

4 March 2016

**Psychology Board of Australia**

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**Re: Public consultation paper 26: Area of practice endorsements**

Dear Board members,

I am currently studying the Master of Psychology (Counselling Specialisation) and I would like to use this opportunity to give my support for the revised definition of counselling psychology and competency statements provided to you by the Association of Counselling Psychologists and the APS College of Counselling Psychologists.

Having read their updated description and list of competency statements (attached) it is my opinion that this revision more accurately reflects the nature of our training, research, and practice in the specialised domain of counselling psychology.

The inclusion of competency statements relating to mental health assessment, case-formulation, and appropriate evidence-based care (including couple therapy), is a far better reflection of both the postgraduate training I am receiving and the clinical reality of my work.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Tim Pilkington

Provisional Psychologist

BBusAdmin, GradDipPsych, PostGradDipPsych