



Owen C Pershouse

BA(Hons)Psych.M(Clin).Psych. MAPsS

Experience in Clinical Work & Forensics, Management, Systems & Programs Development

- 1974 - 1988** Managing Director of a Manufacturing & Marketing Company
- 1988 - 1989** Psychologist at Boggo Road (Brisbane Correctional Centre)
- 1989 - 1991** Programs Manager, Moreton Correctional Centre
Acting General Manager, Moreton Correctional Centre
Programs Manager, Sir David Longlands Correctional Centre
- 1991 - Present** Private Practice as a Clinical and Forensic Psychologist, Consultant and Trainer to:
- Australasian Correctional Management
 - Qld Corrective Services Commission
 - Family Court of Australia/ Federal Magistrates Court
 - Australian College of Applied Psychology
 - Department of Child Safety
 - Centrelink
 - Brisbane City Council
 - Save the Children Queensland
 - Child Support Agency

Contact Details

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Personal Achievements

- (i) Extensive experience in the writing of a range of professional reports to diverse audiences including Courts, Correctional and Corporate boards, Family Departments and Agencies, Solicitors, psychiatrists, General Medical Practitioners, Professional and Union Organisations and Police Departments.
- (ii) The publication of conference proceedings papers including;
 - (a) *“The Development of the QCSC Sex Offenders Treatment Program: What has been Learned”* for the International Conference on the Treatment of Sex Offenders in Custody (QCSC sponsored in January 1991)
 - (b) *“The Cycle of Abuse: Intergenerational Transmission of Sexually Offending Behaviour”* for The Children as Victims Conference (sponsored by the NSW Child Protection Agency in September 1991)
 - (c) *“The Evaluation of Risk Following Allegations of Abuse”* for the Annual Conference of the Brisbane Registry of the Family Court of Australia, Hervey Bay, October 1993.
 - (d) *“Issues of Custody and Access as they Impact on Children”* Workshop presentation at Crèche and Kindergarten Early Childhood Conference, Brisbane, June 1994.
 - (e) *“The Development of the Structured Interview Format Typology for Evaluation of Risk (SIFTER)”* In-service training workshop for NSW Community Corrections Officers, June, October 1995.
 - (f) *“MENDS: An Innovative Program for Separated Men”* for the Employment Assistance Providers Association of Australia (EAPAA), Australasian Conference; Sydney, May 1998.
 - (g) *“MENDING Men: Issues and Challenges”* for the Attorney General’s National Forum on Men and Relationships; Canberra, June 1998.
 - (h) *“Working with Separated Males”* – Presentation to Brisbane Chapter of College of Counselling Psychologists. Brisbane, August 1998.
 - (i) *“What is Wrong with Separated Men: The Hostile Alienation Experience”* for the Fathers, Families and the Future Conference, Auckland New Zealand, September 1998.
 - (j) *“Gender Sensitive Approaches to Working with Male Clients”* – Presentation to The Australian College of Applied Psychology. Brisbane, November 1998.
 - (k) *“MENDS – Men Exploring New Directional Strategies”* – Presentation to the Men’s Domestic Violence Counselling Telephone Service – Maroochydore, January 1999.
 - (l) *“What’s Wrong with Men: Case Management Implications of Working with Separated Males”* – Presentation to Centacare Counsellor’s Conference. Brisbane June 1999.
 - (m) *“Gender Based Programming”* – Presentation to then Qld. Minister of Family Services (Anna Bligh). Brisbane, July 1999
 - (n) *“Case Management and Employment Assistance Issues with Separating Men”* – Presentation to Australia Post Qld. Executive Meeting, Brisbane, July 1999.

- (o) *“Male Engagement Concepts”* – Workshop Presentation to community-based practitioners. Sunshine Coast, Qld; August 1999.
 - (p) *“Working with Men; Engaging the Homme Homunculus”* – Workshop Presentation at the Boys to Men Conference, Gold Coast, Qld; August 1999.
 - (q) *“Hostile Alienation Implications in Male Presentations”* – In-service training for professional staff, Vietnam Veterans Counselling Service, Brisbane, September 1999
 - (r) *“Gender Sensitive Approaches with Male Clients”* – Presentation to Queensland University of Technology, Social Science Department; Brisbane, October 1999.
 - (s) *“Managing Risk-Case Management Options for Dangerous Clients”* – Workshop Presentation to Conference of QCSC psychologists; Brisbane, November 1999.
 - (t) *“Working with Men in Crisis”* – Presentation to Inner-City Special Interest Group of General Practitioners; Brisbane, July 2001.
 - (u) *“What’s Wrong With Separated Men?”* – Workshop Presentation to Queensland Association of Family Therapists; Brisbane, July 2002.
 - (v) *“Hostile Alienation: Implications for Difficult to Suicidal Male Presentations”* – Presentation to Regional Registrars CCC; CSA; Brisbane, September 1999.
 - (w) Presentation at ICAP Conference (Melbourne 11-16 July 2010); A Structured Approach to Working With Men in Relationship Crises
 - (x) Presentation to FCMS *“Assessing Sexual Abuse Allegations – A Review of Basic Principles”*; Brisbane, October 2013
 - (y) Presentation to FCMS - *“INTERNET PORNOGRAPHY: Brief Overview and Implications for Assessment and Treatment”*; Brisbane August 2014
 - (z) Presentation at AFCC Conference *“Pathologising Relationship Crises”*; Brisbane August 2014
 - (aa) Presentation to Brisbane Family Lawyers Conference *“Useful Briefing Practices for Family, Social Assessment, and Pre-sentence Reports”*; Hawaii, August 2015
 - (bb) Workshop Presentation *“Stress Management Self-Audits”* to Office of Public Guardian staff; Brisbane, April 2016.
 - (cc) Presentation to U3A Winter School *“Working with Men in Relationship Crises”*; Brisbane, July 2016
 - (dd) Presentation at AFCC Conference *“Engaging and Intervening with At-Risk Male Clients; Practical how-tos and how not tos”* Brisbane, August 2016.
- (iii) QCSC delegate and/or presenter at the following conferences and seminars:
- World Congress on Mental Health (New Zealand, October 1989)
 - Australasian Conference of the Treatment of Sexually Offending Behaviour (Melbourne, March 1990)
 - Queensland Prison Chaplains Conference (Brisbane, October 1990)
 - NSW Corrections Suicide Prevention Seminar (Sydney, November 1990)
 - QCSC Treatment of Sex Offenders in Custody Conference (Brisbane, Jan 1991)
 - University of Queensland Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Seminar (Brisbane, January 1991)
 - The Physiological Measurement of Sexual Deviancy Seminar (Melbourne, June 1991)

- (iv) Designed, written and implemented selection and training programs and manuals for both Custodial and Professional staff including;
- Assessment Selection Battery for Custodial Correctional Officers
 - Human Behaviour Module for Senior Correctional Officers
 - In-service Training for Custodial Officers working in Prison Programs
 - Induction Training for Professional Staff working in Prison Programs
 - “*Operation Socrates*” A 36-hour Experimental Training Exercise for Custodial Officers (featured in Sunday Sun and made into a television documentary by TSN-11) to trainee Correctional Officers in Queensland (June 1990) and Victoria (February 1997).
 - In-service Training for Qld Family Court Counsellors and NSW Community Corrections Officers on “*The Assessment of Risk of Sexually Offending Behaviour*”.
 - In-service training for Save the Children Queensland youth workers on “*Case Management Design and Interpretation for Adolescent Clients*” – Brisbane 1992.
 - In-service training “*Protocols for Management of Suicidal Inmates*” to Programs Staff at Moreton Correctional Centre, 1990.
 - Induction training modules for professional staff working in Custodial Programs including “The Mental Status Exam”, “Developing and Maintaining Performance Boundaries”, “Critical Incident Stress Debriefing”, “Suicide Risk Management of Incarcerated Clients”, “Stress Management Strategies for Professional Staff”, “Principles of Effective Programming”, “Gender-Based Programming” for professional groups during commissioning of Junee Correctional Centre, NSW (1994-1997) and Fulham Correctional Centre, Victoria (1997-1998).
 - Accreditation Training Program for facilitators working with separated men in the *MENDS* (Men Exploring New Directional Strategies) structured intervention program in New South Wales (July 1997), Victoria (November 1997) and Queensland (May 1998).
 - Accreditation Training Program for custodial and professional staff in Critical Incident Stress Debriefing and Suicide Awareness and Risk Management at HM Beechworth Prison, Victoria, Australia, as part of commissioning a multi-disciplinary suicide risk-management system to that centre’s operations.
 - In-service training for 73 base-grade, middle and upper management staff at Junee Correctional Centre in risk-management techniques for suicidality and self-harm behaviours of prisoners – May 1999
- (v) Personally written (drafted, edited and reviewed) the following Therapy Manuals which are still in use;
- A ten (10) week General Pre-Release Program
 - A ten (10) week Drug and Alcohol Pre-Release Program
 - A four (4) week Drug and Alcohol Pre-Release Program
 - A Phase 1, sixteen (16) week Pre-Entry Program (PEP) for Sex Offenders
 - A Phase II thirty-two (32) week Intensive Intervention Program (IIU) for Sexual Offenders.

- The Sexual Offenders' Redirection Training (SORT) Program for Sexual Offenders on behalf of Australian Correctional Management
 - A four (4) module, 16 week structured, therapeutic community program for incarcerated substance abusers on behalf of Australasian Correctional Management.
 - A twelve (12) week, structured containment and intervention program for separated men in the community (*MENDS*) and a six (6) week parallel program for incarcerated males to assist adjustment issues at induction phase of imprisonment.
- (vi) Produced (conceptualised, scripted, organised and acted in) Australia's first and to date the only set of video training tapes entitled "Piecing it Together" for practitioners involved in the treatment of sexually offending behaviour.
- (vii) Consulted for the QCSC and produced a comprehensive report entitled "*Cells and Safety-nets: Rational Strategies for the Containment of Sexually Offending Behaviour*" designed to assist case-management strategies for sexual offenders, post-release.
- (viii) Co-developed and delivered a staged six-month Training Package of three (3) Training Modules for 70 Queensland Community Corrections Officers in Queensland covering specialised techniques of supervision and risk-assessment of high risk offenders in the community.
- (ix) Designed, delivered and evaluated a specialist intervention package known as the *PITS (Putting it Together Skills)* course for long-term unemployed, CES clients to assist in achieving and maintaining work readiness.
- (x) Designed, delivered and evaluated an organisational intervention package for supervisors and middle management of a Queensland based mining company, known as the "*Working with People*" program used to improve work relationships, communication, accountability and productivity.
- (xi) Designed, delivered and evaluated a generic program for increasing the efficacy of self-esteem known as "*Increasing Your Self-Esteem*", for persons who were either in crisis or facing significant life challenges.
- (xii) Consulted with Save the Children Fund Queensland and Save the Children Australia over a two year period regarding the review and evaluation of their existing programs and produced a report entitled "*Progressing Programs*"; which project further involved the recommendation and implementation of future program initiatives.
- (xiii) Principal architect of the "*Corridors of Access*" Pilot that is a facilitated access program for non-custodial parents and their children; and a joint initiative of Family Court of Australia, Save the Children Fund Queensland, and Crèche and Kindergarten Association of Queensland.
- (xiv) Nominated by Mr Keith Hamburger, the then Director-General of the QCSC and the then Honourable Minister for Corrective Services, Mr Glen Milliner, for the Australian Institute of Criminology Award for achievements as Programs Manager of Moreton Correctional Centre in 1991/92.
- (xv) Engaged by Australasian Correctional Management (ACM) to review their existing prison programs at Junee Correctional Centre, NSW and subsequently designed, installed, supervised and reported on the SORT (Sex Offenders Redirectional Training)

Pilot Program representing the first structured intervention program of its type in NSW.

- (xvi) Principal architect, implementer and subsequent evaluator of the *Jerralang* Alcohol and Drug Unit at Fulham Correctional Centre in regional Victoria, which is the largest treatment facility for incarcerated substance abusers in Australia. This program was also reviewed and funded by the Victorian Government under its “*Turning the Tide*” drug strategy.
- (xvii) Commissioned by ACM to conduct a major review of subsequent and subsequent report concerning their existing suicide risk-management systems in Queensland, New South Wales and Victorian Correctional facilities and provide recommendations for improvement in training, accreditation, operational policies and procedures, reporting and auditing systems.
- (xviii) Principal designer of the *MENDS* (Men Exploring New Directional Strategies) program, which is a community-based initiative to assist men with marriage breakdowns with particular emphasis on retention of positive relationships with their children.
- (xix) Commissioned by Pacific Shores Health to tender, design and install a multi-disciplinary suicide risk-management system into HM Beechworth Prison in Victoria, Australia.

Qualifications

Formal academic qualifications include:

- *B.A.* University of Queensland; conferred 1986
- *B.A. (Hons)* University of Queensland; conferred 1987
- *M.(Clin)Psych.* University of Queensland; conferred 1990

Other professional qualifications include:

- Registered Psychologist in the State of Queensland (since 1988)
- Full member of the Australian Psychological Society (since 1989).
- Approved ‘Welfare Officer’ under Regulation 8 of the Family Law Act (1975) and Regulations (appointed 1991); and Regulation 7 Officer with the FMC.
- Appointed “Expert Witness” under the Family Law Act
- Full member of the College of Forensic Psychologists of the Australian Psychological Society (appointed April, 1994).
- Approved Clinical Psychologist by the Australian Psychological Society under Medicare rebate arrangements which commenced in November 2006.