

Attachment, Trauma and Dissociation in Children and Adolescents: Pieces of the Complex Trauma Puzzle
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Presenter: Niki (Veronica) Gomez-Peralez, MSW, RSW

Presenter Biography: Niki Gomez-Perales, M.S.W., R.S.W., is an expert in the areas of children's mental health, complex trauma, attachment and dissociation. She has more than 25 years of experience in the fields of child welfare and children's mental health. For the past 20 years she has worked as a therapist in a Children's Mental Health clinic in Hamilton Ontario. Niki has lectured on Complex Trauma and Attachment with the ISST-D, the ESTD, the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, the European Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Association for Training on Trauma and Attachment in Children, Safeguards Training for Children and Adult Services and the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers. She is an active member and Fellow of the International Society for the Study of Trauma and Dissociation and a winner of the ISSTD 2016 written media award for her book, "Attachment-Focused Trauma Treatment for Children and Adolescents: Phase-Oriented Strategies for Addressing Complex Trauma Disorders," 2015. Routledge. Her second book, "The Attachment-Focused Toolbox: Phase-Oriented Techniques for Treating Complex Trauma in Children and Adolescents," is scheduled for release later this year.

Abstract: Complex trauma is... well, complex. Complex trauma is the combined impacts of chronic or multiple traumas and disrupted attachment in early childhood. Often presenting with multiple diagnoses, multiple treatment failures, placement breakdowns, emotional or behavioral dysregulation, and dissociation, these young clients often get lost in the system. Therapists working with this population are struck by how little these children resemble those they were trained to treat. Neither training in childhood trauma nor training in attachment captures the presentations and treatment needs of this group of young people. The triad of trauma, disrupted attachment and dissociation each contributes aspects that can disrupt treatment and undermine supportive relationships if left unaddressed. This webinar explores a treatment approach designed to address all three of these pieces in the complex trauma puzzle.

Objectives

Upon Completion of this webinar, participants will be able to:

- Identify and use specific attachment focused techniques to enhance the attachment relationship between the child or adolescent and their attachment figure to support and facilitate further treatment
- Identify and use specific techniques to assist the child or adolescent in working within the enhanced attachment relationship to achieve improved integration, coping skills and self-regulation
- Identify and use specific integrative techniques with children and adolescents in the exploration of traumatic memory within the support of enhanced attachment relationships
- Support children, adolescents, and their caregivers in returning to their developmental trajectory and creating a childhood beyond their complex trauma experiences.

Can't Make it?

If your schedule won't allow for you to attend, the webinar will be recorded and made available for purchase approximately two weeks after the live event. The recordings cost is \$25 for ISSTD members and \$45 for non-members. The webinar recording can be accessed on the CE-Credit.com website or in ISSTDWorld for ISSTD members. Exam fees for Continuing Education credits start at an additional \$10.46.

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