



***Gitu Bhatia, Psy.D.***

***Licensed Clinical Psychologist (PSY18274)***

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Los Angeles, CA 90049

## EDUCATION

**Doctor of Psychology (2000)**

Graduate School of Education and Psychology  
Pepperdine University

**Master of Science, Counseling and Guidance (1985)**

Outstanding Graduate Student Award -1985  
Graduate Dean's List of University Scholars and Artists-1985

**Pupil Personnel Services Clear Credential, CA. 1985-present**

Graduate School of Educational Psychology  
California State University Long Beach

**Bachelor of Education (1981)**

**Bachelor of Science - Child Development (1980)**

Lady Irwin College  
University of Delhi, New Delhi, India.

Dr. Bhatia has extensive experience working with individuals, couples and families to overcome a range of psychological and emotional issues. She provides psychotherapy, parent training and support, and professional consultation. She specializes in working with families going through divorce and separation as a family mediator, divorce coach for families in a collaborative divorce process, and co-parenting educator for high conflict families. In addition to her private practice, she is an adjunct faculty member in the Graduate School of Psychology at [Pepperdine University](http://www.pepperdine.edu). She enjoys teaching and has conducted trainings and provides consultation for therapists, teachers, and parents on several subjects related to human development.

Given her own multicultural background, Dr. Bhatia brings her cultural sensitivity, awareness and competence to all aspects of her work. She is 2015 President of the Los Angeles County Psychological Association and has co-chaired the organization's Diversity Committee for several years, actively raising awareness regarding the impact of diversity on mental health and family law practice. She is also a member of the California Psychological Association's CARE Program (Colleague Awareness Resources and Education) executive committee.

Dr. Bhatia trained as a divorce coach and child specialist, and worked as a family mediator for the Superior Court of Los Angeles for over 10 years. She also served on the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Collaborative Family Law Association. It has been her mission to make the process of divorce, for the children and families, as humane and as emotionally safe as possible.

## **PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND**

**August 2002 – Present: Private Practice**

**May 2003 – Present: Adjunct Faculty,  
Graduate School of Education & Psychology  
Pepperdine University, CA**

**October 2000 – July 2002: Staff Psychologist  
Child and Family Guidance Center, Northridge, CA**

**September 1999 - August 2000: Psychology Intern  
Child and Family Guidance Center, Northridge, CA**

**September 1993 - June 1994: Peer Mediation Supervisor (Volunteer)  
Alternative Dispute Resolution, John Adams Middle School, Santa Monica, CA.**

**June 1985 - August 1996: Senior Family Mediator As-needed  
Family Mediation and Conciliation Service of Los Angeles  
Superior Court of Los Angeles**

**September 1984 - May 1985: Family Mediator-Intern  
Family Mediation and Conciliation Service of Los Angeles  
Superior Court of Los Angeles**

## **Professional Associations**

Dr. Bhatia has been an active member and served in significant ways in the organizations listed below. She has made educational presentations at annual events of each of these organizations. She is currently President-Elect of LACPA, where she previously co-chaired the Diversity Committee. Dr. Bhatia has also served as a member of the board of directors of Los Angeles Collaborative Family Law Association for 5 years. On the California Psychological Association, she is a member of the executive committee for the CARE Program (Colleague Awareness Resources and Education).

**[California Psychological Association \(CPA\) C.A.R.E. Executive Committee](#)  
[Los Angeles County Psychological Association \(LACPA\) 2015 President](#)  
[Los Angeles Collaborative Family Law Association \(LACFLA\)](#)  
[Association of Family Conciliation Courts \(AFCC\)](#)**

## Recent Presentations

- Tools and Strategies for Families Going Through Divorce – LACPA 26th Annual Convention, October 18, 2014
- Divorce- Lisa Zonder Style on Divorcetalkradio.com – Guest speaker on several episodes involving divorce discussions.
- Cultural Competency In Family Practice: Piercing the Veil of Culture - University of West Los Angeles, School of Law, 2013
- Therapist Self-Care from Diverse Perspectives – Annual CPA convention 2012, Monterey, California.
- Cultural Complexities in Child Custody Decisions – The Association of Family and Conciliation Courts California Annual Conference, 2012 Los Angeles.
- Cultural Complexities in Family Law Matters – The Association of Family and Conciliation Courts California Annual Conference, February, 2011 San Francisco.
- Cultural Complexities in Family Law Matters – AFCC National annual conference in Orlando, Florida, 2011.
- Complexities of Culture in Dispute Resolution in Family Law matters LACFLA 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011.
- Cultural Diversity: Family Practice in a Culturally Diversified Society, Inns of the Court November 2010
- Complexities of Culture: 4 Hour Continuing Education workshop LACPA 2010
- Annual Board of Directors LACPA Diversity Training 2007-present

Additional presentations over the years cover a range of topics related to parent training, human development and communication.

## Websites

[www.gitubhatia.com](http://www.gitubhatia.com)

[www.culturecounts.net](http://www.culturecounts.net)