

# CURRICULUM VITA

## ARLENE BRETT GORDON

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Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (Florida MFT 1727)

### EDUCATION

Nova Southeastern University  
School of Social and Systemic Studies  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Doctoral Degree in Philosophy, 1998  
Master of Science, 1992  
Marriage and Family Therapy

Queens College  
City University of New York

Master of Science, 1974  
Elementary Education  
Minor in Sociology

Long Island University  
Greenvale, New York

Bachelor of Science, 1971  
Elementary Education  
Minor in Sociology

### PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Brief Therapy Institute  
Department of Family Therapy  
Graduate School of Humanities  
Social Sciences  
Nova Southeastern University  
3301 College Avenue  
Ft Lauderdale, Florida 33314

2007-present  
Director, Supervisor  
Brief Therapy Institute  
Department of Family Therapy

Families Facing Solutions, Inc.  
9648 NW 7<sup>th</sup> Circle  
Plantation, Florida 33324

1993- present  
Author, Director, Trainer  
Program Development  
Train professionals and paraprofessionals  
for solution-focused family support

Brief Therapy Institute  
Nova Southeastern University  
3301 College Drive  
Ft Lauderdale, Florida 33314

1998- present  
Adjunct Faculty  
Practicum Advisor/Supervisor  
Individual, Couple and Family Therapy

Sociology Department  
Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences  
Nova Southeastern University  
3301 College Drive  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33329

2010-present  
Adjunct Faculty  
Sociology/Family Studies

Child and Youth Studies  
Fischler Graduate School of Education  
and Human Services  
Nova Southeastern University  
1750 NE 167<sup>th</sup> Street  
North Miami, Beach, Florida 33162

2000- 2005  
Applied Research Committee Chair

Early Childhood Department  
Farquhar Center  
Nova Southeastern University  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33329

1995-2001  
Adjunct Faculty  
Early Childhood Education

VOICES Outreach Project  
Nova Southeastern University  
3301 College Avenue  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33314

1997- 1999  
Assistant Director  
Family Therapy and Educational Outreach  
SAMSHA Project

Family Therapy Associates  
Nova University  
3301 SW 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33322

1990-1996  
Family Therapy,  
Crisis Counselor, Intensive Crisis Counseling  
Program (1993-1996)

Early Childhood Teacher  
University School  
Nova University  
Coral Springs, Florida 33065

1988-1990  
1982-1984  
Classroom Teacher  
Parenting workshops

Elementary Education Teacher  
New York City Board of Education  
District 28, Queens

1975-1979  
Classroom Teacher  
Reading Specialist

1971-1975  
Experimental Laboratory School  
Teacher Training

### FAMILIES FACING SOLUTIONS

Family Central  
840 SW 81<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
North Lauderdale, Florida 33068

2011- present  
Trainer, Reflective Supervision  
Project Consultant

Henderson Mental Health Center  
Youth and Family Services  
44720 North State Road 7  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33319

2003- 2013  
Trainer, Supervision of Supervision  
Early Intervention and Prevention Teams

Children's Home Society  
401 NE 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33301

2000- 2010  
Trainer, Consultant

<p>Early Discovery, Young Children with Special Needs And Disabilities University of Miami Mailman Center for Child Development 1601 NW 12th Ave Miami, FL 33136</p>	<p>2006-2009 Consultant: Service Resource Network Children 0-5</p>
<p>Children's Services Council, Palm Beach 2300 High Ridge Road Boynton Beach FL 33426</p>	<p>1999- 2009 Consultant and Trainer Program Development</p>
<p>Children's Services Council 6301 NW 5th Way, Suite 3000, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309</p>	<p>2002-2009 Trainer On-going workshops</p>
<p>Jumpstart to Permanency Children's Home Society 401 NE 4<sup>th</sup> Street Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33301</p>	<p>2004- 2005, 2007 Program Design, Supervision Family Therapy; Children and Families</p>
<p>Family Central 840 SW 81<sup>st</sup> Avenue North Lauderdale, Florida 33068</p>	<p>2003- 2004 Trainer Early Intervention and Prevention Team</p>
<p>Children's Case Management Organization 1720 East Tiffany Drive West Palm Beach, Florida 33407</p>	<p>2000- 2001 Trainer, Supervision</p>
<p>Alternate Family Care 10001 West Oakland Park Blvd. Sunrise, Florida 33351</p>	<p>1998- 2002 Consultant, Trainer Program Design and Implementation</p>
<p>Parenting Partners Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Palm Beach 2112 Congress Avenue South West Palm Beach, Florida 33406</p>	<p>2000-2002 Trainer, Program Development</p>
<p>Children's Home Society 2100 45<sup>th</sup> Street West Palm Beach, Florida 33407</p>	<p>2000- 2002 Trainer, Program Development</p>
<p>Catholic Charities Mentoring Moms 900 54<sup>th</sup> Street West Palm Beach, Florida 33407</p>	<p>2000 Trainer, Consultant</p>
<p>Healthy Families Broward Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc. 915 Middle River Drive, Suite 521 Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33304</p>	<p>1999-2000 Trainer</p>

Family Central 840 SW 81 <sup>st</sup> Avenue North Lauderdale, Florida 33068	1994-1998 Trainer: Family Mentors Program Development (Dissertation Project)
Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services 201 W. Broward Blvd., Room 402 Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33301	1994 Trainer of Caseworkers
Keeping Families Together Children's Home Society 401 N.E. 4th St. Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33301	1993 Trainer of Social Workers

### LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

Marriage and Family Therapy License (Florida #MFT 1727).

AAMFT Clinical Fellow (#38066)

AAMFT Approved Supervisor (2007)

State Approved Supervisor (Florida)

Brazelton Touchpoints Center Certification, Touchpoints Faculty Level Training, Boston, MA, (November, 2004).

Brazelton Touchpoints Center Certification, Touchpoints Individual Level Training, Boston, MA, (May, 2004).

Family Mediation Certification Training (40 Hours), Nova Southeastern University. January, 1998.

Hypnosis Certification Training (40 Hours), Nova Southeastern University. August, 1996.

### MANUSCRIPTS

Reiter, M. D. & Gordon, A. B. (2013). Solution Focused Brief Therapy. In M. D. Reiter, *Case Conceptualization in Family Therapy*. Boston: Pearson.

Flemons, D., Liscio, M., Gordon, A.B., Hibbel, J., Gutierrez-Hersh, A., & Rebholz, C. (2010). Fostering solutions: Bringing brief therapy principles and practices to the child welfare system. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 36, 80-95.

Gordon, A.B. (2000). *Family Resolutions: A comprehensive program for families with children having severe emotional disturbances*. Training manual developed for Alternate Family Care.

Shilts, L. & Gordon, A.B. (1996). What to do after the miracle occurs. *The Journal of Family Psychotherapy*, 7, 15-22.

Gordon, A.B. (1996). *Families Facing Solutions Paraprofessional Module*. Self-published training manual.

Gordon, A.B. (1995, 2008). *Families Facing Solutions Mental Health Module*. Self-published training manual.

Gordon, A.B. (1995, 2008). *Families Facing Solutions: A curriculum for training family mentors*. Self-published training manual.

Shilts, L. & Gordon, A.B. (1993). Simplifying the Miracle Question. *Family Therapy Case Studies*, 7, 53-59.

## RESEARCH AND GRANTS

Nova Southeastern University President's Quality of Life Grant, The Use of a Patient-Centered Relationship Enrichment Training Program to Improve Quality of Life for Caregivers and Stroke Survivors, 2013-2014

Nova Southeastern University Chancellor's Faculty Research and Development Grant, Coping Style in a Group of Diverse Families with a Young Child with Autism. 2010-2011.

Nova Southeastern University President's Quality of Life Grant, Two Models of Parenting Support for Families with Children with Autism. 2009-2010

## PRESENTATIONS

2014 Solution Focused Expo. Orlando, FL., February 14, 2014." Classroom Solutions Using the WOWW Approach".

2014 Solution Focused Expo. Orlando, FL., February 14, 2014." Multiple Layers of Solution Focused Supervision in a University Clinical Training Program".

2014 Solution Focused Expo. Orlando, FL., February 16, 2014."SFBT and Refugees: Tapping into the Dialogue of Hope and Expectancy for Change".

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). Portland, OR. October 18, 2013. "Relational Backpacking for Family Journeys with Autism".

2013 Florida Alcohol & Drug Abuse Association (FADAA)/Florida Council for Community Mental Health (FCCMH) Annual Conference, Our Time, Our Future, Orlando, FL. August 8, 2013, "Solution-Focused Conflict Resolution", Part 1 and Part 2.

Florida Alcohol & Drug Abuse Association, Lake Mary, FL, March 14-15, 2013. "Solution-Focused Brief Therapy".

2012 Conference of Solution-Focused Practices, Minneapolis, MN, November 16, 2012. "Hope & Expectancy in Brief Solution Focused Therapy".

Florida Certification Board, Florida Department of Children and Families, Jacksonville, FL., June 18-20, 2012. "Solution-Focused Brief Therapy" and "Solution-Focused Supervision".

Florida Certification Board, Florida Department of Children and Families, Orlando, FL., April 5, 2012. "Solution-Focused Brief Therapy"

Florida Certification Board, Florida Department of Children and Families, Miami, FL., March 28-29, 2012. "Solution-Focused Brief Therapy".

The 11<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Ericksonian Approaches to Psychotherapy: Transforming Ericksonian Methods, Phoenix, AZ, December 8-11, 2011. "The Utilization of Expectation in Solution Focused Brief Therapy".

Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapists Conference, Deerfield Beach, FL, May 14, 2011. "Hope & Expectancy in Brief Solution Focused Therapy".

Brief Therapy Conference: Lasting Solutions, Orlando, FL, December 9-12, 2010. "Solution-Focused Marathon Sessions".

Family Pathways Conference, Butler, PA, May 24 -25, 2010. "Solution-Focused Brief Therapy for Community Practitioners".

Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapists Conference, Deerfield Beach, FL, May 16, 2010. "Solution-Focused Documents for Practitioners".

Turning Points: Issues in Autism Across the Life Span, Ft. Lauderdale, FL., February 13, 2010. "A Supportive Approach for Families Living with Autism."

Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapists Conference, Deerfield Beach, FL, May 1, 2009. "Solution-Focused Marathon Sessions".

Broward Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Workshop, Fort Lauderdale, FL, November 21, 2008. "Solution-Focused Brief Therapy with Children".

2008 Conference of Solution-Focused Practices, Austin, TX, November 14, 2008. "Families Facing Solutions: Solution-Focused Family Education".

Fifth Annual South Florida Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect: Turn on the Light. West Palm Beach, FL, October 23, 2008. "Using a Solution-Focused Approach to Engage Challenging Clients."

2008 Spring NEW Partnership Child Welfare Conference. Wausau and Green Bay, WI, April 24 & 25, 2008. "Solution-Focused Interviewing: Building Solutions Together with Families".

NEFAMFT Workshop, Jacksonville, FL. November 16, 2007. "Building Solutions Together: Solution-Focused Interviewing".

Fourth Annual Solution Focused Brief Therapy Conference, Denver, CO, November 4, 2006. "Weathering the Storm".

2006 Spring NEW Partnership Child Welfare Conference. Green Bay, WI, May 9, 2006. "Solution-Focused Interviewing: Building Solutions Together with Families".

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, Plantation, FL, February 18, 2005. "Advanced Practices in Brief Solution Focused Therapy".

National Council on Family Relations, 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Orlando, FL, November 17-20, 2004. "Solution Focused Approach: An Enhancement to Family Life Education".

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Issues in Marriage and Family Therapy, Valdosta, GA, August 23 & 24, 2004. "A Solution Focused Approach to Group Work".

First Annual Solution Focused Brief Therapy Conference. Loma Linda, CA, November 3, 2003. "Solution Focused Documentation".

14<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Central Inc. Education Conference. Ft. Lauderdale, FL, October 3 & 4, 2003. "Families Facing Solutions".

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on Issues in Marriage and Family Therapy, Valdosta, GA, June 7, 2003. "Working with Involuntary Clients and Their Families: A Solution Focused Approach".

Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (FAMFT). Delray Beach, FL, May 23-25, 2003. Annual Conference: "Solution Focused Program Development".

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). Chicago, October 9, 1999. "Resolving Family Violence with Mediation and Therapy".

New Clinical Directions: The First Annual Dissertation Fair. Nova Southeastern University. September 11, 1998. "Families Facing Solutions: Training for Home-Based Workers".

Children's Home Society. The Road Less Traveled: Adoption Conference. November, 1996. "Solution-Focused Parenting for the Adopted Child".

New York State Conference on Psychiatric Rehabilitation: Theories, Practices, Outcomes. May 5, 1995. "Parents with Mental Illness: Striving for Success."

Atlanta Families Conference '95. Southeastern Council On Family Relations. February 25, 1995. "Family Education: A Community Solution."

Florida Association For Marriage And Family Therapy 1994 Annual Conference: The Magic of Family Resiliency. May 7, 1994. "Magic Words: Therapeutic Letter Writing."

The Interagency Adoption Council's Second Annual Adoption Forum, sponsored by the Children's Home Society, Catholic Community Services and the Dept. of Health and Rehabilitative Service. November 6, 1993. "Telling Your Child They're Adopted."

Children's Home Society. 1993. "Child Development for Parents of Adopted Children."

## CONFERENCES

2014 Solution Focused Expo. Orlando, FL., February 14-16, 2014.

American Association for Marriage and Family therapy (AAMFT), Portland, OR., October 16-20, 2013.

2012 Conference of Solution-Focused Practices, Solution-Focused Brief Therapy Association, November 15-17, 2012, Minneapolis, MN.

The 11<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Ericksonian Approaches to Psychotherapy: Transforming Ericksonian Methods, December 8-11, 2011, Phoenix, Arizona.

Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapists Conference, May 14, 2011, Deerfield Beach, Florida

Brief Therapy Conference: Lasting Solutions, December 9-12, 2010, Orlando, Florida.

Broward Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Workshop, Two Days with David Epston: A New Genre of Working with the Problems of Young People in their Families and Communities, June 18, 2010, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Annual Conference, May 1-2, 2009, Deerfield Beach, Florida.

Solution Focused Practices, Solution Focused Association Sixth Annual Conference, November 13-15, 2008, Austin, Texas.

Solution Focused Practices, Solution Focused Association Fifth Annual Conference, November 1-4, 2007, Toronto, Canada

Solution Focused Practices, Solution Focused Association Fourth Annual Conference, November 1-4, 2006, Denver, Colorado.

Solution Focused Practices, Solution Focused Association Third Annual Conference, November 3-5, 2005, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Inequalities and Families, National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference, November 17-20, 2004, Orlando, FL.

Solution Focused Practices, Solution Focused Association Second Annual Conference, November 4-7, 2004, Park City, Utah.

Solution Focused Practices, Solution Focused Association Conference, November 1-4, 2003, Loma Linda, California.

Brief Therapy: Lasting Solutions, The Brief Therapy Conference, December 12-15, 2002, Orlando Florida.

Prevention Works, 12<sup>th</sup> Statewide Child Abuse Prevention Conference, September 10-13, 2000, Orlando, Florida.

American Association for Marriage and Family therapy (AAMFT), Chicago, October 8-11, 1999.

Child Abuse and Prevention & Family Preservation Conference, September 13-16, 1998, Tampa, Florida.

ICCP/Family Builders Family Preservation Conference, May 17-19, 1995, Statewide Conference sponsored by the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services.

Intensive Crisis Counseling and Family Builders Providers, Fall 1993, Statewide Conference sponsored by the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services.

The Fifth International Congress on Ericksonian Approach to Hypnosis and Psychotherapy in Phoenix, Arizona, December 1992.

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, The 50th Anniversary Conference, Miami, October, 1992

Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Conference, Spring 1991.



## AWARDS

Nominee for NSU Administrator of the Year, Student Life Achievement Award,  
Nova Southeastern University, 2013.

Andres Nazario, Jr. Diversity Award, Florida Association for Marriage and Family, 2003.

Nominee for NSU Alumnus of the Year, Student Life Achievement Award,  
Nova Southeastern University, 2003.

Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nova  
Southeastern University, 2002.