

Joan Tucker

Part-time Lecturer, Department of Children, Youth and Families at USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

Los Angeles, CA, US

Social work and mental health expert, focusing on behavioral science

Description

Joan Tucker is a lecturer and teaches a course on evaluation in mental health settings. She currently serves as a senior behavioral scientist at the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, California. In this role, she conducts research in the areas of substance use and HIV/AIDS.

Since 1998, she has been funded as a principal investigator by the National Institutes of Health and has published more than 170 peer-reviewed papers. Her work on substance use includes identifying developmental trajectories of substance use, risk factors for initiation and escalation, and short- and long-term consequences of use during adolescence and young adulthood. Her HIV-related research includes investigating the impact of mental health and substance use problems on adherence to antiretroviral medications; prevalence and correlates of risky sexual practices among HIV-positive adults with serious mental illness; and the interrelationships of substance use, violence, and HIV-related risk behavior among homeless adults and youth. Much of her recent research has focused on developing and evaluating brief interventions for substance use and sexual risk behaviors.

Tucker is an elected fellow of the Association for Psychological Science, Society of Behavioral Medicine and Western Psychological Association.

Industry Expertise

Public Policy, Health and Wellness, Research, Education/Learning, Mental Health Care

Topics

Sexual Practices among HIV-positive Adults, Behavioral Science, Developmental Trajectories

Affiliations

Western Psychological Association: President, Association for Psychological Science: Fellow

Education

University of California, Riverside

PhD

University of California, Irvine

BA

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