

Judith Axonovitz

Clinical Professor of Social Work at USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work
Los Angeles, CA, US

Ms. Axonovitz is an expert in aging, diversity, health, death and dying, bereavement and grief counseling.

Biography

Prior to joining in 1983, Ms. Axonovitz was a clinical practitioner at two leading Harvard teaching hospitals in Boston, the University of Colorado Medical Center-Denver and several Los Angeles hospitals, where she also served as a field instructor for local schools of social work training graduate students. In addition, she was director of a hospital social work department with in-patient medical and psychiatric services. As a clinical specialist at the VA Medical Center in West Los Angeles, she worked in all areas of in-patient health care delivery, teaching students and overseeing continuing education for all social workers employed by VA medical centers in southern California. Axonovitz was a member of USC's field faculty and an academic advisor for more than 20 years, a role which enabled her to design field objectives and the clinical curriculum for Master of Social Work students, as well as to teach the Human Behavior and the Social Environment for the health concentration. She also served as liaison between foundation-year students and their assigned agencies and field instructors, and created the first syllabus for the integrative seminar. In addition, Axonovitz has provided teaching modules on the psychological impact of health issues to medical students at the Keck School of Medicine of USC to help them develop their clinical practice skills. She was the lead professional from USC to bring the Geriatric Social Work Education Consortium (GSWEC), the nation's first major multi-university regional consortium in partnership with leading agencies serving seniors, to southern California. Serving on all levels of design, application and implementation, she established the group among all social work education communities to train social work students in the area of aging. Axonovitz also was instrumental in launching a joint collective of schools of social work. Starting with two schools 25 years ago, the collective is going strong today with nine MSW programs. She provides consultation in many arenas ? locally, nationally and internationally ? that have included relief missions to Baltic countries and Cuba, and mental health services to Hurricane Katrina evacuees. Her clinical and consultative areas of expertise are in aging, diversity, health, death and dying, bereavement and grief counseling.

Industry Expertise

Research, Education/Learning

Areas of Expertise

Grief Counseling, Death & Dying, Diversity, Virtual Education, Jewish Communal Service, Social Work, Geriatric Social Work, Virtual Learning, Aging, Health, Bereavement Counseling

Education

Simmons College
MS

University of Wisconsin-Madison
BA

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