

Mental Health Law

The manner in which mental illness has been dealt with in the criminal justice system especially regarding capital punishment has been described as “the shame of the states: “However the death penalty is not the only area in which we see misuse of psychological theories and research. We see this frequently in such areas as competency to stand trial, the insanity defense, involuntary medication, and failure to recognize the impacts of traumatic brain injury on cognitive functioning. Many of these areas are totally ignored in the law due to two forces: sanism and pretextuality. Sanism represents a bias against mentally ill individuals much like racial or gender bias. Pretextualism refers to performing some forensic function in a careless or slipshod manner, but presenting it to the court in a manner suggesting that it is scientifically valid.

Target Audience

Psychologists Social Workers Counselors
Therapists Psychiatrists Nurses
Course level: Intermediate

Learning Objectives

At the end of this seminar, participants will be able to:

1. Describe state laws that prohibit execution of the mentally ill.
2. Describe the reasoning of the United States Supreme Court in restrictions placed on the insanity defense.
3. Describe the major arguments behind the concept of competency to be executed.
4. Articulate the rationales behind forcible administration of medication in competency cases.
5. Critique the definitions of mental retardation used in different states in capital sentencing hearings.

Seminar Schedule

The webinar outline is attached. See the Live Webinar page for the start and end times.

How To Register:

On-Line at tzkseminars.com

Register On-Line for only \$69

Outline

- 1-1:30: The United States Supreme Court ,Mental Retardation, and the Death Penalty
1:30 to 2:00· Severe Mental Illness and the Death Penalty
2-2:30· Restrictions on the Insanity Defense : Noteworthy Case Law
2:30 to 2:45· Break
2:45 to 3:15 Involuntary Medication
3:15 to 3:45· Competence for Execution
3:45 to 4:15· Mental Retardation : Problems in definition, Ethnic Adjustment

Our seminars are available in two formats. The first is a live, interactive webinar. You can ask questions of our presenters, either by typing them or speaking into a microphone. If the webinar time is not convenient for you, you can purchase the Home Study version. It is a recorded version of the webinar. You will have to pass a test to earn CE's for both the live webinar and the Home Study version.

Continuing Education Credit

To earn CE's, you must attend the entire webinar. No partial credit is available. For both the webinar and the home study version, you will have to pass a post-test with 80% correct and complete a seminar evaluation to earn the certificate. You can take the test up to three times. Participants will earn 3 CE's for attending once they have completed these requirements.

PSYCHOLOGISTS: tzkseminars is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. tzkseminars maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

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The Presenter

Dr. David Shapiro has been called the Father of clinical forensic psychology. His first book on forensic assessment appeared in 1983 and was the only book at that time to approach forensic assessment from the point of view of actual issues encountered in practice rather than from a theoretical basis. Since that time, he has authored five more textbooks and four dozen peer reviewed articles dealing with the interface of psychology and law. His comprehensive approach to forensic assessment has been widely distributed and used as models for various books and training programs.

Dr. Shapiro is a Diplomate in Forensic Psychology of the American Board of Professional Psychology and has been actively engaged in forensic practice for over forty years. He is currently a Professor of psychology at Nova Southeastern University and teaches courses in forensic assessment, criminal law, ethics and professional practice, supervision and consultation, projective personality assessment, and risk assessment for future violence. He regularly provides forensic and ethics training at a variety of national forums, including APA and ABPP.

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This seminar has been reviewed and approved by Keith Hannan, Ph.D., Laura Davie, LICSW, Tina Jenkins, Psy.D., and Loreen Yearick, MSN, RN. This approval expires on March 1, 2028.

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tzkseminars, LLC
168 West Lake Drive
Annapolis, Md. 21403