

ADVANCED TRAINING for Parenting Coordinators and Legal professionals

Are you....

▪ **A mental health professional** looking for support and practical guidance in your efforts to help families facing difficult divorces?

▪ **An attorney** seeking an answer to those “nightmare” cases that wake you up in the middle of the night?

▪ **A financial or legal professional** trying to figure out what this person, now called a Parenting Coordinator does, and why, when, and how you can call on them to help your client, or ask the judge to enlist their help?

▪ **Wanting to earn some professional continuing education credits** in a convenient, interesting atmosphere while you enjoy a delicious meal?

Then join Cooperative Parenting Solutions (COOPS) for this new opportunity to polish your skills and engage in some worthwhile interdisciplinary learning.

Description of the Facilitators

The training will be facilitated by Sondra Kaplan, LCSW, and Judith Miller, LCSW. These two Parenting Coordinators have been developing their techniques and styles over the past eight years and are known by Houston area Family Court Judges as “pioneers” in the field of Parenting Coordination. Several of the leading national experts in the area of parent alienation, frequently make referrals to these knowledgeable mental health professionals. Sondra and Judith were two of the founding members of the AFCC Texas

Chapter Task Force on Service Models for High Conflict Divorce Families. Both of them have made presentations to the Houston Bar Association-Family Law Division. They were two of the original Houston mental health professionals trained in Collaborative Law. They have been invited presenters to the Gulf Coast Family Law Specialists and the Alliance for Collaborative Family Lawyers on several occasions. These facilitators have been featured in the Houston Chronicle, the Houston Press, and on various television and radio shows about these topics.

Description of this Advanced Training:

The meetings will be held once a month, alternating between lunch and evening times. These training sessions are appropriate for mental health professionals, mediators, attorneys, judges, financial advisors, – anyone trained in Parenting Coordination, or who makes referrals to Parenting Coordinators. Each training will last 1-1/2 hours. The first portion of the presentation will include expert leaders on a variety of relevant topics. Time will be available for open discussions. The second portion of the class will include a discussion period for “Stump the Experts”. Bring your most difficult cases to use as training examples during this group consultation time. CEU’S will be provided, and CLE’S are available, depending on the topic.

PLEASE REGISTER BY PHONE or E-MAIL

Cash or checks accepted at the door.

Sondra Kaplan, LCSW, 713-780-1478
Sondra@cooperativeparentingsolutions.com

And

Judith Miller, LCSW, 713-522-9255
Judith@cooperativeparentingsolutions.com

TOPICS AND TIMES

*1. *“The Squid and The Whale ” (Come to COOPS’ HOLIDAY RECEPTION and watch a popular movie! We’ll provide the popcorn & drinks, too!) This is a recent award-winning movie about a conflicted divorce, and the effects on the children. NO CHARGE! (Except \$5 for CEU’s) Our Gift To You! Tuesday, December 12, 2006 Reception from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Movie and Discussion 7:00-9:00 p.m.*

*2. *Understanding our Texas Statute for Parenting Coordination: “Everything you wanted to know, but were afraid to ask.” What does this law really say, or NOT say? Clarification by the expert who helped draft it, and real applications. Wednesday, January 17th, 2007 @ 12-1:30 p.m.*

*3. *A View from the Bench: A Family Judge on Utilization of and Referrals to a P.C, Tuesday, February 20th, 2007 @ 7-8:30 p.m.*

*4. *PC’s Ethics and Boundaries with Other Professionals, Courts, and Clients. How to work successfully with these challenging cases which are rife with boundary issues. How to handle a complaint to your professional licensing board. Wednesday, March 21st, 2007 @ 12-1:30 p.m.*

5. *Different Models of Parenting Coordination. A comparative view of “tried & true” models for helping high conflict divorce families. What works best for whom and why? How to use these models, given realistic considerations of your setting & style. Tuesday, April 17th, 2007 @ 7-8:30 p.m.*

***6. Dialogue with Family Attorneys, Financial Advisors, other professionals: When to refer to a PC and what to expect:**

Discuss with the expert panelists how professionals can interact cooperatively, regardless of the stage or type of legal process (collaborative, litigation, mediation), and how families benefit. **Wednesday, May 16th, @ 12-1:30 p.m.**

*** 7. Substance Abuse: How, When, Where, Why to Refer for Testing and Assessments; Drug-Court, and Referrals Between Professionals.** An in-depth look at the family dynamics of substance abusers when they are divorcing /divorced. Update on current resources in our community. **Tuesday, June 19th, 2007 @ 7-8:30 p.m.**

***8. Excellent Parenting Plans for High Conflict, Divorcing Families.** How different disciplines can aide each other when working with these challenging families to negotiate a realistic, safe plan. **Wednesday, July 18th, 2007 @ 12-1:30 p.m.**

9. Helping Children Cope with Divorce at different Development Stages. Considering recent research on children and divorce, differentiate which are normal developmental childhood stages and which are more serious symptoms when a child(ren) could benefit from professional help. **Tuesday, August 21st, 2007 @ 7-8:30 p.m.**

***10. What Do You Do When A Parent or a Family Member Has A Mental and/or Physical Disability? What are the Legal and Financial Needs? How Do You Work with the Family System?** Discussion will be focused on how to develop a proper parenting plan when there are specially challenged parents and/or children. **Wednesday, September 19, 2007 @ 12-1:30 p.m.**

***11. Parent Alienation.** Typical dynamics of the family system when one of the parents has been alienated from the child(ren), and common pitfalls to avoid as a PC. We will also explore how the public and legal system sees this phenomenon. **Tuesday, October 23, 2007 @ 7-8:30 p.m.**

***12. Interventions with Current and past Family Violence.** How can different disciplines handle family violence and use community resources to help intervene effectively. How a PC can help families with past partner &/or child abuse. **Wednesday, November 14th, 2007 @ 12:00-1:30 p.m.**

**Cost is \$25.00/meeting
Cash or checks accepted at the door.
Price includes the meal and
CEU's for Social Workers, LPCs and LCDC's
*CLE's for Attorneys
CEU's and CLE's Approvals Pending**

**Tuesday Evening Classes will be at
6143 Bayou Bridge Drive
Houston, Texas 77096
(713) 522-9255**

http://maps.yahoo.com/maps_result?addr=6143+Bayou+Bridge+Drive&csz=Houston%2C+TX+77096&country=us&new=1&name=&qty

Wednesday Noon Classes will be at Christ Church Cathedral

**1117 Texas Street
Houston, Texas 77002
(713) 222-2593 for directions**

Register by Phone or E-Mail by the Previous Monday Before the Class.

**Judith Miller, LCSW, 713-522-9255
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or
Sondra Kaplan, LCSW, 713-780-1478
Sondra@cooperativeparentingsolutions.com**

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for

PARENTING COORDINATORS

LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

& OTHER ALLIED PROFESSIONALS

Houston, Texas

December 12, 2006 - November 13, 2007

☞ Sponsored Monthly by ☞

Cooperative Parenting Solutions, (COOPS)

**Sondra Kaplan, LCSW
Judith Miller, LCSW**

And

The Alliance of Collaborative Family Law Attorneys

Recognized by the Texas Chapter, Association of Family & Conciliatory Courts

