

Professor Peter Sturmey, Ph.D.
Invited Presentation

**Training People to Produce and Use Graphs:
A Literature Review**

Graphs are created stimuli that have several distinct functions. These functions include esthetic value, as when graphs present data economically and clearly. People also produce graphs for other people, as when behavior technicians, students and others produce graphs for supervisors, professors and for research papers and classes. Finally, creating graphs is a behavior which may control other responses in the creator, as when people self-record using graphs, when practitioners graph client behavior and make treatment decision based on the graphed data, when a researcher graphs data to guide decisions regarding implementation of phase changes in an experiment, and when people use graphs to change their subsequent verbal behavior. This paper reviews the available literature on training people to do these tasks accurately. The paper ends by highlighting limitations in the current literature and practice and suggests guidelines for future research and practice.

Keywords: Graphs, behavioral self-management; behavioral skills training, clinical decision making

Objectives

The learner will:

1. State the functions of graphs;
2. Describe the use of behavioral skill training to teach people to create graphs for others;
3. Describe the use of behavioral skills training to teach people to self-manage using graphs; and
4. State the limitations of current research and directions for future research and practice.

Speaker Bio



Peter Sturmey, Ph.D. is a professor at The Graduate Center and Department of Psychology, Queens College, City University of New York. The current project is in collaboration with Brock University in Ontario, Canada.

Peter Sturmey is a recently retired professor of psychology at City University of New York. His interests include applied behavior analysis, especially applications of behavioral skills training, intellectual disabilities and autism, and violence and aggression. He has published over 200 journal articles, 80 chapters and 30 authored and edited books. He is the series editor for

Springer's series *Advances in Prevention of Violence and Aggression*. He presents and consults widely including recent presentation in Ireland, Italy, and Brazil.