

The Co-Occurrence of Parental Alienation Claims and Intimate Partner Violence in Family Court: Theory and Practice

Supporting the Health of Survivors of Family Violence in Family Law Proceedings

Tuesday, March 15, 2022
RESOLVE Manitoba



Land Acknowledgement

The University of Manitoba campuses are located on original lands of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.



Supporting the Health of Survivors of Family Violence in Family Law Proceedings Community of Practice

- Study Purpose: To initiate, host, and support a Community of Practice (CoP) comprised of experts and practitioners in the family violence and family law sectors, to enhance the capacity of practitioners to address family violence safely and effectively. Through the CoP, there will be **enhanced support to survivors of violence through the family law system by increasing opportunities for family law practitioners to have training, guidance and resources to support trauma-informed practice, and to improve coordination of services that will enhance the safety and wellbeing of all parties.**
- Timeline: November 2020 to November 2023
- Funder: Public Health Agency of Canada
- National Alliance of Gender-Based Violence Research Centres in Canada (Western University is lead)
- CoP Experts (family law, IPV-serving organizations, special populations, IPV survivors)



Acknowledgements

- Dr. Peter Jaffe, Justice Mirwaldt, and Robynne Kazina
- *Prairieaction* Foundation
- Ashley Haller, Research Technician
- Patricia Karacsony, RESOLVE Digital Communications Specialist
- University of Manitoba Audio Visual Team



Zoom Guidelines

- Webinar will be recorded
- Participants will remain muted & have their video turned off during the entire webinar
- During Q & A session participants may ask questions by clicking the Q & A button (bottom of screen)



Webinar Schedule

2:00 – 2:05 pm: Welcome, Land Acknowledgment, and introductions

2:05 – 2:25 pm: Presentation with Dr. Peter Jaffe

2:25 – 2:45 pm: Presentation with Robynne Kazina

2:45 – 3:05 pm: Presentation with Justice Mirwaldt

3:05 – 3:25 pm: Question and answer period

3:25 – 3:30 pm: Closing remarks



Resources & International Webinar

- List of parental alienation resources are available on the University of Manitoba RESOLVE website
 - <https://www.umanitoba.ca/sites/resolve/files/2022-03/parental-alienation-webinar-resources.pdf>
- International Webinar
 - CSW 66 side event: Towards gender-sensitive and child-centered judicial proceedings in custody cases: The use of the pseudo and regressive theory of “parental alienation”
 - Registration:
https://teams.microsoft.com/registration/2zWeD09UYE-9zF6kFubccA,_6A2i1cvpEKZbyQt-E3yNQ,k2pkDFkDNUKzMtfxl8prDg,sNp6KEJydkyldOXafFof7Q,bNrlGddVv0G2BgMxtC02UA,xH7_I7d60k21PXYpvNP9eQ?mode=read&tenantId=0f9e35db-544f-4f60-bdcc-5ea416e6dc70&skipauthstrap=1



Polls

1. Where are you from? (Options: BC, AB, MB, SK, ON, QC, Atlantic Provinces, Nunavut/Yukon/Northwest Territories, USA/Other)
2. What is your current profession, area of practice, or background? (Options: Lawyer, Judge, Advocate, Survivor, Mediator, Academic, Student, Victim Services, Services for Perpetrators, Other)



Webinar Speakers

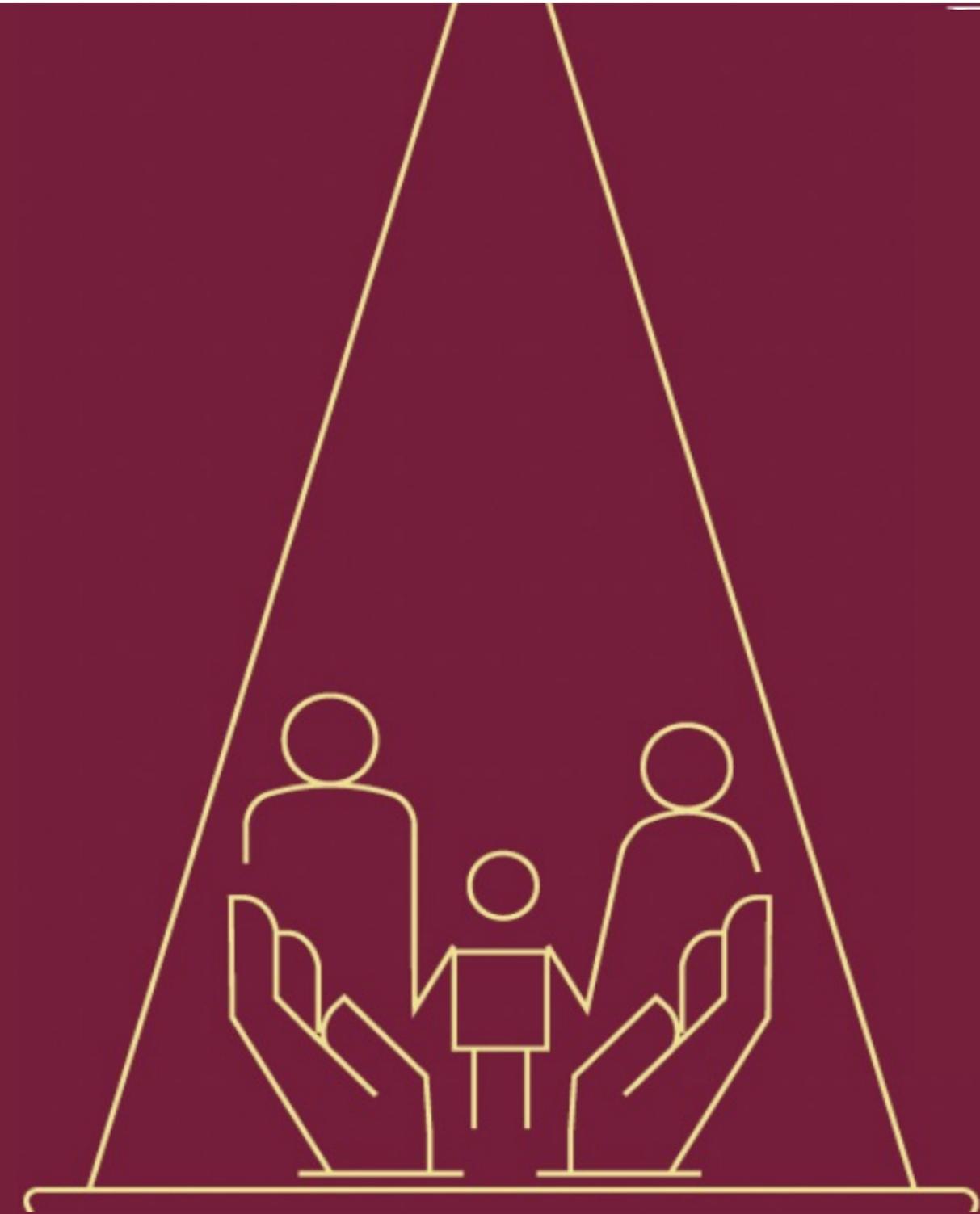
Dr. Peter Jaffe is a psychologist, Professor Emeritus, and one of the founding Directors of the Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women & Children in the Faculty of Education at Western University (London Ontario, Canada). He has co-authored eleven books, 40 chapters and over 80 articles related to domestic violence, the impact of domestic violence on children, homicide prevention and the role of the criminal and family justice systems. For the past 30 years, he has presented workshops across the United States and Canada, as well as Australia, New Zealand, Costa Rica and Europe to various groups including judges, lawyers, health, mental health professionals and educators. Since 1999, he has been on faculty for the National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges in the US for judicial education programs entitled “Enhancing Judicial Skills in Domestic Violence Cases”. He was a founding member of Ontario's Chief Coroner’s Domestic Violence Death Review Committee. He has also been instrumental in developing violence prevention programs for schools.

On October 20, 2016, **Justice Mirwaldt** was appointed to the Manitoba Court of Queen’s Bench (Family Division). Prior to her judicial appointment, she practised with her husband in the firm Mirwaldt & Gray that had offices at The Pas and Winnipeg. Her main areas of practice were family law, child protection, civil litigation, First Nations governance and employment law and human resources. In 2009, Justice Mirwaldt became an adjudicator under the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, which appointment she held until her appointment to the Court. Since her judicial appointment, Justice Mirwaldt has served on various court committees. She is a member of the Oversight Committee on the Child Protection Case Flow Model, whose work has resulted in reducing delays in hearing child protection cases. Justice Mirwaldt is also a member of the Family Division Case Management Model committee that introduced, and now maintains, a streamlined case flow for contested family matters. Justice Mirwaldt is also a member of the court’s Trust, Reconciliation and Access to Justice Committee, which has the responsibility of advising and guiding the court on its journey of reconciliation with Indigenous Manitobans.

Robynne Kazina practices exclusively in the area of family law as a partner at Taylor McCaffrey LLP in Winnipeg, Manitoba. She graduated from the University of Toronto law school in 2005. She also has Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Manitoba and a Masters of Social Work from the University of Toronto. Robynne teaches Advanced Family Law at the Faculty of Law University of Manitoba. She is past Chair of the Manitoba Bar Association Family Law Section and Women Lawyers’ Forum. Robynne is dedicated to raising awareness of the intersection between family violence and family law. She was involved in providing feedback and testing the Federal Government's HELP tool for family law practitioners, and educating the Bar about family violence and the amendments to the Divorce Act.

Survey

- https://uwo.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1Upf6YEKgXcj2Cy



Alliance of Canadian Research Centres on Gender Based-Violence

Canada's research centres (RESOLVE, RAIV, The FREDIA Centre, Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research, & Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women and Children (CREVAWC)) on violence against women initiate, host and support a **Community of Practice (CoP)** comprised of family violence experts, survivors, family lawyers, researchers, mental health, and social service professionals.

Visit the Alliance website (<https://alliancevaw.ca>) to access past webinar recordings and power point slides.

For more information contact:

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