

Helping Students with Mental Health Issues Succeed At School: Practical Strategies and Effective Interventions

Holiday Inn, Athens, GA
Georgian West Room
April 25, 2011
8:30AM-4:00PM

Presenter: Jay H. Berk, Ph.D.
International Speaker, Seminar Leader,
Therapist and Consultant

Dr. Jay Berk is a licensed psychologist and an expert in working with children, adolescents, and families. He works with Oppositional Defiant children and their families, as well as social skills acquisition/groups for children and adolescents. In addition to providing therapy, Dr. Berk has provided training and workshops throughout the country to schools, agencies, and a variety of groups.

This is not a "dry" seminar with merely clinical facts. You will find laughter and solid expertise to be able to expedite rapid and effective changes in children and adolescents! Dr. Berk is well known for presenting practical strategies so both the seasoned professional and the novice leave the seminar commenting on the practical nature and usefulness of the information presented.

Do these or other serious behavioral problems describe your child/adolescent, client, or student?

If so, take a PROACTIVE STEP

- Acting out and disruptive due to behavior, mental health, or BOTH;
- Distracted or too anxious and not completing work;
- Too depressed to do school work;
- Absorbed in cutting themselves;
- Distracted by obsessive compulsive behaviors;
- Over-reacting to sensory issues;
- Having difficulty with tics from Tourette's syndrome?

Don't mistake mental health issues for intentionally disruptive behavior!

- **Sensory Integration and Speech Issues**
- **Common Uses and Mistakes with Psychotropic Medications**
- **Functional Behavior Assessments and Strategies for the IEP Team**

Who Should Attend

**SpEd Directors • Directors of Alternative Schools • Psychologists • Administrators
Professional Learning Coordinators • School Social Workers • Special Education
Staff • Youth Development Center Personnel • School Counselors • GNETS Personnel**

This program will also support and assist the work of Probation Officers, parents and foster care parents, Head Start staff, and workers in child care settings, treatment programs, hospitals, juvenile justice facilities, and social service agencies.

**Discount for groups of six or more registering at the same time,
Register online at www.educationleader.org**

Key Benefits of Attending:

- ◆ Develop methods to educate other staff and students about mental health issues;
- ◆ Focus on helping the child or adolescent make the changes that they need to make themselves—without the staff always rewarding the behavior;
- ◆ Identify medications and side effects, and learn to discuss issues with prescribing professionals to create increased effectiveness of any medical intervention;
- ◆ Reduce expensive litigation between school and family;
- ◆ Create a safe and productive learning environment;
- ◆ Develop awareness of skill deficits associated with Anxiety, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Depression, Asperger’s Syndrome, Bipolar disorder, ADHD, Pervasive Developmental Disorder, Tourette’s Syndrome and more.

AGENDA

8:00 Registration, Sign-in, Continental Breakfast, Course Materials

8:30 Course Begins (*AM and PM Breaks determined by Dr. Berk*)

Recognizing and Intervening with Today’s Frequently Diagnosed Disorders

High-functioning Autism ▪ Asperger’s Syndrome ▪ Pervasive Developmental Disorder ▪ Bipolar Disorder ▪ Oppositional Defiant Disorder ▪ Conduct Disorder ▪ Depression ▪ Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder ▪ Environmental and Sensory Factors ▪ Anxiety Disorder ▪ Tourette’s Syndrome ▪ Self Injury Behaviors ▪ Current Trends

Students with Mental Health Issues—A Challenge to School Personnel

Common classroom challenges ▪ Understanding Prevalent Behaviors ▪ Strategic Preventions & Interventions ▪ Communication Techniques That Create a Climate for Success ▪ What Helps This student Learn Best

Common Psychotropic Medications—What the Non-Prescriber Should Know

The ABC’s of Psychotropic Medications ▪ Emerging Trends ▪ Not Mistaking Medication Side effects for Behavioral Difficulties ▪ Common Impacts of Medication on Behavior (What Is Reasonable to Expect) ▪ Medication Non-Compliance

11:30 Lunch (*On Your Own*)

12:30 How Skill Deficits from Mental Health Conditions Create Behavioral Difficulties

How IDEA Relates to Mental Health Issues and Discipline ▪ Social Anxiety in The Classroom - Impact on Behavior and Learning ▪ Depression and Academics ▪ Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and Work Completion ▪ Language Issues and Social/Behavioral Problems ▪ Anger, Frustration and Non-Compliance

Disciplining the Special Needs Child/Adolescent—Providing Positive Behavioral Support

Why “Regular” Discipline Techniques Often Fail ▪ How to Change Discipline Techniques to Be Effective ▪ The Child/Adolescent Who Struggles with Cause/Effect ▪ Expressive Language & Mental Health/Behavioral Issues ▪ “Hot Spots” ▪ Proactive Strategies for Parental Involvement

Strategies for the IEP Team

Functional Behavior Plans ▪ Behavior Management & Social Skills ▪ Using facts & Data to Make Tactical Decisions ▪ Achieving Effective Collaboration among Medical, Clinical & Educational Professionals

4:00 Evaluations, Certificates, Adjournment

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this program, the learner will have the knowledge required to:

- ◆ Differentiate behavioral choices and mental health-driven choices.
- ◆ Explain the effective uses of medications and potential side effects of medications that can appear as misbehaviors.
- ◆ Describe and utilize EXTREMELY practical strategies to intervene when behavioral issues arise from mental health conditions.
- ◆ Integrate functional behavioral assessment strategies to help the multi-disciplinary team succeed in addressing the needs of students with mental health problems.

Comments by Attendees:

“Special thanks to Dr. Berk for his expertise, wisdom and useful strategies—all conveyed with clarity and a delightful sense of humor; loved the handouts, too!”

Phyllis Pollio, Special Education Teacher

“Dr. Jay Berk’s seminar presentation was inspiring—TRULY”- James R. Schiavone, SLP, Nursing Home

“Informative, practical, humorous! Will apply knowledge learned to interventions with adolescent patients with different diagnoses” - Alan Gellert, LCSW

Education Leadership, Inc.
"Support for Frontline Educators"




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