



Invites you to a one day workshop

***Family Law:***  
***What every therapist needs to know***

presented by

**Dr Janina Szyndler, Clinical Psychologist**

**Date:** Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018

**Time:** 9.30am. to 4.30pm. Registration and Coffee from 9am.

**Venue:** PARRAMATTA RSL CLUB, Cnr Macquarie and O'Connell Sts, Parramatta

**Registration fees:** \$352 (GST incl) Morning tea, afternoon tea and lunch provided

**Super Early Bird Special:** 20% discount for those people registering and paying in full by 21<sup>st</sup> July 2018

**Early Bird Special:** 10% discount for those people registering and paying in full by 21<sup>st</sup> August 2018

**Full time students** receive a 20% discount – a copy of your current student card needs to be sent with your registration form.

**Workshop description:**

This workshop is intended for Psychologists, School Counsellors and other mental health professionals working in any setting with parents who are separating, and with families and children. The workshop may be particularly helpful to those working in settings such as GP practices and schools where they have limited access to support or case discussion with other colleagues with a mental health background. The workshop is suitable both as an overview for new practitioners as well as providing updates on practise for more experienced clinicians, who may already be regularly dealing with separating parents and their children.

The workshop is designed to help participants:

- Have an up to date knowledge of family law and how it applies to the separating families.
- Understand the key terms used including “best interests of the child”
- Understand the importance of an assessment of family violence

- Be aware of common dilemmas faced by clinicians working with separating parents who are in conflict.
- Be able to implement appropriate ways of assessing and responding to these dilemmas.
- Have an understanding of the way that the court uses information provided by psychologists including: letters for parents, Family and Expert reports and subpoenas.

The workshop will cover:

- Overview of the family law as it applies to parenting orders
- Explanation of key terms and underlying principles – ‘best interests of the child’ and the ‘children’s right to have a meaningful relationship with each of his or her parents’. The language used in Orders: ‘living with’ and ‘spending time with’ as well as ‘parental responsibility’.
- The way that family violence is conceptualised in family law
- The process by which information is gathered in family law matters. What to do when asked for written information and subpoenas
- Clinical vignettes covering common presentations which lead to ethical dilemmas or pitfalls eg child being brought to therapy by one parent with accusations about the other parent’s maltreatment of that child.
- Strategies for implementing best practice when working with parents in conflict and their children.

### About the speaker:



Janina has a 25 year history of working within child and family mental health and developmental disability. She has been a Consultant Clinical Psychologist within the National Health Service (UK) and also worked as a Clinical Psychologist in Child and Family Mental Health and the Children’s Hospital at Westmead. Since 2003 she has built up her own private practice and is now Principal clinical Psychologist at Apex Psychology. She has been an Authorised Clinician for the Children’s Court Clinic since its inception in 2001 and a Regulation 7 Family Consultant and a Single Expert for the Federal Circuit Court. She was an authorised Report Writer for Victims of Crime between 2001 and 2013. She is endorsed by AHPRA to practice in the area of Clinical Psychology and Educational and Developmental Psychology and the Australian branch of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. She specialises in complex child and family assessment, and assessment and intervention with children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders and other developmental disabilities.

### Venue:

Parramatta RSL is about a 10 minute walk from Parramatta Station. Alternatively there is a free Loop bus from Parramatta station, which runs every 10 minutes, and stops in Macquarie St near the RSL. There is a car park available across the street from the RSL club, which can be entered via Macquarie St where there is LIMITED free parking if you get your ticket stamped by the RSL Club before leaving. There is also user-pay parking available in Hunter St.

