

Biographical Profile of  
**KATHLEEN M. HEIDE, Ph.D.**  
(Pronounced “HIGH’ dee”)

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- University of South Florida Distinguished University Professor Emerita, Department of Criminology
- Elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
- Licensed Psychotherapist
- Author or co-author of 150+ publications
- Author of two widely acclaimed books on juvenile homicide
- Co-Author of book on animal cruelty as pathway to human violence
- Author of *Why Kids Kill Parents*

## **Education in Psychology and Personality Development**

I have my BA in Psychology from Vassar College and my MA and Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from the University at Albany, State University of New York, School of Criminal Justice. At the University at Albany, I took many courses in research, statistics, and theories of crime and criminal behavior. I specialized in psychological approaches to criminal behavior, took graduate coursework in the psychology department, and studied mental health law. I completed my dissertation on the personality development of offenders ordered to make restitution in New Mexico under a federal grant. I was supervised directly by Marguerite Q. Warren, Ph.D., an internationally renowned clinical psychologist who was one of the developers of Interpersonal Maturity Theory back in the 1950s. I was trained directly by Dr. Warren in the clinical interviewing of offenders and have been evaluating the personality development of offenders for over 40 years.

## **Academic Employment**

I was continuously employed as a professor in the Department of Criminology at the University of South Florida (USF) for 43 years (from August 1981 to August 2024). USF is one of Florida's three premier research universities. At the time of my retirement, I held the rank of Distinguished University Professor. I retain that rank, although my official title is now USF Distinguished Professor Emerita. My research focus has been primarily in homicide, particularly juvenile and adolescent homicide and parricide (kids killing parents), since the early 1980s.

## **Juvenile Homicide Offenders (JHOs)**

I have had extensive experience in the research and evaluation of JHOs. To date, I have evaluated at least 120 JHOs involved in murder in 18 states. In the early 1980s, I evaluated 59 male juveniles convicted of involvement in homicide and sentenced to adult prison. I followed up on these individuals at approximately 15-17 years and 30 years post arrest. I conducted in person follow-up interviews with approximately half of these JHOs 35 years later, when they were men in their early 50s. Accordingly, I have first-hand knowledge of the experiences of JHOs in prison, the challenges that they face upon release, and factors associated with post-release success.

## **Scholarly Publications**

I have approximately 150 scholarly publications. These are listed in my CV. My publications include five scholarly books and approximately 80 peer-reviewed journal articles. As of January 8, 2025, my publications have been cited approximately 5950 times. My latest book, *The Routledge International Handbook of Juvenile Homicide*, published by Routledge in 2024, consists of 48 chapters from myself and other leading experts and is considered "the definitive work" on juvenile homicide.

## **Clinical Practice**

I have been licensed as a mental health professional (mental health counselor) since 1991. In this capacity, I have conducted forensic evaluations of homicide offenders and parricide offenders in Florida and 18 other states. I also have conducted therapy, primarily with trauma victims. In addition to treating child abuse victims and sexual assault survivors, I have treated many police officers who have experienced trauma (e.g., car crash, fellow officer killed, involvement in police shooting, child homicide investigation).

## **Awards Received**

I have been honored on many occasions for my educational achievements, research accomplishments, instructional activities, and service to the community and to the profession. I list among my top accolades as being elected to full membership in the American Psychological Association in recognition of "significant contribution or performance in the field of psychology" in 1990; I have been a member since that time. In 2018, I was elected as a Fellow in the American

Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for distinguished contributions in Criminology, particularly with respect to juvenile homicide and parricide. In addition, I was honored to be among a short list of scholars invited by Queen Sofia of Spain to present my research on juvenile homicide at an international conference held on youth violence in Valencia, Spain. I was also invited to give the opening address on parricide at an international conference in homicide sponsored by Griffith University and the Australian government in Brisbane, Australia. I was one of eight scholars from Australia, the United Kingdom, the United Nations, and the United States invited by Monash University to present my research on parricide at the Prato Centre in Italy. I was