

# Use And Abuse Of Expert Testimony

Do you know the possible effect in Court of expert testimony based on poorly validated procedures? People may be sentenced to death. In similar ways, mental health professionals may be found negligent for failure to see that someone fits the psychological profile of intended victims, despite the fact that there is no science behind psychological profiling. The use and similar misuses of expert testimony will be highlighted in the webinar, along with practical suggestions for avoiding these pitfalls and making sure one's testimony is based on well-validated theories.

## 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. Define the nature of expert testimony
2. Explain the differences between fact testimony and expert testimony
3. Identify the major pitfalls of being both a therapist and forensic evaluator in the same case
4. Identify the most frequent ways in which psychological testing is misused in expert testimony
5. Identify areas of practice in which expert testimony should be avoided

## Seminar Schedule

This seminar runs from 1-4:15 PM Eastern Time.

## Outline

Begin 1:00 PM ET

1:00-1:45 PM ET

What is expert testimony?  
Clinical/Forensic role complications

1:45-2:30 PM ET

Clinical data and legal conclusions

Break 2:30-2:45 PM ET

2:45-4:15 PM ET

Satratgeries  
Specific areas of testimony

End 4:15 PM ET

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## 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.

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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., Phil Rich, LICSW, Daphne Fatter, Ph.D., and Loreen Yearick, MSN, RN. This approval expires on March 1, 2025.

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