

## Brief Curriculum Vitae

# Michelle Garcia Winner, MA CCC-SLP

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### Founder and CEO

Social Thinking®

Think Social Publishing

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Santa Clara, CA 95050

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## EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Speech Language Pathology

1986

Indiana University

Bloomington, Indiana

Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Hearing Sciences

1982

University of California

Santa Barbara, California

## EMPLOYMENT

**March 1998 to Present:** President/CEO of The Social Thinking Center and Think Social Publishing; clinician, consultant, author, and public speaker.

Michelle pioneered the concept of “Social Thinking” in the early 1990s to teach higher functioning individuals with social challenges about the nuanced, and often confusing, realm of social learning and social problem solving that is not easily taught through typical behavioral methods. She developed a treatment framework for individuals from preschool age through adult, basing her model on researched developmental and cognitive behavioral concepts and strategies. She also illuminated the connection between social thinking and academic success, employment and adult success in life, taking social skills instruction beyond “friendships” and into all phases of academic, home, community, and personal life. Social Thinking has been widely adopted in school districts and private practices across North America, and in select countries in North and South America, Australia, Europe and Asia. Many schools are now implementing Social Thinking school-wide to help all children learn to become better social thinkers and social problem solvers.

- Private practice specialist providing individual and group treatment sessions to individuals ages three through adult with social cognitive learning challenges (e.g., Asperger’s Syndrome, ASD, SCD, etc.)
- Direct operations of the Social Thinking Center, her clinic and its clinicians, to provide innovative therapeutic strategies to foster social-emotional learning and social problem solving
- Consultation to school districts and families to include staff training/ development, and individual assessment and treatment planning

- Direct operations of Think Social Publishing, Inc., a for-profit company with a nonprofit mission created to provide:
  - Books, games, products and publications on Social Thinking
  - One to two-day workshops on the Social Thinking teaching framework, offered nationally and internationally
  - Social Thinking Training and Speakers Collaborate: a consortium of hand-picked and personally mentored clinicians trained to provide workshops on the Social Thinking framework to groups worldwide
  - Clinical training to professionals via week-long training sessions held each year
- Oversee operations of Social Thinking® Boston, an affiliate company providing Social Thinking services and programs in the Boston, MA area

**1995 to 1999:** Speech-language, Campbell Union High School District, Campbell, CA.

- Developed a multidisciplinary program to identify and treat adolescents with high-functioning autism/Asperger's Syndrome
- Coordinator of a parent support-education group

**1992 to 1995:** Speech-language pathologist at various neuro-rehabilitation inpatient and home-health settings.

**1985 to 1988:** Speech-language pathologist, Indiana Resource Center on Autism, Bloomington, Indiana.

- Developed visually-based communication systems for low to moderate functioning adolescents with autism who were exiting long-term institutional placements and learning communication/behavioral skills to succeed in a group home environment
- Educator/consultant to personnel working in school systems statewide. Developed conference presentations and instructional materials for working successfully with persons with autism.

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Member, California Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Professional Advisory Board Member, Autism Society of America (2008 -2010)
- Advisory Board Member, Chapel Haven Asperger's Syndrome Adult Transition Program

### HONORS & AWARDS

2012: Lifetime Achievement Award, The Prentice School, Santa Ana, CA

2011: Outstanding Achievement Award, California Speech- Language-Hearing Association (CSHA), District 4. Co-recipient with Pamela Crooke, PhD

2008. Certificate of *Special Congressional Recognition Award*

**PUBLICATIONS**  
**BOOKS AND AWARDS**

Winner, M.G. & Crooke, P. (2023). *Social Situation Mapping, Making Sense of the Social World*, Think Social Pub., Santa Clara, CA.

Winner, M.G. & Crooke, P. (2023). *Social Thinking @ Work: Strategies for Understanding and Navigating the Workplace*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. Think Social Pub., Santa Clara, CA.  
(2022) Finalist in the "Best New Self-Help Book" Category

Crooke, P., Winner, M.G., & Zweber-Palmer, K. (2022). *You are a social Detective, Teaching Curriculum and Support Guide*, Think Social Publishing, Santa Clara, CA.

Winner, M.G. & Crooke, P. (2021). *Socially Curious and Curiously Social: A Social Thinking Guidebook for Bright Teens and Young Adults*, Think Social Publishing, Santa Clara, CA.

Winner, M.G. & Crooke, P. (2020). *You are a social Detective, 2d ed: Explaining social thinking to kids*, Think Social Publishing, Santa Clara, CA.  
**Award(s):** (2021) Mom's Choice Award

Winner, M.G. & Crooke, P. (2020). *Social Thinking Frameworks Collection*, Think Social Pub., Santa Clara, CA.

Winner, M. (2013, Updated 2021). *Why Teach Social Thinking®? Questioning Our Assumptions about What It Means to Learn Social Skills*. San Jose, CA: Think Social Publishing, Inc.

Winner, M. & Madrigal, S. (2013). *Superflex Takes on One-Sided Sid, Un-Wonderer and the Team of Unthinkables*. San Jose, CA: Think Social Publishing, Inc.

Hendrix, R., Zweber-Palmer, K., Tarshis, N., & Winner, M. (2013). *The Incredible Flexible You: A Social Thinking Curriculum for the Preschool and Early Elementary Years*. San Jose, CA: Think Social Publishing, Inc.

Madrigal, S., Winner, M., & Crooke, P. (2012). *Social Town Citizens Discover 82 New Unthinkables for Superflex to Outsmart!* San Jose, CA: Think Social Publishing, Inc.

Madrigal, S. & Winner, M. (2012). *Superflex Takes on Brain Eater and the Team of Unthinkables*. San Jose, CA: Think Social Publishing, Inc.

**Award**

2012 Winner, International Book Awards "Children's Educational" category

Winner, M. (2011). *Social Thinking Worksheets for Teens and Tweens*. San Jose, CA: Think Social Publishing, Inc.

Winner, M. & Crooke, P. (2011). *Social Thinking At Work: Why Should I Care?* San Jose, CA: Think Social Publishing, Inc.

**Awards**

2012 Finalist, International Book Awards "General Self-Help" category

2012 Finalist, International Book Awards "Best New Self-Help Book" category

Crooke, P. & Winner, M. (2011). *Social Fortune or Social Fate: A Social Thinking Graphic Novel Map for Social Learning Quest Seekers*. San Jose, CA: Think Social Publishing, Inc.

**Award**

2012 Finalist, International Book Awards "Young Adult: Educational" category

Madrigal, S. & Winner, M. (2009). *Superflex Takes On Glassman and the Team of Unthinkables*. San Jose, CA: Think Social Publishing, Inc.

Winner, M. & Crooke, P. (2009). *Socially Curious and Curiously Social: A Social Thinking Guidebook for Bright Teens and Young Adults*. San Jose, CA: Think Social Publishing, Inc.

**Awards**

2012 Finalist, International Book Awards "Youth Issues" category

2012 Winner, International Book Awards "Children's/Mind/Body/Spirit" category

Winner, M. & Crooke, P. (2009). *You Are A Social Detective: Explaining Social Thinking to Kids*. San Jose, CA: Think Social Publishing, Inc.

**Awards**

2012 Outstanding Literary Work of the Year, Autism Society of America

2012 Silver Award Winner, Mom's Choice Awards

2012 Honors Winner, National Parenting Publications Awards

**Educational books, tools, games, and other materials**

<https://www.socialthinking.com/Products#sort=%40socialthinkingbrowsesortorder%20ascending>

**Digital/E-Learning** 30+ online courses <https://www.socialthinking.com/online-training/recorded-events>

**PUBLICATIONS**

**PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS AND SELECT ARTICLES**

Winner, M. G. and Crooke, P. J. (2023, October). Using Social Thinking in the Mainstream Classroom: A way for all kids to learn social concepts together. In *Autism Advocate Parenting Magazine* .

Crooke, P. J., & Winner, M. G. (2022, July). Social Thinking Metacognitive Strategies to Support Self-Determined Social Goals in Autistic Youth. In *Seminars in Speech and Language* (Vol. 43, No. 04, pp. 277-298). Thieme Medical Publishers, Inc.

- Tarshis, N, Winner, M.G & Crooke, P. (2020). What Does It Mean to Be Social? Defining the Social Landscape for Children with Childhood Apraxia of Speech. *Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups*.
- Baker-Ericzén, M.J., Fitch, M.A., Kinnear, M., Jenkins, M.M., Twamley, E.W., Smith, L., Montano, G., Feder, J., Crooke, P.J., Winner, M.G. and Leon, J. (2018). Development of the Supported Employment, Comprehensive Cognitive Enhancement, and Social Skills program for adults on the autism spectrum: Results of initial study. *Autism*, 22(1), pp.6-19.
- Crooke, P. J., Winner, M. G., & Olswang, L. B. (2016). Thinking socially: teaching social knowledge to foster social behavioral change. *Topics in Language Disorders*, 36(3), 284-298.
- Crooke, P.J., Winner, M.G. (2016), Social Thinking Methodology: Evidence-Based or Empirically Supported? A Response to Leaf et al. (2016), *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, 9(4), 403-408.
- Lee, K. Y. S., Crooke, P. J., Lui, A.L.Y, Kan, P.P.K, Luke, K.L, Mak, Y.M, Cheung, P.M.P, Cheng, L., & Wong, I. (2015). The outcome of a social cognitive training for mainstream adolescents with social communication deficits in a Chinese community, *International Journal of Disability, Development and Education*, doi:10.1080/1034912X.2015.1065960
- Winner, M.G. & Crooke, P. J. (2014). Executive functioning and social pragmatic communication skills: Exploring the threads in our social fabric. *Perspectives on Language Learning and Education*, Vol. 21 (2), pp. 42-50.
- Winner, M. & Crooke, P. (2014). DOs and DON'Ts for Working with Students in Social Thinking Groups. Think Social Publishing, Inc.
- Winner, M. & Crooke, P. (2013). Social Learning and Social Functioning: Social Thinking's Cascade of Social Functions. *Attention Magazine*, October.
- Winner, M. (2012). Evaluation and Assessment of Social Functioning and Social Thinking. Think Social Publishing, Inc.
- Winner, M. (2012). Social Thinking-Social Learning Tree. Think Social Publishing, Inc.
- Winner, M. (2012). Social Thinking, Academics and Mental Health: The interplay of the social mind, the academic load, and emotions. Think Social Publishing, Inc.
- Winner, M. (2012). Teaching Social Thinking and Related Skills is Different from Teaching Social Skills. Think Social Publishing, Inc.
- Winner, M. (2012). The ILAUGH Model. Think Social Publishing, Inc.
- Winner, M. (2011). Social Anxiety and Social Skill Competencies. *Autism Asperger's Digest*. Nov.

Winner, M. & Crooke, P. (2011). Launching into Adult Life: Skills Needed for Transitioning to Higher Education or the World of Work. *Autism Asperger's Digest*. July-Aug.

Winner, M. & Crooke, P. (2011). Thinking about Thinking: Social Communication for adolescents with Autism. *ASHA Leader Magazine*, MD.

Winner, M., Crooke, P., & Madrigal, S. (2011). Social Communication Learning Styles as a Guide to Treatment and Prognosis: The Social-Thinking Social Communication Profile. A Practice-Informed Theory. Think Social Publishing, Inc.

Winner, M. (2010). It Get It! The Do's and Don'ts of Teaching Social Thinking Groups. *Autism Asperger's Digest*. July-Aug.

Winner, M. (2010). Respect, Cooperate, Negotiate, Be Polite. *Autism Asperger's Digest*. Mar-April.

Winner, M., Crooke, P., & Madrigal, S. (2010). It's a Girl Thing...Right? Social Thinking and Social Skills in Girls, Teens, and Women with Social Learning Issues. *Autism ADVOCATE*, First issue 2010.

Winner, M. & Abildgaard, C. (2010). The Next Generation of Treatment: Defining a Hybrid of Social Interventions for Students with Strong Intelligence and Language Skills. *Autism Asperger's Digest*. Sept-Oct.

Many publications predate 2010 – access upon request.

### **SELECT LIST OF WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES INTERNATIONAL AND SCHOOL IMPACT**

As of 2023. Invited to present at 700+ workshops and trainings for school districts, schools, clinics, agencies, universities, and hospitals throughout 47 of 50 states.

As of 2023. Invited to present International workshops in Argentina, Australia, China, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Sweden, France, Hong Kong, Israel, Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Iceland, Spain, Ireland, Portugal, Philippines, Japan, Switzerland, Argentina, India, the UK as well as all Canadian Provinces.

As of 2023 Hosted ove 300 conferences for speech/language pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, special educators, administrators, teachers, psychologists, counselors, social workers, physicians, assistants, parents and family members.

As of 2023: American Speech-Language-Hearing Association annual conferences, Invited speaker and accepted speaker, short courses.

Autism Society of America National Conference, speaker.