



Resist Refuse Dynamics:

A discussion of the spectrum of contact problems and overview on the treatment options for all, with a focus on interventions for less severe cases.

APRIL 8, 2022

**Webinar
LIVE VIA ZOOM**

Dr. Barbara Jo Fidler will speak on resist-refuse dynamics. Her presentation will provide guidance on how to address different types of cases, the appropriate training for this type of therapy and the different roles that each family law participant (judges, lawyers, mental health professionals, CFI/PREs/CLRs) can play. This will include goals of treatment and how to know when that goal is reached and how to avoid and address potential pitfalls. Dr. Fidler will help us differentiate the spectrum and severity of parent-child contact problems; identify the multiple factors contributing to the development, maintenance and exacerbation of parent-child contact problems; summarize the range of legal, educational and clinical interventions based on the nature and severity of parent-child contact problems; and summarize key legal and clinical components of a family-system based intervention to assist in the less severe cases of parent-child contact problems.

COAFCC 2022 Spring Conference & Annual Members Meeting

Keynote speaker:
Barbara Fidler,
Ph.D., C.Psych.

Panel Participants:
Marlene Bizub, Psy.D.
Barbara Fidler, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Jane Irvine MA LPC
Hon. Catherine Mitchell Helton
Rebecca Pepin, J.D.

5 CE Contact Hours
6 General Credit CLEs
5 NASW-CO approved CEs

Register at

www.COAFCC.org

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ABOUT THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER:



Barbara Fidler Ph.D., C.Psych., AccFM., FDRP PC is a psychologist in independent practice. She has worked with divorcing families for over 34 years providing a range of dispute resolution services, consultation, expert testimony and therapy. She is a trainer and author of many articles and chapters, four books, and guest co-editor of two special issues of the FCR on parent-child contact problems. She has sat on the Ontario College taskforce that developed guidance for practice in custody/access and child protection work, and on the AFCC PC Guidelines taskforce. She is past-president of AFCC-O.

PANELISTS:



Marlene Bizub Psy.D. is a psychotherapist in private practice, focusing primarily on PC/DM and reunification appointments by the court in domestic relations cases. Dr. Bizub graduated from Wichita State University in 1984 with a Master's Degree in Gerontology and Counseling, attended Colorado School of Professional Psychology and completed a Doctorate Degree in Forensic Psychology at Eisner Institute of Professional Studies. Dr. Bizub has served as a family preservation specialist in dependency and neglect cases for the court in the past and has spent over 20 years serving in a variety of roles in domestic relations cases, as well as being a Certified Divorce Coach. Dr. Bizub currently serves as a facilitator for the Children and Families in Transition class through the 4th Judicial District Court and is a designated provider of the "For the Kids" Level 2 co-parenting workshop through 4th Judicial District Court, as well as offering the Level 3 co-parenting course. Dr. Bizub was accepted as a professional member of National Speakers Association in 2015 and is author of the book, *Contentious Custody: Is It Really in the Best Interest of Your Children?* She is currently working on a book on the topic of adult bullying, due out in 2022. Additionally, Dr. Bizub conducts workshops on Grief Recovery and Divorce Adjustment throughout the community. Dr. Bizub has dedicated her practice to working with children and families going through divorce or other life transitions.



Jane Irvine is a Psychotherapist, Board Certified Counselor, Mediator, and former English Family Lawyer with over 35 yrs. experience in Domestic Relations cases. She obtained her early qualifications in law and then trained in mediation. On relocating to Colorado over twenty years ago, she completed mediation training with C.D.R. Associates, trained as a CASA, volunteered with CASA, and trained new CASA volunteers for 5 years. She began receiving appointments as an independent Special Advocate (CFI) not long after the introduction of CRS 14 10 116b. Jane has represented children of all ages in many high conflict cases as Special Advocate (CFI) and PRE. She is acknowledged as an expert witness in Arapahoe, Denver, Douglas, and Jefferson Courts on Relocation, Reunification (Reintegration) Therapy, Child Development, and Therapy with Children. She is the author of *"Connecting with your Kids,"* is published in the Family Law Journal, and the 2011 Colorado Domestic Violence Bench Book. Jane has taught Mediation at the University of Denver and co taught the Advanced Family Practicum with Judge Arkin for 3 years at the University of Denver Sturm School of Law. Jane also worked for the 18th Judicial District, Douglas and Elbert Counties as Family Court Facilitator. Jane has been granted her license as a Professional Counselor and is Board Certified by NBCC as a counselor, and a certified EMDR therapist. She is a member of the Douglas Best Practices Team and volunteers for the Turelli Foundation. Jane's current work involves providing therapy for families and children, coparenting therapy for high conflict couples, parenting consultation and reunification therapy, including teaching the Reunification Therapy Training and Consultation class with Dr. Darr and Ms. Shindell.

PANELISTS (CONTINUED):



Judge Mitchell Helton was appointed to the 4th Judicial District Court on May 1, 2020 and currently presides over a domestic relations and criminal docket. Prior to being appointed to the district court bench, she was a magistrate presiding over domestic relations, permanent protection orders, traffic and county court civil matters. From 2000-2003, Judge Mitchell Helton worked as a Deputy District Attorney prosecuting all levels of criminal and juvenile cases. From 2003-2019, Judge Mitchell Helton was a private attorney handling criminal, domestic relations, juvenile, civil and administrative law matters. She completed her undergraduate degree in Psychology from Mount Saint Vincent University in Canada in 1994 and obtained her JD from the University of Tulsa College of Law in 2000.

Judge Mitchell Helton enjoys serving the community both on and off the bench. She has served on the Board of Directors for Colorado Springs Teen Court (now known as Forge Evolution) and continues to volunteer with that program. She also loves to volunteer in schools through the Judicially Speaking program and is a presenter at a middle conferences each year. She enjoyed being a Girl Scout troop leader for several years. When not working, Judge Mitchell Helton loves spending time with family and enjoying all of the outdoor recreation our beautiful state has to offer.



Rebecca Pepin practices primarily in the areas of family law providing litigation representation as well as mediation. Understanding that involvement in a legal action is rarely comfortable for a client, Rebecca seeks to communicate the process and progress clearly so clients feel confident about the steps and system affecting their cases. Rebecca feels client education and counseling is a focal point of her practice. Licensed in 1992 Rebecca became a shareholder in 1994. Even during her six year hiatus (2002-2008) where she was a substitute teacher and a preschool teacher, Rebecca focused her career on families and children. Rebecca M. Pepin is licensed to practice law before all Colorado State Courts and the United States District Court for the District of Colorado. In addition to being a member of local bar associations, Ms. Pepin continues to give back to her community through volunteer work. She served as an instructor with Red Cross, a Rotarian, and as a board member for Flagstaff Academy Charter School. Rebecca maintains a strong commitment to her community, her family and her clients. Rebecca's integrity and commitment to her community and her clients shows in all her work. During her free time, Rebecca enjoys volunteering, walking her dogs, reading and spending time with her family and friends.

The entire conference will be recorded for registrants who wish to watch at their convenience.

*COAFCC will provide a certificate of attendance for **5 hours of educational contact for those who attend either the live or recorded program.** Mental health professionals will need to verify approval with their licensing or credentialing boards to meet any continuing education requirements.*

***6 General Credit Continuing Legal Education Credits (CLJEs)** for Colorado Attorneys and Judges have been approved. Credits are available for BOTH the live and recorded program.*

***5 continuing education credits for social workers via NASW-CO** have been approved. Credits are available for BOTH the live and recorded program.*



The Colorado Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts is a non-profit organization with members that include attorneys, mental health professionals, mediators, judges, magistrates and other professional service organizations. COAFCC offers several conferences each year. AFCC is an interdisciplinary, international association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict. AFCC promotes a collaborative approach to serving the needs of children among those who work in and with family law systems, encouraging education, research and innovation, and identifying best practices.

Program Schedule:

- 8:45 – 9:00 Welcome and Introductions
- 9:00 -10:00 **Spectrum of Parent-Child Contact Problems & Multiple Causes**
Barbara Fidler, Ph.D., C.Psych.
- The spectrum of parent-child contact problems and the dimensions and levels of severity will be summarized. The multiple factor model for understanding the many dynamic and contributing factors to parent-child contact problems will be articulated. Red flags, risk factors and the potential short- and long-term negative impacts will be discussed.
- 10:00 – 10:30 Our Family Wizard Presentation
- 10:30 – 12:00 **Continuum of Legal, Educational & Clinical Interventions for Cases Involving Resist-Refuse Dynamics?**
Barbara Fidler, Ph.D., C.Psych
- The continuum of legal and clinical interventions based on the severity of the parent-child contact problem, mild to severe, will be summarized. With a focus on the less severe cases of parent-child contact problems a family-systems based approach to intervention will be outlined, including the training requirements for mental health professionals, and the varied goals for work with the family members in various combinations (e.g., coparenting, parent-child, and with each family member individually).
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch
- 1:00-1:30 **COAFCC Annual Members' Meeting & Elections**
- 1:30-3:00 **Essential Legal & Clinical Components of Interventions**
Barbara Fidler, Ph.D., C.Psych
- With focus on the less severe cases of parent-child contact problems, the critical components of a family systems-based intervention, including, screening for suitability, intake assessment, service agreements, the court's and other professionals' involvement, and ways to evaluate progress will be discussed.
- 3:00-3:30 Break
- 3:30-4:30 **Multi-Disciplinary Panel**
Barbara Fidler, Ph.D., C.Psych; Honorable Catherine Mitchell Helton; Jane Irvine, MA LPC; Rebecca Pepin, JD
Moderator: Marlene Bizub, Psy.D.
- Our panel of a judicial officer, attorney, and a mental health professional will discuss the challenges of navigating reunification/reintegration cases and what the role of each of these professional entails. If time permits, questions from the floor will be answered and various approaches to these most challenging cases will be discussed.
- 4:30-4:45 Closing remarks

Registration Form

Register and pay online at www.coafcc.org or mail registration form and check to April Freier at 4307 W 6th Street, Greeley, CO 80634. Checks should be made payable to **COAFCC**.

****As a reminder, the Annual Member's Meeting and Elections will be held from 1:00-1:30.**

Registration Fees:

- _____ \$90 for COAFCC members
- _____ \$125 for Non-members
- _____ \$67.50 for COAFCC members discounted rate**
- _____ \$93.75 for Non-members discounted rate**
- _____ \$FREE for Colorado judicial officers and Colorado court staff

A special thank you to our sponsor!



Registration will remain open until April 1, 2022.

****Registration Fees discounted (as of date registered) 25% for graduate or law students, CASA volunteers, and legal or mental health professionals in practice three years or less**

Conference Scholarships A limited number of scholarships are available. The scholarship application can be found on the COAFCC website (www.COAFCC.org). Application deadline is **March 18, 2022**. Recipients will be notified in early April. If you have any questions, please contact the COAFCC Administrative Assistant, April Freier, at aprilfreier@hotmail.com

The entire conference will be recorded for registrants who wish to watch at their convenience. Access to recordings of all sessions is included in the registration fee. A link to the landing page allowing you access to the handouts for this program will be provided a few days before the event.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email (print clearly) _____

I require a CLE Affidavit: _____

I require a Certificate of Attendance Affidavit: _____

Cancellation Policy: Transfer of registration or substitutions to another person may be done at any time without a fee. All requests for refunds must be made in writing or by email notification. Notice of cancellation received by email or postmarked by April 1, 2022 will be issued a full refund minus a \$25 administrative fee. No refunds will be issued for cancellations received after April 1, 2022. COAFCC reserves the right to cancel any training or substitute any presenter should circumstances arise beyond our control.

Please contact April Freier at aprilfreier@hotmail.com with any questions.