

To the Committee responsible for developing the EXAM CURRICULUM

My name is Pam Connor. I am a Clinical Psychologist and Director of the Psychology Clinic at the University of Canberra.

Generally, I think the examination curriculum looks very comprehensive. However, I am wondering if Attachment Disorder and the neurobiological impact of trauma could be included somewhere. These seem such important areas about which all clinicians need to have an understanding.

I have read many, many reports written by clinicians who diagnose AD(H)D , Oppositional Disorder and Conduct Order, with no reference at all to disrupted attachment, in children who have had experienced very severe neglect and abuse – and the end result is a pathologizing of the child. This, in turn, influences the intervention used – often medication or behavioural modification – and the latter is often ineffective because it is not addressing the more complex issues associated with disrupted attachment.

So...could these please be included on the list n page 10?

And on page 11 after family [interventions], including attachment-based interventions.

Many Thanks

Sincerely

Pam

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