

# Understanding Violence

Most mental health professionals are uncomfortable dealing with anger, conflicts and violence. However, a good understanding of what can lead to violence can help the clinician work to mitigate and/or minimize the potential for violence with the populations we work with. A good understanding of violence can provide a clinician with valuable information to keep the client and providers as safe as possible. Comprehensive training in violence is not commonly offered in both graduate schools and in mental health establishments.

This webinar will provide the participants with researched factors that have been identified as precursors and contributors to acts of violence. The participants will understand that part of information gathering processes we utilize when we begin working with clients can provide us with useful information about gauging a person's propensity to engage in acts of violence. The participants will gain an awareness of how to practice in a manner to can minimize the risk of the provider becoming a victim of violence in working with clients.

## 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. Identify researched factors that have been identified as precursors and contributors to acts of violence.
2. Explain how part of information gathering processes we utilize when we begin working with clients can provide us with useful information about gauging a person's propensity to engage in acts of violence.
3. Explain how to practice in a manner to can minimize the risk of the provider becoming a victim of violence in working with clients.
4. Describe the limits of clinical prediction
5. Describe steps to take when working with dangerous clients.

## Seminar Schedule

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

## Outline

Begin 10 AM ET

10-10:30 Understanding important terms and understanding shared experiences being brought to the Webinar.

10:30-11:30 In-depth exploration of research identified variables in people who have engaged in violence.

Break 11:30-11:45

11:45-12:15 How to engage in a psychological "autopsy" of violent events.

12:15-12:45 Presenter's unique classification of violent individuals

12:45-1:15 Safety considerations when working clients who might become violent.

End 1:15 PM ET

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## The Presenter

Marc T. Abrams received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from United States International University (now known as Alliant International University) in San Diego, California in January of 1990. He went on to complete a predoctoral internship and postdoctoral fellowship in Clinical Psychology from the Center for Preventive Psychiatry in White Plains New York working with children and families. He received his license to practice Psychology in the State of New York in May of 1991. Dr. Abrams began his private practice in New York after receiving his license. He has evaluated and treated thousands of children, teens and adults. He has taught at both collegiate and graduate levels and has supervised and consulted with other licensed mental health professionals. Dr. Abrams was fortunate to have been trained by some of the luminaries in psychology, including one psychologist who was considered part of the group of the founders of modern clinical psychology (Walter Cass, Ph.D.). Dr. Abrams was privileged to have been exposed to the knowledge and wisdom that came along with the many decades of experience that these individuals shared in their teaching and supervision. He believes very strongly that wisdom and knowledge is a gift given that dies unless it has been added to with one's own experiences and passed down to the next generation. As Dr. Abrams envisions winding down his career as a practicing psychologist, he is now shifting his focus to passing down the collective wisdom and knowledge accumulated over decades of practice.

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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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