

## Engaging with children and parents with complex needs – a systems approach

### Dr Jamie Lee Psychologist

Dr Jamie Lee, PhD, is principal researcher and counselling psychologist at Relationships Australia South Australia. He has worked in psychology research or practice (or both) since the last century. He traces his pursuit of psychology to a vague teenage hope of finding girlfriends more easily.



Jamie became a chartered psychologist in 1998 in the UK after a doctorate with Professor David Canter at the University of Liverpool. Jamie then held a science management position at Unilever Research and Development in the UK where he made his name in Chinese dandruff.

Since migrating to Australia, Jamie has mostly been at Relationships Australia South Australia researching the intricacies of the DOORS with its developers Jenn McIntosh, Claire Ralfs and others. He also gets great satisfaction by journeying with kids through the emotional turmoil of family separation; helping families stay safer with universal risk screening; finding evidence of great outcomes for clients; looking for the story behind the numbers and why they go up, down or – occasionally – both; and reciting limericks at conferences in front of his peers.

Jamie is registered as a psychologist, endorsed in counselling psychology, a member of the Australian Psychological Society and a Fellow of its College of Counselling Psychology.

### Professor Leonie Segal Researcher

Professor Leonie Segal holds the Foundation Chair in Health Economics & Social Policy at the University of South Australia.



Her research is primarily concerned with improving the life chances of the most vulnerable members of society - parents and children exposed to intergenerational abuse and neglect, children experiencing serious psychological distress, children of prisoners and Aboriginal families in Central Australia.

Her research is designed to better understand the causes of distress and adversity and determine the desirable system response, working in partnership with clinicians, service providers, government and community.

Leonie uses a logic-driven approach, drawing on theory, original conceptualisation and quantitative and qualitative data to gain deep understandings to derive innovative approaches to solving complex cross-disciplinary problems.

Her research has encompassed a needs-based work-force model to determine the skill set and FTE required to address child and adolescent distress, exploration of the outcomes for children of prisoners in WA, partnership with Central Australian Aboriginal Congress to evaluate their family support programs.

Leonie has conducted over 200 economic evaluations of health interventions covering all modalities and population targets from low to high/extreme risk.

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In a 25-year academic career, Leonie has amassed over 200 publications and received 20 research grants since 2000.

**Facilitator: Dan Moss**

**Workforce  
Development Manager,  
Emerging Minds**



Dan Moss most recently worked as Assistant Director, Performance, Reporting and Evaluation at the Department for Child Protection. In this role he worked closely with the Early Intervention Research Directorate to explore the social determinants of child disadvantage and child protection involvement.

Previously, Dan worked for Uniting Communities for 15 years, as a practitioner, supervisor and senior manager in a range of services with children, parents and families dealing with the effects of family violence, child sexual abuse, mental health conditions and drug and alcohol use.

As a practitioner, Dan had a strong interest in narrative and strength-based engagement strategies with children, parent and families. Dan has recently submitted his PhD thesis which includes research on approaches to men's behaviour change programs and a creative writing component.

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