

Michelle Sanders, M.S. Ed., Psy.D.

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LICENCES

Licensed Psychologist: New York #019997 - Active

Licensed Psychologist: Texas #37864 - Active

EDUCATION

Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY

Post-doctoral training in the assessment and treatment of trauma and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, (PTSD).

Pace University, New York, NY

M.S. Ed., Psy. D., School Clinical Child Psychology

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Private Practice, New York, NY (2013-present).

- Trained in Attachment Theory and Cognitive Behavioral Theory.
- Assess and treat children and adult patients with anxiety, depression, grief, trauma, PTSD, adjustment to chronic stressors, complicated early childhood experiences, and several other psychological diagnoses.

Psychologist and Co-Investigator: Infant Parent Intervention Project, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY (2001-2010).

- Helped facilitate a \$500,000 grant from the Robin Hood Foundation to develop a proposal to decrease the amount of time children spend in foster care. Assessed biological parents and children via clinical interviews, video coding, formal assessment measures and report writing. Testified as an expert witness at Bronx Family Court. Partnered with the New York City, Special Victims Unit.

Psychologist and Clinical Instructor in the Department of Pediatrics, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY (2005-2010).

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Psychology, Pace University, New York, NY (2005-2006).

PRO BONO HUMANITARIAN WORK

- Conducted humanitarian work over the past 30 years in New York City, Bolivia, Bahrain, and Iraq.
- Over the past six years, worked directly with Yezidis who are survivors of ISIS captivity and torture from the August 3, 2014 genocide perpetrated by ISIS.
 - Provided trauma informed interventions and financial donations for food and milk powder to IDP families and those living in camps.
 - “Boots on the ground” five times over the past six years.
 - Train local mental health clinicians in ways to assess and treat trauma and PTSD, including nonverbal trauma interventions.

- Present current research related to the brain and trauma and the interaction and physiological and psychological manifestations of trauma.
- Worked with families experiencing the intergenerational transmission of trauma. During each visit, met with Yezidi religious leaders at Lalesh, including Sheik Amer Seido and Baba Chawish.
- Overall, met and worked with approximately 70 families.
- During the most recent visit, conducted 10 comprehensive interviews with Yezidis. Continue to advocate and support Yezidis and their rights to have permanent residency, recognition of the 2014 genocide, and identification of mass graves for the missing individuals. There are approximately 2700 missing girls and children.
- Interested in learning from, and collaborating with, the varied working groups at the Intergenerational Center for Multigenerational Legacies of Trauma at New York University to bring attention to the ongoing plight of Yezidis, promote academic research related to the intergenerational transmission of trauma, promote the DNA identification of missing individuals, and provide up to date data related to Yezidis.
- Work collaboratively with Mr. Zirak Hameed, a Yezidi who is the Director of an NGO, the Panaga Center for Education in Duhok, Kurdistan.

Co-Founder and Vice Chair, FAFI (Female Advocacy Foundation International), an official NGO incorporated in New York State with active 501(c)3 status. New York, NY (2022-present).

- Promote equality and empowerment for women and children around the world.

Executive Board Member, BHMF (Bring Hope Humanitarian Foundation), an official NGO incorporated in New York State with active 501©3 status. New York, NY (2019-2023).

Clinical Consultant, YAZDA, Lincoln, NE, an official Yezidi founded NGO, (2018- present).

Clinical Consultant, Panaga Organization, A Yezidi NGO based in Duhok, Kurdistan, Iraq, (2017-present).

Clinical Consultant, Manama, Bahrain, (2013).

Clinical Consultant, Santa Cruz, Bolivia, (1992-present).

Northern Lights Alternatives. New York, NY (1983-1986).

PRESENTATIONS

Louise Power, The Power Hour Podcast, London, United Kingdom, (2023).

- Interviewed for Podcast focusing on the current and chronic plight of Yezidis having been “boots on the ground” five times in the past six years.

YAZDA, Lincoln, NE (August 2023).

- A Commemoration of the Yazidi Genocide in 2014: “A Boots on the Ground” Perspective of working with Yazidis.

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX (March, 2019).

- Presentation to Doctoral Psychology students. Topic: From the South Bronx to Kurdistan: My Journey as a Psychologist and Global Humanitarian.

Cambridge University, UK, October 2019

- Presented at Cambridge’s Global Migration Conference, Title: Yazidis: A Case for the Intergenerational Transmission of Trauma.

SPECIAL SKILLS

- Fluent Spanish; passable French.
- Post-Doctoral Training in Trauma and PTSD, Albert Einstein College of Medicine.
- Trained in Story Stem Assessment Profile (SSAP) at the Anna Freud Center in London, UK.
- Travelled and/or lived in 48 countries: extensive knowledge of Central and South America and the Middle East.

PUBLICATIONS

Vig, S., & Sanders, M. (2007). Cognitive Assessment & Mental Retardation. In A. Boehm & M. Brassard (Eds). *Preschool Assessment: Principles and Practices* (pp. 383-446). New York: Guilford Press.

Mowder M. & Sanders, M. (2007). Parent behavior importance and parent behavior frequency: Psychometric characteristics. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 15, 730-740.
Minton, J., Zener-Solomon, L., Sanders, M., Charash, M. & Kendzior, J. (1999). Attitudes toward being female over time. *Journal of Social Behavior and Personality*, 14 (2), 209-220.

Minton, J., Zener Solomon, L., Kendzior, J., Stokes-Sanders, M., Lupo-Fieldman, D., & DeVita, J. (1999). Gender satisfaction and gender identity in adolescent males. Presented at the American Psychological Association Convention.

Minton, J., Zener-Solomon, L., Kendzior, J., Stokes-Sanders, M., Lupo-Fiedlman, D. & Del-Vita, J. (1999). Does Ophelia need reviving: A study of adolescent females. Presented at the American Psychological Association Convention.

Minton, J., Zener-Solomon, L., Charash, M., Stokes-Sanders, M., Kendzior J., Del Vita, J., Lupo Feldman, D., & Calano, L. Presented at the 16th International Conference on Literature and Psychology, Urbino, Italy.

AWARDS

Leader in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) (2006)

- Awarded by the Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal Child Health Bureau for outstanding performance in neurodevelopmental disabilities.

H.R. Young Graduate Merit Scholarship (1997)

- Awarded by Goldman Sachs & Company, New York, New York for outstanding academic achievement.