

K. Daniel O'Leary Brief Biographical Sketch May 2026

Daniel O'Leary is a Research Professor and Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Stony Brook University. He is a clinical psychologist who received his B.A. from Penn State University and his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana, Illinois. At Stony Brook, he served as department chair from 1978-1981 and Director of Clinical Training from 2002-2010.

He was President of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts/NY (Jan 2016-Dec 2017), and he now serves on their Board of Directors (2025-2027).

He is a divorce/family dispute mediator with attorney, Dawn Murphy, in Smithtown, NY, and he has conducted forensic custody evaluations for numerous judges in Supreme and Family Courts of Suffolk County, NY for thirty-six years. His license number is: 003566.

He is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association (Divisions 7, 12, and 25).

He was president of the American Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy.

He is the author or co-author of thirteen books, and those published since 2000 are as follows: Psychological Abuse with R Maiuro (2001), Understanding Psychological and Physical Aggression in Couples: Existing Evidence and Clinical Implications (with Erica Woodin, 2009), and Couples Psychotherapy Treatment Planner (2nd Ed, 2015, with Richard Heyman and Arthur Jongsma).

He has published 313 manuscripts, and he was among the top 100 cited psychologists in the English-speaking world (American Psychologist, December 1978).

He received the Distinguished Scientist Award from the clinical division (12, Section III) of the American Psychological Association (APA) in 1985. He was installed to the National Academies of Practice in Psychology in 1986.

He received the Family Psychologist of the Year Award in August 2105 at the American Psychological Association meeting in Toronto, and on November 14, 2015, he received the Elizabeth Hurlock Beckman Trust Award for Mentoring graduate students, which included a \$25,000 cash prize. In February 2019, he was inducted as Fellow of the American Association for Advancement of Science in Washington, D.C.

He has served on the following scientific boards: H. F. Guggenheim, Distilled Spirits Council of the US, Center for Disease Control (Control and Prevention of Partner Abuse), National Institute of Mental Health (for 10 years).

His research has focused on the etiology and treatment of partner aggression, the relationship between marital and child problems, the etiology and treatment of spouse abuse, and the alcohol abuse/partner abuse link.