

Contact Information:

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Peter Capper, LCSW, is in full-time private practice in the north-western suburbs of Philadelphia. His work focuses on children, teens, families, parents, and individual adults, with a special focus on teenagers and young adults.

Peter trained in EMDR in the early 1990s and immediately started incorporating EMDR with simple trauma. However, after getting trained in the EMDR and family therapy integrative model, he felt he was utilizing EMDR much more effectively with the traumatized adolescents and kids he works with in his practice, and he therefore decided to continue with consultation and certification in the model. Peter stated, “I was trained in John Bowlby’s attachment theory in England early in my career. It was the basis of my training as a psychiatric social worker. I found the attachment resource methods involved with the integrative model fit in perfectly with my early theoretical training and the entire model really made so much sense for working with these very challenging kids.”

Peter has been a social worker since 1974. He completed family therapy training in 1978 and 1979 through the well-known Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic; home of Salvador Minuchin and Structural Family therapy. Peter had a very long involvement as Director of Emotional Support for a private high school called the Crefeld School in Philadelphia, which has a population of 100 adolescents. He had a part-time private practice as well, and upon retirement from the school, he expanded his practice to full-time. Peter enjoyed the work with the school because he got to know the students, their friends, and their teachers so well and was able to work within the student’s entire support system.

Peter’s first degree was in history from Cambridge University. An interesting fact is that Peter attended Cambridge at the same time as Prince Charles, who was also a history student there. Peter received his master’s degree in social work from the University of Suffix and then moved to the U.S. on a 2-year educational exchange program through the Fulbright Foundation. He met his wife-to-be while in the U.S., and so to extend his time here, he found the internship at the Child Guidance Clinic, stumbling into what Peter refers to as “family therapy heaven.”

Peter and his wife lived in London for 3 years and then settled back in the states. Peter’s interest in working with adopted children grew when he and his wife adopted their two daughters from China, now ages 25 and 20. He and his wife became very involved in the Chinese adoption community and even attempted to learn Mandarin. Peter loves to travel, read novels, play the piano and sing, and he also gardens in his free time.