

## Jennifer Skeem

### Areas of expertise:

- Psychology and law
- Mental health
- Criminal justice
- Children, youth and families
- Risk reduction
- Implicit cognition and emotion



Jennifer Skeem's research is designed to inform policy about justice-involved people with emotional and behavioral problems. The goal is to shed light on causal risk factors for criminal behavior and policy-relevant mechanisms that encourage pro-social behavior. Her newest studies examine whether targeted intervention during early adolescence (ages 9-13) maximizes behavior change for high-risk juveniles. Current projects also focus on (a) developing innovative methods to identify psychiatric patients who are likely to hurt themselves or others in the future, (b) defining what psychopathy is (exactly) and how it can be successfully treated, and (c) determining why individuals with serious mental illness are over-represented in the justice system and how to facilitate safe community re-entry.

Professor Skeem received a PhD in Clinical Psychology at the University of Utah. She was a Post-Doctoral Fellow in Law and Psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to joining the Goldman School, she was a Professor of Psychology & Social Behavior and Criminology, Law & Society at the University of California, Irvine. She was a member of the [MacArthur Research Network on Mandated Community Treatment](#), and has served on advisory boards for the US Sentencing Commission, US Administrative Office of the Courts, and Council of State Governments. Professor Skeem is President of the [American Psychology-Law Society](#).

Video introduction: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=menIpaWGuz8>

Personal website: <http://risk-resilience.berkeley.edu/>