



IARPP 2010 Plenary I:

Thursday, February 25th 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Psychoanalysis, Desire & Consent

Presenter(s): Judith Butler, PhD; Muriel Dimen, PhD; & Avgi Saketopoulou, PhD

Moderator: Stephen Hartman, PhD

Interlocutor: Ken Corbett, PhD

Abstract:

Alternative sexualities are increasingly discussed in psychoanalysis free of the framing assumption that they are perverse. In addition to fetish and S/M practices, the Internet has opened new frontiers for sexual fantasy and expression that bond desire and consent in ways that are not clearly demarcated. Given a relational model of psychoanalysis, where the philosophy of treatment proposes openness to the other's penetrating subjectivity:

How do the desiring practices of the patient or the analyst engage the other--consciously and unconsciously--and how does this complicate what we mean by consent?

What is a person consenting to when he or she desires psychoanalytic treatment—particularly when desire is understood relationally?



IARPP 2010 Plenary II:

Friday, February 26th 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Transgendering

Presenter(s): Virginia Goldner, PhD; Hilary Offman, MD & Susan Stryker, PhD

Moderator: Francisco Gonzalez, MD

Interlocutor: Adrienne Harris, PhD

Abstract:

A contextual shift has taken place wherein trans phenomena have been reconceptualized as emergent rather than static. In the place of choosing between two fixed binary categories of gender, trans-people increasingly play with categories in ways that engage the full spectrum of gendering possibilities. How does transgendering challenge the way psychoanalysts view gender and subjectivity? How do trans phenomena change our psychoanalytic understanding about the nature of embodiment, and the relationship of embodiment to fantasy?

The moderator will introduce the panel. Dr. Hoffman will present a relevant clinical case. Dr Goldner will frame the issues in the context of gender theory and relational psychoanalysis. Dr Stryker, a historian, will contextualize the case and theory in a historical and political framework. Dr Harris will briefly comment on the panel and then engage the presenters and the audience in a conversation.

At the end of this panel, participants should be able to contrast contemporary categories of transgender with conventional categories of transsexuality; provide a nuanced description of gender as emergent and contextual phenomena, rather than through the use of binary polarities; address the historical contingencies of gender in the formulation of interpretation; and be able to utilize the above understandings in a clinically relevant fashion in the construction of interventions.



IARPP 2010 Plenary III:

Friday, February 26th 2:15 PM – 4:15 PM

Economic Crisis/Relational Crisis

Presenter(s): Neil Altman, PhD; Susanna Federici-Nebbiosi, PhD & John Harrington, PhD

Moderator: Victor Bonfilio, PhD, JD

Interlocutor: Andrew Samuels, PhD, DHL

Abstract:

This panel on economics and relational psychoanalysis will address the current economic global crisis and how it affects and reshapes the interpersonal and inter-subjective relationship between analyst and patient, including their financial contract. Anxieties about economic welfare may act as social equalizers but are equally likely to accentuate differences between patient and analyst in terms of social class and income. How near or how far are we from being able to talk about financial mutuality and economic relationality within the analytic partnership under these new circumstances?

At the conclusion of the panel, participants will learn about the economic impact on the analytic frame; will learn about the complexities of being mutually affected by economic hardships; and will learn about analyst's monetary needs concealed behind therapeutic aims.



IARPP 2010 Plenary IV:

Saturday, February 27th 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Reproductive Technologies

Presenter(s): Diane Ehrensaft, PhD; Maureen Murphy, PhD & Philip Ringstrom, PhD

Moderator: Jeanne Wolff Bernstein, PhD

Interlocutor: Jody Messler-Davies, PhD

Abstract:

Reproductive technology exists at the margin of our culture, confounding data and metaphor, distracting us from recognizing that what is at stake, is the separation of conception and eroticism which threatens to replace the libidinized body with a mechanistic one. With an estimated one in ten couples experiencing some form of infertility, this is a subject about which analysts cannot afford to be bystanders.

Reproductive technology destabilizes Oedipal dynamics as the couple is crowded by a chorus of intimate strangers—the physician, a sperm donor, an egg donor, and possibly a womb donor. Analysts are challenged to consider the question: Who and what constitutes a family and a human subject in an era where sex is no longer necessary to have a baby?

This panel will explore the many varieties of familial ties and problems that emerge when the petri dish becomes the new container of initial parenthood.



IARPP 2010 Plenary V:

Saturday, February 27th 2:15 PM – 4:15 PM

Collective Trauma, Reconciliation, Witnessing and Therapeutic Intervention

Presenter(s): Susan Mailer, PhD; Nina Thomas, PhD &
Judith Thompson, PhD

Moderator: Jessica Benjamin, PhD

Interlocutor: Jessica Benjamin, PhD

Abstract:

To understand the function of social recognition and witnessing of trauma in healing. To grapple with the problem of the "failed witness" as a social and therapeutic phenomena. To make clearer for practicing clinicians the intersection of psychological and social views of trauma and the function of collective narratives in healing or re-injuring.