

Curriculum Vitae

Name Donna L. Peters
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Education

2003–2006 Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, Psy.D., University of Denver, Graduate School of Professional Psychology, APA-accredited program
Concentration: *Forensic Assessment/Behavioral Analysis*
Doctoral Dissertation: *Sexual Victimization and Risk for Revictimization*

2003–2005 M.A., University of Denver, Clinical Psychology

1995–1998 M.Ed., University of Maryland, University College, Counseling and Personnel Services
Thesis: *Factors Associated with Sexually Aggressive Attitudes and Behaviors*

1990–1994 B.A., University of Maryland, University College, Asian Studies/Psychology

Professional Licenses/Certifications

- Licensed Clinical Psychologist, CO-3153
- Certificate Program in Traumatic Stress Studies at the Trauma Center at Justice Resource Institute, Boston, MA
- Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (IPC) and Temporary Authorization to Practice (TAP) from the PSYPACT Commission
- EMDR International Association Certified Therapist (inactive)
- EMDR International Association Approved Consultant (inactive)

Professional Experience

2006–Present Forensic Psychology Private Practice

Provided long-term, therapeutic services to adolescents and adults with a variety of presenting issues including interpersonal trauma. Ended the therapeutic component of my practice in 2023.

Conducting psychological and forensic assessments, including:

- Personality/cognitive functioning/traumatic brain injury (TBI)
- Trial competency
- Sentencing and mitigation
- Child abuse and neglect
- Domestic violence/intimate partner violence
- Malpractice
- Disability
- Re-sentencing
- Immigration relief
- Risk assessment/dangerousness
- Trauma assessments
- Personal injury and civil damages

Providing expert testimony and consultation services for both the prosecution/plaintiff and the defense/defendant in criminal, civil, military court martial, and federal immigration courts.

Expert content areas include:

- Psychological impact of sexual assault/abuse
- Intimate partner violence/domestic violence
- Post-assault victim response
- Neurobiological impact of trauma
- Posttraumatic Stress Disorder/symptoms
- Perception and memory

- Impact of alcohol on memory functioning/behavior
- Child pornography
- Impact of parental separation
- Human trafficking
- Torture/persecution

2005–Present **Forensic Psychological Evaluator:** Healthright International, Human Rights Clinic (formerly Doctors of the World)

- Conducting forensic evaluations with refugees from a variety of countries seeking asylum in the US
- Determining the consistency of psychological sequelae with alleged experiences of persecution, torture, and sexual and other violence and reporting such findings in legal affidavits
- Providing court testimony as an expert on the effects of trauma on psychological functioning

2008–2016 **Forensic Examiner:** Denver Veteran’s Administration Medical Center, Forensic Evaluator

- Conducted forensic assessments with returning combat veterans experiencing psychiatric injuries to determine the level of severity for service-connected disability
- Assessed conditions, including PTSD, mood disorders, substance use disorders, anxiety disorders, military sexual trauma, and TBI
- Developed legal affidavits that were used in the determination of government disability benefits
- Performed over 3,000 forensic evaluations/affidavits for the Veteran’s Administration Review Board for legal case determination

2006–2009 **Director of Clinical Services:** Rape Assistance and Awareness Program (RAAP)

- Responsible for all aspects of the counseling department, including supervision of a large clinical staff, program development, community training, provision of expert testimony in sexual assault cases, and collection of statistics for grant funding purposes

- Provided direct clinical supervision for the trauma training program, which consisted of pre-doctoral and pre-master's students from a variety of mental health training programs
 - Program Coordinator for the facility's APA-accredited predoctoral internship
- 2007–2008 **Psychological Evaluator:** Exempla West Pines Psychiatric Hospital
- Conducted psychological evaluations in emergency departments for the Exempla hospital network, including Saint Lutheran's Medical Center, Saint Joseph's Medical Center, and Good Samaritan Medical Center
 - Evaluated psychiatric illness, suicidality, and chemical-dependency issues to determine the need for immediate patient hospitalization
- 2005–2006 **APA-Approved Doctoral Internship:** Rape Assistance and Awareness Program
- Conducted outpatient therapy on an 18-hours-per-week clinically based rotation
 - Conducted long- and short-term therapy, facilitated group therapy, conducted workshops and training in the area of sexual assault and trauma interventions, and supervised practicum students
 - Provided in-house and community trainings on sexual assault issues
 - Provided expert testimony in the areas of posttrauma victim response and trauma-related diagnoses
- 2004–2005 **Psychology Extern/Clinical Rotation:** Denver VA Medical Center, PTSD and Substance Abuse Treatment Program
- Assessed PTSD and comorbid substance-use issues for treatment considerations and co-facilitated court-ordered groups for veterans charged with class-3–class-6 felonies, misdemeanors, or repeated alcohol/drug-related driving charges, as referred by the Veteran's Treatment Court
- 2003–2005 **Psychology Extern:** University of Denver, Professional Psychology Center
- Conducted forensic evaluations, including testamentary capacity, competency, and parental responsibility evaluations
- 2003–2004 **Psychology Extern/Clinical Rotation:** Kaiser Permanente, Behavioral Health Department

- Provided treatment services to children, adolescents, and adults with a wide range of presenting issues
- Conducted initial intake assessment, made a preliminary diagnosis, and provided the necessary ongoing short- or long-term therapy
- Participated in grand rounds with other Kaiser psychologists and psychiatrists

2001–2002

Psychotherapist: Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center

- Provided treatment services for children, adolescents, adults, and affected family members with a recent or past history of sexual abuse or assault
- Served as the primary provider for children aged 5–12
- Conducted psychosocial evaluations and selected and implemented appropriate treatment interventions for an under-resourced population with a high degree of dual diagnosis
- Facilitated groups for adolescent survivors of sexual abuse/assault and adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse
- Trained sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) nursing students rotating through the agency as part of the University of Memphis nursing program

1997–2001

Forensic Evaluator/Psychotherapist: Army Behavioral Health, Torii Station, Okinawa, Japan

- Conducted forensic evaluations and risk assessments in both spousal- and child abuse allegations and presented findings to the Army Review Committee for adjudication
- Facilitated groups for perpetrators of domestic violence, adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse, child witnesses of domestic violence, and children experiencing parental separation and divorce
- Provided after-hours crisis intervention for spousal- and child-abuse incidents, sexual assault, and combat-related trauma emergencies
- Worked closely with the Army Criminal Investigation Command, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations in conducting forensic interviews with adults and children involved in violent incidents

Teaching Experience

- Current **Clinical Supervisor:** Provide consultation in forensic psychological assessment and forensic report writing to other clinical forensic psychologists
- 2006–2017 **Clinical Supervisor:** Provided required supervision for state licensure for psychologists, advanced provider credentialing in EMDR therapy, and provider forensic evaluations addressing the influx of asylum seekers detained in Artesia, New Mexico, and Dilly, Texas
- 2006–2010 **Clinical Supervisor:** University of Denver, Graduate School of Professional Psychology, APA-approved internship for doctoral candidates

Professional Organizations

- Member: American Psychological Association
- Member: American Psychological Associate, Division of Trauma Psychology
- Member: American Psychology-Law Society
- Member: American Board of Forensic Sciences
- Member: Healthright International, Human Rights Clinic, Volunteer Psychologist
- Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network, Volunteer Psychologist in ICE detention cases

Board Membership

- Former Member of the Board of Directors, Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network

Editorial Activities

- *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, ad-hoc reviewer

Cross-Cultural Experiences

- 1989–1991 Student visa, Japanese Language Institute: International Center of Language and Culture, Naha, Okinawa, Japan
- 2005–Present Conducting forensic evaluations with individuals from over 40 countries

Selected Trainings/Workshops

- On Being an Ethical and Effective Expert Witness, Joel Dvoskin, Ph.D., ABPP.
- Ethics in Forensic Psychology: Protecting and Releasing Records, Data, and other Information, Bob Stinson, Psy.D., J.D. ABPP.
- Executive Dysfunction and Trauma in Psycholegal Settings, Jerrod Brown, Ph.D.
- Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Trauma in Psycholegal Settings, Jerrod Brown, Ph.D.
- Identifying and Avoiding “Junk Science” in Forensic Psychological Assessments, Tess Neal, Ph.D.
- Approaches to Forensic Evaluation in Disability Matters, Lisa Drago Piechowski, Ph.D., ABPP.
- Eight Best Practices to Improve Forensic Psychological Assessments, Tess Neal, Ph.D.
- The Neurobiology of Trauma, Ruth Byczynski, Ph.D., Bessel van der Kolk, MD., Pat Ogden, Ph.D., Ruth Lanius, MD., Dan Siegel, MD., & Stephen Porges, Ph.D.
- Conducting Forensic Evaluations Using Videoconferencing Technology, Randy Otto, Ph.D., ABPP, and David Corey, Ph.D., ABPP
- Forensic and Correctional Applications of the Personality Assessment Inventory, John Edens, Ph.D.
- Self-Regulation Deficits and Trauma in Psycholegal Settings, Jerrod Brown, Ph.D.
- MMPI-3 in Malingering Determinations, Martin Sellbom, Ph.D.
- Introduction to Using the MMPI-3 in Psychological Practice, Martin Sellbom, Ph.D.
- Psychological Evaluation of Causation and Damages in Personal Injury Cases, William Foote, Ph.D., ABPP
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in the Criminal Justice System, Jerrod Brown, Ph.D.
- Advanced Training in Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Jerrod Brown, Ph.D.
- MMPI-3 for Forensic Psychologists, Yossef Ben-Porath, Ph.D., ABPP
- Evaluation of Children in Personal Injury Cases, Jermour Maddux, Psy.D., ABPP
- Evaluating Risk in Child Pornography Offenders, Kostas Katsavdakakis, Ph.D., ABPP
- Evaluations for High Stakes Sentencing: Capital and Juvenile Murder Cases, Mark Cunningham, Ph.D., ABPP

- MMPI-3 in Personal Injury and Disability Evaluations, Martin Sellbom, Ph.D.
- Child Murder by Parents, Phillip Resnick, MD
- Evidence-Based Evaluations of Criminal Responsibility, Terry Kukor, Ph.D., ABPP
- Evidence for Forensic Mental Health Professionals, David DeMatteo, J.D., Ph.D., ABPP
- Trauma and Mental Disability Law, Michael Perlin, Esq. & Heather Cucolo, Esq.
- Assessing Allegations of Trauma in Forensic Contexts, Christina Pietz, Ph.D. ABPP
- Psychological Evaluations in Personal Injury and Civil Rights Cases, William Foote, Ph.D., ABPP
- The Role of Consultants and Expert Witnesses in Cases of Disputed Confessions, Brian Cutler, Ph.D., and Jeffrey Kaplan, M.Sc.
- Suggestibility in Children: Clinical and Forensic Considerations, Jerrod Brown, Ph.D.
- Allegations of Alienation or Child Sexual Abuse in Custody Evaluations, David Martindale, Ph.D., ABPP
- Evaluation of Risk for Intimate Partner Violence Using the SARA V3, Stephen Hart, Ph.D.
- American Academy of Forensic Psychology, five-day conference
- Ethics in Forensic Psychology Practice, Randy Otto, Ph.D., ABPP
- Report Writing for Forensic Evaluation, Randy Otto, Ph.D., ABPP
- Confabulation and Suggestibility in Clinical, Forensic, and Judicial Considerations, Jerrod Brown, Ph.D.
- Assessment of Malingering, Barry Rosenfeld, Ph.D., ABPP
- Structured Interview of Reported Symptoms, second edition training, Richard Rogers, Ph.D., ABPP
- Psychological Evaluations in Immigration Court, Virginia Barber-Rojas, Ph.D.
- Preparing for Board Certification in Forensic Psychology, Richard DeMier, Ph.D., ABPP
- Advanced Certification in Trauma, Trauma Center at Justice Resource Institute, Boston, MA, and Bessel Van der Kolk, MD, nine-month program
- Fort Sam Houston Advanced Child Abuse/Domestic Violence Course
- Fort Sam Houston Child Sexual Abuse Conference
- Pacific Region Forensic Science Workshop, Child Abuse and Interviewing Techniques
- Developmental Trauma, Bessel Van der Kolk, MD

- Trauma and Impact on the Brain, Bessel Van der Kolk, MD
- The Cutting Edge of Mind/Body Medicine
- Adverse Childhood Experiences Study, Vincent Felitti, MD
- Neurobiology of Trauma, Bessel Van der Kolk, MD
- Doctors of the World Training, Conducting Forensic Evaluations in Asylum Cases
- San Diego Conference on Responding to Child Maltreatment, John Briere, Ph.D., and David Finkelhor, Ph.D.

Professional Presentations/Invited Guest Lecturer

- Peters, D. *Self-Care and Ethics in the Immigration Law Practice*, American Immigration Lawyers Association Mid-Winter Conference, Curacao.
- Peters, D. *Working with Refugees and Torture Survivors*, University of Denver, Graduate School of Professional Psychology, International Disaster Program.
- Peters, D. *Assessing and Treating PTSD and Interpersonal Violence*, University of Denver, Graduate School of Professional Psychology, International Disaster Program.
- Peters, D. *Trauma Assessment and Working with Refugees*, University of Denver, Graduate School of Professional Psychology, International Disaster Program.
- Peters, D. *Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing*, University of Denver, Graduate School of Professional Psychology, Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology.
- Peters, D. *Common Victim Response Following Sexual Assault*, Rape Assistance and Awareness Program, Clinical Staff.
- Peters, D. *Understanding Self-Harm*, Rape Assistance and Awareness Program, Clinical Staff.
- Peters, D. *PTSD and Sexual Assault*, University of Denver, campus-wide Victim Advocate Program.
- Peters, D. *Working with Sexual Assault Victims and Victims of Interpersonal Violence*, Statewide Planned Parenthood Conference, Denver, CO.
- Peters, D. *Assessment and Interventions with Victims of Sexual/Domestic Violence*, medical interns, Swedish Medical Hospital, Denver, CO.
- Peters, D. *Assessment and Interventions with Sexual Assault Survivors and International Refugees*, University of Denver, Graduate School of Professional Psychology.

- Peters, D. *Understanding and Interventions with Prison Rape*, Department of Corrections, State of Colorado (all mental health staff).
- Peters, D. *Interventions in Trauma/PTSD*, University of Memphis.
- Peters, D. *Child Abuse Forensic Interviewing Techniques*, University of Maryland, College Park.
- Peters, D. *Responding to Domestic and Sexual Violence*, US Army Criminal Investigative Services/Military Police, numerous presentations.
- Peters, D. *Responding to Domestic and Sexual Violence Victims*, Air Force Office of Special Investigations, numerous presentations.
- Peters, D. *Victim Dynamics of Sexual Assault and Interpersonal Violence*, Naval Criminal Investigative Services, numerous presentations.
- Peters, D. *Understanding and Preventing Sexual Assault*, US Naval Hospital, Okinawa, Japan, Women's Health Care Symposium.
- Peters, D. *Victimology and Intervention in Sexual Trauma/PTSD*, US Marine Corps/Navy Chaplains Unit, Okinawa, Japan.
- Peters, D. *Understanding and Intervening in Child Abuse*, Department of Defense Schools (DoDS), Okinawa, Japan, multiple presentations.
- Peters, D. *Understanding Child Sexual Abuse/Adult Assault*, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Okinawa, Japan, multiple presentations.
- Peters, D. *Sexual Assault Prevention*, US Marine Corp-wide stand down, Okinawa, Japan, multiple presentations.
- Peters, D. *Responding to Sexual Assault Survivors/PTSD*, US Naval Hospital, emergency room personnel, Okinawa, Japan, multiple presentations.

Published/Broadcast Interviews

- Peters, D. (2018). Interviewed by Nicole Einbinder. *How Trump's Family Separation Policy Has Affected Parents*. PBS FRONTLINE.

Updated December 2025

