Laura Alfonso Ph.D. Licensed Clinical Psychologist

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Education:

August 2004 **Postdoctoral Fellowship**

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Long Island Jewish Medical Center, NY

June 2003 **APA-Accredited Internship**

Child and Adolescent Clinical Psychology University of New Mexico-School of Medicine

Children's Psychiatric Hospital

May 2003 **Doctor of Philosophy**

Clinical Psychology, APA-Accredited Program Texas A&M University, College Station, TX Dissertation Chair: Timothy A. Cavell, Ph.D.

Dissertation Title: Mentoring Relationships with At-Risk Children:

Optimizing Intervention Success through an Understanding of Relationship Patterns

Major Area Paper Chair: Steve Rholes, Ph.D.

Major Area Paper Title: The Role of Maternal Affect Regulation in the Development of Infant Attachment Styles

May 2000 Master of Science

Clinical Psychology, APA Accredited Program Texas A&M University, College Station, TX Thesis Chair: Timothy A. Cavell, Ph.D.

Thesis Title: Conflict and Quality in Mentors' Relationships with Aggressive Children: The Role of Mentor Attachment

May 1997 **Bachelor of Arts, Honors**

Psychology

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA Honors Thesis Chair: John Sabini, Ph.D.

Thesis Title: The Construct of Interpersonal Jealousy in Romantic

Relationships

Professional Experience:

1/05-8/11 **Assistant Professor**

Chief Psychologist (1/05-1/06)
Faculty at Carlos Albizu University

Doctoral Psychology Program Doral, Florida

Duties: Teach and supervise doctoral students.

Supervising Responsibilities: Supervise doctoral level students providing outpatient therapy at a community health center. Students were responsible for providing individual group and family therapy to individuals of all ages with psychological disorders ranging from depression, anxiety, maladjustment, PTSD to more severe psychological disorders. Techniques used ranged from brief cognitive-behavioral interventions to more long-term insight oriented interventions. In addition, provided supervision to doctoral level students administering psychoeducational batteries. These batteries were court-mandated, school-mandated, or self-referred. Batteries were used to determine psychological adjustment, diagnosis such as depression, anxiety, learning disorders, ADHD, psychosis, etc.

Teaching Responsibilities: Responsible for teaching Assessment of Intelligence, Child Assessment, and Objective Techniques of Personality Assessment. The Assessment of Intelligence course is the core intellectual assessment class in the doctoral program. Intellectual assessments taught include but are not limited to the Wechsler scales, the Kaufman measures, and the Stanford-Binet V. The Child Assessment course is an advanced assessment class that focuses on the assessment of intelligence, learning disorders, processing difficulties, behavioral and psychological disorders. Objective Techniques of Personality Assessment focuses on objective techniques of assign personality, The MMPI, the MCMI, and the PAI are all taught. Additional responsibilities was the supervision of approximately ten doctoral students who provided therapy and assessment at the clinic associated with the doctoral program.

9/04-6/08

Private Practice Licensed Psychologist

Coral Gables, Florida

Duties: Provide psychological treatment, individual and family treatment, for children, adolescents and families with a wide variety of outpatient treatment needs, such as ADHD, anxiety, behavior management, depression, developmental disabilites. Administer psychoeducational testing (e.g. IQ, learning disorders, ADHD) and psychological testing (e.g.

developmental, objective and projective testing, etc.) Provide neurofeedback for children and adolescents with a variety of psychological symptoms.

9/03-8/04 Day Hospital Therapist

Schneider Children's Hospital Long Island Jewish Medical Center Supervisors: Jennifer Ratas Ph.D.

Duties: Provided psychological treatment for children and adolescents attending a day hospital. Provided individual and family therapy for children and adolescents with a myriad of diagnoses ranging from anxiety, depression, trauma symptoms, suicidal ideation to psychotic symptoms. Developed and implemented multifaceted cognitive, behavioral, and attachment-driven interventions within a milieu setting. Developed treatment plans and evaluated treatment progress. Worked with psychiatric team to determine patient's future needs and placement following discharge from day hospital setting.

9/03-8/04 **Outpatient Therapist**

Schneider Children's Hospital Long Island Jewish Medical Center Supervisors: Jonathan Samuels Ph.D.

Duties: Provided individual and family therapy to outpatient child, adolescent, and adult clients. Developed and implemented multifaceted cognitive, behavioral, and interpersonal interventions within a systemic framework. Conducted intake interviews to assess the needs of clients. Developed treatment plans and evaluated treatment progress. Ran numerous children and parent group therapy focusing on parenting, depression, anxiety, ADHD, anger management and social skills. Provided DBT for patients with borderline symptoms, including suicidal ideation and self-injurious behavior (e.g. cutting behavior).

9/03-1/04 Emergency Room/ Psychiatric Consult

Schneider Children's Hospital Long Island Jewish Medical Center Supervisors: Robert Dicker M.D

Duties: Provided psychiatric consults for patients, children and adolescents, brought to the emergency room. Assessed patients and determined immediate treatment needs.

1/03-7/03 **Inpatient Therapist**

Children's Psychiatric Hospital- Inpatient Services University of New Mexico-School of Medicine

Supervisors: Niloufer Mody Ph.D., Mary Kaven Ph.D.

Duties: Responsible for providing psychological treatment for patients in an acute inpatient setting. Children ranged from four through ten years old. Provided brief, crisis-oriented individual and family therapy. Developed and implemented multifaceted cognitive, behavioral, and attachment-driven interventions within a milieu setting. Developed treatment plans and evaluated treatment progress. Worked with psychiatric team to determine patient's future needs and placement following discharge from acute setting.

Additionally, provided psychological treatment for patients in a residential setting. Children ranged from four to ten years old. Developed and implemented multifaceted cognitive, behavioral, and attachment-driven interventions within a milieu setting. Provided individual and family therapy. Developed treatment plans and evaluated treatment progress.

7/02 - 7/03 Outpatient Therapist

Children's Psychiatric Hospital- Outpatient Services University of New Mexico-School of Medicine Supervisors: Diana Valdez Ph.D., Art Brambilia, Ph.D.

Duties: Provided individual and family therapy to outpatient child, adolescent, and adult clients. Developed and implemented multifaceted cognitive, behavioral, and interpersonal interventions within a systemic framework with individuals with a range of diagnoses from neurotic symptoms to psychotic symptoms (e.g. hallucinations). Conducted intake interviews to assess the needs of clients.

Developed treatment plans and evaluated treatment progress.

7/02 – 12/03 Pediatric Consult/Liaison Service- Consultant

Children's Psychiatric Hospital- Outpatient Services University of New Mexico-School of Medicine Supervisors: Carol Larroque M.D.

Duties: Work focused on assessment, triaging, and brief intervention within a pediatric hospital setting. Did brief therapy with pediatric patients that were awaiting surgery, were post-operative, experienced a trauma or had chronic medical conditions. Worked with hospital staff to help hospital staff care for children with chronic medical conditions who were also experiencing psychological difficulties.

7/02 – 7/03 **Psychodiagnostic Assessment- Evaluator**

Children's Psychiatric Hospital- Outpatient Services University of New Mexico-School of Medicine Supervisors: Diana Valdez Ph.D., Mark Pedrotti, Ph.D. Duties: Conducted comprehensive psychodiagnostic assessments of children within an inpatient setting. Psychodiagnostic assessment included projective and objective measures, including but not limited to the Rorschach, WISC, the VMI, the TAT, BDI, etc. Clinical interviews were conducted with patients and their families. Integrated information to form a complete picture of the socio-emotional functioning of the patient within a developmental framework. Assessments were often aimed at informing decisions about differential diagnoses.

7/02 – 12/02 Forensic Assessment- Evaluator

Children's Psychiatric Hospital- Outpatient Services University of New Mexico-School of Medicine Supervisors: Eleanor Vaughn-Bettioli, Ph.D.

Duties: Conducted court-ordered psychological evaluations. Formulated diagnostic impressions and made treatment recommendations regarding future psychological interventions.

7/02 – 12/02 Rapid Assessment Therapist

Children's Psychiatric Hospital- Outpatient Services University of New Mexico-School of Medicine Supervisors: Maria Munguia-Wellman L.S.W

Duties: Conducted solution-focused family therapy with families in need of rapid assessment and immediate intervention.

6/98 – 6/02 Clinic Therapist

Texas A&M Psychology Clinic College Station, Texas

Supervisors: Timothy A. Cavell, Ph.D., Robert W. Heffer, Ph.D., Brian Stagner, Ph.D., Les Morey, Ph.D.

Duties: Provided individual and family therapy to outpatient child, adolescent, and adult clients. Developed and implemented multifaceted cognitive, behavioral, and interpersonal interventions within a systemic framework. Conducted intake interviews to assess the needs of clients. Developed treatment plans and evaluated treatment progress. Conducted psychological assessments/evaluations including cognitive assessments, personality assessments and comprehensive assessments, including court-ordered psychological evaluations, Learning Disability assessments and ADHD assessments

6/00 - 1/01 **Drug Offender Counselor**

Brazos County Community Supervision and Corrections Department Bryan, Texas

Supervisor: Antonio Cepeda-Benito, Ph.D.

Duties: Conducted court-ordered psychological and substance abuse evaluations. Formulated diagnostic impressions and made treatment recommendations regarding future psychological interventions. Provided individual therapy with interventions from behavioral, cognitive and interpersonal orientations.

6/99 - 8/00 **Juvenile and Family Therapist**

Brazos County Juvenile Services A.R.M.Y. Boot Camp Bryan, Texas

Supervisor: Timothy A. Cavell, Ph.D.

Duties: Provided individual therapy to male and female child and adolescent clients (ages 10 to 17) mandated by the state to attend boot camp. Developed and implemented multifaceted cognitive, behavioral, and interpersonal interventions within a systemic framework. Conducted court-mandated family therapy. Conducted group therapy with adolescent females concerning suicide prevention, stress/coping issues, substance abuse and gang intervention. Conducted entrance interviews with all incoming children and adolescents to assess their psychological needs, specifically candidacy for therapy. Consulted with staff concerning the needs and progress of court-ordered youths.

6/98 - 6/99 Federal Women's Prison Therapist

Federal Prison Camp

Bryan, Texas

Supervisor: Kim Villabono, Ph.D.

Duties: Provided therapy and crisis intervention for high-risk female prisoners. Developed and implemented multifaceted cognitive, behavioral, and interpersonal interventions centered around depression, anger and stress management. Consulted with staff concerning the needs and progress of clients.

6/98 - 6/99 Federal Women's Prison Drug Education Counselor

Federal Prison Camp

Bryan, Texas

Supervisor: Kim Villabono, Ph.D.

Duties: Provided a group-based psychoeducation/therapy program focusing on drug education, relapse prevention, and aftercare.

1/98 - 5/98 Therapist for Developmentally Disabled Child

Private Home

College Station, Texas

Duties: Worked with an autistic child, implementing an early home-based intervention program based on behavioral techniques.

Additional Supervision/Teacher Experience:

1/05-8/11 **Assistant Professor**

Faculty at Carlos Albizu University

Doral, Florida

Duties: Professor for doctoral psychology courses, including Assessment of Intelligence, Child Assessment, and Objective Techniques of Personality Assessment. In addition, supervise ten doctoral students seeing clients in clinic ding assessments and treating clients. Described above in Professional Experience.

8/05 – 1/06 Miami Dade College Adjunct Faculty

Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Duties: Professor for undergraduate psychology courses, including Psychology of Personal Effectiveness, Introduction to Psychology: Core Concepts, Human Development across the Life Span.

8/97 - 8/01 PrimeTime Child Data Coordinator

Project PrimeTime

Department of Psychology and Department of Educational Psychology Supervisors: Jan N. Hughes, Ph.D., Timothy A. Cavell, Ph.D.

Duties: Supervised the data collection on a large state grant. Managed and directed all aspects of data collection for over 300 children participating in PrimeTime, a multifaceted intervention program for at-risk elementary and middle school children and adolescents. Supervised over 100 research assistants in the collection of data from over 300 participating children over seven time periods. Trained over 100 research assistants on the administration of psychological measures and establishing and maintaining rapport with program participants. Provided guidance and evaluative feedback to research assistants.

8/99 - 8/01 Teaching Assistant

Department of Psychology and Department of Clinical Psychology

Duties: Meet with undergraduates regarding class material, grades and/or other issues. Stand in for lectures when professor in unavailable. Grade all classwork and track grades over the semester. Complete final grades and submit to university.

Research Experience:

4/08-8/11 Primary Investigator/Program Director

Hialeah Albizu Partnership Program for Youth Doctoral Department of Psychology

Duties: Wrote a grant that was funded for a total of \$225,000 by The Children's Trust Fund. Grant was renewed twice on the basis of performance. The Hialeah Albizu Partnership Program provides cognitive-behavioral group therapy for impoverished recently immigrated adolescents and their families. Approximately 500 participants received services through this grant. Responsibilities include but are not limited to the administration of the grant, the supervision of all doctoral level providers, the coordination of the service providers/institutions working on the grant, the data collection, analysis and publication of research associated with the grant.

8/97 - 8/01 PrimeTime Child Data Coordinator

Project PrimeTime

Department of Psychology and Department of Educational Psychology Supervisors: Jan N. Hughes, Ph.D., Timothy A. Cavell, Ph.D.

Duties: Develop, implement and monitor the collection of data for elementary and middle school participants in the PrimeTime school-based intervention program. Develop projections of personnel needs. Train and supervise undergraduate and graduate research assistants in the use of a statistical software system (SPSS 10.0) for data collected. Develop syntax for the purposes of data analysis of child data. Develop and implement data management.

Papers and Presentations:

Cavell, T., Mutignani, L., **Alfonso, L.**, Smith, A.M. (2020) <u>Attachment Tendencies, Big 5</u> <u>Personality Traits, and Self-Efficacy as Predictors of Mentors' Relationships with Aggressive</u> Children. American Journal of Community Psychology. (Vol. 66, 1-2)

Bechara, S., **Alfonso, L.** (2011) <u>The Possible Importance of Child Perspective of Parenting when Assessing the Relationship between Parenting and Child Psychological Adjustment.</u> Poster to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association. Washington, DC.

Cabiya, J., Bravo, I., Matos, M., **Alfonso, L.**, Guillermo, B. (2011) <u>Evidence based</u> interventions with Hispanic children and adolescents who exhibit disruptive behaviors. Poster to

- be presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association. Washington, DC.
- Perez, C., **Alfonso, L.** (2011) <u>The Relationship Between Corporal Punishment and Child Psychopathology in an Elementary Sample and a High School Sample.</u> Poster to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association. Washington, DC.
- Lopez, C., **Alfonso, L.** (2011) <u>The Relationship between Positive Parenting and Resiliency in a Hispanic Sample.</u> Poster to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association. Washington, DC.
- Singh, C., **Alfonso, L.** (2011) <u>The Different Relationship of Corporal Punishment to Other Parenting Variables in an Elementary Hispanic Sample and a High School Hispanic Sample.</u> Poster to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association. Washington, DC.
- Gavira, G., Flores, D., Franco, M., **Alfonso, L.** (2010). <u>Immigration-Related Trauma Associated With Children's Internalizing and Externalizing Symptoms.</u> Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association. San Diego, CA.
- Funes, C., Safirsztein, S., Diaz, M., **Alfonso, L.** (2010). <u>Callous/Unemotional Traits</u> <u>Moderate Between Parental Involvement and Social Problems.</u> Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association. San Diego, CA.
- Myers, E., Funes, C., Flores, D., Safirsztein, S., **Alfonso, L.** (2010). <u>The Relationship Between Hostile Social Attributions and Parental Involvement.</u> Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association. San Diego, CA.
- Franco, M., Funes, C., Safirsztein, S., **Alfonso, L.** (2010). <u>Resiliency and Child Internalizing and Externalizing Symptoms.</u> Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association. San Diego, CA.
- Flores, D., Funes, C., Diaz, M., **Alfonso, L.** (2010). <u>Relation Between Resiliency, Immigration Trauma and Child Internalizing and Externalizing Symptoms.</u> Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association. San Diego, CA.
- Myers, E., Funes, C., Flores, D., Safirsztein, S., **Alfonso, L.** (2010) <u>The Relationship</u> <u>Between Child Resiliency and Trauma Symptoms Following Immigration.</u> Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association. San Diego, CA.
- **Alfonso, L. M.** & Bushman, D. (manuscript). Re-considering Eating Disorder Classification Informed by the MMPI-2.
- **Alfonso, L. M.** & Rholes, S. (manuscript) The Role of Maternal Affect Regulation in the Development of Infant Attachment Styles.

- **Alfonso, L. M.** & Cavell, T. (manuscript). Conflict and Quality in Mentors' Relationships with Aggressive Children: The Role of Mentor Attachment.
- **Alfonso, Laura** (July 2005). <u>Neurofeedback: An Alternative to Ritalin?</u> Miami Family Magazine.
- **Alfonso, L.** (June 2004). <u>ADHD and the brain: What We Know.</u> Grand Rounds at Long Island Jewish Medical Center.
- **Alfonso, L. M.**, Escobar, C. M., & Cavell, T. (2001, October). <u>How does Ethnicity Influence Peer and Teacher Ratings of Aggressive At-Risk Youth?</u> Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Texas Psychological Association. Austin, TX.
- Alfonso, L. M. & Cavell, T. (2001, October). <u>The Interaction of Parent and Mentor Attachment on Mentoring Relationships with Aggressive Children</u>. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Texas Psychological Association. Austin, TX.
- Alfonso, L. M. & Cavell, T. (2001, October). Memory Errors in Recall for Adjectives in a Sample of Aggressive Children: The Role of Mother's Attachment History. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Texas Psychological Association. Austin, TX.
- Alfonso, L. M. & Cavell, T. (2001, October). <u>How Can We Optimize the Mentoring Relationship with Aggressive At-Risk Youth: The Role of Mentor Attachment on Conflict and Quality</u>. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Texas Psychological Association. Austin, TX.
- Alfonso, L. M. & Escobar, C. M. (2001, April). The Effect of Parent and Mentor Attachment on Mentoring Relationships with Aggressive Children. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development. Minneapolis, MN.
- **Alfonso, L. M.** & Escobar, C. M. (2000, November). The Relationship between Ethnicity and Ratings of Aggression by Peers and Teachers. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy. New Orleans, LA.
- Alfonso, L. M., Collie, C., & Escobar, C. M. (2000, November). <u>The Relationship between Mother Attachment History and Memory for Positive and Negative Adjectives in a Sample of Aggressive Children</u>. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy. New Orleans, LA.
- Welch, J., Cavell, T., & **Alfonso, L. M**. (2000, November). <u>The Construct of Interpersonal Soothing: A Preliminary Model and Investigation</u>. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy. New Orleans, LA.