



# Anger and Aggression in Children and Youth School and Clinic-Based Treatment

Presented By

**Jim Larson, Ph.D.**

## Objectives - To increase participants' ability to:

- Appreciate the role of social learning in the development of aggressive behavior
- Understand how contextual issues in the home, school, and community train and maintain aggressive behavior
- Differentially identify and assess reactive and proactive aggression
- Use a Problem Solving Discourse method for the treatment of adolescents in an individual format
- Engage the resources of the school and residential settings to build and maintain treatment generalization support

- Implement research-supported, small group anger and aggression management programs with children and adolescents
- Develop useful procedures for monitoring progress and evaluating treatment goals
- Identify research-supported programs and procedures for bully intervention and prevention

approximately 12 hours

### 1 Developmental Pathways of Aggression in Children and Youth

- Risk Factors
- Coercive Family Process
- School and Community Influences

### 2 Understanding Anger and Aggressive Subtypes in Children and Adolescents

- The Characteristics of Problematic Anger
- Proactive/Instrumental Aggression
- Reactive/Emotional Aggression

### 3 Multi-Method/Multi-Source Assessment Strategies

- Functional Behavioral Approach
- Interviews, Rating Scales, and Self-Reports

### 4 Treatment of Anger and Aggression in an Individual Context

- Problem-Solving Discourse (PSD) Technique

### 5 Treatment of Anger and Aggression in a Group Format

- Advantages of School- and Residential-Based Contexts
- Screening and Identification
- Building Generalization Strategies
- Progress Monitoring and Evaluation

### 6 Small Group Treatment of Reactive Aggression: Children

- Implementing the Anger Coping Program

### 7 Small Group Treatment of Reactive Aggression: Adolescents

- Implementing the Think First Program

### 8 The Special Issue of Bullies

- Developmental Trajectory
- Treatment Implications

## James D. Larson, Ph.D.

Dr. Jim Larson earned his doctoral degree from the Marquette University Educational Psychology Program and is a licensed psychologist and nationally certified school psychologist. Since 1990, he has been the Director of the School Psychology Program at the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater.

Dr. Larson is an original member of the Scientific Board of the *Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention and Treatment*, headquartered in Miami, an organization under then clinical supervision of Dr. Donald Meichenbaum. The Melissa Institute is dedicated to bridging the gap between research and practice.

Dr. Larson has published numerous articles and book chapters. He is the author of *Think First: Addressing Aggressive Behavior in Secondary Schools* and *Helping Schoolchildren Cope with Anger: A Cognitive-Behavioral Intervention* (with Dr. John Lochman).

Dr. Larson has extensive clinical experience working with children and adolescents in schools, residential treatment, and juvenile diversion programs. He has presented widely around the country on the subject of childhood and adolescent aggression..

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