



**Darkstone Research Group and
Multi-Health Systems**

present:

**Assessing Psychopathy in Youth:
Clinical and Forensic Applications of the Hare Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version**

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David Kosson, Ph.D.**

**Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science
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There is growing theoretical and applied interest in the construct of psychopathy as it applies to children and adolescents. This attention is due in part to research with adults that has demonstrated a strong relationship between psychopathy and serious repetitive crime, violent behavior and a poor treatment response. The lack of evidence for successful intervention with adult psychopaths highlights the importance of identifying psychopathic traits early in development. There is also increasing interest in distinguishing among youth who commit delinquent and violent acts. Legitimate concerns exist over the potential for misuse of any scale designed to assess psychopathy in youths, in particular with respect to labeling and access to treatment.

In this two-day workshop, participants will learn about research on the manifestation of psychopathy in youth and how to administer, score, and interpret the *Hare Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version (PCL:YV)*. The PCL:YV is a 20-item rating scale for the assessment of psychopathic traits in adolescent offenders and was adapted from the *Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised*, the most widely used measure of psychopathy in adults.

The workshop is intended primarily for mental health clinicians and researchers who are interested in knowing how to evaluate psychopathy in youth. This workshop would also be useful to personnel in the mental health and juvenile justice systems (e.g., probation/parole officers, social workers, counselors) whose work requires, or would benefit from, knowledge about the manifestation of psychopathy in adolescents, its measurement, and implications.

Workshop Content Day 1

- Conceptual issues related to psychopathy
- Etiology of psychopathy
- Development of the PCL:YV
- Reliability and validity of the PCL:YV
- Description of related measures
- Association between DSM-IV disruptive disorders and psychopathy

- Clinical and forensic implications and applications
- Overview of assessment format and methods
- Administration procedures: interviews and collateral reviews
- Scoring: Item ratings, item definitions

Workshop Content Day 2

- Scoring of vignette cases
- Scoring of practice case
- Ethical issues and cautions about use
- Incorporating the PCL:YV in clinical decision-making

Workshop Objectives

At the conclusion to this program, participants should be able to:

- Describe the conceptual and theoretical issues related to psychopathy
- Distinguish the differences between the PCL:YV criteria for psychopathy and DSM-IV criteria for disruptive disorders
- Differentiate between the different methods of assessing psychopathic features in youth
- Explain the administration and scoring of the PCL:YV
- Identify appropriate uses and limitations of the PCL:YV

Everyone attending this Workshop will receive a Document of Attendance. This Workshop serves as a prerequisite for participation in the Hare PCL-R Post-Workshop Training Program. In this Program, a participant receives and scores 8 standardized videotaped standardized cases and receives case-by-base and item-by-item feedback. This leads to the Hare PCL-R Post-Workshop Certificate of Completion.

Participants of this workshop are eligible to receive a 15% discount on the PCL:YV Preview Set (\$142 US) (not required for workshop attendance). Those who are interested need to contact the MHS Customer Service Department to order their Preview Set (1-800-268-6011). When calling, participants will need to let the CS Department know they are eligible for the 15% discount. Preview Sets will *not* be available for purchase at the workshop.

Multi-Health Systems (MHS) is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. MHS maintains responsibility for this program and its content. This two-day workshop meets the criteria for 14 CE credits.

The Trainers

Adelle Forth, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor at the Department of Psychology at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario. She worked with Dr. Robert Hare to develop the *Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R)* and is the senior author of the *Hare Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version (PCL:YV; Forth, Kosson, & Hare, 2003)*. She is also the co-author on the *Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth*, a risk scale for adolescent violence. Dr. Forth devotes her time to teaching and research on the assessment of psychopathy, the relationship between emotional and cognitive processes and psychopathy, and violence risk

assessment. She has extensive experience training a wide variety of professionals on the administration, scoring, and use of the PCL-R and PCL:YV throughout North America and Europe. She has also served as a consultant to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the National Parole Board, Her Majesty's Prison Service, the Pennsylvania Sex Offender Board, and has testified in various court proceedings on the construct of psychopathy. She, in collaboration with Dr. Robert Hare, developed and administers the Darkstone Research Group Training Program. Dr. Forth is noted for her organized, engaging and interactive presentational style.

David Kosson, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor at the Department of Psychology at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science (RFUMS), North Chicago, Illinois. He co-authored the *Hare Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version (PCL:YV)* with Drs. Forth and Hare. Dr. Kosson spends his time studying psychopathy and teaching graduate students in the APA-accredited Clinical Psychology program at RFUMS. His research focuses on the cognitive and emotional mechanisms underlying psychopathy and the assessment of psychopathy and other personality disorders. He has substantial experience training researchers in the administration, scoring, and use of the PCL-R and PCL:YV. He has served as a member of the Biobehavioral and Behavioral Processes Review Panel for the National Institute of Mental Health and is a frequent reviewer of manuscripts for journals of the American Psychological Association. Dr. Kosson is the Treasurer of the Society for the Scientific Study of Psychopathy. He is also in the process of establishing Aftermath, a non-profit organization designed to provide information to individuals recovering from interpersonal relationships with individuals who exhibit psychopathic traits.