

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am a clinical member of the ACA and have been practicing as a psychotherapist privately and in the education system for 14 years.

During the 14 years I have also held lecturing positions at the University of Tasmania in teacher education, Master of Counselling and more recently as a clinical lecturer in medicine. I am near of a PhD in non-clinical competencies in medicine and emotional intelligence. I provide support to cancer patients, held the post of principal lecturer in the Graduate Diploma of Public Sector Middle Management, and have acted as a consultant on a number of research projects

I have been specifically trained throughout my undergraduate and postgraduate education to relate, advise, counsel and teach. Yet I am not recognised as a worthwhile contributor to the many individuals in the community who need and ask for assistance. My concern is the mental health of my students, clients, peers and community in general. I am highly dedicated to the health and well being of my clients and my research focuses on producing doctors who are skilled in relating, interacting, modelling best practice, providing support and clinical expertise. By teaching strategies that assist individuals cope with changes life inevitably brings is only possible when clients have access to a wide range of professionals who are appropriately educated and experienced.

The belief that psychologists and social workers are the only practitioners qualified to counsel is absurd and incorrect. I believe that standards are essential, but it needs to be a level playing field in fairness to all practitioners.

Yours Sincerely

Anne Marie Havlat

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Anne Marie Havlat
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