

## CV

**Dr Marilyn A. Sher**

***MSc, C. Psychol. AFBPsS CSci***

**Consultant Clinical and Forensic Psychologist**

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### **Brief Personal Profile**

I am a Consultant Clinical and Forensic Psychologist and CAT practitioner and supervisor with experience working with a range of client groups in a variety of settings. Currently I work in full-time private practice. I have extensive experience working with mental health difficulties, trauma, offending behaviour, personality disorder, and neurodevelopmental difficulties such as Learning Disability and Autism. I have specific expertise working with adolescents and people with neurodevelopmental disabilities. My work has included undertaking comprehensive assessments, developing formulations and functional analyses, and using these to guide treatments delivered. Therapeutic input is always designed to match the specific needs of the client, drawing on evidence-based practices. I draw on a range of models depending on client need, including Cognitive Behavioural, Eco-Behavioural, Cognitive Analytic, EMDR and Dialectical Behavioural Therapeutic approaches. In addition, I have regularly engaged in consultative work as part of a Multi-Disciplinary Team, as well as with carers, families, and schools, to support treatment delivery as well as develop support and risk management strategies. I also work as a visiting Consultant for the Lorna Wing Centre, providing assessments and consultations in relation to Autism.

My experience includes supervising a range of professionals including Clinical Psychologists, Forensic Psychologists, Trainee Psychologists and other mental health professionals outside of psychology. In addition I train other professionals in the use of structured forensic risk assessments such as the SAVRY and START/START:AV, as well as other topics such as Supporting young people with Autism, Positive Behavioural Support, Stress Management, ADHD, and challenges of working with traumatised clients. I have delivered a number of presentations at conferences and also have journal and book publications relating to some of my specific areas of interest. I have developed strategies and treatment pathways in

CAMHS services, undertaken collaborative work in developing standards of work with developmental disabilities in independent hospitals, as well as contributed to national child and adolescent working groups. Furthermore I have set up processes within psychology departments in relation to assessment, treatment delivery and reporting standards, as well as played a central role in other areas of clinical and information governance. Finally, I also undertake assessments and reports in medico-legal contexts.

### **Education and Qualifications**

2020	Doctorate in Forensic Psychology Practice, University of Birmingham
2017	CAT Supervisor Accreditation
2016	Child EMDR level II
2015	Child EMDR level 1
2015	ACAT Residential Supervisor Training: Relational Skills in CAT Supervision
2012-2014	CAT Practitioner training, West Midlands CAT course, Postgraduate Diploma in Cognitive Analytic Therapy, Sheffield Hallam University
2013-2014	EMDR part 1, 2 and 3
June 2012	Statement of Equivalence in Clinical Psychology, British Psychological Society
2011	Expert Witness Certificate, Bond Solon, Cardiff University
Dec 2007	Attained chartered status following completion of BPS stage 2 of the Diploma in Forensic Psychology (supervised practice)
2003-2004	MSc Forensic Psychology, University of Surrey
2001-2003	Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology (Distinction), University of Westminster
2000	Certificate in Basic Counselling Skills, Intec College
1994-2000	BA Degree – Majors in Psychology & Criminology, University of S.A.
1994	Matric (final year of school). Subjects included English; Afrikaans; Mathematics; Biology; History; Business Economics. University pass.

### **Registrations and affiliations**

I am an Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society as well as Chartered Clinical and Forensic Psychologist.

I am a Chartered Scientist with the Science Council.

I am a Registered EuroPsy Psychologist

I am on the Register of Applied Psychology Practice Supervisors (RAPPS).

I am a Registered Clinical and Forensic Psychologist with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

I am a CAT Practitioner and Supervisor (ACAT)

I am a member of EMDR UK and Ireland

I am a member of the DCP Faculty for Children, Young People and their Families (CYPF)

### **Other relevant training/short courses**

I have had formal training on a range of diagnostic tools including assessments of violence and sexual offending, assessments of personality disorder/traits, psychopathy assessments, cognitive assessments and assessments exploring social and communication disorders (DISCO). In addition, I am able to administer and report on a range of assessments that explore mental health difficulties such as anxiety, depression, PTSD symptomology, and anger, among others. I also maintain expert witness related CPD with Bond Solon.

### **Work Experience**

<i>Current</i>	<i>Independent Psychologist: I have had a private practice since January 2008</i>
2015-Dec 2017	Lead Consultant Clinical & Forensic Psychologist and Head of Therapies, Partnerships in Care (CAMHS)
2014-Aug 2015	Lead Consultant Psychologist, Danshell Group (CAMHS and adult)
2014-Aug 2015	Consultant Clinical and Forensic Psychologist, Oakview East Anglia (part of Danshell) (CAMHS)
2011-2013	Principal Forensic and Clinical Psychologist, St. Andrews Healthcare (Adult Service)
2009-2013	Honorary Research Associate in the Department of Forensic Mental Health Science at the Institute of Psychiatry
2010-2011	Part-time placement: Psychologist undertaking Statement of Equivalence in Clinical Psychology, Northampton CAMHS
2009-2010	Senior Chartered Forensic Psychologist, St. Andrews Healthcare (Adolescent Service)
2007- 2009	Chartered Forensic Psychologist, St. Andrews Healthcare (Adolescent Service)
2006-2007	Trainee Forensic Psychologist, St. Andrews Healthcare (Adolescent Service)
2005	Assistant Psychologist, St. Andrews Healthcare (Older Adult Service)
2004-2005	Healthcare Assistant, Broadmoor Hospital

2001-2003 Assistant Accountant, Freeman and Partners  
2001-2004 Volunteer Appropriate Adult, Hillingdon Mind  
1995-2000 Bookkeeper, Lieberman Communications  
1996 Police Reserve Force Constable, South African Police Service

## **Publications**

### Book Chapters

Adamson, L; McLean, A. & **Sher, M.A.** (2011). *Risk assessment in Adolescents with Developmental Disabilities*. In Forensic Focus 32: Forensic Issues in Adolescents with Developmental Disabilities. Edited by E. Galton. Jessica Kinglsey: London.

**Sher, M.A.** Chapter 7: Accounts from successful trainees. O'Mahony, B. (2016). *So, you want to be a forensic psychologist: Second Edition*. Amazon: Great Britain.

### Journal articles

Galton, E.; **Sher, M.A.** & Drew-Lopes, C. (2010). Information and readability issues for psychiatric patients in the 21st Century. E-learning for users? *Psychiatric Bulletin* 34, 376-380.

**Sher, M.A.** (2010). An informal review of the literature on community meetings and the potential for their application in a secure adolescent service. *Therapeutic Communities* 31(3), 282-297.

**Sher, M.A.** & Galton, E. (2014). Implementation of the START:AV in a Secure Adolescent Service. *Journal of Forensic Practice* 16(3), 184-193.

**Sher, M.A.** (2014). Words and Rituals: The significance of 'smaller' endings. *ACAT Reformulation*, 33-36.

**Sher, M.A.**; Warner, L; McLean, A.; Rowe, K; & Galton, E. (2017). A prospective validation of the START:AV. *Journal of Forensic Practice*, 19(2), 115-129.

Glennon, C. & **Sher, M.A.** (2017). Evaluation of the EssenCES in a neurodevelopmental inpatient service for adolescents. *Journal of Intellectual Disabilities* [epub ahead of print]

Carroll, B. & **Sher, M.A.** (2018). Using cinema therapy to highlight and build character strengths and values in young people within a neurodevelopmental service: a pilot study. *Good Autism Practice*, 19(1), 14-21.

#### Opinion papers

**Sher, M.** & Boothby, A. (2006 & 2009). *Forensic Risk Assessment of Older Adults*. NOTA News No. 52.

#### Conference presentations

**Drue, M.A.** & Muldowny, L. (2006). *Forensic Risk Assessment with Older Adults*. Division of Forensic Psychology Annual Conference 2006, Preston, Lancashire.

**Sher, M.A.** (2009). *An adapted sexual offence specific treatment programme for adolescent sexual offenders with developmental disabilities*. Division of Forensic Psychology Annual Conference, Preston, Lancashire.

**Sher, M.A.** (2009). *Psychological approaches to assessing and treating adolescent offenders with developmental disabilities*. 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Care and Treatment of Offenders with Learning Disability, Preston, Lancashire.

Adamson, L. & **Sher, M.A.** (2010). *Risk assessment Workshop*. Child and Adolescent Learning Disability Psychiatric Network (CALPDN) residential Conference, Sedgebrook Hall, Northampton.

**Sher, M.A.** (2010). *Struggling through the fog: Where we are at with risk assessing youth*. Seeing both sides of the risk assessment coin Conference. St. Andrews Healthcare, Northampton.

**Sher, M.A.** (2011). *Implementation of the START:AV in a medium secure adolescent service in the UK*. International Association of Forensic Mental Health Service (IAFMHS) 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Barcelona, Spain.

#### Poster presentations

Owino, A.; Yorsten, G.; **Sher, M** & Kemp, R. (2007). *Characteristics and Outcome of Referrals to a Specialist Old Age Forensic Psychiatry Unit*. Presented at the Research in Medium Secure Units Conference 29<sup>th</sup> January 2008. Institute of Psychiatry at the Maudsley

**Sher, M.A.** (2008). *Adapted Sexual Offender Treatment Group (ASOTG) for Adolescents*. Presented at the St. Andrews Healthcare Autumn Forum

#### Book reviews

The Psychologist. June 2007. Reviewed: *Understanding Attachment and Attachment Disorders: Theory, Evidence and Practice* by Vivien prior and Danya Glaser

Forensic Update. October 2006. Reviewed: *Mental Health Screening and Assessment in Juvenile Justice*  
Edited by: T. Grisso; G. Vincent and D. Seagrave

Other research undertaken

Exploration of Sadism: Predictive Ability of Childhood Antecedents: Submitted as part of my MSc in Forensic Psychology

An evaluation of the implementation of an adapted version of Goldstein's Aggression Replacement Training with adolescent offenders: A comparison between learning disability and non-learning disability client groups: Examined by the Division of Forensic Psychology as part of Stage 2 of the Diploma in Forensic Psychology

An evaluation of the effectiveness of community meetings on a medium secure unit for adolescent offenders: Examined by the Division of Forensic Psychology as part of Stage 2 of the Diploma in Forensic Psychology

Understanding self-report response bias in High Functioning Autism. Unpublished Doctoral Thesis. University of Birmingham