

Jonathan B. Singer, Ph.D., LCSW



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TITLE/S: Associate Professor
Founder and Host of the Social Work Podcast

Specialty Area: Suicide Intervention, Cyberbullying, Family-based Interventions, Community Services, School Social Work, Technology, and Podcasts

OFFICE #: Maguire Hall 503

Phone: 312.915.7555

E-mail: jsinger1@luc.edu

About

Jonathan B. Singer graduated from the University of Texas-Austin with his MSW in 1996. From 1996 to 2004 he worked as a bilingual (English - Spanish) social worker in community mental health. His experience included working on a mobile crisis intervention unit for

suicidal, homicidal and actively psychotic youth; providing home-based individual and family therapy; facilitating experiential outdoor therapy groups for youth with externalizing disorders; running process-oriented parenting groups for parents trying to reunify with their child(ren) after removal for abuse and/or neglect; and being the founding director of an early childhood development center where parents and children ages 0 - 3 could participate in unstructured play, socializing, networking, and obtain training in infant/community CPR, baby massage, and baby sign language. The tragedies on 9/11/2001 inspired Jonathan and a colleague to develop a graduate-level crisis intervention elective. In 2004, after a two-year stint as an adjunct instructor at the UT-Austin school of social work, Jonathan entered the doctoral program at the University of Pittsburgh's school of social work. His dissertation was a qualitative analysis of interviews with parents who brought their children to mental health services, *Mothers seeking mental health services for their children: A qualitative analysis of pathways to care*.

In 2008 Dr. Singer joined the social work faculty at Temple University where he taught basic practice skills and human behavior in the social environment in the BSW program, and emotional disorders of children and adolescents, and advanced clinical practice (individual, couple, family, and group therapy) in the MSW program. Between 2012 and 2015, Dr. Singer was a family therapist on a federally funded clinical trial for suicidal youth comparing Attachment-Based Family Therapy with a Family Enhanced Non-directive Supportive Therapy (Guy Diamond, PI). Dr. Singer joined the social work faculty at Loyola University Chicago an associate professor in 2015. He is the chair of the National Association of Social Worker's Child, Adolescent, and Young Adult specialty practice committee, and the chair of the Council on Social Work Education's Council on Publications.

Dr. Singer has had a long-standing interest in the role of technology in social work practice. In the late 1990s Dr. Singer developed and piloted the first electronic medical record for Austin-Travis County MHMR (now Austin Travis County Integral Care) and designed and developed the first websites for several social service organizations in Austin, TX including the Austin-Child Guidance Center, Texans Care for Children, and the Texas Kids Count Project. In 2007 he started the Social Work Podcast as a way of disseminating high quality information to students and practitioners. Episodes of the podcast have been downloaded over two million times by 1 million people in 181 countries and territories. The podcast won the first NASW Media Award for Best Website in 2012. In 2013 he founded the Google Plus community, Social Work and Technology. In 2015 he co-authored along with Stephanie Berzin from Boston College and Chitit Chan

from Hong Kong Polytechnic University the white paper, *Practice Innovations Through Technology in the Digital Age: A Grand Challenge for Social Work*.

Dr. Singer is the author of 60+ publications, including the 2015 book *Suicide in Schools: A practitioner's guide to multilevel prevention, assessment, intervention, and postvention*. He has been interviewed for national and international media, including NPR, Fox News, the Guardian, WHYY, WBEZ, and Time Magazine. He has given over 100 academic and continuing education presentations nationally for the U.S. Military, community mental health agencies, school districts, and clinical social work organizations. He provides service to national and international organizations, including Chair of the NASW Children, Adolescent, and Young Adult specialty practice section; Chair of the CSWE Council on Publications, Secretary for the American Association of Suicidology and Treasurer for the international Human Services and Internet Technology Association. Dr. Singer lives in Evanston, IL with his wife, daughter, and twin boys. He can be found on Twitter as @socworkpodcast.

Degrees

- Ph.D. University of Pittsburgh, 2009
- MSSW. University of Texas-Austin, 1996
- BA. Earlham College, 1992

Research Interests

Dr. Singer's clinical and research interests focus on family-based interventions for suicidal and cyberbullied youth; service access and service utilization; school-based responses to youth suicide; and use of technology in education and clinical practice. Dr. Singer is interested in the interpersonal mechanisms that protect against or contribute to youth suicidal risk within families; how and why parents access services for their suicidal children; how to improve school responsiveness to youth suicide crises; and how technologies such as podcasts and social media sites can be used to disseminate information about prevention and intervention of youth suicidal behaviors, cyberbullying, and social work education and training.

Professional & Community Affiliations

- National Association of Social Workers
- Society for Social Work and Research
- Council on Social Work Education
- American Association for Suicidology
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker, (TX #29675 / PA #CW016994)
- Attachment-Based Family Therapy (ABFT) – Certified (2013)
- Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) – Basic Certification (2002)

- Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) – Level 1 Certification (1998)

International Experience:

Lived in Mexico (1981), England (1985), France (1992)

Rome Program 2016 (photos:

<https://goo.gl/photos/vrcswC4Api3n3b1n7>)

Courses Taught

Graduate Courses

SOWK 500 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I

SOWK 501 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II

SOWK 617 Principles and Interventions in Clinical Social Work

Awards

- 2016 NASW Media Award for Best Magazine Article (Let's talk about suicide: #LanguageMatters)
- 2014 Alpha Delta Mu (honorary member)
- 2014 Visiting Scholar, Fordham University
- 2013 Designated a "Social Work Hero" by the University of Southern California
- 2013 "Social Work Spotlight" NASW-PA
- 2012 NASW Media Award for Best Website: Social Work Podcast
- 2012 Selected to participate in the NIH-funded "Summer Institute on Social and Behavioral Intervention Research" at Columbia University
- 2010 Selected to participate in the Annie E. Casey-funded "Common Elements Institute" collaboration between University of Maryland – Baltimore and UCLA

Selected Publications

Recent Research:

- Media Guidelines for Reporting Deaths by Suicide (Consultant)
- Parents' Experiences Seeking Help for Suicidal Youth (PI)
- School social workers' knowledge and responses to student cyberbullying and suicidal thoughts and behavior (co-PI with Karen Slovak, Ph.D.).
- Effects of youth suicidal behavior on family cohesion (PI).
- Social work students' knowledge of evidence-based practices for children and adolescents (PI)
- Risk for suicide among college students in the health professions (site-PI Temple University; PI-Matthew Wintersteen).
- School Social Workers, Cyberbullying and Suicide. Co-investigator (PI, Karen Slovak, Ph.D).

Publications:

2017

- Sage, M. & **Singer, J. B.** (2017). Digital storytelling. In L. Goldkind & P. Freddolino, Eds. *Digital Social Work: Cases across fields of practice*. New York: Oxford University Press.

2016

- **Singer, J. B.** (2016 Fall). Mindfulness and suicide risk. *NASW Practice Perspectives*
- **Singer, J. B.** (2016 Spring / Summer). Mindfulness: Technique, process, and outcome. *NASW Practice Perspectives*
- Sargent, K. M., & **Singer, J. B.** (2016 Spring / Summer). Teaching mindfulness skills to youth. *NASW Practice Perspectives*
- **Singer, J. B.** (2016). Suicide, schools, and social media. *New Social Worker*, 23(1), 32 – 33. <http://www.socialworker.com/feature-articles/technology-articles/suicide-schools-and-social-media/>
- **Singer, J.B.**, O'Brien, K., & LeCloux, M. (accepted). Three psychotherapies for suicidal adolescents: Overview of conceptual frameworks and intervention techniques. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*.

2015

- Berzin, S., **Singer, J. B.**, & Chan, C. (2015). *Harnessing the Digital Age: Practice Innovation through Technology, A Grand Challenge for Social Work*. American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare. <http://aaswsw.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Practice-Innovation-through-Technology-in-the-Digital-Age-A-Grand-Challenge-for-Social-Work-GC-Working-Paper-No-12.pdf>
- Erbacher, T., **Singer, J. B.**, & Poland, S. (2015). *Suicide in Schools: A practitioner's guide to multi-level prevention, assessment, intervention and postvention*. New York: Routledge. ISBN: 978-0415857031
- **Singer, J. B.** (2015). Child and adolescent psychiatric emergencies: Mobile crisis response. In K. P. Yeager & A. R. Roberts (Eds.). *Crisis Intervention Handbook: Assessment, Treatment and Research, Fourth Edition* (pp. 299 – 347). New York: Oxford University Press.
- **Singer, J. B.**, & Sage, M. (2015). Technology and social work practice: Micro, mezzo, and macro applications. In K. Corcoran (Ed.). *Social Workers' Desk Reference, Third Edition* (pp. 176 – 188). New York: Oxford University Press.
- **Singer, J. B.**, & O'Brien, K. H. M. (2015). Assessment, prevention, and intervention with suicidal youth. In K. Corcoran (Ed.). *Social Workers' Desk Reference, Third Edition* (pp. 516 – 527). New York: Oxford University Press.
- **Singer, J. B.** (2015). Empirically-supported treatments for Borderline Personality Disorder. In K. Corcoran (Ed.). *Social Workers' Desk Reference, Third Edition* (pp. 798 – 805). New York: Oxford University Press.
- **Singer, J. B.**, & Erreger, S. (2015). Let's talk about suicide: #LanguageMatters. *New Social Worker*. Retrieved from <http://www.socialworker.com/feature-articles/practice/lets-talk-about-suicide-languagematters/>. (Winner, 2016 NASW Media Award for Best Magazine Article)
- **Singer, J. B.** (2015 Spring / Summer). Cultural formulation in DSM-5. *NASW Practice Perspectives*.

2014

- O'Brien, K. H. M., **Singer, J. B.**, LeCloux, M., Duarté-Vélez, Y., & Spirito, A. (2014). Acute behavioral interventions and outpatient treatment strategies with suicidal adolescents. *International Journal of Behavioral Consultation and Therapy*, 9(3), 19 – 25.
- Slovak, K., & **Singer, J. B.** (2014). School social workers knowledge of and responses to cyberbullying: Results from a national survey. *School Social Work Journal*, 39(1), 1 – 16.

- Musliner, K., & **Singer, J. B.** (2014). Assessing the role of emotional support as a protective factor against depression in adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse. *Child Abuse & Neglect, 38*, 1331–1340. doi: 10.1016/j.chiabu.2014.01.016
- Jenkins, A. L., **Singer, J. B.**, Conner, B. T., Calhoun, S., & Diamond, G. (2014). Risk for suicidal ideation and attempt among a primary care sample of adolescents engaging in nonsuicidal self-injury. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, n/a–n/a*. doi:10.1111/sltb.12094
- Alviar, M. A., Drake, A., Kim, J., Lee, M. Y., **Singer, J. B.** (2014 Spring/Summer). Transitioning to DSM-5: Practical considerations. *NASW Practice Perspectives, 1* - 4
- Robbins, S. P., & **Singer, J. B.** (2014). From the editor – the medium is the message: Integrating social media and social work education [Editorial]. *Journal of Social Work Education, 50*, 387-390.

2013

- Mohatt, N, **Singer, J. B.**, Burns, J., Evans, A., Golden, J., Harris, C., Kiernan, G., Matlin, S., & Pelleritti, M. (2013). A community's response to suicide stigma through public arts participation: Stakeholder Perspectives from the Finding the Light Within mural. *American Journal of Community Psychology, 52*, 197-209. doi: 10.1007/s10464-013-9581-7
- **Singer, J. B.** & Greeno, C. G. (2013). When Bambi Meets Godzilla: A practitioner's experience adopting and implementing a manualized treatment in a community mental health setting. *Best Practices in Mental Health, 9*, 99 - 115.
- **Singer, J. B.** (2013). Go the Distance. In L. M. Grobman & K. Zgoda (Eds.), *The New Social Worker® Magazine's Back-to-School Guide for Social Work Students* (pp. 4–5). White Hat Communications.
- **Singer, J. B.**, & Slovak, K. (2013-09-02). Bullying in Youth. *Encyclopedia of Social Work*. Retrieved 9 Sep. 2013, from <http://socialwork.oxfordre.com/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780199975839.001.001.9780199975839-e-862>

2012

- **Singer, J. B.**, Gray, S. W., & Meihls, D. (2012). An educator's guide to the development of advanced practice competencies in clinical social work. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work, 32*, 451 - 470. doi: 10.1080/08841233.2012.726206
- Slovak, K., & **Singer, J. B.** (2012). Engaging parents of suicidal youth in a rural environment. *Child & Family Social Work, 17*, 212 - 221. doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2206.2012.00826.x
- **Singer, J. B.**, & Slovak, K. (2011). School social workers' experiences with youth suicidal behavior: An exploratory study. *Children & Schools, 33*, 215 – 228. doi:10.1093/cs/33.4.215
- **Singer, J. B.** (2012, Fall). Restoring hope in families with a suicidal youth. *NASW Practice Perspectives, 1*-3.
- Dewane, C., & **Singer, J. B.** (2012). Tech topics: Learning by podcast with Jonathan Singer. *New Social Worker, 19*(2). Retrieved from: http://www.socialworker.com/home/Feature_Articles/Technology/Tech_Topics
- **Singer, J. B.** (2012). [Review of the book *Breaking Their Will: Shedding Light on Religious Maltreatment*, by J. Heimlich]. *Families in Society, 92*, 1-2.
- **Singer, J. B.** (2012). Early-morning multivariate smoothie. In K. Corcoran (Ed.). *Food for thought: A social work student's survival guide to the kitchen*. (pp. 181 – 184). Chicago, IL: Lyceum Books, Inc.
- **Singer, J. B.** (2012). Baked Chicken with Tomatoes and Mushrooms. In K. Corcoran (Ed.). *Food for thought: A social work student's survival guide to the kitchen*. (pp. 60 – 63). Chicago, IL: Lyceum Books, Inc.

2011

- **Singer, J. B.,** Eack, S. M., & Greeno, C. G. (2011). The Columbia Impairment Scale: Factor analysis using a community mental health sample. *Research on Social Work Practice, 21*, 458 - 468. doi: 10.1177/1049731510394464
- Slovak, K., & **Singer, J. B.** (2011). School social workers' perceptions of cyberbullying. *Children & Schools, 33*, 5-16. doi:10.1093/cs/33.1.5
- **Singer, J. B.** (2011) [Collective review of the books *Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy with Couples and Families: A Comprehensive Guide for Clinicians* by F. Datillio, and *Common Factors in Couple and Family Therapy*, by D. H. Sprenkle, S. D. Davis, & J. L. Lebow]. *Families in Society, 92*.

2010

- **Singer, J. B.,** & Dewane, C. (2010). Treating new social worker anxiety syndrome. *New Social Worker, 17*(3), 8-12. Retrieved from: <http://www.socialworker.com/digitalmag/summer2010.pdf>

2009

- **Singer, J. B.** (2009). Interventions with borderline personality disorder. In A. R. Roberts (Ed.), *Social Workers' Desk Reference, Second Edition* (pp. 742-747). New York: Oxford University Press. <http://tinyurl.com/27vbsad>
- **Singer, J. B.** (2009). The role and regulations for technology in social work practice and e-therapy: Social work 2.0. In A. R. Roberts (Ed.), *Social Workers' Desk Reference, Second Edition* (pp. 186-193). New York: Oxford University Press. <http://tinyurl.com/2dnrp2a>
- Council on Social Work Education (2009). [Brochure] *Advanced social work practice in clinical social work*. Alexandria, VA: Author. Retrieved from: <http://www.cswe.org/File.aspx?id=26685>
- **Singer, J. B.** (2009). [Review of the book *Social History Assessment* by A. B. Andrews]. *Research on Social Work Practice, 19*, 371. doi: 10.1177/1049731508327972

2008

- Eack, S. M., **Singer, J. B.,** & Greeno, C. G. (2008). Screening for anxiety and depression in community mental health: The Beck anxiety and depression inventories. *Community Mental Health Journal, 44*(6), 465-474. doi: 10.1007/s10597-008-9150-y

2007

- **Singer, J. B.** (2007). Professional practice model. In M. D. Glicklen. *Social Work in the 21st Century: An Introduction to Social Welfare, Social Issues, and the Profession*. [CD-ROM]. Thousand Oaks, Ca: Sage Publications.

2006

- **Singer, J. B.** (2006). Making stone soup: Evidence-based practice for a suicidal youth with comorbid Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and Major Depressive Disorder. *Brief Treatment and Crisis Intervention, 6*(3), 234-247. <http://btci.edina.clockss.org/cgi/reprint/6/3/234>
- **Singer, J. B.** (2006). From Augustus to BARJ: The evolving role of social work in juvenile justice. In A. R. Roberts and D. W. Springer (Eds.). *Handbook of Forensic Mental Health With Victims and Offenders* (pp. 273-298). New York: Springer Publishing Company. <http://tinyurl.com/28gse9m>
- **Singer, J. B.** (2006). [Review of the book, *Parent Management Training* by A. E. Kazdin]. *Psychiatric Services, 57*.
- **Singer, J. B.** (2006). [Review of the book, *The Many Faces of Depression in Children and Adolescents* by D. Shaffer, & B. D. Waslick. (Eds)]. *Psychiatric Services, 57*, 1659-1660. doi:10.1176/appi.ps.57.11.1659.

- Eack, S. M., & **Singer, J. B.** (2005). Further considerations about SQL Clinic. *Psychiatric Services, 56*(8), 1023 – 1024.
- **Singer, J. B.** (2005). Child and adolescent psychiatric emergencies: Mobile crisis response. In A. R. Roberts (Ed.). *Crisis Intervention Handbook: Assessment, Treatment and Research, Third Edition* (pp. 319 - 361). New York: Oxford University Press. <http://tinyurl.com/2dtwxc>
- **Singer, J. B.** (2005). Adolescent Latino males with schizophrenia: Mobile crisis response. *Brief Treatment and Crisis Intervention, 5*(1), 35 – 55. <http://btci.edina.clockss.org/cgi/reprint/5/1/35>

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK · Maguire Hall, 5th Floor, 820 North Michigan Avenue,
Chicago, IL 60611 · 312.915.7005

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