

Therapist Questionnaire

Name: Amanda Deverich

Age: 43

Gender: Female

Professional Address: 1769-108 Jamestown Rd. Williamsburg, Virginia,
www.williamsburgcounseling.com

Business Phone: (757) 903-2406

I am registered with the State of Virginia as a *Resident Professional Counselor and Resident Marriage & Family Therapist*.

I have completed the academic requirements for licensure and am in the process of completing the remaining necessary clinical hours required by the state. I work under the guidance of a fully licensed supervisor. More information can be found on my website.

Professional organizations to which I belong:

- *American Counselor Association*
- *Virginia Counselor Association*
- *Virginia Association of Marriage and Family Therapists*
- *American Association of Christian Counselors*

Years in practice: 1

Experience (last three places of employment, beginning with most recent):

1. Years: 3
 Place of Employment: New Horizons Family Counseling Clinic
 Title: Counseling Intern
 Responsibilities: Provided counseling for families confronted with a variety of challenges including chronic illness, suicidal ideation, grief and loss, teen pregnancy, youth aggression, learning disabilities, parenting issues and various diagnosis as ascribed by referring professionals. Such diagnosis included oppositional defiance disorder, encopresis, ADD/ADHD, bipolar and depression.

2. Years: 12
 Place of Employment: Hersch & Company
 Title: Director of Product Development
 Responsibilities: Conceived, designed and developed concepts for license to the toy and game industry. As the supervising producer

for Trivial Pursuit Pop Culture DVD game and other titles, was responsible for supervision, co-ordination and management of subcontractors.

3. Years: 4
Place of Employment: United States Air Force
Title: Human Intelligence Officer
Responsibilities: Collected information for United State Air Force via human intelligence assets. Debriefed returned USAF prisoners of war from Operation Desert Storm.

I specialize in the following areas:

- child therapy
- parenting issues
- marriage counseling
- general family issues/family therapy
- single parenting issues
- divorce issues
- blended family issues
- other: military life, transition, grief and loss

My therapeutic orientation can be described as: (e.g., traditional, behavior modification, biblical, etc...please elaborate)

My formal training at The College of William & Mary is in structural family therapy. I work toward establishing appropriate hierarchies- parent(s) on top- and for the parental subsystem to be working collaboratively. I also work to help the family define and establish appropriate boundaries and roles for all members within the system.

My greatest therapeutic strength is:

My greatest therapeutic strength is compassion and empathy. I draw upon personal as well as professional experience to understand my clients. I respect how difficult it is for people to change, yet constantly encourage it with fresh ideas and ongoing support.

I am married/unmarried/currently separated/divorced. If married currently, is this your first marriage? If not, how many previous marriages? How long have you been married to your current spouse?

I am widowed now three years. We were married for 13 years, together 16.

I have children of my own. **yes**/no. Their ages are: They live with me/my ex/they are emancipated.

I have two daughters. They are 15 and 10. We live happily together- most of the time.

More “in the trenches” life experience: My husband passed away while we were living in Los Angeles. My sister and her husband invited us to live with them and their three children in Williamsburg, Virginia. We did and it was two years of a real live family therapy experiment which I am glad to say worked out well. (Hierarchies, boundaries, rules, communication, patience, love –and prayer!-work.)

At the start of our adventure, the children’s age and sex range were: two 13 year old girls, one 10 year old boy, one 8 year old girl and one 1 year old girl. My sister and her husband later decided they wanted even more- and added another little girl while we were there. We were six kids and three adults in one 2 ½ bathroom home. During that time, my brother in law was stationed in Iraq for 18 months and I earned my Master’s degree. And, we all remained sane.

We now have our own home in Williamsburg. My sister and her family have moved on to their new post in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

This above family experience, my marriage and ultimate loss, and my experience as an Air Force Intelligence officer are integral parts of my training as a marriage and family therapist.

I have registered with www.rosemond.com because...

I agree with John Rosemond’s fundamental views regarding rules and relationship. I especially appreciate his timely and counter-culture message of re-establishing parents in charge. I am comfortable referring my clients to John Rosemond’s writings and seminars.

My general feelings about John Rosemond’s parenting and family philosophy:

*Right on! He is practically and philosophically on the beam. Parenting involves firm leadership as well as developmentally appropriate relationship.**

**I am an abstainer regarding spanking, however. It is not that I am morally repulsed by spanking. Anecdotally, I grew up in a home where I was spanked- even at times out of my mother’s obvious frustration or transferred emotion- and I have no resentment. However, when raising our daughters, my husband laid down the line on this issue and we did not spank. The girls are turning out fine without the technique. In the end, I find most parents would prefer not to*

spank their children, so I help them design and encourage them to be consistent with other discipline (teaching) methods.