



Thinking Aloud

Phone discussions to facilitate critical thinking

Thinking Aloud audio conference sessions offer advanced advocacy training opportunities on the complex issues that advocacy programs face today. These discussions provoke deeper thinking about reform and advocacy efforts. Each session features critical thinkers from various fields engaging in lively and stimulating conversations. Feel free to invite your collaborative partners to participate in the calls.

Battered Women, Custody Considerations and Psychological Evaluations

Monday, April 19, 2010

2:00 - 3:30 pm central

A critical conversation with Dr. Robin Deutsch, Massachusetts General Hospital Department of Psychiatry



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It's not uncommon for advocates to work with women who have had a long history of battering and are struggling to maintain custody of their children. The reports of custody evaluators such as psychologists and Guardians ad Litem can profoundly negatively impact battered women's cases. Disturbing to us as advocates, women appear pathological in these reports in many different ways and there seems to be little connection between the violence women have experienced and their emotional/psychological state. Though we may be familiar with the DSM-IV, the primary psychiatric tool used for classifying mental disorders, our understanding is likely very limited. Join us as we *think aloud* with Dr. Robin Deutsch as she helps us to better understand this tool and its role in the custody evaluation process.

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