

**DONALD WOODROW STRAUSS, PHD, BCD**

*SPECIALIZING IN THE TREATMENT OF PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC ILLNESS AND END OF LIFE CARE*

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744 DULANEY VALLEY ROAD  
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TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204  
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October 19, 2015

Honorable Nikki R. Haley  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

With your year of tragedy in Charleston, controversy regarding the Confederate Flag, the widespread flooding, and state government to lead, it seems inconsiderate to add my correspondence to your stack. I will attempt to be brief and to the point; not being my strongest suit.

By way of introduction, I am a psychotherapist with 45 years practice experience. I am licensed to independent practice in Maryland, New York, and South Carolina.

My practice is in treating individuals with catastrophic deteriorative disorders, life altering burns, and non-geriatric end of life issues.

As half time and adjunct faculty, I have had the privilege to teach in four institutions of higher education in Maryland and in Tennessee.

While this introduction is well and good, it does not answer the questions as to why I might be writing to you.

I want to relocate to Walterboro where I have children and grandchildren. I could do this only if I could find a challenging and intense practice setting.

I am not the retiring type following my grandfather's model who was killed in a farming accident while plowing his field at age 104.

Having not a single contact in South Carolina with whom to network, I am at a loss in starting a productive job search. I am a bit handicapped in the endeavor having

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always been recruited for positions and never over the years had the necessity to locate a position or apply for a job.

I am competent that given a starting place, I would construct a productive job seeking method.

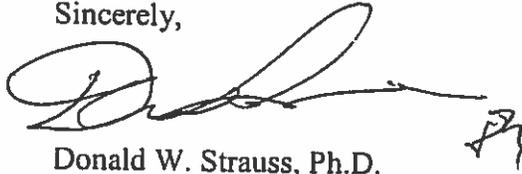
I will bring evidence based practice skills, clinical wisdom acquired over time, experience, energy, and empathy that I believe would be an asset to the citizens of South Carolina who are in acute need and distress.

I have included a few artifacts from my professional life that might be helpful to anyone who has the time and inclination to learn more about me.

What I am hoping for is the name of a contact or an agency or some aspect of provision of health care in South Carolina so that I may network from that point.

I wish for you a much less traumatic future than the first of 2015.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donald W. Strauss', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Donald W. Strauss, Ph.D.

DWS/jf/PTS

# DONALD W. STRAUSS, PHD, BCD, LCSW

443-838-2009 ▪ [toplitt3@gmail.com](mailto:toplitt3@gmail.com) ▪ 744 Dulaney Valley Rd. Suite 17 ▪ Towson, MD 21204

## CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER

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Highly knowledgeable, innovative, and progress-driven Social Services Professional with successful career in both teaching and direct patient care with specialization in palliative and end-of-life matters. Broad clinical background with proven capabilities in mentoring, curriculum development, and classroom management. Able to effectively blend didactic elements with real world expertise to deliver stimulating, enjoyable, and challenging learning environments.

Research & Development ▪ Student Engagement ▪ Performance Evaluation ▪ Project/Assignment Design  
Lecturing & Discussion Facilitation ▪ Strategic Planning ▪ Guidance & Advisement ▪ Exam Administration

## CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

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- ✓ Offer more than 20 years of experience in teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in various subjects including social work, sociology, psychopathology, pharmacology, psychology, and human development.
- ✓ Authored first state law on runaway youth and their rights in Tennessee; law now enacted verbatim in all 50 states.
- ✓ Received Teacher of the Year for 2 consecutive years as Associate Professor of Social Work and Urban Anthropology at Rhodes College, first part-time faculty member to do so in school's history.
- ✓ Created and conduct nationwide presentations on The Art and Science of Delivering Bad News (booked for 150 sessions) at various hospitals, schools, and organizations.
- ✓ Coordinated housing and meals for 2K+ stranded teenagers in Memphis following major event, securing donations from area communities and ensuring children were returned home.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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Donald Woodrow Strauss, PhD, BCD, Towson, MD 1979 to Present  
Psychotherapist, Clinical Social Worker

Johns Hopkins University, School of Continuing Studies, Baltimore, MD 1995 to 2000  
Adjunct Faculty, Certificate on Aging Program & Department of Interdisciplinary Studies

### *Additional Positions:*

*Lecturer, Human Sexual Behavior Studies; Lecturer & Group Leader, Bioethics Program – University of Maryland, School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD*

*Clinical Instructor (Part-Time) – University of Maryland, School of Social Work, Baltimore, MD*

*Research Associate – University of Maryland, School of Medicine, Applied Neuroscience Laboratory, Baltimore, MD*

*Executive Director – Runaway House, Inc., Diagnostic & Residential Treatment Center, Memphis, TN*

*Associate Professor of Social Work & Urban Anthropology (Part-Time) – Rhodes College, Memphis, TN*

*Consultant – United States Office of Youth Services, Juvenile Justice System, Department of Health, Education, & Welfare, Washington, DC*

*Consultant – Tennessee State Legislative Committee on Issues of Juvenile Justice, Nashville, TN*

## EDUCATION & ADVANCED TRAINING

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PhD, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD

*Dissertation: "A Pilot Study of the Relationship Between Gender Role and Mental Health."*

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PhD, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD

*Dissertation: "A Pilot Study of the Relationship Between Gender Role and Mental Health."*

MSW, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

*Thesis: "Attitudes Toward Conjugal Visiting and Home Leaves in Adult Correctional Institutions in Florida."*

BBA, University of Memphis, Memphis, TN

Neuropharmacology - University of Tennessee School of Medicine

Human Sexual Behavior - Masters & Johnson Institute

Electrophysiology & Applied Neuropsychological Techniques - University of Maryland, School of Medicine

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### PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

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LCSW - State of Maryland (active), State of West Virginia (inactive)

Board Certified Diplomate in Social Work (BCD)

Member - American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS)

Member - Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW)

Member - National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

Member - Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

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### MILITARY SERVICE

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United States Air Force, Captain

*8 years' service, Honorably Discharged*

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### PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

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The Art and Science of Delivering Bad News (in press, expected 2013)

"All is Quiet on the Western Front," published in *Palliative and Supportive Care*, 2008

"Psychopharmacologic Intervention for Depression in Elderly," published in *Clinical Gerontologist*, Vol. 2(1), p. 3 - 30, Fall, 1983

"Runaways as Status Offenders in Runaway House, Memphis," Published Panel Discussion, National Symposium on Status Offenders, National Council of Jewish Women, Washington, DC, p. 73 - 79, 1976

Author, Tennessee's Runaway Youth Act, 1976

## DONALD W. STRAUSS, Ph.D.

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

#### Undergraduate Courses

Introduction to Sociology	The Therapist and The Non-Traditional Client
Social Work – The Profession	Social Work Methods
Institutional Racism	Social Problems
Human Development: A Multi-Phase Examination	Human Development and Behavior
Marriage and The Family	Human Sexual Behavior
Introduction to Psychology	Problematic Family Functioning
Family Therapy	Marital Therapy
Introduction to Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, III & IV	Advanced Sociology/Anthropology Issues Seminar
Problem Based Introduction to Human Services Delivery	Social Psychology
Senior Seminar	Your Medicine Cabinet
Co-Leader, Comparative Contemporary Religion	End of Life: Dying and Death as a Life Phase
Social Science and North American Literature	Comprehensive Study Advisor
The Sociology of War, Peace, Reconstruction and Forgiveness	Development of Study Skills
Strength Therapist, 'Gay, Bi-Sexual, and Trans-Sexual Clients (a mini-mester course)	Social Science and The "Great Books"
	Social Science and Organized Religion, A Historical Perspective
	Social Psychology of Gender and Sexual Roles

#### Graduate Courses

Institutional Racism	Biomedical Ethics
Human Development and Behavior	Psychopathology
Intimate Human Behavior	Introduction to Clinical Methods
Advanced Clinical Methods	Clinical Treatment with Individuals
Marriage and The Family	Problematic Family Functioning
Marital Therapy	Family Therapy
Introduction to Evidence Based Psychopharmacology for The Non-Physician	Introduction to Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, III & IV
Faculty Thesis Advisor	Issues at the End of Life: Palliative Care, Death, and Grief
Anthropology of Gender Role Sexual Orientation and Body Image	Who Founded Social Work (a mini-mester course)
A Historical Survey of The "Great Mother"	Catalyst for Social Change (a mini-mester course)

## Reference List for Donald W. Strauss, Ph.D.

1. Reverend Dr. Susan Dunlap  
Associated Professor  
Duke Divinity School  
8 Windom Place  
Durham, NC 27705  
Telephone #: 919-383-7617  
Susan.Dunlap@DUKE.edu

Dr. Dunlap has been a colleague for the past 30 years.

2. Frederick K. Goodwin, MD  
Director Emeritus, National Institute for Mental Health;  
Professor of Psychiatry, George Washington School of Medicine  
5712 Warwick Place  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815  
Telephone #: 301-294-6899  
Fred@Dr.Goodwin.com

Dr. Goodwin has been my clinical consultant for the past 35 years of practice.

3. Alexander Domingo Rocha, MD  
Executive Director and Senior Clinician  
Carroll Medical Group  
4231 Northwood Trail  
Suite 100  
Hampstead, MD 21074  
Telephone #: 410-374-9391  
Alikat55@gmail.com

Dr. Rocha is a former student and a current colleague who I have known for the past 27 years.

4. Peter C. Rowe, MD  
Professor of Pediatrics  
The Johns Hopkins Medical Institution  
600 N. Wolfe Street  
Suite 2077  
Baltimore, MD 21287  
Telephone #: 410-823-0912  
PROWE@JHMI.edu

Dr. Rowe has been a colleague and a partner in seeing a number of patients for the past 15 years.

# Donald W. Strauss, PhD, BCD, ACSW, LCSW-C

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## Assistant Professor

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Highly knowledgeable, innovative, and progress-driven Social Services Professional with successful career in both teaching and direct patient care with specialization in palliative and end-of-life care. Broad clinical background with proven capabilities in mentoring, curriculum development, and classroom management. Broad capability in working with patients with catastrophic progress illness and end-of-life needs.

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## Professional Experience

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Psychotherapist, Clinical Social Worker

1979 to Present

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## Professional Credentials

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Licensed Certified Social Worker –Clinical, State of Maryland,

Licensed Independent Social Worker, State of South Carolina

Licensed Clinical Social Worker, State of New York

Board Certified Diplomate in Social Work (BCD)

Member – Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW)

Member – National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

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### Military Service

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United States Air Force, Captain  
Honorably Discharged

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### Publications & Presentations

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Thoughts from an Old Clinician on Seeking the Elusive Bedside Manner,  
*Palliative and Supportive Care, 2015*

Thoughts from an Old Clinician on The Art and Science of Delivering Bad News, 2013

“All is Quiet on the Western Front, “  
Published in *Palliative and Supportive Care*, 2008

“Psychopharmacologic Interview for Depression in Elderly,”  
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## ALL IS QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT

**DONALD W. STRAUSS, Ph.D.**

What? What? I can't hear you; oh I am sorry you said nothing. Was that nothing the key to all we need to know?

Silence, silence and the beating of our own heart; does its silence scare you? Do you miss what is being said without words when you fill the silence to keep the "boogieman" away from your own head?

Therapists talk; some more and some less but they all talk. How much good work could a mute do in his silence?

Silence heals; every word pushes the real stuff further away.

What? What? I can't hear you; oh I am sorry you said nothing.

Sweet, sweet healing silence that is always with us and seldom loved.

Silence – listening, silence – listening, silence – listening; all can be known in the silence, some can be repaired.

Silence – listening, silence – listening; silence embraces all in its warm transparent cloak.

Silence.

# The State of South Carolina



Board of Social Work Examiners

*This is to certify that*

**DONALD WILLIAM STRAUSS**

*having satisfactorily met the statutory requirements  
is hereby licensed as a*

**Licensed Independent Social Worker III**

*In witness whereof the undersigned has caused this certificate of licensure  
to be issued and seal of said Board to be affixed.*

*February 19, 2015*

*(Hymn Willmore)*

President



Licensure Number 11121