

## PETER JAFFE, PhD, C. Psych.

Dr. Peter Jaffe is the Director Emeritus for the Centre for Children and Families in the Justice System, a children's mental health centre specializing in issues that bring children and families into the justice system in London, Ontario. He holds several posts at the University of Western Ontario including that of Professor in the Faculty of Education, Professor (Part time) for the Department of Psychiatry, member of the Clinical Adjunct Faculty for the Department of Psychology, and Academic Director of the Centre for Research on Violence Against Women & Children.

Dr. Jaffe received his undergraduate training from McGill University in Montreal (1970) and his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Western Ontario (1974). Most of Dr. Jaffe's clinical work and research involves children and adolescents involved with police or the courts, either as offenders or victims of family violence and/or sexual abuse or custody disputes, as well as individuals traumatized by violence in childhood or adult relationships. Dr. Jaffe is currently actively involved in research on the impact of family violence and sexual abuse on children.

Dr. Jaffe has worked with individuals, institutions, organizations and communities to identify and encourage the implementation of solutions to issues of violence against women and children. For example, between 1991 and 1993, he served as a member of the Canadian Panel on Violence Against Women, a federally appointed committee whose final report heightened public awareness of the problem and outlined prevention strategies. He has also written about community responses to children of battered women, and about school and community-based strategies for preventing violence.

Dr. Jaffe served as a consultant to Justice S. Robins in this review, "Protecting our Students," a review to identify and prevent sexual misconduct in Ontario schools. He also reviewed the impact of institutional abuse on children and adolescents for the Law Commission of Canada. The resulting report - Child Abuse in Community Institutions and Organizations: Improving Public and Professional Understanding - discusses the impact when abuse jeopardizes the safety of youths in educational, recreational, and religious settings. He also conducted a comprehensive literature review for the Commission on the long-term impact of institutional abuse and to ensure that key information is communicated both to the general public and to professional groups who work with survivors.

He has co-authored nine books, 24 chapters and over 70 articles related to children, families and the justice system. Topics include: children of battered women; working together to end domestic violence; court testimony of child sexual abuse victims & emerging issues in clinical assessments; the psycho social needs of children in care and related policy issues; and advancing professional and scientific understanding of the impact of child abuse in community institutions and organizations. He has also worked on the development of child witness protocols.

Dr. Jaffe has presented workshops across the United States and Canada, as well as Australia, New Zealand, and Europe to various groups including judges, lawyers, mental health professionals and educators. Topics include the effects of domestic violence on children; the law and the child - child psychiatry module; and sexual abuse of students by school board employees.

In 1995, Dr. Jaffe was appointed as Chairperson of the Board of Directors for the Centre for Research on Violence Against Women and Children, currently sits on the Chief Coroner's Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, and has served on various community advisory committees for the London Police Service. Dr. Jaffe has been a trustee for the London Board of Education (now the Thames Valley District School Board) since 1980, and he has served two terms as Chairperson (1987-88, 1999-2000).

Dr. Jaffe has been honoured by receiving several awards for his work including the Commemorative Medal for the 125th Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada for his dedication and contributions to the community and to all fellow Canadians, and the Award of Merit from the Ontario Psychological Foundation for his contribution to research and clinical practice in the prevention of family violence.

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