

Jessica Henderson Daniel, PhD, ABPP

Candidate
2014 APA President-Elect

1. What are your views on the role of the psychology vis-à-vis military populations and military organizations?

I was an Air Force dependent as a child and adolescent. My father, a non-commissioned officer (NCO), was a crew chief in charge of maintenance and repairs of aircrafts. Known as a demanding crew chief, the pilots often requested him by name to work on their aircrafts. As a consequence, he was sent to preferred assignments e.g. northern California, Bermuda, Hawaii and the Philippines. This meant that we were lived in choice places both on the mainland and abroad. I appreciate the fact that my father's 5th grade education was not a handicap for him and that his skills and work ethic were valued. His first language was Spanish and our home was always open to the Mexican American service personnel who enjoyed the Mexican food that my mother prepared.

I believe that psychology can play an important role in the recruitment and training of military personnel, including psychologists –who are much needed due to retirements. The development of criteria for admission to the military, the content of training, and the criteria for promotion are all integral to the military culture.

While I hope that the US can avoid increasing deployments, I realize that may not be the case. I personally experienced living in a community of military personnel and their families during the Vietnam War. Both my father and maternal uncle served there. Psychologists can provide services to military personnel and their families during all three phases: prior, during and post-deployment. I have consistently taken a strong stand that psychologists must be at the tables helping to plan how the different phases of services to military personnel and their families will be managed.

My mother was able to manage the TDYs and my father's Vietnam Tour, but not all military wives are that resourceful. I know first-hand how very

stressful this can feel for all members of the family. The complications caused by the inclusion of National Guard personnel, not just those enlisted in the military, increase the burden on families. Flexibility in services is important, given the differences among the military personnel. I advocate for psychologists' involvement in this planning.

2. If. Elected, what will you do to support and advance military psychology?

Given my campaign statement that "psychology is every day in almost every way", I would advocate for the skills of military psychologists be used wherever psychological science, education and practice are relevant. Our military personnel deserve to benefit from the application of our knowledge.

My campaign includes the clear message that psychology needs to be in the room, at the table and (in the military) co-"at the head of the table" when decisions are made about policy and practice. I would be open to requests from the military psychology community regarding information that would inform policy and practice decisions.

3. Are you a member of Division 19? I am not.