

MARCY AXNESS

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CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Early Human Development, The Union Institute and University, 2003
Dissertation: *Malattachment and the Self Struggle: Separation, Survival and Healing*

M.A.(eq), Developmental Psychology, The Union Institute and University, 1997

B.A., Theater Arts, UCLA (minors in Psychology and French), *Cum Laude*, 1977

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

Whole Person Fertility Program: Multidisciplinary intervention model to facilitate mind-body reproductive health; comprehensive training/continuing supervision. (2003-present)

CURRENT & RECENT EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty:

Santa Barbara Graduate Institute (2004-present)

The Union Institute and University, College of Undergraduate Studies (2004-2005)

Quantum Parenting: Private psycho-educational counseling practice specializing in fertility, adoption, pregnancy psychology, early parenting and parent development, from pre-conception/pre-adoption through school-age; professional CEU and in-service training in developmentally supportive approaches to infant care, early education, adoption, psycho-social disorders; educational talks for parents presented in a variety of community settings. (2003 – present)

Adoption Insight: Author, speaker, counselor and educational consultant specializing in the social, emotional, and spiritual issues involved in infertility and adoption, with particular expertise in the prenatal and perinatal implications; featured expert on the largest adoption information and support forum on the internet, and on www.ClubMom.com. (1993 – present)

Association for Prenatal & Perinatal Psychology and Health: Communications & Development committee member; speaker. (Current)

The Crib: Advisory Board member of this Los Angeles transitional home for young women with unplanned or crisis pregnancies who have chosen to be mothers; unaffiliated with any religious or political organization or position. (2003 – present)

Neurons 2 Neighborhoods: Core committee member of this leading source of research & community education on early trauma – causes, effects, healing and prevention. (2003 – 2006)

Doctoral Committee Member, The Union Institute and University (2000 – 2004)

Chair, LAPIS (Los Angeles Prenatal Information & Support) ~ A Local Outreach of APPPAH (Assn. for Prenatal & Perinatal Psychology and Health): Community education organization. (1998 – 2001)

Highland Hall Waldorf School, Northridge, CA: Board of Trustees member

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CBS News, Lifetime Television, The Disney Channel, Showtime: Writer/producer/director, specializing in health & culture topics; received Associated Press and Golden Mike awards for "Herpes: The Silent Epidemic" (1981) and an Emmy nomination for the CBS feature magazine story, "Adoptees in Search" (1980.)

LECTURER / PRESENTER

- 2006 "Psychological Development in the Womb" and "Psychological Development in the Infant", 16th *Natural & Conscious Pregnancy and Birth* conference of REHUNA and Instituto Aurora, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: Plenary presentations
- 2006 "What Babies Want Us to Know About... Being Adopted", *Journey Into Life* (regional conference of APPPAH), University of Minnesota: Plenary presentation.
- 2005-6 The Maple Counseling Center, Beverly Hills, CA: MFT intern trainings.
- 2006 San Luis Obispo Dept. of Social Svcs w/ Cuesta College Foster/Kinship Care's Specialized Adoptive Parent Training, CA: Parent & professional training.
- 2005-6 California State University Northridge (CSUN), Dept. of Educational Psychology, CA: Guest lecturer.
- 2005 West Valley Occupational Center, Continuing Education, Woodland Hills, CA: Teacher training.
- 2004-5 Simi Valley Psychotherapists' Network, Simi Valley, CA: Continuing education.
- 2004 Northridge Hospital Family Practice, Northridge, CA: Resident physician training.
- 2004 Highland Hall Waldorf School, Northridge, CA: Parent & faculty training.
- 2004 American Montessori School, Eagle Rock, CA: Faculty training.
- 2004 25th Annual conference of the American Adoption Congress, Kansas City, MO: Keynote speaker.
- 2003 San Bernardino County Adoption Services, CA: Divisional staff training.
- 2003 9th Biennial Conference on Open Adoption, Traverse City, MI: Plenary speaker / workshop presenter.
- 2003 RESOLVE, Greater Los Angeles Chapter, Annual Adoption Conference: Plenary speaker.
- 2001 "Birth: The Genesis of Health," Association for Pre- and Perinatal Psychology and Health's 10th Int'l Congress, San Francisco, CA: Panel speaker.
- 2001 CUB (Concerned United Birthparents) National Conference, Carlsbad, CA: Keynote presenter.
- 2001 "2001: An Adoption Odyssey," 23^d Annual Conference of the American Adoption Congress, Anaheim, CA: Workshop presenter.
- 1999 "Birth & Consciousness in the New Millennium," Association for Pre- and Perinatal Psychology and Health's 9th Int'l Congress, San Francisco, CA: Panel speaker.
- 1999 Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute's "Ethics and Adoption" conference, Anaheim, CA: Workshop presenter.
- 1999 7th Biennial Conference on Open Adoption, Traverse City, MI: Plenary speaker / workshop presenter.
- 1998 National Conference on Adoption, Lincoln University, Christchurch, New Zealand: Featured keynote speaker.
- 1997 "Birth, Love and Relationships," Association for Pre- and Perinatal Psychology and Health's 8th Int'l Congress, San Francisco, CA: Panel speaker.

- 1997 "Open Adoption in Practice," 8th Annual Conference of National Federation of Open Adoption Education, Walnut Creek, CA: Workshop presenter.
- 1997 6th Biennial Conference on Open Adoption, Traverse City, MI: Plenary speaker / workshop presenter.
- 1996 18th Annual Conference of the American Adoption Congress, Baltimore, MD: Workshop presenter.
- 1995 3rd Annual Conference of CERA (Council for Equal Rights in Adoption), New York, NY: Workshop presenter.
- 1995 17th Annual Conference of the American Adoption Congress, Las Vegas, NV: Workshop presenter.
- 1994 2nd Annual Conference of CERA (Council for Equal Rights in Adoption), New York, NY: Workshop presenter.

PROFESSIONAL / SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

- 2005 "Malattachment and the Self Struggle," *Journal of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Health*, 19(2).
- 2003 "To Praise or Not to Praise: What Children Need to Hear and Not Hear from Parents and Teachers," *Renewal, A Journal of Waldorf Education*, 12(1).
- 2002 "Toward a Fluid Dance in Seamless Dress: The Field of Pre- and Perinatal Development Challenges Researchers to Integrate Scientific and Spiritual Orientations," *Journal of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Health*, 16(2) (reprinted from its original publication, below.)
- 2001 "When Does Adoption Begin?," American Adoption Congress *Decree*, (18)2.
- 2001 "Towards A Fluid Dance in Seamless Dress: The Field of Pre- and Perinatal Development Challenges Researchers to Integrate Scientific and Spiritual Orientations," *Journal of Faith and Science Exchange*, Vol. IV, 327-338.
- 2000 "The Primal Wound: A Therapist Counsels Adoptive Parents," chapter of *A Workbook for Prospective Adoptive Parents*, New Zealand Dept. of Child, Youth and Family Services.
- 1999 "Point of View: Thoughts On Prenatal Stimulation," (with Laura Uplinger), *APPPAH Newsletter*, February.
- 1998 "The Baby Dance," *APPPAH Newsletter*, Summer.
- 1996 "Growing Up Adopted: An Inquiry into Limitations, Interpretations, and Implications of The Search Institute's 1994 Adoptive Family Study," American Adoption Congress *Decree*, (13)4.
- 1995 "Authentic Beginnings, Real Bonds: Honest Talk About Adoption," *National Association of Social Workers California News*, December/January.

POPULAR PUBLICATIONS

- 2006 *Adoption Parenting*, Jean McLeod and Sheena Macrae, editors, EMK Press: Contributor.
- 2006 "Keeping Our Children Whole: Preventive Parenting in a Noisy World," *Down to Birth* (Australia), Winter 2006.
- Since
2005 Featured parenting columnist, *The Wet Set Gazette*.
- 2004 *Pregnancy* magazine, "What's Going on in There?": Featured prenatal specialist.

- 2004 Letter to the Editor, *Los Angeles Times Calendar Weekend* ("Alt Moms"), June 17.
- 2002 Letter to the Editor, *Los Angeles Times Sunday Magazine* ("Fairy Glimmer"), October 27.
- 1999 "Affirming the Adoptee's Reality: A Way To Intimacy," *Roots & Wings* magazine, Spring.
- 1998 "Double Exposure: Portrait of A Reunion," *CUB Communicator*, May/June.
- 1998 *Painful Lessons, Loving Bonds ~ The Heart of Open Adoption* (Adoption Insight Series, Vol. I)
- 1998 *What Is Written On The Heart ~ Primal Issues in Adoption* (Adoption Insight Series, Vol. II)
- 1998 Letter to the Editor, *Time* (Adoption), September 7.
- 1998 "To Praise or Not To Praise: The Evolution of One Mother's Philosophy," *Children*, April.
- 1998 Letter to the Editor, *USA Today* ("Petrie Dish Babies"), January 13.
- 1997 Letter to the Editor, *Los Angeles Times Sunday Magazine* ("Future of Mothering"), June 22.
- 1996 "Many Hands: One Adoptee's Healing Journey," *Roots & Wings*, Winter.
- 1996 Letter to the Editor, *Harper's Bazaar* (Adoption), January.
- 1995 "Second Rejection: The Pain After Reunion," *CUB Communicator*, September.
- 1995 "A Mother's Call to Healing," *The Whole Life Times*, July.
- 1994 "Babies Separated From Mothers At Birth," *Wet Set Gazette*, September.
- 1994 "What Is 'The Primal Wound'?", *Wet Set Gazette*, August.
- 1993-5 Featured writer, *Roots & Wings* adoption magazine.

MEDIA

- 2006 "The K-Earth Community Lights" with Vivian Porter, K-Earth 101-FM, Los Angeles, CA: Featured child development/parenting expert.
- 2005 "Shrink Rap" radio program hosted by Phyllis Chase and Jim Walton, KCSN, Northridge, CA: Featured expert discussing adoption.
- 2004 *Trauma, Brain, and Relationship: Helping Children Heal* (documentary), Philantho Films in assn. with Santa Barbara Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara, CA: Featured expert.
- 1997 "Edmonton Tonight" radio program hosted by Leslie Primeau on CHED, Alberta, Canada: Featured interview guest.

EXPERT TESTIMONY

- 1998 Independent expert consultant for visitation proceedings, client of Rosie Rusca, J.D., Fresno, CA.
- 1997 Expert consultant for adoption litigation, Rita L. Swenor, J.D., San Francisco, CA.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Health
 American Adoption Congress