

# Peter Simonsson, MSW, LCSW

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## Education

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**The University of Pennsylvania**, School of Social Policy and Practice  
Philadelphia, PA  
Advisor: Phyllis Solomon, Ph.D.  
*Ph.D. Social Welfare* expected graduation 05/21

**New York University (NYU)**, Silver School of Social Work  
New York, NY  
GPA: 3.9  
*Master of Social Work* 1/2007 – 5/2008

**Lund University**, School of Philosophy  
Lund, Sweden  
*Bachelor of Arts* 8/2002 – 6/2006

**Amsterdam University**, School of Philosophy and Humanities  
Erasmus Scholar Exchange - Graduate studies in Continental Philosophy  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands 9/2004 – 6/2005

## Fellowships, Awards, and Grants

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Thomas M. Meenaghan Fellowship (\$2,200)	2007
Erasmus Training Scholarship (\$1,000)	2004
Thanks to Scandinavia Award (\$16,000)	2016
Summer Research Fellowship (\$6,000)	2016
Summer Research Fellowship (\$6,000)	2017

## Licensure

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Clinical Social Work License (CW017475)  
*Pennsylvania*

## Teaching Experience

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Temple University, School of Social Work 2018 – present  
MSW Program – Adjunct Professor  
• Loss and Grief

## **Research Experience**

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### **University of Pennsylvania**

#### **School of Social Policy and Practice**

Philadelphia, PA

Research Fellow

08/16 – present

- Advisor: Dr. Phyllis Solomon.
- Developing a conceptual framework to understand the impact of Mental Health Treatment Courts on persons with severe mental illness.
- Investigating the utilization of risk assessment to assess violence risk in people with severe mental illness in diversion programs.
- Examining the role of judicial decision making for people with severe mental illness.
- Conducting qualitative interviews examining the views among NRA members about gun violence and background checks for people with mental illness.

### **Johns Hopkins University**

#### **The Moore Center for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse**

Baltimore, MD

Researcher

02/18 – present

- PI: Dr. Elizabeth Letourneau
- Examining the impact of juvenile sex offender registration and notification policies on recidivism

### **Public Health Management Corporation**

#### **Program Evaluation**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

8/13 – 08/16

- Collect, score, enter, and analyze trauma and behavioral focused data for three ongoing agency studies and one university partnered study
  1. Sexual Responsibility Program
    - A 4 hour court mandated psychoeducation course for first time offenders of sexual solicitation
    - Measures given include the Rape Myth Acceptance scale, Attitudes Towards Women scale and Sex Role Stereotyping scale
  2. Child and Family Study
    - Assesses treatment outcomes of trauma-focused CBT for children and adolescent victims of sexual abuse and aims to identify predictors of treatment success
    - Measures used include the Trauma Symptom Checklist for Children, Trauma Symptom Checklist for Young Children, Child Behavior Checklist, Child Sexual Behavior Inventory, Children's Depression Inventory and the Kaufman Brief Intelligence Test
  3. Adult Survivor Study

- Assesses treatment outcomes for adult victims of sexual abuse
  - Measures collected include the Beck Depression Inventory, Posttraumatic Diagnostic Scale 5 and the Beck Hopelessness scale
4. Prolonged Exposure Therapy: Screening and Treatment
- Assesses the prevalence of posttraumatic stress disorder and the efficacy of prolong exposure therapy through the use of the Posttraumatic Diagnostic scale 5
  - Monthly reports sent to the University of Pennsylvania’s Center for the Treatment and Study of Anxiety

**University of Pennsylvania, Center for Treatment and Study of Anxiety**

Philadelphia, PA

*Research Volunteer*

09/12-02/13

- Collected and scored data in a study concerning rates of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in adults diagnosed with HIV.
- Measures used: PDS5.

**Publications**

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Labrun, T., Simonsson, P., Solomon, P. (under review). Stigma contributes to the risk of violence by persons with mental illness.

Simonsson, P., Solomon, P. (under review). Misattribution of mental illness and gun-violence: a viewpoint.

**Presentations and Guest Lecture**

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Speaking invitation, Judicial conference on vicarious trauma in the court system, Judicial Conference Philadelphia Center for Criminal Justice (November, 2016; Philadelphia, PA)

Speaking invitation, conference on “Child Protection and Well-Being Conference,” Penn State University, (October, 2016; State College, PA)

Advisory board participant, “Child Sexual Abuse Prevention: Towards Evidence-Based Practice,” Penn State University, (September, 2016; State College, PA)

Invited participant and panelist, “An open conversation about sexual abuse and prevention in our community,” Lower Merion Synagogue, (May, 2015; Lower Merion, PA)

Organizer and participant, “Men Healing from Childhood Sexual and Emotional Abuse,” Second Annual Conference on Deepening Men’s Relationships (May, 2013; Chester, PA)

## **Clinical Experiences**

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### **Public Health Management Corporation**

Philadelphia, PA

Director of Operations

03/16 – 08/16

- Directly supervise Westhaven (LTSR), and Pathways to Recovery; two of PHMC's dually diagnosed mental and behavioral health program serving men and women.
- Facilitate; track and manage the coordination/integration of services amongst all of BHS.
- Monitor the day-to-day activities, strategic planning, personnel management, and financial performance at each of the identified programs in collaboration with the program directors.
- Work with program directors to oversee program spending patterns, identify strategies to improve cost effectiveness, and address cost overruns.
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### **Joseph J. Peters Institute**

Philadelphia, PA

Director of Survivor and Prevention Services

10/13 – 03/16

- Provide direct administrative and clinical leadership for Survivor Services and Prevention Services.
- Manage the attainment of financial targets for productivity across all aspects of the programs.
- Manage and supervises all components of Survivor Services: intake, admissions, evaluations, therapy services, case management, psychiatry, AMP outreach, Prolonged Exposure Services, and Project DAWN's court (PDC).
- Manage all aspects of Prevention services: outreach, community education, professional training, school screening program, sexual education and responsibility program.
- Develop training curriculum and directly provide JJPI's didactic trainings about childhood sexual abuse to all new employees, contractors, and graduate students.
- Manage JJPI's collaboration with "Project DAWN court" (PDC). Attend PDC steering committee meetings and supervise all services at JJPI related to prostituted people. Attend quarterly court hearings and represent JJPI survivor services at the Criminal Justice Center.
- Develop JJPI's treatment program for survivors of Interpersonal Violence (IPV). Establish referral sources through the court systems and Women's Advocacy groups, and develop treatment curriculum according to evidence-based practice.
- Monitor the quality of care delivered to the clients of the Survivor and Prevention services programs.
- Prepare and maintain the programs in accordance with all stakeholder and licensing requirements and obtain full compliance and licensure upon stakeholder licensing visits.
- Provided evaluation and therapeutic services to child, adolescent, and adult survivors of sexual abuse.

### **Joseph J. Peters Institute**

Philadelphia, PA

*Clinical Coordinator of Child and Adolescent Outpatient Services*

*Clinical Supervisor for Survivor Services*

7/12 – 10/13

- Providing direct clinical supervision and providing group supervision to program staff, fee-for-service clinicians, and interns/students.
- Monitoring the quality of care delivered to clients of the Joseph J. Peters Institute.
- Assisting in the development and enhancement of the clinical philosophy of the program.
- Providing training and consultation services to outside agencies.
- Attending multidisciplinary team meetings held by the Department of Human Services and the Philadelphia Children's Alliance to provide consultation and education on working with children who are victims and/or perpetrators of abuse and their families.
- Assisting and managing the implementation of the "sanctuary model" at the Joseph J. Peters Institute.
- Interviewing and overseeing the hiring and training of new staff and fee-for-service contractors.
- Providing evaluations and therapeutic services to child, adolescent, and adult survivors of sexual abuse.

### **Joseph J. Peters Institute**

Philadelphia, PA

*Child and Family Therapist*

9/09 – 7/12

- Assessed and treated children, adolescents and their families who have been victims of sexual abuse.
- Provided behavioral management to children and adolescents with sexual behavior problems.
- Lead interagency meetings, attending family court hearings, and providing family education and outreach.
- Conducted school screenings of children who have violated school codes of sexual misconduct.
- Provided supervision to fee-for-service clinicians and students.
- Measures used include the Trauma Symptom Checklist for Children, Trauma Symptom Checklist for Young Children, Child Behavior Checklist, Child Sexual Behavior Inventory, Children's Depression Inventory.

### **JJPI Safety and Responsibility Program**

Philadelphia, PA

*Therapist (fee-for-service)*

07/10- 06/16

- Assessing and treating adult males who have been victims and/or perpetrators of sexual abuse and intimate partner violence.
- Conducting group psychotherapy and individual therapy with adult male sex offenders.
- Conducting individual and group therapy to batterers using the Duluth Model.
- Completing evaluations for sex offending adult males and females.
- Administered the Static 99R, Domestic Violence Risk Appraisal Guide, Psychopathy Checklist – revised (PCL-R) and other measures to adult offenders.

### **Catholic Social Services, the DelSTAR program**

Philadelphia, PA

*Adolescent Sex offender Therapist (fee-for-service)*

02/10- 01/11

- Assessed and treated adolescents who have been adjudicated on a sexual offense.
- Developed Relapse Prevention Plans and Wellness Plans.
- Administered the ERASOR to assess recidivism risk in adolescents adjudicated on sex crimes.

### **Horizon House, Inc. ACT Team**

Philadelphia, PA

*Mental Health Specialist*

9/08-6/09

- Worked on a multidisciplinary team as a mobile therapist and provided supportive therapy, crisis management, cognitive and behavioral interventions, social skill development and assertiveness training in the community to adults diagnosed with severe mental illness.
- Conducted family meetings and support, outreach and psycho-education. Frequently attended 302 courts with family members.
- Assisted clients in the housing process, including completion of housing applications, preparation for move-in and support after move-in.

### **Hagen School and Treatment Center**

Kullavik, Sweden

*Treatment Assistant*

6/06 – 12/06

- Provided Multi Systems Treatment (MST), and Aggressive Replacement Training (ART) to adolescents and children with trauma symptomatology in a residential setting.
- Conducted family assessments and psycho-education for children and adolescents with sexual abuse histories.
- Developed and lead therapeutic recreational activities.

## **Professional Committees and Academic Services**

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### **Reviewer**

- Journal of Interpersonal Violence 10/2018
- Trauma, Violence, and Abuse: A Review Journal 10/2018

### **Doctoral Student Task Force**

11/2016

Society for Social Work and Research

### **Project DAWN court**

Philadelphia, PA

*Steering Committee Member*

02/12 – present

- Participating in monthly meetings to discuss and review progress and treatment issues regarding Project DAWN.
- Providing information to the court about trauma, PTSD and clinical treatment for victims of sexual assault and women adjudicated on prostitution.

### **Philadelphia Forensic Task Force**

Philadelphia, PA

05/13 – present

- Participating in monthly task force meetings to discuss and review forensic topics involving the Philadelphia community.

### **Pennsylvania Prison Society**

Philadelphia, PA

Policy Subcommittee for Sex Offender Issues

06/14 – present

- Participate in bi-monthly meetings to discuss and problem solve policy issues relevant to the management of sex offenders in Pennsylvania.

### **Philadelphia Department of Human Services**

Philadelphia, PA

Multidisciplinary Team Member

07/12 – 8/16

- Participate in bi-weekly meetings to discuss CPS reports for at-risk families
- Provide expertise to the members of the team about sexual trauma, sexual violence, intimate partner violence and the management of perpetrators in the community.

### **Domestic Violence Law Enforcement Committee**

Philadelphia, PA

Team Member – represents JJPI victim services

08/15 – 8/16

- Collaborates to address the community response in Philadelphia to address domestic violence
- Participates in monthly meetings.

## **Other Experiences**

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### **Coney Island Hospital, Behavioral Health Clinic**

Brooklyn, NY

*Social Work Intern*

9/07 – 05/08

- Provided treatment planning and outpatient psychotherapy to adults diagnosed with mental illness.
- Conducted intake assessments with new clients.
- Provided supportive counseling to medical patients in palliative care setting.

### **Children's Aid Society**

New York, NY

*Social Work Intern*

1/07- 8/07

- Provided individual and group counseling to students in public high school.
- Conducted outreach to parents and family meetings.

### **Gothenburg Substance Abuse Center for Adult Men**

Gothenburg, Sweden

*Clinic Volunteer*

3/06 – 8/06

- Provided counseling to chemically addicted adult men in a residential treatment facility.

## **Certifications**

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Center for Treatment and Study of Anxiety, **Prolonged Exposure Therapy Training** (certified PE, September, 2014).

November 26-29 2012. Trained by: Dr. Edna Foa. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

Center for Treatment and Study of Anxiety, **Prolonged Exposure Supervisor Training** (certified PE supervisor, October, 2014).

October 6-10 2014. Trained by: Dr. Edna Foa. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

Philadelphia Alliance for Child Trauma Services (PACTS): **Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)**.

May, 29-30, 2014. Master trainer: Carrie Epstein, LCSW-R, TF-CBT Master Trainer

## **Membership in Professional Organizations**

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Member, American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC)

Member, the American Society of Criminology (ACS)

Member, Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)