

Barry Levy of East Los Angeles College was born at the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in Los Angeles, CA, in 1944, where the Church of Scientology now stands. He was heavily influenced by his grandfather and aunt. His grandfather, a professor, and his aunt, a social worker, placed a tremendous emphasis on education when he was growing up. His father was a self-educated man who ran a liquor store where Barry worked while he was earning his degree in Biology from California State University, Long Beach. Shortly before he received his degree, he entered the military where he eventually served as a Division Prevention Medicine Specialist and a Medic in Vietnam. After serving in the armed forces, Barry completed his bachelor's degree and worked in the pharmaceutical industry.

After a while, he was ready for a career change and his growing interest in psychology led to his pursuit of his graduate studies in the field. He started a master's degree program in Educational Psychology and Media, eventually moving to a master's in Applied Behavioral Sciences at California State University, Dominguez Hills. While enrolled in graduate school, he was working as a psychodramatist at the California Institute of Socioanalysis in Long Beach for Dr. Martin Haskell, who was a criminologist as well as a psychologist. Barry eventually started working in a number of places such as the California Youth Authority, Terminal Island Prison, and a psychiatric hospital. After receiving his master's degree, and his License as a Marriage and Family Therapist he worked as a counselor at Santa Ana College where he worked with populations who were on probation or parole. Department of Rehabilitation, and Indochinese refugees.

Barry eventually moved on from Santa Ana College and joined a team of mental health professionals at various psychiatric hospitals in Long Beach, where he worked for ten years before the hospitals closed. Subsequently, he became a registered addictions counselor and a certified sex offender treatment specialist and forensic counselor, and he did ten years of work with sex offenders all over the state, working extensively in the Los Angeles and Orange County areas, where he treated individuals for their sex offense and their addictions. During this entire time, he was also a therapist in an office and continued to maintain a private practice in Long Beach and Lakewood. He was professionally affiliated with a number of organizations, such as the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT), National Board of Certified Clinical Hypnotherapists, and the California Mental Health Counselors Association. He served on two boards, the National Association of Forensic Counselors and the California Mental Health Counselors Association.

Barry has extensive experience working as a cognitive therapist providing treatment in relapse prevention programs. He has also taught at a number of colleges and universities, and his wife is a retired California State University academic. He retired from his former activities, and now only teaches at ELAC and does volunteer work with CAADE and a veteran's group.

In retrospect, he is most pleased about changing life for the better for thousands of people over the course of his life. His hope is that as he continues to teach at East Los Angeles College in their Addiction Studies and Psychology programs, some of the things he's learned along the way will inspire others to do well and to change the lives of people they work with.