotherapy aimed at treating youth who engaged in sexually inappropriate behaviors.

2014 – 2015

**Evaluator**

Center for Evaluation and Counseling, Inc.  
Parsippany, New Jersey

- Conducted forensic evaluations with a diverse population (adult and child) to assess for a variety of potential risk issues, including mental illness, domestic violence, substance abuse, sexuality, attachment and bonding, child abuse and neglect, and parental competency referred from DCP&P, Superior Court, and others involved with this population.

**CLINICAL TRAINING**

2016 – 2017

**Clinical Psychology Intern**

Greystone Park Psychiatric Center  
APA-Accredited Pre-Doctoral Internship  
Morris Plains, New Jersey

- Weekly responsibilities included individual psychotherapy, group psychotherapy, and comprehensive psychological assessments with severely mentally ill patients hospitalized in an inpatient state psychiatric hospital setting. Worked as an integral member of multidisciplinary treatment teams. Participated in weekly individual and group supervision sessions. Participated in internship program didactics. Supervised doctoral student externs. Completed comprehensive assessment batteries throughout the hospital and provided feedback to patients based on assessment findings.
- Forensic Rotation: Worked with patients who were found Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST), Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (NGRI), or on detainer status. Conducted individual psychotherapy from cognitive-behavioral orientations. Led a Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) group and co-led a Symptom Management group. Completed suicide and violence risk assessments. Wrote special status reports to be used in the decision-making process by an internal review board to grant patient privileges within the hospital

setting or consider discharge. Participated as part of a multidisciplinary team, including at special status review meetings.

- Emotion Regulation Rotation: Conducted individual psychotherapy using schema therapy and DBT interventions with patients diagnosed with severe personality disorders and emotion regulation difficulties. Initiated and led a mindfulness exercise three times a week. Led a weekly community meeting. Co-led weekly schema therapy and DBT groups. Completed a training didactic on schema therapy. Worked as part of a multidisciplinary team and regularly led treatment team meetings.
- Admissions Rotation: Conducted individual psychotherapy using DBT and supportive interventions with patients during acute episodes of severe mental illness. Led and co-led weekly DBT groups. Completed suicide risk assessments and assisted with treatment planning.
- Outpatient Placement at Morristown Medical Center: Worked as a consultant within an outpatient medical hospital setting. Used motivational interviewing for brief psychotherapy sessions with adults suffering from alcohol use disorders within a medical hospital setting. Worked with patients suffering from chronic medical conditions, sleep disorders, neurological illnesses, or substance use disorders. Conducted assessments to determine eligibility for bariatric surgery. Received training in CBT for Insomnia, which was utilized to treat patients with sleep disorders.

2014 – 2015

**Clinical Extern – Advanced Practicum**

Essex County Hospital Center  
Cedar Grove, New Jersey

- Weekly responsibilities included individual therapy, group therapy, and intake assessments with severely mentally ill patients hospitalized in a continuous care hospital facility. Supervised extern intake assessments and assisted in weekly group supervision with junior externs. Conducted individual therapy with high-risk patients using evidence-based interventions (e.g., DBT, Illness Management and Recovery). Developed and led a weekly DBT group. Conducted psychological assessments and provided feedback to the multidisciplinary team and the patient. Participated in family group meeting, providing psychoeducation and support to families of severely mentally ill patients.

2013 – 2014

**Clinical Extern**

Metro Regional Child Abuse Diagnostic & Treatment Center (RDTC)  
Children's Hospital of New Jersey  
Newark Beth Israel Medical Center  
Newark, New Jersey

- Weekly responsibilities included individual therapy, psychosocial assessments, and comprehensive psychological assessments of children referred by the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) and children placed in foster care. Conducted individual therapy, using trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy (TF-CBT), with children who have been referred by DCP&P for sexual abuse, physical abuse, and/or neglect. Conducted psychosocial assessments of children who allegedly experienced sexual abuse, physical abuse, and/or neglect. Recommendations for services were provided in a written report to DCP&P. Conducted Comprehensive Health Evaluations for Children (CHEC), with children who were in foster care. Written report with recommendations for services was provided to DCP&P.

2012 – 2013

**Clinical Extern**

Essex County Hospital Center  
Cedar Grove, New Jersey

- Weekly responsibilities included individual therapy, group therapy, and intake assessments with severely mentally ill patients hospitalized in a continuous care hospital facility. Conducted individual therapy with high-risk patients using evidence-based interventions (e.g., CBT, DBT, Illness Management and Recovery). Co- led weekly psychotherapy group (process-oriented). Conducted psychological assessments. Provided cognitive remediation therapy to patients with schizophrenia. Participated in family group meeting, providing psychoeducation and support to families of severely mentally ill patients.

2011 – 2012

**Clinical Extern**

Montclair State University Counseling and Psychological Services  
Montclair State University, Montclair, New Jersey

- Conducted short-term psychotherapy, mainly CBT-focused, yet integrated with other techniques (e.g., psychodynamic, mindfulness). Conducted structured intakes, provided written assessment/case conceptualization, and presented intakes to staff at weekly disposition meetings. Participated in outreach to the college community (e.g., stress management workshop, depression screening), as well as developed a sexual violence prevention workshop.

2009 – 2011

**Clinical Research Assistant**

Project SHARP  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY

- Provided weekly individual anger management therapy (18-week program) to offenders who had been convicted of stalking.

2005 – 2006

**Assistant to Supervisor**

Human Growth Center of New Jersey  
Clifton, New Jersey

- Assisted supervisor in conducting individual and family therapy in a private practice setting. Provided the psychiatrist with updates on clients' therapeutic progress prior to clients' psychiatric appointments.

**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

2011 – 2016

**Teaching Assistant**

John Jay College of Criminal Justice  
New York, New York

- Abnormal Psychology
- Cognitive Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Learning and Memory
- Social Psychology

Fall 2013

**Recitation Leader**

John Jay College of Criminal Justice  
New York, New York

- Research Methods and Design

2008 – 2010

**Adjunct Faculty**

William Paterson University  
Wayne, New Jersey

- Social Science Seminar II: Methodology (advanced research course for students in the honors track to assist students in writing their thesis; Fall 2008, Fall 2009)
- Social Psychology (Spring 2009, Fall 2009, Spring 2010)

**MANUSCRIPTS**

Winters, G.M., **Colombino, N.**, Schaaf, S., Calkins, C., & Jeglic, E.L. (accepted Jan 2023). Victim Perspectives of Preventing Child Sexual Abuse: A Multi-level Approach. *Victims & Offenders*.

Winters, G.M., **Colombino, N.** Schaaf, S., Laake, A., Jeglic, E.L., & Calkins, C. (2020). Why don't child sexual abuse victims tell anyone about their abuse? An exploration of factors that prevent and promote disclosure. *Behavioral Sciences & Law*, 38, 586-611.

- Calkins, C. & **Colombino, N.** (2015). Sexual offending and pedophilia. In R. Cautin and S. Lilienfeld (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Clinical Psychology*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley- Blackwell.
- Calkins, C., **Colombino, N.**, Matsuura, T., & Jeglic, E. (2015). Where do sex crimes occur? How an examination of sex offense location can inform policy and prevention. *International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice*, 39, 99-112.
- Colombino, N.**, Mercado, C.C., Levenson, J., & Jeglic, E.L. (2011). Preventing sexual violence: Can examination of offense location inform sex crime policy? *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*, 34, 160-167.
- Colombino, N.**, Mercado, C.C., & Jeglic, E.L. (2009). Situational aspects of sexual offending: Implications for residence restrictions. *Justice Research and Policy*, 11, 28-43.
- Colombino, N.**, & Mercado, C.C. (2009). Do sex offenders meet victims in places where children congregate? An analysis of sex offender perpetration patterns. *Sex Offender Law Report*, 10, 49-62.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2013 – 2016

### **Clinical Training Director**

Desistance from Sexual Offending Longitudinal Research Project  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, New York

*Principal Investigators:* Cynthia Calkins, Ph.D., and Elizabeth Jeglic, Ph.D.

- Train new research assistants on interview protocol and general clinical interviewing skills.
- Developed a clinical skills and information training manual that is used for training and distributed to new research assistants.
- On-going monitoring and training of research assistants.
- Provide clinical training to research assistants conducting phone follow-up interviews with offenders.
- Conduct structured interviews with incarcerated offenders at the Pennsylvania State Correctional Institution at Graterford (bi-yearly) and provide on-site supervision of research assistants conducting interviews.

2007 – 2010

### **Paid Project Manager / Research Assistant**

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, New York

*Principal Investigators:* Cynthia Calkins, Ph.D., and Elizabeth Jeglic, Ph.D.

- Worked with a team of researchers gathering data as part of a sex offender project in New Jersey, funded through a grant from the National Institute of Justice.

- Data collection was conducted at the Central Reception and Assignment Facility (CRAF) in Trenton, NJ and Avenel Sex Offender Prison of New Jersey (ADTC).
- As project manager of the CRAF facility, responsibilities included acting as liaison between the facility and principal investigators, and managing the CRAF data collection team.
- Supervised and managed recidivism data collection, which involved data collection tool development, training research assistants, and acting as a liaison between the facility and the principal investigators.

2008 – 2009

**Researcher**

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, New York

*Supervisor:* C. Gabrielle Salfati, Ph.D.

- Researcher as part of John Jay College of Criminal Justice and FBI Behavioral Science Unit Collaborative Research Project.
- Research examined sexual assault criminal history's influence on crime scene behaviors.

**RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS**

**Colombino, N.,** Calkins, C., & Jeglic, E. (October 2014). *Preventing sexual violence: How sex offenders perpetrate crimes against children.* Paper presented at the annual Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) conference held in San Diego, CA.

**Colombino, N.,** Calkins, C., & Jeglic, E. (November 2013). *Preventing sexual violence: Examination of sex offender perpetration patterns.* Poster presented at the annual Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) conference held in Chicago, IL.

Lap, J., **Colombino, N.,** Barese, T., Massey, C., & Falkenbach, D. (March 2013). *Unmasking the psychopath: Is there a relationship between victimization experience and the ability to perceive psychopathy in others?* Paper presented as part of symposium at the annual Eastern Psychological Association conference to be held in New York, NY.

**Colombino, N.,** Mercado, C.C., & Jeglic, E.L. (November 2011). *An Examination of Sex Crime Location by Victim Relationship and Offender Type.* Paper presented at the annual Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) conference held in Toronto, CA.

**Colombino, N.,** Mercado, C.C., & Jeglic, E.L. (March 2011). *Preventing sexual violence: Can examination of offense location inform sex crime policy?* Paper presented at the Annual meeting of the American Psychology - Law Society held in Miami, FL. **Awarded AP-LS Student Travel Award (\$500).**



- Barese, T., Falkenbach, D., & **Colombino, N.** (March 2011). *Deconstructing psychopathy: Understanding psychopathic traits within a broader model of personality*. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the American Psychology - Law Society held in Miami, FL.
- Colombino, N.**, Mercado, C.C., & Jeglic, E.L. (October 2010). *An examination of the offense locations and recidivism patterns of extrafamilial sexual offenders*. Paper presented at the Annual Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) conference held in Phoenix, AZ.
- Jeglic, E.L., Robilotta, S., & **Colombino, N.** (October 2010). *Sex offender treatment: Selection criteria and impact on recidivism*. Paper presented at the Annual Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) conference held in Phoenix, AZ.
- Colombino, N.**, Mercado, C.C., & Jeglic, E.L. (November 2009). *Should sex offenders be geographically restricted from living near places where children congregate? A comparison of rapists and child molesters*. Paper presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology held in Philadelphia, PA.
- Colombino, N.**, Mercado, C.C., & Jeglic, E.L. (October 2009). *The importance of sex offender type: A comparison of rapists and child molesters*. Paper presented at the Annual Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) conference held in Dallas, TX.
- Robilotta, S., **Colombino, N.**, & Jeglic, E.L. (October 2009). *Sex Offenders' Emotional Reaction to Civil Commitment: A Qualitative Analysis*. Paper presented at the Annual Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) conference held in Dallas, TX.
- Colombino, N.**, Mercado, C.C., & Jeglic, E.L. (March 2009). *Situational aspects of sexual offending: Implications for residence restrictions and GPS monitoring laws*. Paper presented at the Annual Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Conference, held in Boston, MA.
- Colombino, N.**, Piekut, E., & Salfati, C.G. (March 2009). *A comparison of sexual homicide behaviors based on sexual assault history*. Poster presented at the Annual Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Conference held in Boston, MA.
- Colombino, N.**, Mercado, C.C., & Jeglic, E.L. (March 2009). *Situational aspects of sexual offending: Implications for residence restrictions and GPS monitoring laws*. Paper presented at the Annual meeting of the American Psychology - Law Society held in San Antonio, TX.

**Colombino, N.,** Mercado, C.C., & Jeglic, E.L. (October 2008). *Situational aspects of sexual offending: Implications for residence restrictions and GPS monitoring laws*. Poster presented at the 27th Annual Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) conference held in Atlanta, GA on October 23, 2008.

**Colombino, N.,** Mercado, C.C., & Jeglic, E.L. (May 2008). *Situational aspects of sexual offending: Implications for residence restrictions and GPS monitoring laws*. Paper presented at the 4th Annual John Jay College of Criminal Justice Masters' Conference held in New York, NY on May 16, 2008.

**Colombino, N.,** Piekut, E., & Salfati, C.G. (May 2008). *A comparison of sexual homicide behaviors based on sexual assault history*. Poster presented at the 4th Annual John Jay College of Criminal Justice Masters' Conference held in New York, NY on May 16, 2008.  
**Awarded 2nd Place Prize for Best Poster**

### **TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS, AND PRESENTATIONS PROVIDED**

Stationhouse Adjustments and Diversion Program Opportunities for Juveniles (October 2019). *2019 SNAP Conference: Educator's Update on Juvenile Justice and Youth Mental Health*, held in Garfield, New Jersey

The Assessment of At-Risk Youth (December 2018). *Continuing Education Workshop* for the Division of Family Guidance, Hackensack, New Jersey

Diversion Program Opportunities in Bergen County (December 2018). *Training sponsored by the Bergen County Executive and Board of Chosen Freeholders*, Hackensack, New Jersey

Preventing Sexual Violence (March 2013). *Workshop developed and presented in collaboration with Montclair State University's counseling center and Greek council*, Montclair, New Jersey

Tackling the Graduate School Application Process (November 2013). *Workshop developed and presented for undergraduates and masters' students*, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, New York.

Preventing Sexual Violence (March 2012). *Workshop developed and presented in collaboration with Montclair State University's counseling center*, Montclair, New Jersey

### **INVITED LECTURES PROVIDED**

2021 Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, New Jersey  
Invited guest instructor for masters' psychology special topics course  
*Title of Lecture: Assessment and Treatment of Juveniles in the Criminal Justice System*

- 2020 Regional Diagnostic and Treatment Center at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, Newark, New Jersey  
Invited guest lecturer for doctoral psychology externs  
*Title of Lecture:* Assessment and Treatment of Adolescents who have Engaged in Sexually Abusive Behavior
- 2020 Montclair State University, Montclair, New Jersey  
Invited guest lecturer for masters' level Developmental Psychology course  
*Title of Lecture:* Developmental Considerations in Juvenile Justice
- 2020 Montclair State University, Montclair, New Jersey  
Invited guest lecturer for undergraduate Forensic Interviewing course  
*Title of Lecture:* The Influence of Child's Disclosure on Psychosexual Assessments
- 2011 Montclair State University, Montclair, New Jersey Invited guest lecturer for undergraduate Freshman Seminar course  
*Title of Lecture:* Stress Management Techniques
- 2008 Drew University, Madison, New Jersey  
Invited guest lecturer for undergraduate psychology students  
*Title of Lecture:* Situational Aspects of Sexual Offending: Implications for Sex Offender Policy

#### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

- 2015 Recipient, Psychology Department Travel Grant, Graduate Center (\$300)
- 2011 Awarded AP-LS Student Travel Award (\$500)  
Paper presentation at the Annual meeting of the American Psychology - Law Society held in Miami, Fl
- 2008 Awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Prize for Best Poster Presentation  
4th Annual John Jay College of Criminal Justice Masters' Conference

#### **GRANTS**

- 2015 **John Jay College Forensic Psychology Research Institute (FPRI)**  
Awarded: \$1,500  
PI: Niki Colombino  
Title: Preventing child sexual abuse where it most often occurs: An investigation of the situational and structural components of child sexual abuse in residential settings

## SERVICE

- 2011 - 2015 Served as a mentor for incoming doctoral students at John Jay College of Criminal Justice
- 2012 – 2014 Elected Doctoral Student Council Diversity Representative
- 2011 Participated in a workshop for undergraduates on graduate school education at John Jay College of Criminal Justice

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Jan. 2010 – Apr. 2010 **Assistant Trial Consultant**

National Jury Project  
Madison, NJ

- Assisted Beth Bochnak, director of NJP east coast, with jury research and trial consultation.
- In conjunction with criminal defense attorney clients, we created a simulated trial experience for a representative participant pool of potential jurors and analyzed the deliberation process.
- My responsibilities also included assisting with writing up the report analysis and providing recommendations and suggestions for jury selection. One notable case included a highly publicized death penalty case in Connecticut.

2008 – 2009

### **Faculty Assistant**

John Jay College of Criminal Justice  
New York, NY

- Assistant to the director of the Forensic Psychology Masters' program.
- Acted as liaison between students and the director to address concerns and questions of the students about the masters' program and masters' thesis.

## REVIEWING EXPERIENCE

2020 - current

### **Reviewer**

Journal of Interpersonal Violence

2010

### **Reviewer**

Assisted faculty to review for *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*

2007 – 2008

**Reviewer**

Reviewer for 2008 and 2009 AP-LS conferences in the areas of Public Policy and Sexual Offending

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Psychological Association (APA)

Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA)

New Jersey Associate for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (NJ ATSA)

New Jersey Psychological Association (NJPA)