

**Dr. Jonathan Dowd** PhD, MSc, MA, G.Dip Psych, AFBPs

**Consultant and Registered Forensic Psychologist – Health and Care Professions Council of England and Wales,  
Associate Fellow - The British Psychological Society,  
Chartered Psychologist,  
Chartered Scientist.**

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### **Current Positions Held**

Director & Consultant Forensic Psychologist - Forensis Ltd.

Consultant Forensic Psychologist – U.S. Immigration Service (via Knightsbridge Doctors).

Consultant Forensic Psychologist – Carter Brown Associates.

### **Academic Qualifications**

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Forensic Psychology – July 2005 – University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.

Master of Science (MSc) Applied Forensic Psychology – November 2007 – University of Leicester.

Post Graduate Diploma (G. Dip Psych) in Psychology – September 2004 – University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.

Master of Arts (MA) Management Studies – June 1998 – Northumbria University.

Post Graduate Diploma (G. Dip HE) Higher Education – June 2000 – University of Northumbria.

### **Professional / Vocational Qualifications / Memberships**

Associate Fellow (AFBPsS) British Psychological Society (BPS).

Registered Forensic Psychologist – Health & Care Professions Council – PLY23916.

Chartered Psychologist BPS number – 201382.

Chartered Scientist BPS number – 201382.

BPS Register of Qualifications in Test Use (RQTU) – Forensic, March 2015.

BPS Register of Qualifications in Test Use (RQTU) – Occupational, March 2015.

Senior Associate Royal Society of Medicine – 708606.

International Personality Disorder Examination (IPDE) accredited training, Pathways, June 2014.

Adult Attachment Assessment and the Parental Developmental Interview, NAGALRO, 2012.

Foundation Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) – Jan 2007.

PCL-R Psychopathy assessment training, Darkstone, 2005.

Member of The British Association for Behavioural and Cognitive Psychotherapies, BABCP number 070295.

### **Current Clinical Practice**

Forensis employs, and facilitates academic placements for, a number of Trainee Forensic Psychologists undertaking both Doctoral and Masters programmes in Forensic Psychology. Trainees are supervised by myself, including regular training delivery, as both professional and placement supervisor.

All Registered Psychologists are required to be familiar with advances in their respective areas of expertise and receive regular clinical supervision within a rigorous clinical governance framework.

All Registered Psychologists working for Forensis undertake regular external training events contributing towards our Continued Professional Development. Reports are regularly peer reviewed and the accuracy of all psychometric test results undergo rigorous quality assurance procedures.

I am also actively involved in current research within the Forensic Psychology discipline. I supervise a large and pro-active team of trainee forensic psychologists who conduct MSc level research into issues associated with forensic inmate populations. My private practice provides the opportunity to focus upon alternative research areas within the field of Forensic Psychology via trainees employed within my clinical practice.

### **Professional experience**

My PhD focussed upon the identification of and attitudinal response to, signs and symptoms of mental health conditions and associated risk factors. I worked with mental health trusts and service providers both in the UK and internationally and my research was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship. My research was instrumental in developing mental health awareness training programmes that have been acknowledged at national level as best practice and received a Queens Award for Innovation in Training. I have developed, piloted and used an attitudinal self-report instrument to explore knowledge, understanding and attitudes relating to severe and enduring mental health difficulties.

During my public service I achieved my higher adult education teaching and delivered training for Prison Service BPS (DFP) trainees and also the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne Doctorate of Clinical Psychology programme in relation to Organisational Management and mental health policy and procedure. After leaving public service in order to progress my own forensic training I was instructed to conduct Mental Health Awareness and behavioural interaction with service users training for Authorised Police firearms officers.

Having developed a progressive private professional practice over a number of years I have been able to focus my psychological expertise in a number of areas of the Justice system. I have developed risk assessment models applicable to issues of parenting, concerning and offending behaviours especially. My practice maintains Health Professions Council and British Psychological Society ethical, professional and competency standards, funds empirical academic research into issues of Forensic psychological risk assessment and offers psychological intervention to relevant population groups.

My private practice has allowed me to specialise in the identification of psychological characteristics indicating the potential for behaviours associated with risk to others and / or to the corporate aims and objectives of organisations, as well as clinical solutions to behavioural and psychological difficulty. In my clinical practice I have focussed upon identifying reasons for an individual's past behaviours and prediction of future behaviours based upon examinations of pervasive personality structure, attitudinal stance and personal incentive and motivation. Additionally, symptoms of post-traumatic stress and also malingering may be identified where deceit or hostile incentive is a concern.

My role as Senior Forensic Psychologist at HMP Frankland (Category A, high security prison - Category A and B adult Males serving 4 years and over, IPP or Life sentences plus High and Standard Risk category A remands) involved the provision of specialist advice and supervision of trainee psychologists to inform and facilitate the strategic and practical psychological management of offenders serving long term sentences having been convicted of offences which are serious, sexual and violent in nature. I supervise the assessment of all forms of behavioural risk that offenders may pose to others as well as the delivery of programmes of work designed to reduce the potential for further offending, substance misuse or behaviours that breach social behavioural norms and expectations.

I am frequently required to liaise with numerous professional and public bodies in the course of conducting Expert witness Forensic Psychological risk assessments for the Courts including Social Services, MAPPA panels, Mental Health and Prison Probation Panel Tribunals as well as Police community safety representatives.

I have presented expert witness testimony at Court in relation to issues of psychological assessment, behavioural risk and clinical intervention on over 100 occasions to date.

As an Associate Fellow of The British Psychological Society my professional competence has been acknowledged by my professional peer group. My practice has allowed me to specialise in the identification of symptoms of post-traumatic stress and also to assist in cases where malingering may be considered an issue. I am a member of The British Association for Behavioural and Cognitive Psychotherapies and have completed my Foundation qualification in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy.

I have received specialist training (*'Working with Sex Offenders'*) at the Sexual Behavioural Unit at St Nicholas Hospital, Newcastle Upon Tyne, on working and assessing sex offenders and their families including partners' ability to protect.

My experience working within a policing arena has allowed me to incorporate my experience in dealing with child protection issues, sex offender risk assessment and management and PACE related matters into my forensic practice in both family and criminal proceedings both in the United Kingdom and The Republic of Ireland.

I have received formal PCL-R assessment of Psychopathy training from the Darkstone Organisation and Robert Hare achieving the Gold Standard of competency. In addition I have received training in use of the HCR-20 Risk Assessment of Violence matrix, WAIS assessment of adult cognitive functioning, assessment of autism.

I have undertaken accredited training in the use of the International Personality Disorder Examination (IPDE) which is an extensive measure of personality functioning that can be employed with foreign speaking nationals.

I have been trained in Adult Attachment Assessment and the Parental Developmental Interview during training delivered by The Professional Association for Children's Guardians, Family Court Advisors and Independent Social Workers (NAGALRO).

In my position as Consultant Forensic Psychologist at The Priory Middleton St George Hospital in Darlington I worked with personality disordered patients and those with long term psychological and mental health dysfunction living in low – medium secure accommodation. This enhanced my clinical experience for assessment and delivery of relevant treatment programmes.

### **Areas of professional expertise**

#### Employment and Personal Injury

- Assessment of stress related symptoms in the workplace
- Anxiety, depression, phobias and other psychological problems
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and the assessment of psychological consequences of vocational and personal trauma / injury
- Assessment of fitness to work / suspicion of malingering and exaggeration of symptoms

#### Family and Capacity

- Parenting assessment including risk assessment of physical and sexual abuse, violence (including domestic violence) and partners' ability to protect.
- Assessment of the effects of childhood physical or sexual abuse on adult functioning.
- Assessment of capacity as defined by the Mental Capacity Act 2005 particularly in cases of sensory impaired clients.
- Psychological aspects of child physical, emotional and sexual abuse
- Attachment theory and relevance to parental behaviour
- Family assessments
- Substance abuse and dependence in a forensic and clinical context
- Psychological effects of matrimonial / relationship breakdown and abusive relationships
- All aspects of Care proceedings

#### Criminal

- False confessions and assessment of Suggestibility in police interviews
- Offender risk assessment (including sex offenders)
- Fitness to plead (including intellectual ability)

- Management of sex offenders in the community
- Detection and management of psychiatric disorders by the police and prison services
- Criminal responsibility and compliance in people with learning disability
- False confessions and Defences of Automatism
- Strength of eye witness testimony / evidence
- Police practice and procedure
- Police treatment of vulnerable individuals
- Assessment and diagnosis of Psychopathy (PCL-R)

#### Education

- Higher education teaching and training
- Clinical and academic supervision

#### **Relevant Previous positions**

Consultant Forensic Psychologist & Director, SJH Psychological Ltd.

Senior Forensic Psychologist, HMP Frankland (Category A high security prison).

Consultant Forensic Psychologist Parsons Dowd Psychological Ltd.

Consultant Forensic Psychologist, Priory Middleton St George Hospital, Darlington.

Honorary Forensic Psychologist in Training, St Nicholas Hospital, Newcastle, Northumberland and North Tyneside - Mental Health Trust, 2003.

Sub Editor, 'Forensic Update', British Psychological Society 2007-2011.

Visiting Lecturer – School of Medicine, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne 1996 – 2001.

#### **Publications / Articles / Official Reports**

Dowd, J. (2007). Policing Personality. Forensic Update, January 2007.

Dowd, J. (2004). Improving Mental Health Awareness. The Superintendent (38).

Dowd, J. (2003). Mental Health Matters. Police Review.

Dowd, J & Parsons, S. (2003) Northumbria Police Mental Health Awareness Training Evaluation Report. University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.

Dowd, J. (2002). Crisis Intervention Training Evaluation Report. International Fulbright Commission.

## **Conference Papers**

Parsons, S. & Dowd, J. Crisis Intervention Training International Academy of Law and Mental Health 28th International Congress on Law and Mental Health, Sydney, Australia. September 28<sup>th</sup>- October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2003.

Dowd, J. & Parsons S. Key note paper Crisis Intervention Training in the United Kingdom. Washington State Partners in Crisis, Yakima City, USA. September 2004.

Dowd, J. & Parsons, S. Workshop Mental Health and Policing in the United Kingdom, Washington State Partners in Crisis, Yakima City, USA. September 2004

Dowd J, Parsons S. Police training on Mental Health Independent Police Complaints Commission, Central region training, Birmingham. 20<sup>th</sup> January 2005

Dowd J. Mental Health Awareness Training. Residential conference of the Forensic Psychiatry Faculty of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, Newcastle Upon Tyne, 2006.

Dowd, J. Key note presentation. Police and Custody Issues. UK National Policed Diversity Trainers Conference, Newcastle Upon Tyne, 2008.