

Licensed Clinical Psychologist Curriculum Vitae for:

## **Dr. Alex Avila**

**California State Psychology License Number: PSY 25935**

**2400 E Katella Ave #800, Anaheim, CA 92806**

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### **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

#### **1. Forensic Psychology**

**\*Immigration Evaluations and Therapy:** Providing therapy and performing various psychological evaluations for immigration law clients related to I-601 and I-601A Waivers ("extreme hardship"), Visa U/VAWA, Political Asylum, and Cancellation of Removal Proceedings ("exceptional and extremely unusual hardship"). Conducting psychological and neuropsychological testing to assess the extent of physical, emotional and psychological impact on Qualifying Relatives. Reviewing aggravating psychological factors impacting Qualifying Relatives. Implementing standardized, objective psychological tests assessing Qualifying Relative's ability to cope and function under extreme hardship conditions. Preparing concise medical-legal psychological reports.

**\*Personal Injury Evaluations and Therapy,** including NIED (Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress), dog bites, burn cases, serious injuries, car accidents, slip and fall, wrongful death, sexual harassment, wrongful termination, employment discrimination, and brain injuries, among others. Evaluations of emotional damages include structured clinical interviews and a comprehensive battery of psychological assessment instruments such as the MMPI-2, MCMI-III, Beck Depression Inventory, PROMIS Anxiety Instruments, Clinician-Administered PTSD Scale (CAPS), and Posttraumatic Stress Diagnostic Scale (PDS).

#### **2. Psychological Services**

Intake, psychosocial assessment, and delivery of therapeutic services to individuals, children, families, and couples, covering a wide variety of issues, including depression, anxiety, marital and family conflicts, trauma recovery, personality disorders, and childhood disorders. Spanish-speaking services offered through Offices of Dr. Avila.

Intake, psychosocial assessment, case and crisis management, and delivery of therapeutic services to victims of crime through the California Victims of Crime Compensation Fund (CalVCP).

Delivering therapeutic services to foster children and their families as part of a foster care agency. Also, involved in training, presentations, intake, testing and assessment, case management, interdisciplinary meetings, and case integration.

#### **3. Teaching/Educational/Presenting**

Full-time temporary and adjunct faculty positions at various Southern California colleges and Universities. Instructing Introductory Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Social

Psychology, Personality, Cross-Cultural Psychology, and Marriage and Family in standard courses (weekend seminars, evening/day courses), adult learner programs, distance learning, and instructional television.

Instructor, lecturer, and presenter of various workshops and seminars involving innovative applications of Jungian typology and personality testing, ranging from work to relationship issues.

#### **4. Community Mental Health**

Creating and running an innovative martial arts therapy program for schizophrenic Hispanic day treatment patients as well as violence-prone continuing education high school students.

Designing and implementing a unique gang prevention program and family support group for at risk Latino youth and their families, utilizing positive psychology and meditative movement modalities such as yoga, aikido, and meditation/breathing.

#### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, California School of Professional Psychology, 1998

Master of Arts, Clinical Psychology, California School of Professional Psychology, 1995

Master of Arts, General Psychology, California State University, Los Angeles, 1991: 3.8 GPA

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, California State University, Fullerton, 1983: 3.6 GPA

#### **PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS**

*Conflict and the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator: Resolving Human Differences Through the Power of Personality Type*, American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Las Vegas, Nevada, January 2017.

*VAWA and The Battered Husband: The Underreported Male Abuse Victim in Immigration Cases* by Dr. Alex Avila. American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Toronto, Canada, August 2015.

*Eggshell Skull v. Iron Skull in Personal Injury Cases: Why One Person Becomes Weaker From Trauma and the Other Becomes Stronger* by Dr. Alex Avila. AP-LS (American Psychology-Law Society, Division 41 (APA) Annual Conference, San Diego, California, March 2015.

*The 3 Dishes Of Invincibility* by Dr. Alex Avila: Positive Psychology For Trauma Patients: LAC+USC Medical Center, Los Angeles, California, March 7th 2014.

#### **ACADEMIC REVIEWER**

**Proposal Reviewer, APA Psychology-Law Society, 2015 APA National Convention, Toronto, Canada.** Proposals: *Association between Cognitive Status and the Personality Assessment Inventory (PAI) Validity Scales; Signature Type and Complexity in Questioned/Known Signature Comparison Task; Detecting Malingered PTSD: DSM-5 Symptom Cluster Impact on Differentiation in a New PTSD Measure; The Utility of the Personality Assessment Inventory's Level of Care Index in a Forensic Population; Advances in the detection of malingering in trauma presentations.*

#### **CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS**

Forensic Assessments in Immigration Proceedings, Honorable Jack H. Weil, American Academy of Forensic Psychology, February 2017

Unlawful Presence Waivers of Inadmissibility: A Review and Updates, Annaluisa Padilla, Esq.

Heather L. Poole, Esq., and Martin Fontes, Esq. OCBA, Immigration Law Section, November 2016.

Forensic Report Writing, Randy K. Otto, Ph.D., ABPP, American Academy of Forensic Psychology, September 2016

Improving Testimony in Depositions and Trials, Phillip J. Resnick, M.D, American Academy of Forensic Psychology, February 2015

Psychological Evaluation of Causation and Damages in Personal Injury Cases, William E. Foote, Ph. D., ABPP, American Academy of Forensic Psychology, May 2014

INA 212(a)(9)(C)(i): The Permanent Bar: LACBA Expert's Presentation: April 2014

Einhorn on Asylum, Honorable Bruce J. Einhorn, OCBA, Immigration Law Section, February 2014

## **PUBLICATIONS**

"The Truth About Shyness: The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Shy People." IIE Solutions Aug. 2002: 35-40.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Member of ASPRIL: Association for Scientific Advancement of Psychological Injury and Law

Member of The American Psychology-Law Society (APA Division 41) Member since

Sunday, November 30, 2014

Founder and Co-Chair of the California School of Professional Psychology Media Psychology Group

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

Top Psychologist/Doctor of Excellence, "Worldwide Leaders in Healthcare," The International Association of Healthcare Professionals, 2016

Nominated for World's Best Radio Program, Human Relations, 2014, New York Festivals

APA Minority Fellowship, Honorable Mention, 1996

Distinguished Teacher Award, 1993