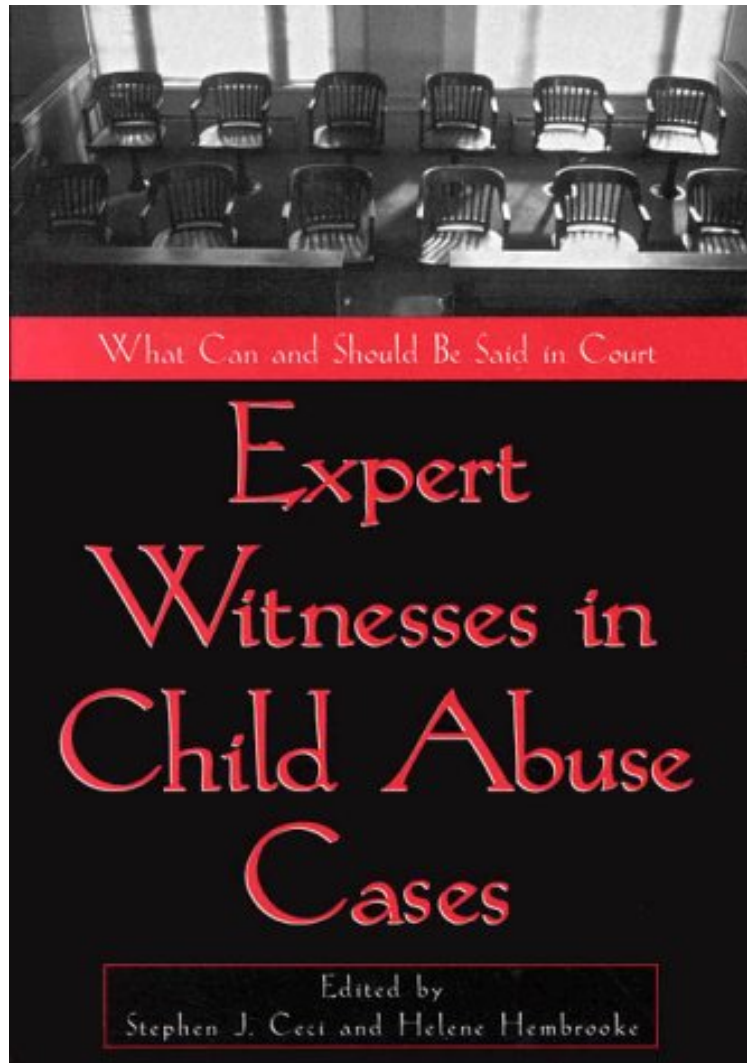


## Expert Witnesses in Child Abuse Cases: What Can and Should Be Said in Court

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10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. TESTIMONYBy Robert W. SmithThis is an excellent resource for the professional who has had no or limited experience in testifying regarding child sexual abuse matters (or, for

those who have had negative experiences). The author provides background and recommendations for testimony. Like most books published by APA, I found that it safely balanced the scientific with the clinical. In doing so, I found that it provided a disappointing level of detail about abuse, the consultation process, evaluation, preparation, or testimony. For the clinician wishing greater information on the topic or for the clinician wishing for more useful information on the evaluation or testimony processes, I'd recommend augmentation with other relevant sources. Useful resource that is worth the used price.

This work offers ethical guidance to expert witnesses attempting to show how they can protect themselves and their science from manipulation and misuse by the court system. Lawyers, psychologists and social workers discuss the thornier aspects of testimony and provide recommendations on the proper role of the expert witness. How can psychologists participate in the legal realm while maintaining the integrity of their science? How can expert witnesses avoid the trap of advocating for a client rather than providing neutral information?