

Dr. Colleen Anne Dell Biography

Dr. Colleen Anne Dell is currently an Associate Professor with the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Carleton University, with Associate Status at the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse.

Dr. Dell received her BA Hon. in Sociology from the University of Winnipeg in 1992, her Masters in Sociology from the University of Manitoba in 1996, and her Doctorate in Sociology from Carleton University in 2001. Her research interests have focused on women and the criminal justice system, violence in prison including self-harm, as well as the connection between youth resiliency and inhalant abuse. Her most recent three-year study, funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, focuses on stigma, Aboriginal women, illicit drug use and criminalization in Canada. Dr. Dell's research approach is grounded in community-based research principles and practice.

Throughout her academic and employment history, Dr. Dell has led, planned and conducted research projects in addiction and substance abuse with a view to both community-level change and developing national policies. She has an extensive background working with the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse, Correctional Service Canada, the Canadian Senate and the Elizabeth Fry Society. She also has considerable experience as a consultant for government departments and community agencies on issues of substance abuse.

Dr. Dell's professional honours include the Carleton University Entrance and Graduate Studies Scholarships; the John Lyndhurst Kingston Memorial Scholarship, Carleton University; the Doctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada; the Ontario Graduate Scholarship; the J.H. Stewart Reid Memorial Fellowship for Doctoral Studies, Canadian Association of University Teachers, and the Winnipeg City Community Service Award. In the past several years, she has received considerable funding for her role as a principal investigator and as a collaborator on numerous research projects, including in the areas of community responses to substance abuse, adolescent substance abuse prevention, and community mobilization for women and girls who self-harm.

Dr. Dell has written many scholarly assessments, several book chapters, journal articles, conference proceedings papers, major encyclopedia articles, technical reports and journalistic articles. She has presented at many learned conferences, including the American Society of Criminology, the Congress of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Canadian Criminal Justice Association, and the International Conference on Alcohol and Addiction. She has also widely presented non-academic papers to national and international organizations. Dr. Dell has a solid reputation for establishing significant bridges between identified community needs and her research interests.

In service to her profession, Dr. Dell has held memberships and offices in societies, academic-based affiliates, and committees, including Chair of the Ethics Committee for the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse 2005 and 2007 National Conferences, Steering Committee Member for the National Institute on Drug Abuse International Forum, Member of the Advisory Board for the National Network for Aboriginal Mental Health Research, Chair of the Canadian Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Abuse International Forum, Planning Committee Member for the Canadian-International Forum on Youth Solvent Abuse, Chair of the 2003 Forum on Alcohol and Illicit Drugs Research in Canada, and Member of the Steering Committee for the 2001 Canadian Tobacco Control Research Summit.

Dr. Dell is a highly committed educator in the classroom, one-on-one with her students, and in the community at large. She has also been a highly active community volunteer with learn-to-read programs, Big Sisters, community support initiatives and seniors' groups.