



**THE MELISSA INSTITUTE**

*For Violence Prevention and Treatment*



24<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

## **Engaging Active Bystanders to Prevent Violence and Promote Peace**

Ervin Staub, Ph.D.

Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D.



**Friday, May 1, 2020**

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

University of Miami  
Newman Alumni Center  
6200 San Amaro Drive  
Coral Gables, Florida

### **CONTACT US**

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MAIL: **info@melissainstitute.org**

WEB: **www.melissainstitute.org**

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24th Annual Conference

# Engaging Active Bystanders to Prevent Violence and Promote Peace

Friday, May 1, 2020, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Newman Alumni Center, 6200 San Amaro Drive, Coral Gables, Florida

## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

During difficult social conditions, such as economic problems, political upheaval and great societal change, psychological and social processes can lead groups to turn against and victimize others (Staub, 2016). How do we stop this process and encourage empathy, moral courage and altruism? Dr. Ervin Staub, addresses this issue from his years of experience in promoting peace and engaging individuals to become active bystanders. He has found that when individuals have developed an ability to care for the welfare of others who are not members of their own group and have the moral courage to speak out and act according to their values and beliefs in the face of potential or actual opposition, they can counteract these destructive forces that lead to harm doing and violence. In this conference, he will outline the ways to teach and foster these skills to reduce violence and promote peace.

The conference covers the principles of active bystandership, reconciliation after violence, altruism born of suffering, and promoting moral courage. Participants will learn how to help themselves and others overcome barriers and become "active bystanders," to be agents of change in their communities, increase inclusivity and promote peace. The talks will outline the tragic consequences of passivity by bystanders, as in the case of the evolution of hostility and violence that ends in mass killing or genocide, and ways to prevent it.

Additionally, participants will learn the best practices and principles of reconciliation between groups after violence has occurred to help communities heal and prevent future violence. Included in this is altruism born of suffering. This refers to people who, after harm is done to them, do not withdraw or turn against others, but instead try to prevent or stop others' suffering. The talks will describe experiences that help bring about altruism after suffering, without it we would live in an increasingly hostile world. Participants will also learn ways to apply "active bystandership" strategies in clinical practice from renowned expert Dr. Donald Meichenbaum.

## WELCOME

**Lynn Aptman, M.Ed.**, President of The Melissa Institute

**Daniel Santisteban, Ph.D.**, Professor, School of Education and Human Development, Director, Dunspaugh-Dalton Community and Educational Well-Being Research Center University of Miami

**Etiony Aldarondo, Ph.D.**, Executive Director, The Melissa Institute

**Miriam Singer, MPA, B.A.**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Jewish Community Services (JCS)

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this conference, participants will be able to:

- Identify the influences that lead to violence, how hostility and violence evolve progressively and the development of active bystandership.
- Develop processes and activities that contribute to healing and reconciliation after group violence as well as reconciliation between individuals.
- Implement interventions to socialize children and train adults to become active bystanders to be agents of change in their communities, promote peace and prevent violence.
- Utilize active bystandership effectively in the treatment of survivors of trauma.

## TARGET AUDIENCE

Teachers, administrators, school counselors, psychologists, social workers, family mediators, mental health workers, marriage and family therapists, social services agency personnel, juvenile and family court judges, lawyers, law enforcement personnel, clergy, nurses, pediatricians, primary care physicians and psychiatrists.

## PANELISTS

**David Lawrence, Jr.**, Chair, The Children's Movement of Florida

**Alfredo Ramirez III**, Director, Miami-Dade Police Department

**Ivon Mesa, MPA**, Chief Targeted Services Bureau, Community Action and Human Services Department, Miami-Dade County

**Rev. Charles Dinkins, MPA, MDiv**, Director, Urban Partnership of Miami-Dade County Coalition

**Laurie Anne Pearlman, Ph.D.**, Clinical Psychologist and Trauma Consultant

**Ervin Staub, Ph.D.**

## SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, MAY 1

**8:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**8:30 a.m. Welcome and Introductions**

Lynn Aptman, M.Ed., President, The Melissa Institute

Daniel Santisteban, Ph.D., Director of the Dunsbaugh-Dalton Community and Educational Well-Being Research Center, School of Education and Human Development, University of Miami

Etiony Aldarondo, Ph.D., Executive Director, The Melissa Institute

Miriam Singer, President & CEO, Jewish Community Services of South Florida

**9:00 a.m. Witnesses/Bystanders: The Tragic Fruits of Passivity, the Power of Bystanders, and Socialization and Training for Active Bystandership**

Ervin Staub, Ph.D.

*This session focuses on the power of active bystanders and ways to resist passivity and promote caring, helping, moral courage and active bystandership through the socialization of children (and adults) and training.*

**10:30 a.m. Break**

**10:45 a.m. Panel Discussion: Developing a Violence Prevention Action Plan**

David Lawrence Jr.

Alfredo Ramirez III

Ivon Mesa MPA

Rev. Charles Dinkins, MPA

Laurie Anne Pearlman, Ph.D.

Ervin Staub, Ph.D.

**11:45 a.m. Lunch**

**12:45 p.m. Suzanne L. Keeley, Ph.D., Community Service Award Presentation**

**1:00 p.m. Principles and Practices of Reconciliation, Reconciliation and Healing in Rwanda, and Altruism Born of Suffering**

Ervin Staub, Ph.D.

*This session discusses reconciliation between groups after violence and principles and practices of reconciliation. Additionally, the session will focus on how altruism develops after suffering.*

**2:30 p.m. Break**

**2:45 p.m. How Trauma Therapists Incorporate "Bystandership" in Treatment**

Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D.

*This session outlines how therapists can incorporate spirituality and culturally based interventions as a form of supportive "bystandership" in the aftermath of traumatic and victimizing experiences.*

**3:30 p.m. Closing Remarks**

**4:00 p.m. Adjourn**



**Ervin Staub, Ph.D.**, is Professor Emeritus and Founding Director of the doctoral program in the Psychology of Peace and Violence at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He is Past President of the International Society for Political Psychology and of the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict and Violence. His last two Books are the award-

winning *Overcoming Evil: Genocide, Violent Conflict and Terrorism*, 2011 and *The Roots of Goodness and Resistance to Evil: Inclusive caring, moral courage, altruism born of suffering, active bystandership and heroism*, 2015. Among his many intervention initiatives are working with teachers, school administrators and parents to promote altruism in children, projects in Rwanda, Burundi and the Congo to promote reconciliation, programs in Amsterdam to promote positive Dutch-Muslims relations, and training of police to develop active bystandership by officers to stop other officers from doing unnecessary harm, and of students to stop harmful actions by fellow students.



**Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D.**, is Research Director of The Melissa Institute and Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of Waterloo in Ontario. He has served as Distinguished Visiting Professor at the School of Education at the University of Miami. He is one of the founders of cognitive behavior therapy. North American clinicians

voted Dr. Meichenbaum "one of the 10 most influential psychotherapists of the 20th century." He has presented in all 50 states and internationally. Dr. Meichenbaum has published extensively, and his most recent book is *The Evolution of Cognitive Behavior Therapy: A Personal and Professional Journey with Don Meichenbaum*. Other books include *Roadmap to Resilience: A Guide for Military, Trauma Victims and Their Families*; *Treatment of Individuals with Anger-control Problems and Aggressive Behavior*; *Treating Adults with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder*; *Nurturing Independent Learners*; and *Stress Inoculation Training*.



## CREDITS

**PSYCHOLOGISTS:** Jewish Community Services of South Florida (JCS) has been approved by the Florida Board of Psychology and the Florida Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy and Mental Health Counseling to sponsor 6 continuing education credits for mental health professionals.

**FLORIDA BOARD OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY AND MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING:** Jewish Community Services of South Florida (JCS) has been approved by the Florida Board of Psychology and the Florida Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy and Mental Health Counseling to sponsor 6 continuing education credits for mental health professionals.

**EDUCATORS:** Conference registration and payment to The Melissa Institute must be completed prior to registering for Miami-Dade County Public Schools professional development credit online at <http://calendar.dadeschools.net>. Seven (7) master plan points will be awarded to participants who have completed a follow-up activity and have preregistered online with M-DCPS. (Approval pending).

**MEDIATORS:** The Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention and Treatment is a recognized provider of Continuing Mediator Education (CME) credits for Florida Supreme Court certified mediators. This course is eligible for up to 6 CME hours for certified mediators. Mediators are required to self-report those hours applicable to their areas of certification at the time of their renewal. For more information on the CME requirement, visit [www.flcourts.org](http://www.flcourts.org) select Alternative Dispute Resolution/Mediation.

**NURSES:** This continuing education activity has been approved for 6 credits for Nursing and Nurse Practitioners. Baptist Health South Florida CE Broker Provider #50-182.

**PHYSICIANS:** This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essentials and Standards of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint Providership of Baptist Health South Florida and The Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention and Treatment. Baptist Health South Florida is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Baptist Health South Florida designates this live activity for a maximum of 6 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. This activity has been approved for 6 credit hour, CE Broker Course #20-588450, by the Florida Boards of Medicine, Osteopathic Medicine, and Psychology (6 hours).

## REGISTRATION

*Registration deadline is Friday, April 24. Space is limited; register early!*

**24<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference – Engaging Active Bystanders to Prevent Violence and Promote Peace**

**Friday, May 1, 2020 • Newman Alumni Center, University of Miami, 6200 San Amaro Drive, Coral Gables, Florida**

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Contact Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Early-Bird Discount: SAVE \$20 if you register by Wednesday, April 1!** ☐ \$90 Early-Bird

**Registration fee:** ☐ \$110 ☐ \$45 (Non-UM Student) ☐ \$25 UM Faculty or UM Student

Students Only: University \_\_\_\_\_ Program \_\_\_\_\_ Student Email (required) \_\_\_\_\_

*Conference proceeds will benefit The Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention and Treatment*

### Payment method:

☐ Check enclosed (Make payable to The Melissa Institute.)

☐ Purchase Order number \_\_\_\_\_ (Please mail copy of registration to guarantee reservation.)

Credit Card: ☐ American Express ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover

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**Mail to:** The Melissa Institute, 1507 Levante Avenue, Suite 331, Coral Gables, FL 33146

**Register online:** [MelissaInstitute.org](http://MelissaInstitute.org) • **Email as attachment to:** [Info@MelissaInstitute.org](mailto:Info@MelissaInstitute.org) • **For information, call 305-284-2930**

*Online reservation is through Eventbrite and includes additional processing fee.*

*Cancellations must be sent in writing and postmarked by Friday, April 24, to receive a refund of the registration fee, less a \$10 administrative fee. Cancellations postmarked after April 24 will forfeit the registration fee.*

## **EASY ACCESS TO FREE PARKING ON-SITE IN GRAY LOT**

*From North/NE — South on I-95, continue on U.S. 1 (South Dixie Highway) • Turn right on Stanford Drive • Make immediate left on Ponce de Leon Boulevard at next light • Turn right on San Amaro Drive (baseball stadium) • Turn at first left on Levante Avenue*

*From South/SW — North on U.S. 1 (South Dixie Highway) • Turn left on SW 57 Avenue (Red Road) • Make immediate right on Ponce de Leon Boulevard • Turn left on San Amaro Drive (baseball stadium) • Turn at first left on Levante Avenue*

*From East— 836 West to 826 South (Palmetto Expressway) • Exit left (east) at SW 56 Street (Miller Road) • Continue east (Miller Road becomes Miller Drive at UM traffic circle) • Enter traffic circle • Turn right at first exit onto San Amaro Drive • Turn right on Levante Avenue*

*From West — East on SW 56 Street (Miller Road) • (Miller Road becomes Miller Drive at UM traffic circle) • Enter traffic circle • Turn right at first exit onto San Amaro Drive • Turn right on Levante Avenue*



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*The mission of The Melissa Institute is to prevent violence and promote safer communities through education and application of research-based knowledge.*

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