

Curriculum vitae

Full Name Darren Spooner

Title Chartered Psychologist, Clinical Director

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Current and Most Recent Employment

I am the clinical director of The St. Giles Clinic, an independent multidisciplinary psychological practice in Norwich. I am a Chartered Member of the British Psychological Society and a Health Professions Council registered Practitioner Psychologist. This role consists of management and delivery of psychological assessment and therapies (including cognitive-behaviour therapy and eye movement and desensitisation retraining therapy), and medico-legal assessments and reports. Psychological assessment and therapy is offered to working age adults with most common, severe, enduring and complex mental health difficulties and personality disorders. I accept approximately 100 legal instructions a year to provide psychological reports for care proceedings, private law, personal injury, employment tribunal and offending. I have given expert witness evidence in court 18 times in the past 3 years.

My undergraduate research was concerned with the cognitive-behavioural treatment of flying phobia and my post-graduate dissertation concerned the development of a group cognitive-behavioural program for the management of treatment-resistant depression.

From February 1999 to June 2003 I held a Clinical Psychologist post in adult community mental health at Norfolk Mental Health Care NHS Trust. This role consisted of clinical, strategic, research and teaching duties.

Prior to this I was employed as a children and families psychologist at community mental health service in Brisbane, Australia. I also operated a successful private general psychological practice in Brisbane. Concurrently, I was appointed as an academic tutor at undergraduate and postgraduate levels in counselling and clinical psychology, community mental health and behavioural medicine.

From August 1994 to November 1998 I held several continuous research assistant posts with the Department of Psychiatry at The University of Queensland. During this time I was been employed widely in research duties on programs concerned with traumatic stress, conduct disorder/oppositional-defiant disorder, food refusal in preschoolers, schizophrenia, alcohol abuse and marital conflict, and mental health service delivery. This included working for three years on the Positive Parenting of Preschoolers (PPP) program, which consisted of family assessment and intervention.

In 1992, I was appointed as a group co-facilitator on the sex offender program at a Brisbane prison, and as a group co-facilitator for domestic violence perpetrators at the Queensland branch of a national private marriage guidance organisation.

<i>Qualification</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Institution</i>
Bachelor of Arts (Psychology)	1995	The University of Queensland, Australia
Postgraduate Honours (Psychology)	1996	The University of Queensland, Australia
Master of Clinical Psychology	2000	Griffith University, Australia
Statement of Equivalence in Clinical Psychology	2002	British Psychological Society

Experience

Research Assistant - Psychiatry	1994-1998	The University of Queensland, Australia
Curriculum Development Officer (Community Mental Health)	1995-1997	The University of Queensland, Australia
Tutor/Honorary Lecturer	1997-2003	The University of Queensland, Griffith University, University of East Anglia
Research Consultant	1997	University of Montreal
Psychologist	1997/8	Private Practice - Brisbane, Australia
Psychologist	1998	Caboolture Mental Health Services, Australia
Clinical Psychologist	1999-2003	Norfolk Mental Health Care NHS Trust
Clinical Psychologist	1999-present	The St. Giles Clinic, Norwich

AREAS OF MEDICO-LEGAL EXPERTISE

Child protection, care proceedings, private law

- Assessment of adult mental health and mental illness
- Assessment of personality disorder
- Substance misuse
- Domestic violence
- Psychometric assessment of cognitive functioning
 - Intelligence
 - Memory
 - Attention
 - Concentration
 - Executive functioning
- Psychological assessment of children
- Assessment of attachment
- Parenting assessment
- Family assessment
- Adoption assessment
- Assessment of malingering and false responding

Personal injury and employment

- Assessment of psychological injury, specialising in trauma
- Psychometric assessment
- Assessment of malingering and false responding

Forensic

- Psychometric assessment of cognitive functioning
- Assessment of mental illness
- Assessment of personality disorder
- Assessment of victims of crime