

Community Affairs, Committee (SEN)

I have been a Clinical Psychologist, with a Masters degree for more than 20 years. For a profession that prides itself on being committed to evidence-based practice, I find it strange that we continue to stridently shout our superiority to so-called "general psychologists", when we all know that there is not a shred of evidence to support that statement. "General psychologists" or 4+2s, are in fact mostly just as well trained as holders of a Masters in Clinical Psychology, they just followed a different path, that of a Board supervised and approved program. Given that the practicum is generally seen as the most valuable part of the Clinical Psychology training, given that "4+2s" have had more practical placement time would argue that they, in fact, are probably best prepared for the realities of professional practice. My 20+ years of experience of supervising Master of Clinical Psych students, Master of Forensic Psych students and "4+2s" has convinced me that there are no significant differences in their competence as applied psychologists. The APS campaign to entertain divisions in the profession is destructive and offensive, but more seriously, it is mendacious. It is nothing more than self-serving corporatism and careerism. We are insulting and harming the possible livelihood of colleagues, we are using their membership fees to harm them, without any objective, empirical evidence for our campaign. It is also what makes me currently hesitate to renew my APS and Clinical College membership.

Rene Grypma