

Book of Abstracts

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For Presentations Given at the
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**International Family
Therapy Association**

IFTA 2011

19th WORLD FAMILY THERAPY CONGRESS
THEME

***Family Therapy:
Coming Together for Peace, Justice, and Healing***

This Congress focuses on presenting approaches for coping with problems and helping to heal hurting families, couples, and children in various cultures.

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Advancing family therapy worldwide by promoting research, education, and sound practice, while promoting international cooperation and the exchange of knowledge and ideas that support the health and well-being of families and persons around the world.

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Plenary Speakers

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Building Resilience within Young Citizens



LISA JORDAN

Lisa Jordan is Executive Director of the Bernard van Leer Foundation. In this position she oversees programs and operations that impact over a million disadvantaged young children every year. She is a well-known speaker, author and applied specialist in fields of democracy, civil society, good governance, NGO accountability, and globalization. She is co-editor of *NGO Accountability: Politics, Principles and Innovations*. Jordan has worked strengthening democracy and civil society through positions with NGOs, governments and philanthropic foundations for twenty years. She has lived and worked in New York, Washington D.C., Amsterdam, Tokyo, Brussels and currently in The Hague. She previously served for nine years with the Ford Foundation as Acting Director and Deputy Director of the Governance and Civil Society Unit, responsible for overseeing \$120 million in grants. Other positions included directing the U.S. component of the Global Legislators Organization for a Balanced Environment (GLOBE), an environmental exchange program for parliamentarians from Russia, Europe, Asia and the United States; acting as a legislative assistant to Congressman Jim Scheuer (8th NY); directing the multilateral development bank program of BothEnds, a non-profit in the Netherlands; and directing the Bank Information Center, a non-profit in Washington D.C. She has acted as a consultant for numerous foundations in the fields of development and environment and has published peer reviewed articles in Dutch, English and Spanish on changes in the field of development, globalization, NGO accountability, and on the multilateral development banks. Ms. Jordan graduated cum laude in 1992 with a Master's Degree in Development Studies from the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague, Netherlands. A U.S. national, she is married with two children.

Functional Family Therapy: Healing Families and Promoting Social Justice

THOMAS L. SEXTON, PhD



Thomas Sexton is a Professor for the Department of Counseling Psychology at Indiana University, and directs the Center for Adolescent and Family Studies, a national center for the study and dissemination of research based practices for the treatment of at-risk adolescents and their families. A practitioner, social scientist, and family therapy model developer, he has presented more than 300 workshops on Functional Family Therapy, consulted nationally and internationally with systems of care helping to integrate evidence-based practices, implementing FFT in the Netherlands and Ireland. He is co-author of the FFT clinical manual (Sexton & Alexander 2004), author/co-author of the most recent theoretical chapters on FFT, designed the most recent training and implementation procedures for moving FFT into community based clinical settings, and written extensively on family therapy and psychotherapy research, including a major reference, the *Handbook of Family Therapy*. Sexton and Turner (*Journal of Family Psychology*, 2010) is the first FFT outcome study in more than 20 years and *Functional Family Therapy in Clinical Practice* the first book on FFT in over 30 years. He is a licensed psychologist; board certified Family Psychologist (ABPP), Fellow of American Psychological Association, and past president of APA's Society of Family Psychology.

Therapeutic Realities and the Ontological Body: Feeling, Language, and World

JOHN SHOTTER



John Shotter is currently a tutor on the Professional Doctorate in Systemic Practice (PDSP) in the University of Bedfordshire, in Luton, England, is Emeritus Professor of Communication, University of New Hampshire. His long term interest has been, and still is, in the social conditions conducive to people having a voice in determining the conditions of their own lives, in the development of participatory democracies and civil societies. He is the author of *Social Accountability and Selfhood* (Blackwell, 1984), *Cultural Politics of Everyday Life: Social Constructionism, Rhetoric, and Knowing of the Third Kind* (Open University, 1993), *Conversational Realities: the Construction of Life through Language* (Sage, 1993), and *Conversational Realities Revisited: Life, Language, Body, and World* (Taos Publications). He has two new books in press: *Getting It: Witness-Thinking and the Dialogical... in Practice* (Hampton Press), and *Social Construction on the Edge: Witness-Thinking and Embodiment* (Taos Publications). He calls his current approach to social theory a *social ecological* approach.

The Genogram Connection: Context and Transforming Life Narratives

MONICA McGOLDRICK, Ph.D.



Monica McGoldrick is Director of the Multicultural Family Institute in Highland Park, NJ and on the Psychiatric Faculty at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. She has a BA from Brown University, an MA in Russian Studies from Yale University, and an MSW and an Honorary Doctorate from Smith College. A fourth generation Irish American, married to a Greek immigrant, her closest emotional connection while growing up was to her African American caretaker, Margaret Bush. Knowing little about her roots while growing up, Dr. McGoldrick through her family therapy

work came to believe deeply in the importance of connections to family and cultural history. She is internationally known for her writings and teachings on topics including culture, class, gender, the family life cycle, loss, family patterns (genograms), remarried families, and sibling relationships. Her books include—*The Changing Family Life Cycle*, 4th ed. in press; *Ethnicity and Family Therapy*, 3rd ed; *Genograms: Assessment and Intervention*, 3rd ed; *Living Beyond Loss*, 2nd ed; *Revisioning Family Therapy: Therapy, Race, Culture and Gender in Family Practice*, 2nd ed; and *The Genogram Journey: Reconnecting with Your Family*, to be published by WW Norton, Fall, 2010.

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Sub-Plenary Sessions

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602	Making Sense of Moments of Feeling: Witness Thinking and the Dialogical in Practice – John Shotter
603	Working with Troubled Adolescents and Their Families: Functional Family Therapy – Thomas Sexton

The Genogram Journey: A Clinical Illustration of the Use of Genograms

Monica McGoldrick

Multicultural Family Institute and Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Jersey

The genogram is not just a graphic illustration of a family's cast of characters, but also the repository of an extraordinary amount of vital clinical information and, if used well, an invaluable tool for guiding treatment. This workshop will explore innovative ways to use this tool in therapy, cultural, racial, and spiritual legacies through the use of family play genograms.

Making Sense of Movements of Feeling: Witness-thinking in Practice.

John Shotter

University of New Hampshire, USA; University of Bedfordshire, Luton, UK

We often find ourselves working in the realm of what Tom Andersen called the neither-nor, with invisible but moving feelings. Indeed, we have to begin our inquiries with feelings of vague disquiet, bewilderment, or confusion, feelings that clients want to be rid of or to leave behind. However, it is important not to ignore their uniqueness. As John Dewey (1930) suggested long ago, an initially bewildering situation is held together in spite of its internal complexity by the fact that it is dominated and characterized throughout by a single quality. Thus, as we go into it and imaginatively move around within such within it, its shape, its unique quality begins to emerge for us. Often an image comes to us! but not so fast, images, metaphors, conceptual descriptions are all concealing as well as revealing. We need to go through a number of image guided explorations if we are to arrive at an intouchness with the living situation itself. Finally we can arrive at a sense of our situation that allows us to make countless new images and metaphors to express each new subtle aspect of it we notice then, like poets, we can invent new metaphors as required. I shall explore the details of this process.

**Working With Troubled Adolescents and Their Families:
Functional Family Therapy**

Thomas Sexton*, Astrid van Dam**

*Indiana University, **FFT Associates, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Because of the family's important role in the initiation and escalation of adolescent problems, family-based interventions have a major treatment resource for community practitioners. The results of a decade of systematic studies and a number of qualitative and quantitative research reviews leaves little doubt that family-based treatment approaches can engage adolescents and families in treatment and significantly reduce adolescent behavior problems. Functional Family Therapy is a short term, research based clinical model to guide marriage and family therapist in helping adolescents with behavior difficulties and their families find positive and functional outcomes for the behavioral, relational, and emotional lives of the family. FFT is a traditional family therapy that is theoretically integrated and clinically based approach firmly rooted in science, theory, and clinical practice. The clinical utility of FFT is in its clinical practice where it provides therapists with a relational map to follow and practical interventions and skills to be used to guide their way through the difficult powerful emotional and behavioral experiences of youth and families "in the room."

2-Hour Sessions

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Sexual Desire, Interpersonal Neurobiology, and Marital Therapy

David Schnarch

Crucible Institute, Evergreen, CO, USA

Following the “Decade of the Brain,” we are entering the “Decade of Reverse Engineering the Brain” and brain-changing psychotherapy. This workshop provides a solution to sexual desire problems that integrates neurobiology with time-proven methods. Crucible Therapy says normal couples have sexual problems because the natural ecology of intimate relationships is driven by differentiation. Developing and maintaining a self has become the fourth drive of sexual desire, along with romantic love, lust, and attachment. This presentation discusses pivotal aspects of relationship ecology, including the low desire partner always controlling sex, creating emotional deadlock which contributed to evolution of a complex brain and emergence of the human self, and triggering struggles of self-development in couples today; and explains how couples can use these processes to increase their differentiation, resolve sexual desire problems, change their minds about sex, and possibly change their brain. Research suggests brain, mind, body, sexual desire, and relationship operate as one integral unit. The brain wires itself interpersonally from early childhood and throughout adulthood. Sex is a brain wiring event involving neural plasticity, intersubjective moments of meeting, and somatic learning. Mind-mapping, the brain’s inherent ability to create a mental map of another person’s brain, creates brain-wiring moments of meeting whether couples have sex or dodge sex. This workshop shows how to harness couples’ physical interactions to develop somatosensory moments of meeting and neuroplastic training that create 7 conditions which promote positive neural plasticity.

Story Building in Families As a Method of Integration

Eda Arduman,* Mary Anne Pace-Nichols**

*Private Practice, Istanbul Turkey,

**Marital and Family Therapist, Athens, GA, USA

Story Building, first introduced at 2010 IFTA Congress, is an experiential technique used to integrate and transform difficult materials within small groups. The process demonstrates simply and profoundly the reality that "...the mind is a receptive container capable of 'reverie' and that the process allows transformation of unmanageable thoughts and feelings into something digestible for the client [story-teller] (Wilfred Bion, adapted). In this non-threatening and supportive environment, the group members function as strong receptors and containers for the purpose of holding and helping to transform the client's story, allowing the repair of interpersonal intrapersonal ruptures in the story teller. Repair work is not only limited to story teller, the collective process of building the story allows all participants an opportunity for transformation. The two hour process will allow participants to learn the technique in an experiential format.

Teaching Diversity

Anna de Voogt*, Nel Jessurun**, Fariba Rhmaty*, Urmey Macnack*

*CTT, Private Practice, Amsterdam,

**CTT (Emeritus), Private Practice, Amsterdam

The Collective of Transcultural Therapists (CTT, 1997) is an Amsterdam based group of family therapists, which has its roots in feminist family therapy (early 1980s). In the 1990s the CTT shifted its focus toward issues of gender, ethnicity, and multiculturalism. The group consists of seven women of various cultural backgrounds, who together founded a transcultural training institute, the Marjon Arends Institute. In this workshop the CTT will present and demonstrate, together with some of their trainees, approaches and methods they have developed for teaching diversity to future family therapists. Trainees learn to be aware of the complex diversity in society and to deal with this complexity professionally. The training raises awareness on cognitive, emotional, and spiritual levels and encourages developing new skills. Trainers, supervisors, and teachers of systemic therapy, and all who wish to develop intercultural competence, are invited to participate.

**Multi-Systemic Therapy:
An Evidenced Based Example of Home Based Family Therapy**

Paul Jacobse, Hans Bakker, Jo Leuinssen

Professional Affiliation: MST-Nederland, Etten-Leur/ Haarlem, The Netherlands

Multi-systemic Therapy (MST), developed since 1980, is an intensive family-and community-based treatment program that focuses on the entire world of chronic and violent juvenile offenders — their homes and families, schools and teachers, neighborhoods, and friends. ST works with the toughest offenders. They are adolescents, male and female, between the ages of 12 and 17, who have often long arrest histories. MST clinicians go to where the child is and help parents to do so. They are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They work intensively with parents and caregivers helping them to become and stay present in the lives of their children again and stop all the violence, running away, drug use, truancy, criminal behavior with support of their networks. They help caregivers to create an alternative for outplacement in juvenile institutes, an alternative that works. After more than six years of working with this evidenced based program in the Netherlands we like to share with you our experiences. How is it to work with so many families who did not seem to be attainable for family therapy before? We show you how it works and let you practice with it.

Family Centered, Safety Focused Treatment of Child Abuse in High Risk Families

Sander Van Arum, Linda Vogtlander

Center for Forensic Community Psychiatry De Waag, Utrecht, The Netherlands

By way of introduction the importance of interagency collaboration between Mental Health services and Child Protection is highlighted. Barriers in effective collaboration (effective from the child's point of view) are discussed by comparing the Dutch approach to child safety to the one in the United Kingdom and the United States. After this a way of overcoming these barriers is proposed by using the emerging Signs of Safety approach in Child Protection both as a common language and a way to monitor treatment progress. Treatment is family based and abuse focused and combines victim and offender treatment in cases where risk of re-abuse remains high. In the second (larger) part of the workshop the audience will be divided in groups representing professionals in the collaborating system, each provided with their own case information. With these a case consultation will be conducted aiming at well-informed safety planning and treatment goals that validate any effort parents made.

Solution-Focused Therapy to Treat Violent Couples

Sandra Stith*, Eric McCollum**

*Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, USA,

**Virginia Tech, Falls Church, VA, USA

In this session we discuss a solution-focused approach to treating couples when one or both partners have been violent. The model we use, Domestic Violence Focused Couples Treatment, was originally developed with NIMH funding in the U.S. The presenters have trained clinicians to use the model throughout the U.S. and internationally. The model is designed to both end violence and enhance couple relationships. The program begins with six separate gender sessions and moves to 12 conjoint sessions. Treatment outcome results will be presented.

Family Peace Building: Resolving Parent-Child Conflict Using the Satir Model

Sibel Erenel

Satir Human Development and Family Therapy Institute-Ilgı Psychotherapy, Ilgi, Turkey

Child and adolescent delinquent behavior, substance abuse, child abuse, school drop -out, running away behaviors have become everyone's problem. Research supports that treatment requires interventions not only with the youth but the family and the community as well. Literature indicates significant associations between parenting practices, family functioning, and delinquency (Loeber, 1998). Family therapy improves family communication, family control imbalances, and family relationships. The focus here is on Virginia Satir's family therapy model that the presenter uses to help children with risk behaviors and their families resolving parent-child conflict. A pioneer in family therapy, she believed that "To heal the world we need to heal the families" and to create world peace we need to create "Peace within, peace between and peace among" us. Satir's approach was an experiential, non-pathological approach that focused on 'meaning' in communication, health, growth and, transformation in therapy. Satir's therapy helps to create new meaning in communication, builds healthy coping, and nurtures the family environment. These open the possibility for healing and growth. Participants will experientially learn to help families with parent-child conflict by working in the intrapsychic and interactional system using tools i.e. the Iceberg Metaphor and Ingredients of Interaction in resolving conflict.

A Socio-Emotional Approach to Relational Justice in Couple Therapy

Carmen Knudson-Martin, Douglas Huenergardt

Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA, USA

This workshop considers couple therapy as social intervention. Video case examples will illustrate the seven competencies comprising Socio-Emotional Relationship Therapy (SERT), an approach designed to promote relational justice within intimate relationships. SERT intervenes in socio-cultural process that limit couples' ability to develop mutually supportive relationships, especially within heterosexual relationships. SERT integrates recent advances in neurobiology and the social context of emotion with social constructionist assumptions regarding the fluid and contextual nature of gender, culture, personal identities, and relationship patterns. In contrast to couple therapy models that mask power issues, therapist neutrality is not considered possible or desirable. Instead, therapists position themselves to counteract social inequalities. The workshop emphasizes relevant training issues and provides an evaluation rubric for assessing therapist development on each of the seven competencies for working with the complex issues of gender and power in couple therapy.

Art Therapy with The Family: Drawing an Island Together

Wim Klijn

Praktijk voor Psychotherapie De Bruyne en Klijn, Nieuwvliet, Netherlands

In this two-hour workshop, there will first be a short visual presentation of the drawing-task given to all family members: “I am going to ask you to draw an island together.” After the survey of the preparations, instructions, questions, remarks in the session, and questions after the completion of the task, some illustrations of family work will be presented. The focus will be on family diagnostics: on family interactions as well as on problem content. Suggestions about treatment interventions, mainly from a narrative perspective, will be given. After 20 minutes, the audience will be divided up into groups of four family members and two therapists. The families will perform the task and the therapists will give instructions, ask questions, and end the session. Discussion afterwards will be aimed at the experiences of the participants and the interchange of ideas about the use of this task in family therapy.

Resilience, Coexistence, Reconciliation: An Ongoing Conversation Project

Judith Landau*, Maire Stedman**

*Linking Human Systems, LLC, Boulder, CO, USA.

**Celtic Connections, West London; Refugee Council, Brixton London; United Kingdom

This workshop will continue the ongoing discussion, currently going into its 7th year that began at the IFTA conference in Istanbul in the spring of 2004. The purpose of this workshop is to discuss accessing resilience, explore differences, and continue working together across boundaries toward coexistence and/or reconciliation. The focus is on harnessing those strengths from our different histories that have helped cross boundaries and resolve conflict in the past to help those currently in seemingly insoluble situations develop hope for reaching, at the least peaceful coexistence, and at best, reconciliation. The format is an open "Fishbowl," with an active center of key participants from countries that have resolved, or are currently in, situations of conflict, who make a long-term commitment to this ongoing work. Both previous and new participants are encouraged to attend.

Part A: Nurturing the Beginnings: “Your Relationship is Your First Baby!”

Part B: Child-Focused Family Therapy

Fatma Torun Reid

AŞAM Child and Family Development Center, Istanbul, Turkey

Part A: Metaphors, like the one in the title, can help a couple focus on their relationship and invite them to take shared responsibility for nurturing it. When a couple arrives with a problem, the metaphor becomes a call for joint action. This presentation will focus on areas that help the couple develop a new channel of communication through increased awareness on issues which all couples need to sort out to build a healthy relationship. What were the husband and wife models in their family of origin? How conflict was handled by parents when they were children, and what unmet needs from childhood are met now in their marriage, or perhaps still unmet? What new skills are needed to safeguard the relationship? These and other areas of importance are cognitively explored in the therapeutic process, as well as through exercises which provide emotional catharsis and insight. Case references will be made. As family / couples therapists, as much as we target focusing on the relationship and systems, what happens when our focus is blocked by individual developmental issues or early script decisions? When and how should one shift to individual therapy? These and similar issues will be open to discussion from professional and ethical perspectives.

Part B: The ASAM Child and Family Development Center (founded in 1979 in Istanbul) owes its credibility to the effectiveness of its brief child therapy model, which emphasizes the importance of building an alliance with parents. In fact, parents in this process are referred to as “co-therapists” and are regarded as such. In the past, many marital problems were disguised and presented as children’s problems, but in the last decade an increasing number of couples come directly for themselves. In cases where the couple is a family with children, we believe in the importance of doing parallel work with children during the same period or sequentially. Working with the child when the family is undergoing stress, stuck at some level of conflict, prior to divorce, or with stepfamilies, not only helps protect the child but aids in rebuilding the family.

Child Custody Evaluations by Family Therapists

Ken Lewis

Child Custody Evaluation Services, Philadelphia, PA, USA

When marital discord evolves into hatred, many couples are quick to see divorce as their best option. Divorce may be an easy way out for the couple, but it often wreaks havoc on the children. Family courts welcome mental health professionals to guide them in determining the future best interests of the children. All too often, however, the presumption is made that only psychologists can offer this assistance. This workshop will counter that presumption by presenting 4 reasons why family therapists are often better suited by training and experience to conduct child custody evaluations. This workshop will present the essential segments of a "child-centered" custody evaluation; and will offer suggestions on how family therapists interested in this work can develop expertise in their local communities.

Genograms, Family Sculpting, and the Therapist's Family-of-Origin

Frédéric La Belle

Pégase Processus, St. Brieuc, Brittany, France

An experiential, dynamic, interactive exploration of family history, context, relationships, and the circumstances and life events that allow us to discover the meaning of being, of knowing, who we are. Working as a group, participants will examine in two, three, and four dimensions the process of family-of-origin understanding. (Two dimensions=family map), (three dimensions=family sculpting), (four dimensions=time, past and present and future). This work proposes a process-oriented therapeutic, teaching and supervision tool for seasoned systemic, humanistic practitioners and advanced trainees.

Family Therapy Frontiers: Braiding Spirituality, Neurobiology, and New Science

Larry Freeman*, Madhubala Kasiram**, Eric McCollum***, Phoebe Prosky****

*Private practice physician, Bellingham, WA, USA,

**University of KwaZulu Natal, Durban, South Africa,

***Virginia Tech University, Falls Church, VA, USA,

****Center for the Awareness of Pattern, Freeport, ME, USA

In this workshop we will explore themes held in common by spirituality narratives and family therapy, bringing emerging insights from interpersonal neurobiology and other new science to buttress the discourse. These themes affect the connections among people and provide a context for organizing our appreciation of the interplay of physical, interpersonal, and spiritual experience. They include acceptance, responsibility, ethics, and compassion. Lessons from evolutionary systems, complexity theory, ontology, and the new physics reveal patterns and interrelationships that produce new insights into these themes; these insights extend the focus of family therapy beyond remediation toward an articulation of the universal. Because of its emphasis on interconnection, we see family therapy as a discipline uniquely positioned among mental health practices to embrace the discourses of spirituality and the social brain, applying the systemic/ecological paradigm to understanding human suffering, yearning, and growth. Continuing the effort begun at last year's Congress, through presentations, panel discussion, and audience participation, we hope to promote the idea of a 'third order change' in our consciousness as therapists and in the healing systems in which we participate as we extend the meaning of systemic interconnection.

Addressing Race and Justice in Narrative Therapy

Stephen Madigan

Vancouver School for Narrative Therapy, Vancouver, Canada

Stephen Madigan presents a DVD family therapy session with a twelve year old court ordered African/American youth and his mother. The workshop highlights issues of internalized racism, class, narrative therapy interviewing, and the discovery and use of insider knowledge and therapeutic letters.

Spread The Word: But Do It Simply!

Flip Jan van Oenen, Jurgen Cornelis

Mentrum Mental Health Institution, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Spread the word, but do it simply! Take the simplest way to systemic work. Being family therapists, we are often eager to carry out the message: systemic working is important! But what does it actually take for a care provider to work systemically when one is prepared to invite a system? Current family therapy handbooks provide dozens of models and interventions; most beginners will find themselves lost by only reading the table of contents. Is it necessary that a care provider learns all this before starting to practice and if not, just abandon the plan? Or can experienced family therapists present some basic principles of systemic work to inexperienced colleagues in such a way that they are able to work with a family in a proper and responsible way? And then, what principles could be considered to be 'basic'? All these questions will be discussed in this workshop. A model will be presented that allows the experienced family therapist to teach the basics of the profession; a Starter package ('System therapy for Dummies') that enables the enthusiastic beginner to start practicing in a systemic way. So we can spread the word and 'come together' by keeping it simple.

**Use of the Self of the Therapist
in Satir Transformational Systemic Therapy Model Change**

Kathlyne Maki-Banmen

Satir Institute of the Pacific, Delta, BC, Canada

Virginia Satir believed that therapists' use of their own spiritual essence was the most important aspect of therapeutic change. When therapists experiences their spiritual essence, the clients are able to access subconscious aspects of their experience that keep them stuck in survival energy patterns and then make new experiential decisions toward more peace and empowerment. The Satir Transformational Systemic Therapy Model (STST) is unique in encompassing both the intrapsychic and interactive components of therapy. The process taps the universal yearnings and spiritual essence of individuals within their personal family and social systems and helps them work toward a sense of responsible wholeness. Intrapsychic change, therefore, not only occurs in clients' behavior, cognition, and affect but also in their sense of Being. The impact of intrapsychic transformational change on families is dramatic. Family members experience each other in more positive ways. They become more willing to make new connections, accept differences, and release reactive feelings, perceptions, and expectations that have kept them from being open to each other. A demonstration of the therapeutic process with an individual will be presented as a part of this presentation.

1.5-Hour Sessions

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407	Families in Conflict: Integrating Family Therapy into the Clinical Environment
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427	Promoting Peace in Multicultural Families: How to be a Culturally Sensitive Family Therapist

**Promoting Peace in Multicultural Families:
How to be a Culturally Sensitive Family Therapist**

Carmen Lugo,

Jennifer Crespo, Viviana Padilla, Freddy Perez, Daniel Martinez, Greisa Ramos

Carlos Albizu University, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Treating families with multicultural backgrounds can be challenging. Each year the possibility of treating families of a culture different from dominant one is increasing and has become an issue of special attention. Family therapists have to learn how to be culturally sensitive in treatment with diverse families to promote peace in their integrants effectively. This presentation will give the participants a holistic view of how to treat multicultural families. Beginning with a role-play presentation the presenters will show how challenging is to treat these families, especially if the therapist is from a culture without exposure to multiculturalism. The role-play will be a dynamic introduction to the main topic of being culturally sensitive in family therapy. After the discussion of the role-play the participants will learn basic therapeutic skills to be used with these families. Also, the presenters will share scientific information about multicultural family research and how to be an effective and culturally sensitive therapist. Some of the multicultural backgrounds that the presenters will be focusing on are diverse minorities in Hispanic population. At the end of the presentation it is expected that the audience will be more capable of promoting peace when treating multicultural families.

Studying the Lausanne Trilogue Play Paradigm in the Clinical Assessment Process

Marina Miscioscia, Alessandra Simonelli, Michela Gatta, Marta Sisti

Università degli studi di Padova, Padova, Italy

Background: The study occurred in the interactive-relational perspective defining the development of psychopathology as the expression of difficulties derived from emotional and affective relationship between the child and his caregivers in early development. The aim of the research is to introduce the Lausanne Trilogue Play paradigm (LTP; Fivaz-Depeursinge, Corboz-Warnery, 1999) into the clinical process of assessment for study: a) if there are specific and peculiar characteristic of the triadic family interactions in the clinical group; b) the presence of risk and protective factors in the family; c) the definition of an integrate model of assessment in developmental psychopathology for an integration of information for the treatment.

Method: The sample consists of 20 families afferent of the Clinic of Child and Adolescent Psychopathology of U.O.C. of N.P.I.A ULSS16 of Padua, that participate to an assessment process for a child (scholar age) expressed disease: the group is not homogeneous for child pathology. The LTP procedure is administered during the psychodiagnostic process.

Results: Qualitative analysis shows the clinical importance of an integrated prospective of individual and family assessment to identify the limits and resources of the family system and to define the individual diagnosis and the treatment. The quantitative data will be developed.

Deactivating the Buttons with Parents of Rebellious Teenagers

Laurie MacKinnon .

Insite Therapy and Consulting, Sydney, Australia

Parents and rebellious teenagers are often caught in a negative cycle of interaction in which the young person pushes the parent's "buttons" and the parent, in a heightened state of emotional reactivity, responds in ways that escalate or maintain the problem. Sometimes parents can be coached to respond differently but other times the "button" that is pushed is linked to unresolved memories of disturbing or traumatic events and the parent is overwhelmed. To complicate matters, parents are often unaware of these unresolved memories and attribute the intensity of their distress solely to the current interaction. This presentation demonstrates how family therapists can:

- identify instances in which the parent's "button" is triggered because of earlier disturbing life events or traumas
- use trauma related techniques to quickly elicit and resolve the underlying issues.

Videotape excerpts of therapy sessions will be used to demonstrate therapeutic techniques.

Family Violence is a Relational Issue

Justine van Lawick

Lorentzhuis, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Family violence is a relational issue connected to fear and control. When professionals try to control the violence they are a risk at aggravating it. How can we be with these families and collaborate with them in reaching safety for children, women and men. A very effective therapy will be presented with personal exercise, video clips, and reflections. In the exercise participants will learn more about triggers of violence, the video clips will invite participants to connect to many different voices that interact. Reflections will focus on aiming at safety in an open dialogue.

**The No Agreement Intervention for Handling Couple Conflict:
Method and Rationale**

Lieven Migerode

University Hospital Leuven, Belgium

This workshop proposes an intervention for handling couple conflict as part of couple therapy. The intervention builds on a conceptualization that puts love at the heart of couple therapy. Follows that aiming for a change in the partner is in opposition with love, acceptance becomes central. Furthermore, reflection on the possible meaning of love led us to consider relational dialectics theory (RDT) as supplementary guide for therapy. In RDT dialogical oppositions are essential for an ongoing dialogue and thus for the relationship. In this workshop we will guide the participants through the proposed approach and make ample room for discussion of the practical and theoretical implications.

Migerode & Hooghe. *Love at the Heart of Couple Therapy*. (Submitted for publication.)

Migerode & Hooghe. *How to Understand Love in Couple Therapy*. (Submitted for publication.)

Helping Grieving Hearts Heal: Working with Bereaved Youth

Cadmona Hall*, Heather Hay**

*Manhattan College, Riverdale, NY, USA,

**Hospice of Central New York, Liverpool, NY, USA

Neimeyer and Hogan's (2001) monumental report on the state of the field of bereavement research provides a startling realization of the gaps in the bereavement field, and this neglect is most striking in the area of grief related to children. Bereaved youth are an inherently vulnerable population due to their evolving emotional and psychological development (Worden, 1996). Bereaved youth also have specific and unique grief reactions and needs that are distinctive from adults, including the re-experiencing of grief at each new developmental phase (Oltjenbruns, 2001). Despite the critical need for quality bereavement support for this population, there is a dearth of research on bereaved children (Geneviro, 2003), and the majority of helping professionals feel unequipped to work effectively with bereaved youth. It is imperative that family therapists are able to facilitate positive bereavement outcomes in the lives of bereaved children, as this will shape their future functioning and capacities for the rest of their adult lives. This workshop will provide an authentic and interactive learning experience for effectively engaging bereaved youth and their families.

Emotionally Focused Therapy: The Shift from Communication to Attachment

Pieter Dingemanse*, Peter Verboom**

*Altrecht Mental Health Institute, Utrecht, Netherlands,

** Eleos Mental Health Institute, Utrecht, Netherlands

Couple therapy in the Netherlands, like in other countries in the world, is recently deeply influenced by Emotionally Focused Therapy (EFT) - originally developed by S. Johnson (Canada / Ottawa) and L. Greenberg. Many Dutch therapists have already been trained and it has profound implications on their clinical practice. In a panel presentation we will discuss what it takes, as a therapist, to make a paradigm-shift from communication based couple therapy to an emotion focused approach based on attachment theory. Implications will be discussed with the audience what it means for education, organization and clinical practice in the Netherlands and in Europe.

Families in Conflict: Integrating Family Therapy into the Clinical Environment

Katja Possekel*, Maria Tropea**

*IFS-Essen (Germany), Anxiety Disorders Center, Venray, The Netherlands,

**IFS-Essen; Niederrhein Therapiezentrum, Duisburg, Germany

The patient is the true expert for his or her life and problems. Under normal circumstances she/he will turn to a family therapist when assistance is required, and together, a customized program of treatment will be developed. How does this situation change when the patient is forced by law to take part in other therapy programs? How can a family respond constructively under such constraints? Family therapy cannot replace other forms of therapy; however it can be considered complementary and it has the potential to contribute to a higher success rate of existing therapy programs. We invite you in this workshop to direct your attention to daily routines in the clinic and to explore avenues in which family therapy can be integrated into the clinical environment. Two models will be presented and discussed: one implemented at a clinic in The Netherlands for obsessive compulsive disorders (OCD); another for a clinic practicing hospital order treatment in Germany. The goal of the workshop is to provide a platform to exchange ideas and experience in this topical area and at an international level.

Needs ABC: An Integrative Approach to Working with Difficult Couples

Tom Caplan

McGill University School of Social Work, Montreal, Canada

This interactive workshop will address the application of the Needs Acquisition and Behaviour Change (Needs ABC) model's integrative therapeutic approach to difficult to work with couples as outlined in the presenter's latest book "The Needs ABC Therapeutic Model for Couples and Families: A Guide For Practitioners" published by Routledge in 2010. The model is distinguished by its emphasis on the relational needs behind maladaptive behaviours, rather than the behaviours themselves and the understanding that clients enter the treatment setting when their relational needs are not being met. This integrative approach to working with clients proposes a method of understanding what the client's relational needs are and combines therapeutic approaches also described in cognitive-behavioural and motivational work, narrative therapy and emotion-focused treatments. The Needs ABC approach rests on the belief that, once relational needs have been ascertained, a plan for meeting them can be readily established through collaborative problem-solving and utilizing the most applicable aspects of the various above-named approaches in combination with a strictly client-focused agenda.

Family Therapy Training Around the World

Thomas Todd*, Daniel Martinez-Ortiz**, Phoebe S. Prosky***, William J. Hiebert****

*Adler School of Professional Psychology, Chicago, IL, USA

**Carlos Albizu University, San Juan, Puerto Rico

***Chair, IFTA Training Division, Freeport, ME, USA

**** Marriage and Family Counseling Center, Rock Island, IL, USA

This is the second annual workshop organized by IFTA's Training Division to promote exchange among trainers globally. Trainers from diverse locations will present interesting aspects of their training methods. There will be time for discussion of training elements of those in attendance as well. Everyone is welcome.

What Can Buddhist Psychology Teach Family Therapists?

Eric McCollum

Virginia Tech, Falls Church, VA, USA

While Buddhist mindfulness practices have made inroads into Western psychological thought and practice; they are often lifted out of the larger philosophical context which supports their use. Mindfulness is part of a larger psychology developed by Buddhist practitioners and scholars over nearly 2500 years. While mindfulness plays a central role in this psychology, Buddhist thought also brings views about the self, the construction of experience and consciousness, the importance of compassion, and the interconnectedness of all things that contrast sharply with Western views. In this workshop, we will explore some aspects of Buddhist psychology from the Theravadan tradition that can inform the work of Western family therapists. We will particularly focus on compassion practices, acceptance as a therapeutic stance, the self as process rather than content, and the ways in which mindfulness can change our relationship to our inner experience, and how each of these can inform our therapeutic work. The workshop will be both didactic and experiential. The presenter has more than 20 years of meditation experience and presents nationally and internationally on this topic.

A Family Evaluation Schema: An Ideographic Representation of the Family

Raymundo Macias-A

Instituto de la Familia; Univ.Nacional Autonoma Mexico, Mexico City, D.F., Mexico

An ideographic representation of the family is a useful tool in the training and supervision of family therapy to capture visually basic elements of the family functioning, beyond its structural composition and origin as it can be seen in the “trigenerational familiogram”. The categories of family evaluation represented ideographically, from a dynamic/structural perspective, are: limits, between generational and gender subsystems of the family, as well as those between the family and the social system, representing socio-familial permeability. Other three categories represented in the Family Evaluation Schema (FES) are: hierarchy within each generation; emotional involvement of each member with the family life, and the significance each one has for the family. The last elements represented in the Schema are the affective relations, among all and each one of the members. Different exercises with the participants will show goals to attain and changes occurring in the therapeutic process.

Intergenerational Migration, Life-Phase Transitions, Systemic Re-embedding

Kitlyn Tjin Djie*, Glenn Helberg**, Carl Blijd***, Dirck van Bakkum****

*Bureau Beschermjassen, Amsterdam, Netherlands,

**Mental Fijnmond, West Rotterdam, Netherlands,

***University Medical Center, Groningen, Netherlands,

****Moir CTT, Nijmegen Area, Netherlands

Dutch families with migration histories, when asking for help in mental health and youth care institutions, are often misunderstood and misdiagnosed. In the Netherlands culture sensitive systemic programs are developed in networks of psychiatrists, social workers, anthropologists, and systems therapists. Two of these programs are demonstrated and discussed with the audience. The first, “protective wrapping”, connects directly with the family’s unresolved traumas, breaches in family continuity, and power resources to rear children in the present and past of the family’s heritage. Most families lose more than half of their support system in the process of migration. Where are pains and lost powers located in the family? How to revitalize and enlarge the decimated support system and re-embed (re-envelope) vulnerable family members by “protective wrapping”? The second, a “transitional program,” offers an “anthropological gaze” upon life-phase transitions and enabled detecting past and recent hidden losses and unresolved tensions in families due to migration processes. Which “family-near ritual spaces” can be constructed to speak the unspeakable and make the unbearable bearable?

Family Therapy Training: Challenges to Promoting Peace, Justice, and Healing

William Northey, Jr.*, William J. Hiebert**

*Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, USA,

**Marriage and Family Counseling Service, Rock Island, IL, USA

In this interactive session, the moderators will both present and explore the challenges faced by family therapy trainers and educators internationally. As the necessity for competent family therapy increases around the world, challenges to creating and delivering effective and just services abound. Even in places where family therapy has been firmly established (e.g., the United States and the European Union) there still remain significant challenges to getting services to the people who need them most. Further, historically marginalized populations are still significantly underrepresented in the healing professions, including family therapy. Participants will be invited to share their challenges in developing effective training that strives to promote peace, justice, and healing in their respective cultures and contexts. Additionally, ways in which training and practice can be enhanced through the use of outcome-based training and supervision will be considered.

International Dialogue: Cultural Diversity in Training and Registering Bodies

Ramón Karamat Ali*, C. M. (Nel) Jessurun**

*Torbay Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, Torquay, Devon, UK

**Het Collectief van Transculturele Therapeuten Amsterdam,
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

If family therapy is to remain contemporary, training courses and registering bodies need to ensure that issues of cultural diversity are an honest and integral part of the teaching curriculum, supervision practices and organizational structures. The focus of this workshop will be on exploring the issues when trying to translate policies, theory and values of 'equality and diversity' into practice, particularly from a supervision and an organizational perspective. The presenters will bring to bear their experiences both in their work as systemic supervisors as well as tutors on various systemic and family therapy courses. They live and work in different countries, i.e. The Netherlands and the United Kingdom respectively and will bring this diversity of contexts in the room as well. A mixture of didactic teaching and small group exercises based on case material and vignettes will be offered. Along with sharing their ideas and experiences, they will invite the audience of supervisors and supervisees to share their experiences in order to further explore this important issue for training and registering bodies. And intend to create with the international group of participants a stimulating and inspiring workshop about the challenges and opportunities as supervisors and trainers.

**Genograms:
Promoting Healing In Families with Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse**

Carmen Lugo,

Jennifer Crespo, Viviana Padilla, Freddy Perez, Daniel Martinez, Greisa Ramos

Carlos Albizu University, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Use of the genogram in this family therapy workshop will promote the development of an intergenerational perspective of therapy and facilitate conceptualization by means of a dynamic, visual, and systemic analysis. The participants will learn how to implement the genogram with families of sexual abuse and domestic violence while being culturally sensitive to non-traditional families. The therapeutic implementation of the genogram will be analyzed along with multigenerational maps, family life cycles, reconstructed families, and multicultural families. The genogram structure, symbols, and intergenerational relationships will be described. Participants will be involved in exercises and role-playing using real clinical cases. Specific themes to be presented will be: the history of the genogram; systemic, structural and strategic theory; scientific investigations; advantages of the genogram; genogram structure and interpretation.

Renarrating: Interview as a Therapeutic Tool for Reintegrating Violent Adolescents

Sabine Vermeire

Interactie-Academie, Antwerp, Belgium

This workshop focuses on the interview as a therapeutic tool to reintegrate teenagers with delinquent, deviant, or aggressive behavior. Most of them stayed in an institution or youth prison or returned from a work or uprooting project. The thoughts, new ideas, and good intentions they made, disappear very quickly once they reenter daily life, and take up their daily habits and contacts with previous friends or neighborhoods. By interviewing those adolescents about their life story, we try to re-connect the different periods in their life and at the same time re-create their connections with important persons and values. Their reflections on efforts, involvements, and doubts get documented by recording on film and letters. Parents, friends, social workers attend the interview or watch the DVD. This multi-layered reflecting process becomes a remembering practice for the teenager, their family, and their friends. In this workshop we show the impact of interviewing on adolescents with video and case fragments.

Continuing Professional Competence: Exploring Alternatives

Lois Paff Bergen*, Barbara Warner**, Charles West***

*Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards (AMFTRB), Colorado Springs, Co, USA, ** Systemic Family Psychotherapist, UKCP, United Kingdom
***AMFTRB and University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg. MS. USA

Psychotherapists are responsible for the quality of practice that they offer to clients. Traditionally, the competence of psychotherapists has been assessed by the number of continuing education classes that a practitioner has completed. We would like to share and explore the continuing education activities the international community has been using to evaluate the ongoing quality of clinicians. Further we want to begin to create a more comprehensive framework for what constitutes effective Continuing Professional Development.

Co-Constructing Meaning by Therapist and Unaccompanied Refugee Young People

Máire Stedman

Celtic Connections, West London; Refugee Council Brixton London, United Kingdom

The author has undertaken qualitative research with unaccompanied refugee young people around their experiences of torture, organized violence, and imprisonment, and, in some cases, of being a child soldier. Therapy has been offered to young people in turn for them agreeing to have their experiences documented. The following themes will be addressed:

- How do you construct a narrative across cultures and life experiences?
- The significance of a trusting relationship as means of facilitating therapeutic change.
- Cultural influences that may facilitate or hinder coping efforts in a given context – developing a secure and positive identity based on culture of origin as well as learning the ‘language’ and meanings of the new culture in order to facilitate a sense of integration.
- The use we make of particular models for understanding young people’s experiences will determine the kind of therapy that we provide. What are the models of helping and therapy that most facilitate the therapeutic change and where do concepts such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, cultural bereavement fit in the context of collaborative and self-empowering practices?

Regaining the Power to Feel: Working with EFT in Trauma Couples

Karin Wagenaar*, Jaap Zoetmulder**

*Centrum voor Psychotherapie, De Gelderse Roos, The Netherlands,

**Psychotherapiepraktijk Bussum, The Netherlands

When couples experience relational stress their ability to feel for each other and for themselves gets distorted. The emotions are typically either numbed or extremely heightened. Partners who have experienced attachment trauma have an even lesser ability to experience the other as a safe haven. This creates problems in the relationship. Emotionally Focused Therapy works with the couple's emotions and aims to strengthen the relational bond so traumas can be better resolved. In couples where a partner is diagnosed with a borderline personality disorder this means working with small steps and finding the balance between emotional closeness and separateness. In this workshop we will share what EFT has to offer the couple therapist.

Perspectives on Professional Ethics and Ethical Decision-Making

Ingeborg Haug

Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT, USA

Mandatory ethics focus on abiding by the codes of ethics and legal mandates established by the national/cultural contexts within which family therapy is provided. Virtue ethics encourages us to contemplate our actions in light of larger ethical principles, ethical theory, and self-of-therapist considerations. The workshop will present one way to conceptualize professional ethics and one way of ethical decision-making. It will foster conversations among participants of their particular viewpoints and expertise in order to enrich our understanding of culturally sensitive processes of ethical decision-making.

The Transforming Impact of Social Technologies (ICTs) on Immigrant Families

Gonzalo Bacigalupe*, Maria Camara**, Elena Lopez de Arroyabe**

*University of Deusto and Basque Foundation for Science, Bilbao, Basque Country, Spain, ** University of Deusto, University of Deusto

Social technologies – mobile phones, wide availability of international phone calls, and the mainstreaming of internet connectivity and social media, are becoming a standard aspect of the immigrant family experience. We are all becoming transnational. The affordable and widely accessible nature of information communication technologies (ICTs) transforms family networks into transnational ones with potentially significant consequences in the psychology of immigration and family health. This paper explores mental health constructs often utilized to analyze the immigrant experience and contextualize in the realm of the emerging social technologies. We also explore the use of social technologies in the therapeutic conversation via a clinical example.

Beyond Collusion

Harris Fokkens*, Rint de Jong**

*Eleos, Zwolle, The Netherlands,

**Eleos, Karakter, The Netherlands

The Swiss psychiatrist and psychotherapist Jürg Willi (1982) became famous with the collusion concept. Later on a lot of people saw in every long-lasting relationship a collusion. This kind of pathologizing of relations didn't conform to Willi's idea about the true meaning of living in relation with each other. In this workshop we outline the development in Jurg Willi's therapeutic approach throughout the last decades. We draw a line between the original concept of collusion and his current concept of co-evolution. Willi created a handy therapy guide which he called the focus formulation. In this focus formulation he puts together the main points of his therapeutic approach. It shortly describes, in the language of the client, the original relation balance, the changing circumstances and personal development, so it can be declared which latent developmental task emerges in the actual partner conflict. It follows with a description of this latent developmental task for each partner and also the personal and circumstantial possibilities and restrictions. It ends with a realistic and concrete first step in the demanded direction. We will demonstrate how we use this concept in treatment programs with couples.

Helping Families Heal: Treating Divorcing Families in Family Therapy

Lee Bowen*, Steve Livingston**

*Mercer University School of Medicine - Savannah Campus, Savannah, GA, USA,

**Mercer University School of Medicine - Family Therapy Programs, Atlanta, GA, USA

The process of divorce in families represents a crisis for all members and impacts each member of the family unit in unique and differing ways. In this presentation, the presenters will briefly review early systemic efforts of treating divorcing families and conclude with more current approaches. Specifically, stages of divorce, systemic treatment models, children's' experiences in divorce, legal, and technical aspects of divorce, remarriage, and blended families, will be presented. In addition attention will be directed toward the impact of divorce on individual and family developmental stages. The importance of the therapeutic relationship and flexible intervention strategies designed to promote recovery and restore health and healing will be discussed.

Creative Ways of Breaking through Impasses in Couple Therapy

Mieke Faes

Interactie-Academie, Antwerp, Belgium

Couples invite us into the intimacy of their relationship hoping for a way out of what sometimes seem never ending negative cycles. These negative interaction patterns are confusing and despair provoking, both for clients and for the therapist. Despite our best intentions, it might seem nearly impossible to interrupt these repetitive and volatile actions and reactions. The experience of feeling stuck in couple therapy leaves therapists often searching for a creative leap. What else can we do except talking, explaining, analyzing, and structuring? In the workshop we open a box of imagination to restore intimacy and create new possibilities for interactions and description of the self and the other. We use poetry, film, photos, puppets, and the possibilities of space for moving and triggering the creativity of clients.

Envisioning and Creating Long Term Successful Marriages

Dorothy S. Becvar

St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO, USA

What accounts for the ability of couples in long-term marriages to envision and create long term, successful marriage, particularly in societies in which approximately half of all marriages end in divorce? Opinions in the family therapy field range from the pessimistic perspective of Lederer and Jackson (1968) to the more optimistic work of Gottman (1997), and media offer many conflicting images. In therapy, it seems appropriate not only to heed research findings and to be aware of popular perspectives, but also to consider how those who have envisioned and created successful long term marriages define success and the keys to having achieved it. This interactive session will be based on input from approximately 30 couples. Participants will be provided with useful new content and introduced to helpful interventions through a consideration of themes derived from couple comments, which will be compared with and considered relative to findings from various research studies. Discussions with participants will add further insights and information.

From Conflict to Compassion: A Focus on Imago Relationship Therapy

Rebecca Sears

Imago Institute and Imago Center of Washington, DC, USA

This presentation will focus on the dynamics of relationships, mainly couples and families, how to understand, work with, and transform the ruptures into connection, understanding and empathy. The focus will be on Imago Relationship Therapy, the relational paradigm and how to facilitate Intentional Dialogue to reconnect couples and families to establish safety, love, and compassion as well as passion. Through the use of power point, video clips, live demonstrations, and practice in dyads and triads participants will be challenged and inspired and will take away transforming skills that they will immediately find useful both clinically and personally. This presentation is based on the work of Harville Hendrix author of *Getting the Love You Want*, the brain research of Daniel Siegel, and current relationally oriented attachment theory.

1-Hour Sessions

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Couples Therapy with Focus on the Children in Families with Domestic Violence

John Middelborg, Asbjørn Solevåg

Østensjø Family Counseling Center, Oslo Norway

A group of therapists at the Østensjø Family Counseling Center in Oslo have for a number of years been working with developing a method to do couples therapy in families where there is domestic violence. This treatment has a great focus on the children and the child focus is dominant in our work to end the violence. In this regard we have made a substantial effort to try to show how this work is done. In this way we have made a video to show techniques and how we actually perform therapy in couple's therapy with regard to domestic violence.

**A Mirror of Changes: Long-Term Impact of
the Systemic Analytic Approach to Abuse**

Martine Nisse, Marianne Janas

Centre des Buttes-Chaumont, Paris, France

What has become of those children we have treated over the past 20 years, children who were weighted down by abuse or incest? What did they learn from us, what did they unlearn from themselves? Where has our unique approach led them? Can they say what factor triggered change? We will present our therapeutic approach, including criminal intervention, and give examples. We will discuss our research methodology and comment on the surprising results which illustrate the effects of the changes that are prompted. We will look at how their resiliency is in resonance with the ethical foundation on which our specific therapeutic approach is based, hinging on the protection of children and the criminal prosecution of the perpetrators of abuse and amplifies their capacity to relate to others and build a world where there is greater justice.

“Alone Together”: Autism and the Family

Guus van Voorst

GGZ Centraal, Amersfoort, The Netherlands

Autism is a neurodevelopmental disorder of genetic origins. In some families several family members are affected with the disorder. Parenting a child with autism is demanding for mothers, fathers, and siblings. Having a husband with autism can be exhausting for spouses, not only because of the difficulties in the marriage, but also because she experiences lack of support and cooperation in rearing the children. Family therapy with these families includes early intervention programs for young children, helping parents manage adolescents with autism through their developmental tasks, and helping couples deal with their relational issues. Family therapists, however, need basic knowledge about autism and need to adapt their therapeutic style in order to work effectively with their families. Learning objectives:

1. To develop a basic understanding of Autism Spectrum Conditions
2. To learn about the challenges for families with autistic members
3. To learn about models of family intervention in order to work collaboratively with families of children and adults with ASD in treatment and education

The Hidden Minority: Systemic Therapy with Biracial and Multicultural Clients

Harriet Cannon*, Rhoda Berlin**

*Private Practice, Seattle, WA, USA,

**Humanity's Children, Seattle, WA, USA

As senior marriage and family therapists, we find that up to 50% of our clients in recent years have been biracial or multicultural individuals, couples, and families. On the street, in people's homes, and in the therapy room, we can no longer be certain of a person's ethnicity by their surname or appearance. This quiet revolution is rapidly changing the face of Europe, the USA, and Canada, and has a presence in all other continents as well. Using a complex, multigenerational case example, this workshop will illustrate our model for working systemically on appearance, identity and belonging with biracial, multicultural adults and families. Lecture, case presentation, and discussion will include: myths and beliefs about being biracial/multicultural; how extended family cultural norms influence identity formation and self-acceptance; specific themes about identity which resonate across cultures, races, and ethnicities; demonstration of ways to bring feelings about appearance and skin color or ethnicity into discussion in mixed race couples; and how to help multicultural families discuss the range of appearance and the way it affects belonging in the extended family.

A New Self-Report Questionnaire on Family Functioning, VGK

Wim Klijn

Praktijk voor Psychotherapie De Bruyne en Klijn, Nieuwvliet, Netherlands

A new Dutch self-report questionnaire on family functioning (VGK-23 items) is presented. The VGK contains a two factor scales that assess (1) Critical attitude and hostility (disrupted communication) and (2) Collaboration (adaptability, problem solving, and teamwork within the family) which were identified through exploratory principal components analysis and shows stability by confirmatory factor analysis. In recent years this short questionnaire has been presented to about 600 persons. Psychometrics shows sufficient up to good qualities concerning internal consistency reliability and satisfactory test-retest reliability and construct validity. This presentation focuses on a short summary of the theoretical point of departure and psychometrics. After that it focuses mainly on the use in clinical practice, such as family diagnostics and the evaluation of outcomes in individual and family treatment and the screening of psychiatric patients and other family groups. Thoughts about the possibilities in clinical research, such as research on family therapy programs and research about moderating effects of family functioning in psychiatric disorders, will be interchanged next.

“Rescued Love”: An EFT Model Working With Couples

Judith Kellner

Private Practice, New York, NY, USA

“We rescued love” says the husband after 37 years of marital disconnect, “This is like Antibiotics. Why did we not use it before?” asks the wife. This presentation introduces the EFT model (via tapes) showing a couple moving toward a secure attachment bond, after 37 years of disconnection. The presentation will introduce the principle of EFT model, its stages and steps. The tape will show how we identify the negative cycle the couple has been engaged in, and how they unite against the cycle. The therapist helps both partners to change the way they react to each other in creating new emotional experiences in which both partners feel safer to express their underlying fears, needs to each other, and acknowledge each other’s emotional experiences, which creates newly founded emotional safety and love in their relationship.

The Development and Application of the Satir Model Since Virginia Satir's Death

John Banmen

Satir Institute of the Pacific, Vancouver, Canada

Dr. John Banmen, one of Virginia Satir's senior faculty in the 1980's will update us on the growth of her experiential model and its application around the world. He has helped with the establishment of thirteen Satir Institutes/Centers in ten countries. All of them are offering therapy training programs in addition to various Satir based parenting and couple's workshops. The Satir Model can be looked at in four stages of development, the fourth stage being Satir Transformational Systemic Therapy. China is presently the most active training base in the world. Maria Gomori, his co-author of the Satir Model, and he have eight faculty from abroad teaching the Satir Model in China at this time. He himself will spend three months this year in China. Come hear what is happening to the Satir Model (Satir Transformational Systemic Therapy) to make it culturally so compatible in various cultures around the world.

Evidence-Based Psychotherapy Treatment Planning

Cecile Dillon

Dillon Psychological Services, Huntington Beach, CA, USA

This presentation will review different ways of how to identify research supported treatments and how to incorporate any particular empirically supported treatment (EST) into treatment planning process. Evidenced-based practice (EBP) is increasingly becoming the standard of care in mental health practice. Unfortunately, many therapists cannot or do not stay abreast of results from clinical research and how these results can enhance their clinical work. Even though it has been argued that the relevance of some research to the clinician's need is weak, there are research findings whose efficacy have been well established and whose effectiveness in the practice settings have received much support. Presentation will start with issues involved in defining the presenting problem such as depression, panic disorder, or social anxiety, describing research supported treatment plans as well as the process used to identify them. Then the process of building a treatment plan will be identified using example statements to describe treatment goals, create measurable and observable objectives for the client to achieve and identify therapeutic interventions consistent with those of the identified research supported treatments. The advantages of evidence-based practice for both the clients and clinicians will be identified.

Stories of Black South Africans about the Apartheid Past

Chris Venter*, Ernest Van der Merwe**, Jacques Vermeulen***, Cheryl Petersen*

*Potchefstroom University, Potchestroom, South Africa,

**Rustenburg Anglo Platinum, Rustenburg, South Africa,

***Private Practice, Three Rivers, South Africa

During this presentation the findings of a trilogy of sequential qualitative research studies about black South Africans' experiences in the apartheid past will be outlined. The aim of the first study (Van de Merwe, Venter, & Temane, 2005) was to explore the alternative stories of a group of black adults who survived the apartheid years in South Africa. Fifteen black participants, aged thirty-seven to sixty-three, participated in the research project. In a follow-up study (Vermeulen, Venter, Termene, & Van der Merwe, 2006), eight participants from the first study were recruited to explore their experiences of telling their previously untold stories about the apartheid era. A third study by Peterson, Venter, and Botha (2009) explored existing intergenerational narratives about the apartheid past as obtained from thirteen young persons between sixteen and twenty-one. The motivation for each study, as well as the relevance of the rich findings of each study, for South Africa and other countries where atrocities against humankind were committed, will be discussed.

Family-based and Psycho-educational Treatment of Adults with Chronic Diseases

Lia Fernandes*, Clarisse Ribeiro**, Sónia Martins

*University of Porto, HSJ, Portugal,

**Hospital of Joaquim Urbano, Portugal, *

Different psycho-educational programs and family-based interventions have been shown to improve chronic physical diseases. There is an increasing consistency of therapeutic effects of these intervention programs across the literature. However, as important as these findings were, they were not accompanied by thoroughgoing analysis or scientific validation. It is necessary to assess the benefit of each new program and to know what are the best models and methods. In this presentation the focus will be on a multidisciplinary group intervention which seem to improve quality of life, control of disease, and compliance with treatment, in particularly in respiratory (e.g. asthma) and infectious (e.g. AIDS) diseases. Taking into account the need of assessing their efficacy after a longer follow-up period, and identifying the patient characteristics of those who benefit the most from each intervention, these findings will provide guidance in developing effective interventions in the future.

Influence of Gender on Marital Therapy with Arab Clients in Cases of Infidelity

Khawla Abu-Baker

Emek Yezreel College and Alqasimi Academic College, Akko, Israel

Therapy with Arab couples shows that Arab culture and society relate to infidelity according to the gender of the unfaithful person. When men cheat, they relate to their conduct as “difficult marital problems” but expect their wives to accept their behavior and work in therapy to stabilize their marriage. When wives cheat, the husbands’ immediate reactions in therapy vary from threatening to kill the wife to threatening to divorce her. Therefore, therapists who work with unfaithful Arab couples should be aware of the socio-cultural norms and find suitable ways to protect clients and marriages. Examples of therapy cases will be presented.

**Trust, Autonomy and Safety in Integrated Network
and Family-Oriented Treatment**

Jukka Piippo

Jyväskylä University of Applied Sciences, Jyväskylä, Finland

At this work-shop a research project is presented. The project aimed to explore aspect that increases development of trust, autonomy, and safety within adult psychiatric treatment. Research is connected to ongoing research concerning family-oriented psychiatric treatment in the Nordic countries. The theoretical frame of this research is the theory of the Need-Adapted Approach (Alanen 1997, Aaltonen et al. 2002) including the theory of the therapeutic system (Andolfi, 1979). Material for this research was collected in Västerås, Sweden and at the out-patient clinics at Jorvi and Keropudas hospital's in Finland. The analysis of the qualitative material was done according to Grounded Theory. Study I aimed to explore the patients' experiences concerning the Network- and Family-oriented treatment model. Study II was specifically aimed to explore development of trust in two different treatment contexts, the Network- and Family-oriented context and the traditional psychiatric context. Study III aimed to explore meaning of relatives' active participation in the treatment process for the patients, the relatives, and members of the patients' multi-professional treatment teams.

A Resilience Oriented Approach in Family Therapy in a Transcultural Context

E. Evert Hurulean

GGZ Drenthe, Beilen, The Netherlands

De Evenaar is a specialized centre for traumatized asylum seekers and refugees with complex psychiatric and psycho-social problems. As a family therapist I will show you the theoretical background and the practice of family and marriage therapy in our department. The presentation will start with some characteristics of our patients and the complaints we see among these families and marriages. Subsequently we will approach the diversity and interdependency of these issues from the perspective of resilience. The idea behind this resilience-oriented approach is that every person and every family has a self-healing power. To quest this together with the patients we use the Stress, Strength, Support and Vulnerability model. In Dutch it is called the SSKK model. This model will be explained and we will show how to analyze all these aspects together with the family, the couple, the parents. During this process of analyzing, goals are formulated and developed. Using a description of a family the process of diagnosis and setting up a treatment plan is explained from a resilience-oriented approach.

Searching for a Bearable Distance from The Pain of Loss: A Qualitative Analysis

An Hooghe

Context, Centre for Marital, Family and Sex Therapy,
University Hospital Leuven, Belgium

A common theme in the grief literature is the view that avoiding intense feelings of grief is maladaptive in coping with the loss of a loved one. Based on our qualitative research findings from interviews with bereaved parents, we, in contrast, propose that emotion regulation processes in grieving entails a continuing and dynamic search for a bearable distance from the pain of the loss. Most parents want to keep the child close and keep memories alive, and at the same time stay at a bearable distance from agonizing and overwhelming anguish associated with the death. More than an individual challenge to monitor one's distance from the emotional core of grief, this distance is also guarded by a relational dynamic between the partners. Implications for therapy practice will be discussed thoroughly. Rather than aiming to overcome the avoidance, we suggest that psychotherapists working with the bereaved first create a space and opportunity to explore the ways parents continuously search their personal and relational balance in dealing with this essential tension of not being too close and at the same time not moving too far from the deceased child and the pain that is related to it.

CANCELLED
The Quest of Little Me and Big Me:
Family Dynamics of Attachment and Structuring

Greet Splingaer

Therapiecentrum Rapunzel, Opleidingsinstituut Kern, Belgium

From a developmental family perspective (Carter & McGoldrick, Byng Hall) the way attachment and structuring relations between parents and children evolve seems to be crucial to understanding and shaping family dynamics. Especially in families with young children these issues are important and have a predictive value for later family development. As a family therapist it can be hard to engage young children in exploring these issues. More playful and visual communication (Gil) can help to make children active participants in the sessions. The metaphor of Little Me and Big Me seems to be very helpful to give voices to the experiences, the desires and fears of even very young children (from 3 years and up to 99 years). Little Me stands for the desire and need to belong, to feel protected and cared for. Big Me stands for the urge to be strong and autonomous. Introducing Little Me and Big Me in family sessions (with dolls, puppets, drawings etc.) helps to explore family dynamics of belonging and separation, of authority and autonomy. In more interactive sequences between parents and children they give a clear view on possible change. In this workshop we will explore the theoretical background and practical applications of this idea.

Coupling, Uncoupling and the “Expanded Family” after Divorce

Phoebe Prosky

Center for the Awareness of Pattern, Freeport, ME, USA

The couple is the fountainhead of the family, and the parenting dyad always retains this key function, even after divorce. We will explore a theory of why people couple and why they sometimes uncouple. We will then turn our attention to how to help the biological or adoptive parents maintain their critical function when there is a divorce, using the concept of an “expanded family.” With this concept the family is transformed both in terms of geography and potential new members, but the core parenting dyad remains intact. The use of these theories of coupling and uncoupling and how to help parents move from conflict to the enactment of an expanded family in clinical work will be our major focus.

How Do We Learn to Play Language Games?

Helena Cruz

Instituto Familiaie, São Paulo, Brazil

Ludwig Wittgenstein invites us to think about ourselves as animals. According to his comprehension, language does not emerge from some kind of ratiocination but in a much more unclear and chaotic form of activity that occurs only between people in their meetings. The workshop intends to explore some ideas about early interactions between mother-child presenting examples of mothers and babies communication, and to make exercises with the participants that exemplify how we qualify our experiences with words that are metaphors of bodily sensations felt in our interactions with others in specific contexts. It's important to point that Mother here means the principal person that takes care of a child, not necessarily the biological mother. Humberto Maturana and Gerda Verden-Zoeller's ideas about the importance of play in the development of personal and social conscience and Jerome Brunner experiences with the first communications between child and mother are crucial to the understanding of the importance of the context in the development of the child as a member of his/her group. According to these constructions, when dealing with children presenting Development Disorders we should pay attention to what I'm naming Context Disorders. The consequences of this approach are both practical and ethical.

Children's Experiences of Parental Depression: A Retrospective Qualitative Study

Hanna Van Parys, Peter Rober

University of Leuven, Belgium

Experiencing parental depression is considered to have a big impact on children's development. However, in research literature little attention is paid to the experiences of these children growing up in a family in which one of the parents is diagnosed with depression. For the current research project, six women aged 30 to 50 were interviewed about their childhood experiences and how these experiences influence their current lives, being a mother themselves. Using Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis each case is explored in detail and subsequently the overall comparison between the six cases is made. In this presentation we focus on the way children try to make sense of parental depression, the roles they take on in the family, and the way family communication about the depression is perceived. Furthermore the developing sense of self seen in a broader time perspective from childhood to adulthood will be addressed.

“I Can Talk Now!” Treatment Account of a Severely Abused 4-Year-Old Boy

Lin Shi

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, USA

Working with severely traumatized children is clinically challenging and well thought out interventions do not always lead to successful outcomes. Attachment theory provides a powerful guiding principle for understanding and resolving trauma. The proposed workshop will illustrate from an attachment perspective clinical treatment of a severely abused 4-year-old boy. Being exposed to drugs before his birth put him at a disadvantage from the beginning. He had gone through multiple foster homes during which time he was severely abused, including being chained to a table and furthermore was suspected to have been sexually abused. He was intolerant of any human touch and comforting objects. Remaining unresponsive to his current foster parents' efforts, he continued to steal and hide food, abuse family animals, urinate on carpet intentionally, and physically and sexually mistreat his younger half-sister. The presenter will review the implication of attachment theory in the context of working with traumatized children. Following it she will outline clinical goals informed by the theory. Finally she will present the treatment process and outcome with the aid of clinical video.

Introduction to Gottman Couples Therapy

Graham Thompson

Private Practice, Springfield, IL, USA

Gottman Method Couples Therapy is a structured, goal-oriented, scientifically-based therapy. Intervention strategies are based upon empirical data from John Gottman's three decades of research with more than 3,000 couples. This research shows us what actually works to help couples achieve a long-term healthy relationship. Gottman Method Couples Therapy was developed out of this research to help couples: 1. Increase respect, affection, and closeness, 2. Break through and resolve conflict when you feel stuck, 3. Generate greater understanding between partners, 4. Keep conflict discussions calm, and 5. Maintain improvements accomplished in therapy. Research shows that to make relationship last, couples must become better friends, learn to manage conflict, and create ways to support each other's life dreams. The building blocks of the Gottmans' "Sound Marital House" will be presented.

Special Families in Crisis

Brenda Batts

Focus on the Future Training Center, Plano, TX, USA

The purpose of this presentation is to help participants understand the significant traumatic effects that families of children with autism and other developmental disorders encounter. The challenges that these unique families face have profound effects not only for the individual with the disability, but the impact of such a traumatic event also affects the family unit with devastating results. There is an 85% rate of divorce among these unique families, and not enough resources to support them. There is a shortage of professionals with the knowledge and expertise to help these unique families succeed, and learn to maintain their families intact in spite of and because of the disability. Unique families are in need of unique approaches, and innovative ideas to help them achieve what every family has the right to achieve; a life full of possibilities. Method: This presentation is designed to help professionals in the mental health field, work with special families using highly individualized techniques to help families restructure their units in a proactive and effective manner. This is a provocative, informative, and interactive presentation full of ideas, and techniques to address the many issues that families of children with autism and other developmental disorders face.

Infant Mental Health and Systems Theory

Bernadette Spallek

Karakter, Psychiatric Centre for Children, University Centre Nijmegen,
Nijmegen, The Netherlands

During this workshop participants will get acquainted with "Family Assessment with Toddlers" at Nijmegen. The approach is based on literature about Infant Mental Health (IMH) and systems theory. It offers a perspective on how to give meaning to the communication and interaction between parents and very young children. The focus of IMH is directed on the assessment and treatment of babies and toddlers between the age of one and four and their primal caregivers. Literature on this subject mostly emphasizes the dyadic parent-infant interactions. From systemic theoretical point of view human beings should be understood in their context. It emphasizes the reciprocal influence on and by the members of the system and development of a pattern in their interactions. Communication is a theme which connects both schools. The communication between infants and parents is characterized by a difference in the communicative capacity and the difference in experience. Infants communicate in an analogue way which can be interpreted in different ways. After a theoretical introduction participants will be invited to watch pictures and videotapes and give meaning to them as members of a "reflective team".

Understanding Problem Gambling: Issues and Implications for Practitioners

Cecile Dillon

Dillon Psychological Services, Huntington Beach, California, USA

Problem gambling means participation in any form of gambling activity to the extent that it creates a negative consequence to the gambler, the gambler's family, place of employment, or community at large. Problem and pathological gamblers can experience psychological difficulties such as anxiety, depression, guilt, attempted suicide, or substance abuse, as well as stress-related physical illnesses such as hypertension and heart disease. Interpersonal problems may include lying and stealing, resulting often in a breakdown of relationships. Work and school problems include poor performance, abuse of sick time, and sometimes loss of employment. Financial consequences may include credit card debt, unpaid creditors, and impoverishment. Finally, pathological gamblers may resort to criminal behavior to finance gambling or pay gambling debts. Family members of problem gamblers also experience substantial difficulties as a direct result of the problem gambling behavior. This presentation will discuss clinical issues surrounding pathological gambling including ways to identify the warning signs and symptoms, examine the prevalent gambling types and patterns, offer tips for families on how to talk about gambling, and how to choose modalities for treatment when individual who gambles and/or the spouse present for treatment. In conclusion, supportive resources about problem gambling will be reviewed and offered.

Promoting Healing Through the Collaboration of Family Therapy and Medicine

Michele Smith*, Leila Aftahi**, Tania Lorenz-Meyer Riosvelasco**, Jeehee Sung***

*Atlanta Medical Center, Atlanta, GA, USA,

**University of California, San Diego, CA, USA,

***Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX, USA

People frequently experience physical complaints of headache, neck pain, insomnia, and so forth, not recognizing that it may not be biological, but emotional. Sometimes this is due to work stress or financial worries, but often there is a relational factor to their physical distress. Research shows that patients will talk to their physicians about personal issues long before considering therapy. Physicians are limited in their ability to address the underlying issues due to time constraints and the need to focus on the patients' medical concerns. They do, however, frequently recognize the symptoms have a biopsychosocial component and refer patients for therapy. Many times these are patients who would not seek therapy on their own, but are only complying with the physician's request. The training of family therapists encourages them to consider a systemic perspective when conceptualizing the patients' concerns and presenting issues. Family therapists in a medical environment are uniquely positioned, having access to people who may not otherwise consider going to therapy. This bridge between medicine and therapy facilitates the role of family therapists in promoting healing.

Divorce and Remarriage: A Family-Collective Perspective

Gordon Hirshhorn

Private Practice, Old Saybrook, CT, USA

Family-collective practice views a wedding as a celebration and formal acknowledgement of an emotional marriage which already exists. Divorce, on the other hand, is viewed as the closing ceremony formally acknowledging that the demise of an emotional marriage has already taken place. Following a divorce, as above viewed, significantly varied periods of time elapse before remarriage. On occasion, the shortest times are consequent to a new relationship already formed before a divorce. The period of time between divorce and remarriage is extended depending upon how early after the divorce a new mate is found. Some divorced persons find their selves gun-shy after a failed marriage and seek to avoid marrying again. Others, however, seek the potential rewards of a new marriage, having achieved personal growth and, consequently, a more mature approach to choosing their next mate. Family-collective practice views the need for coupling and/or marriage as the relationship necessary to mediate those needs which cannot be mediated alone. This presentation will shed light on the process of avoidance, approach, and execution of both the loss and possibility of regaining mediation of collective needs.

The Role of the Family Therapist in Collaborative Law

Leanne Poffenberger

Family Guidance Associates, Yardley, PA, USA

Collaborative law is a legal alternative which avoids court processes for divorce; it is currently used in 16 countries, including the Netherlands. A team composed of attorneys, coaches, child specialists and financial advisors work with members of the family. Family therapists have a key role on these teams. As coaches we can help the divorcing spouses through the transition from marriage to post-divorce life and to set new goals for their families. This coaching role requires knowledge of adulthood development and family systems. Family therapists, with childhood and adolescent developmental knowledge, can join the team as child specialists. The children's opportunity to have a voice in the divorce procedure helps them to understand what is happening to their family. The child specialist conveys the children's needs to the team in order to make sure the children's interests are addressed in order to ensure a positive lasting relationship with both their parents. It is essential that family therapists become trained in this process. Coaches and child specialists must be licensed in their own field as well as being specifically trained in the collaborative team process.

The Power of Keeping It Simple with the Growth Model

Marianne Grønbaek

MG-UDVIKLING, Haderslev, Denmark

Successes, Challenges, Possibilities, Agreements, are only that if they are seen by all participants in a conversation as Successes, Challenges, Possibilities, Agreements. All family therapy conversations seem to be about wanted or needed changes. In order to be able to see and then to act in the new and wanted changes we need to put it into a conversation, staying in the conversation and understand the stories behind them. That we have known for a great many years. But how? By keeping it simple! So let's make it simple by looking at the positions both the professional and the family system take in this conversation process. You can say that when people say something they take a position and they are given position. These conversations are about creating a conversation between positions. This conversation creates the relations between the positions which are needed to be able to create the wanted changes. The Growth Model (Gronbaek, 2009) is a very simple conversation model built on the positioning theory (Campbell & Gronebaek, 2006) in which all participants can be safe in a challenging conversation and with a focus on acting in the new changes in a way where they create new habits by all participants.

Intrinsic Justice: Contextual Theory, Identity, and the Family

Henry Warnock

Northcentral University, Savannah, GA, United States

What is Justice? Perhaps the cornerstone of Western philosophical tradition, Justice can be discussed from many perspectives. Distributive justice and Restorative justice are discussed in approximation to Contextual Theory. Critical, however, to Contextual Theory's conception of justice is the idea of intrinsic justice, arising out of interrelationships of family and identity. Contextual Theory's indebtedness to Hegel's, and Buber's exegeses of justice, both of the same tradition and yet divergent, is discussed. Luhmann, yet provides another view, as to how justice and individual relate in system. Boszormenyi-Nagy considers justice emanating from the State as flawed, for States are vested in unilateral interests of majorities, at a cost of realizing participatory Multilaterality. His criticism of larger societal systems parallels his discussion of loyalty, entitlements, and transgenerational solidarity in family systems, and he indicts compromised state justice in not satisfying a primal need of humanity for retributive justice. This places the Modern enterprise of the nation-state at risk. Neither is justice rational, as we would like to imagine, and compel it. Justice imposed from without is forced. Rather, Boszormenyi-Nagy seeks justice within, and his idea of the Tribunal, centered in familial community, is explored.

The Complexity of Trauma in Sikh Diaspora Families

Kiran Arora*, Mona Mittal**

*University of Massachusetts, Boston MA, USA,

**Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, USA

Sikhs form the fifth largest religion in the world. Current struggles of the Sikh Diaspora family have largely been silenced and are inextricably tied to: the Sikh religion, historical injustices involving the colonial period in India, grievances Sikhs have had with the Hindu majority Indian government, recent events of genocide, and current political injustices connecting the Diaspora community with their homeland. Sikh Diaspora families have been subject to political persecution involving torture, psychological anguish, and spiritual losses. In helping Sikh families heal from their layers of suffering, it is essential for family therapists to have a firm understanding of the complexity of trauma that shapes the Sikh family's experience, which is intertwined with political violence in India over time, and perpetuated and supported by distorted media images, racism, and marginalized discourses on the Sikh family outside of India. This presentation is applicable also to those who work with other families affected by political violence and trauma. The presentation: (a) examines trauma on a historical continuum in Sikh families; (b) explores the psychosocial nature of trauma in Sikh families; and (c) provides a clinical framework which accentuates inspiration and justice in Sikh and other Diaspora families affected by political violence.

45-Minute Sessions

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Evidence-Based and Family-Focused Treatment of Youth Behavioral Problems

Dagfinn Morkrid Thogersen, Bernadette Christensen

Norwegian Center for Child Behavioral Development, Oslo, Norway

Several evidence-based models have been developed for treating youth behavioral problems within a family-focused therapeutic frame. The country of Norway has implemented three of these (Multi-systemic Therapy, Functional Family Therapy, and Multi-dimensional Treatment Foster Care) within its national welfare system. The three models share that they set out to change risk and protective factors within the youth's ecology (family, extended family, peers, school, and community). These goal-driven and quality assured models have given hope of a better future for the thousands of Norwegian families who have received these services. This presentation will focus on the different therapeutic interventions these models apply to work toward changing risk and protective factors, and will present the wide the wide range of interventions that can fit the frame of family therapy. It is the presenters hope that this can broaden our understanding of what constitutes family therapeutic work and inspire therapists to use this knowledge base to help families troubled by behavior problems.

The Cost Effectiveness of Family Therapy: An Overview of 20 years of Research

Russ Crane

Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, USA

There is a need to educate policy makers about the value of including family therapy in mental health care services systems. This presentation will review the results of a research program covers 15 years of published research designed to identify the costs of including family therapy in naturally occurring health care systems. The most recent research uses health care administrative data from a large US health insurance company which manages care for more than 100 million participants. The data include more than 850,000 unique individuals who received psychotherapy over a six-year period. The population includes all individual and family psychotherapy services for all DSM (*Diagnostic and Statistical Manual*) mental health diagnoses. Results demonstrate that family therapy was more cost effective than individual or “mixed” psychotherapy for any DSM disorder.

Race, Gender, Justice and Therapy: Where Do We Draw the Line?

Monique Walker, Marlene F. Watson, William Northey, Jr., Nerlie Pierre Clark,
Yajaira Curiel, Kenneth V. Hardy,

Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA

This workshop proposes a method for learning how and when to highlight issues of race and gender in the therapy room. As therapists and social justice advocates, we must be aware of the impact that one's social contexts (i.e., race and gender) have on one's construction of a problem. Specifically, this workshop aims to explore the influence of race and gender as social justice concepts in family therapy; address self of the therapist's issues in conversations about race and gender; highlight ways of initiating and engaging clients in conversations about race and gender with particular emphasis on inclusivity, validation, and cultural sensitivity; and identify potential challenges and strategies for handling them in conversations about race and gender. The workshop be conducted in a two-part series: Part A will be structured as a fish bowl discussion. Part B will include a panel/question and answer discussion with the Drexel University community.

A Personal Experience of a Cancer Journey

Chris Venter, Karel Botha

Potchefstroom University, Potchefstroom, South Africa

Two years ago the first presenter was diagnosed with prostate cancer and a radical prostatectomy was performed. During the operation complications arose and because of severe blood loss his condition became critical. After the operation he was assisted with a ventilator for 48 hours and had to spend nine days in hospital, six of which in an ICU (Intensive Care Unit). He had to recuperate at home for a further ten weeks before gradually commencing work duties. Eight months later a second unexpected operation was performed. The results of a qualitative study about his pre-surgery health experiences, hospital confinement and the ensuing year post-surgery, will be presented. The second presenter conducted four unstructured interviews with him, lasting five hours, which generated a rich data set for this research. A thematic analysis produced a large number of themes which could have important implications for all the systems involved in the cancer patient's treatment and support, namely the medical, family, religious, occupational, and social systems.

Factors of Successful Marriage Among Happy Couples: A Cross Cultural Study

Manijeh Daneshpour*, Mohammad Asoodeh**, Iman Dadras*

*St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, USA,

**University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

Marriage is still considered as a popular institution in most countries and the fact that husbands and wives are from different families and grow with diverse cultural values continue to create difficulties for couples. In order to identify the qualities of successful marriage in Iranian culture, this study asked happy couples who scored high in Four ENRICH Couple Scales (ECS) to share their own experiences and feelings about their marriage. This multipart research focused on the perceptions of those who have maintained marriage for more than 10 years. This presentation will discuss several themes that emerged with respect to the couple's marital success and how these emerging themes related to theories explaining marital satisfaction. It will also compares factors of marital success in Eastern versus Western cultural context. Clinical implications in working with couples and families and important intervention strategies will be discussed.

Therapeutic wilderness programs: An intervention for high-risk adolescents

Tony Issenmann

Second Nature Blue Ridge, Clayton, GA, USA

Wilderness therapy is an effective intervention for families with struggling adolescents. While traditional family therapy is helpful for many families, at times parents need additional support. At present, adolescents are struggling to successfully differentiate from their families of origin. Their desire for independence is leading to high-risk experimentation and the development of unhealthy coping patterns such as drug use, cutting behaviors, inappropriate sexual activity, pornography and unhealthy eating habits. Adolescents are engaging in problematic behaviors that are increasingly difficult to treat effectively while maintaining their physical and emotional safety within the home. Historically hospitalization was the only option for families in crisis. Wilderness therapy is an extremely effective family therapy intervention that many therapists are unaware of or mistake as a punitive, “boot camp” style intervention. This presenter will describe how wilderness therapy is a viable, safe, non-punitive, intervention, educate family therapists of the benefits of therapeutic wilderness programs, dispel myths, and describe appropriate referrals to therapeutic wilderness programs.

The Horse in a Systemic Context: How to Use Horses in Psychotherapy

Robert Koch*, Christine Karrer**

*Psychotherapist, Korneuburg, Austria,

**Psychotherapist, Wörgl, Austria

Horses have been man's companion for thousands of years. In the last decade they have become important in the field of hippo therapy and therapeutic pedagogy. More and more they are being used for psychotherapy and management consultancy. Contact with these sensitive animals allows people to get important feedback on their own behavior. Horses mirror the inner feelings of the person in contact with them. However, they also enable people to transfer this knowledge and experience into their everyday life. When horses feel emotionally secure they are able to adapt to human behavior. They are spontaneous and clear in their decision-making which makes it very easy for people to understand them. All these attributes increase the scope of work in the area of systemic psychotherapies. In recent years the teaching of this practice has been developed with a systemic orientation giving rise to a professional qualification (equine assisted growth and learning association).

Bowen Systems Approach to Post-9/11 Foreign Relations

Allison Parker

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, USA

As a practicing attorney and MFT graduate student, I am proposing an interdisciplinary analysis of U.S. foreign policy post-9/11 through the lens of Dr. Murray Bowen's family systems model. Bowen "differentiation" refers to the capacity of systems to balance emotions and thoughts, thereby obtaining both autonomy and connection. On the international level, a well-differentiated nation/government recognizes its realistic dependence on others, but can stay calm in the face of conflict to carefully assess facts before reacting. After the 9/11 attacks, the USA had an enormous opportunity to approach a national crisis through a differentiated style of foreign policy. Unfortunately, it lost much of its international credibility through foreign policy reflecting emotional reactivity. Evidence of this includes religiously infused rhetoric (e.g., "evil doers"), adoption of a preemptive war strategy, and its conflation of Iraq with 9/11 terrorists. Bowen theorized that unchecked emotionality leads to problematic "posturing" between members of a system. The presentation will examine some of these postures, such as triangulation between the USA, Israel, and Palestine. Ultimately the aim of the presentation is to demonstrate that family systems theory is well-equipped to contextualize the complex web of international dynamics and introduce change at even the broadest systemic level.

Home Based Family Therapy

Marie-Luise Conen

Context-Institut, Berlin, Germany

The Home Based Family Therapy Approach presented is widely spread in countries such as Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. Marie-Luise Conen developed an approach which uses the reflecting team and its advantages for working with poor families on their belief systems and understanding of themselves. The presenter will explain the concept including how to gain access to the families, if they are not willing to accept any offered help. The use of the co-therapy team is also explained as well as ways of collaboration with other systems, phases of Home-Based-Family-Therapy and requirements for the therapists.

Current Status of World Mapping Project of MFT

Jared DuPree, Devin DuPree

University of Houston-Clear Lake, Houston, TX, USA

We have gathered extensive information regarding the status of family therapy throughout the world including information on training/education sites, organizations, journals, licensure, and practitioners. The presentation will cover each region and country of the world discussing current status and trends. Implications will be made regarding how professionals around the world can collaborate more on a research, training, and clinical level.

**Knowing About Knowing:
Working with Beginning Therapists in Group Supervision**

Wan-Juo Cheng

National Chia-Yi University, Chia-Yi County, Taiwan

Supervisory experiences have profound influences on trainees' values, knowledge, skills, and professional identity in their development as a therapist. Although trainees often expect the supervisor to provide them not only therapeutic skills and interventions but also different perspectives from which to think about the clients and their work with them, according to the presenter's one research studying beginning therapists' experiences with supervision, it is important to help beginning therapists inspect the process of their knowing as well as utilization of the knowledge with clients in practice. This lecture aims to address how to work with graduate student therapists from a postmodern, social construction perspective with a particular focus on trainees' epistemology in group supervision. Epistemology of different types will be briefly discussed, and followed by introduction of activities that would help beginning therapists reflect on their knowing and knowledge through their case presentations in group supervision. Additionally, professional discourses (e.g., ethics) also shape knowledge of beginning therapists concerning role of therapist and therapeutic relationships. How to facilitate conversations about influences of professional discourses on trainees' perceptions on therapy and themselves as a therapist through exercises will be presented.

What Are the Factors That Allow Our Neurobiology to be Interpersonal?

Richard Hill

Western Sydney University, Sydney, Australia

The fields of Interpersonal Neurobiology and Psychosocial Genomics help us to understand the way in which brain plasticity and gene plasticity affect the way in which we function as a person. Most importantly, we develop our brain and epigenetic systems in relation to experience. We are now able to see how the mind and brain open up to interactive and integrating functions - and also how we can close down. This is fundamental to the effectiveness of therapy, especially in the group dynamic of families. A number of theoretic perspectives can be coalesced to deepen our understanding of this dynamic: Polyvagal Theory, The Complexity Theory, Broaden and Build Theory, Play Theory, Interpersonal Neurobiology, Psychosocial Genomics and the Winner/Loser World Theory. Like pieces of a puzzle we can see through a new lens to be more effective therapists.

Addictions in Adolescents, New Directions in Family Healing

Heather R. Hayes

Private Practice, Atlanta, GA, USA

The latest findings in the treatment and diagnosis of addiction are offering hope and healing for persons of all ages. Alcoholism and addiction are a young person's disease. No matter what age, most people with the disease describe beginning use and abuse in their teenage years. Traditionally, persons with this disease have not been able to get help until later in life, bringing with them the years of hurt and consequences that come with it. Today's research allows us to view addiction not as an inevitable intergenerational death sentence but rather as a disease that can be treatable, particularly if there is early intervention. Similar to other life threatening illnesses, addiction is eminently preventable and treatable. Our current knowledge of empirically proven practice methods provides ways of recognizing those at risk. This allows for prevention and provides a template for early recognition and effective treatment at any stage of the disease. This workshop, illustrated with case material, will provide didactic and interactive opportunities for exploding the old myths that addictive individuals need to bottom out and be removed from their families before they can heal. It will illustrate how connection to family and resolving past trauma and grief provides hope and healing not just for the addicted individual but also for the family as a whole.

Teaching Diversity: Some Essential Issues

C.M. (Nel) Jessurun

Collective Transcultural Therapists, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Extending an existing teaching program with a block of capita selecta on transcultural issues does not convert the program into a transcultural course. Change in attitude is required from teachers and students. A re-evaluation of the applicability of the known methods and procedures is necessary, specifically three key elements:

1. The therapist's attitude towards his clients is of more importance than any kind of specialized family therapeutic methodology. Adding anthropological assumptions and language issues to the theory helps understanding the human interactions in different cultures.
2. The impact of societal pressure is generally underestimated in the genesis of culturally related problems. Think of the impact of migration, racism and discrimination, unemployment and poverty, in- and exclusion in the client' and their offspring's daily life.
3. The group composition. In multi-ethnic multi-gender status groups with members of different ages and social backgrounds, problems comparable to those in the community emerge spontaneously in the lessons. There is a mutual responsibility to keep everybody on board.

This lecture will highlight the issues above with examples from our transcultural system therapy course "In the footprints of history and culture"

NOTES

Brief 25-Minute Sessions

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**Evolving Family Therapy:
Including Community to Promote Peace, Justice, And Healing**

Madhu Kasiram, Charlotte Engelbrecht, Rubeena Partab

University of KZN, South Africa

Traditional family therapy practice in South Africa does not come easily as it is fraught with special challenges, not the least of which are time, personal power, and resources in a cash strapped economy. So the practice has had to evolve and mature to cater for families embedded in alien, sometimes hostile, communities. To understand how this evolution works in practice, nursing and social work current and past students of family therapy were brought together for “round table discussions” that permitted optimal participation, creative engagement and problem solving. They were requested to prepare and present concept papers on the following questions: Which aspects of family therapy were retained in practice? What challenges were experienced in using community family therapy? What are your application needs for continued practice? The authors believe that family therapy in South Africa has matured to incorporate community and that without multi-stakeholder engagement it may be labeled as elitist and doomed for practice. Our past and present students have become our partners in co-creating new and exciting community and family therapy interventions that we would like to share with our international colleagues

Anxious Children and Parenting: Effects of Cognitive-Behavioral Family Therapy

Samira Rostami*, Ali Fathi-Ashtiani**, Alireza Moradi***

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**Baqiyatallah University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran;

***Tarbiat Moalem University, Tehran, Iran

This study aimed at determining the efficacy of cognitive-behavioral family therapy on children's anxiety and on family functioning and mothers' child rearing of anxious children. In a quasi-experimental study, 120 girls ages 10 and 11 with scores above 24 on the Spence Children's Anxiety Scale were enrolled; mothers completed Spence Children's Anxiety Scale-Parent Version, Family Assessment Device, and Baumrind's Parenting Styles Questionnaire. Mothers and children were randomly assigned to control and case groups. The case attended 8 sessions of cognitive-behavioral family therapy (Cool Kids). Findings showed a significant difference between case and control groups in anxiety, general anxiety, social phobia, specific phobia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, panic, and agoraphobia with these scales reduced in the case group. Subscale of separation anxiety did not show a significant difference in the case group. Case group mothers reported significant reduction in anxiety and all subscales in their children. Findings also showed a significant difference between groups in family functioning and child rearing styles. Authoritative child rearing rose while authoritarian child rearing reduced in the case group. General family functioning and its subscales were significantly improved in the case group. Based on these findings, we can apply family cognitive behavioral therapy as an effective means of reducing children's anxiety.

Core Focused Family Therapy

Judye Hess

California Institute of Integral Studies, Berkeley, CA, USA

Core Focused Family Therapy: Moving From Chaos to Clarity by Judye Hess and Ross Cohen, (Idyll Arbor, 2008) is a unique approach to family therapy that is particularly appropriate for students and practitioners who favor a humanistic-experiential approach to working with families. The book guides the practitioner in making the paradigm shift to working within a systemic model, by explaining this shift in a clear and specific way. It also provides the nuts and bolts for conducting a family therapy session from the first phone call through to termination, as well as discussing common errors made by family therapists. In this presentation, the major concepts of Core Focused Family Therapy will be outlined and discussed.

Victims and Perpetrators

M Marianne Bergh*, A. Adriana Jasperse**

*GZ Ingeest, Amsterdam, The Netherlands,

**Centrum 45, Mental Health Care for Survivors of Organized Violence, The Netherlands

The symptoms of a chronic post-traumatic stress disorder can be highly disruptive for the client. Not only because the consequences of chronic complaints have a severe impact on the individual functioning. There's also the perception of the self that has been changed and the view on the world that is no longer a safe place to be. Identity confusion can be the result, a solution may be found in taking the "victim role." Family, partners, children organize their lives around the suffering person. Positions and communication in the family freeze. Wishes and emotional needs of family members are submitted to the needs and wishes of the person suffering trauma. In this sense, family members become victims as well: Who are they? What are their needs? Is their world still a safe place to be? This is even more the case for refugee families, who have to adapt in a foreign country and who lack the support of their own families and friends. The symptoms of a chronic post-traumatic stress disorder are highly disruptive for the family of the victim. In our presentation we ask attention for the suffering of all the victims in one family and we consider the role of the therapist.

Hovering Ghost of Childhood Emotional Abuse: What Clients Don't Reveal Matters

Lin Shi

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, USA

The completed research is based on on-going data collection from adult clients seeking individual and relational therapy. Clients are assessed on five types of childhood abuse and neglect as well as ten trauma symptoms before their first sessions. Out of a total 511 individual clients 361 or 73% have experienced at least one form of childhood abuse and neglect, 227 or 46% have experienced at moderate or a higher level, and 122 or 25% at the severe to extreme level. Severity of earlier trauma was associated with that of current trauma symptoms. Further multivariate statistical analyses indicated that emotional abuse is a significant predictor of most current trauma symptoms. Clinical Implications: First, childhood abuse and neglect is wide spread among clinical populations although the vast majority of the clients sought treatment for other issues. Some failed to recognize their experiences, and others, though a small percentage, engaged in minimization or denial of trauma. Secondly, clinicians need to fully examine the direct or indirect impact of early trauma on symptoms for which clients seek treatment. Thirdly, trauma screening should become routine in clinical assessment.

**Clergy Sexual Abuse:
What We Have Learned From Survivors and Family Members**

Thomas F. Carr

Pastoral Response Assistance Team Inc., Natick, MA, USA

As stories of clergy sexual abuse have shaken North America, South America, and Europe over the past 18 years, the Pastoral Response Assistance Team, a multidisciplinary group of clinicians, lawyers, religious women and others based in Boston Massachusetts where the crisis exploded in 2002, have worked tirelessly at helping those affected. We will illustrate through examples from survivors and their families: the need to differentiate mental health issues from spiritual issues and identify modalities for treatment, the importance of considering a variety of treatment modalities when addressing the issue of clergy abuse. the importance of considering how each of the five senses affects the victim, and how to devise treatment utilizing this information (for example, being aware that a certain scent might be a trigger to trauma). We will construct a paradigm that utilizes the “context of time” and the “developmental stage” of the victim at the time of abuse, the time of disclosure, and the time of treatment. We will also outline the impact of media coverage on individual survivors and families, and demonstrate how the media can be effectively utilized in education and treatment.

Healing From the Injustices of Trauma: Developing Accessible and Inclusive Goals

Diana Mille, Anibal Torres

Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT, USA

Trauma is the fifth most common psychiatric disorder and is said to be the number one cause of suicide. Yet, research clearly demonstrates that trauma related ailments are "under-recognized, under-diagnosed and under-treated." (Hanson, Theresa Cea, 2002). Research indicates that across various cultural groups there is an absence of effective systems of care regarding the treatment of traumas. Many trauma-focused individual and group psychotherapy, self help, and support groups have proven ineffective. Our presentation examines the need for, and importance of, developing accessible trauma initiatives that support the well-being of families around the world who have been affected by trauma. The presenters will consider the efficacy of comprehensive intake services, universal screening and assessments, standardized questionnaires and self reports. Methods for evaluating resources, establishing treatment plans and outcome measurements will also be considered. In addition, the efficacy of family treatment models and interventions such as Seeking Safety, Emotionally Focused Therapy, Solution Focused Therapies, and Cognitive Processing Therapy for support groups will also be explored.

Death in the Family; Healing Process, Pre, During, and Post the Traumatic Event

Racheli Bolless

The Center for Academic Studies Israel, Yavne Israel

Terminal illness in a family is focused around survival and frequently with denial and/or filtering of information especially toward the children. Three years ago I was approached by a mother to 5 children in her 40th who was faced with news that she had a terminal cancer with life expectancy of 1-2 years. She courageously described her situation and concerns regarding the family functioning during her expected health deterioration and after her passing away. She asked me to follow the process starting psychotherapy with the youngest daughter [age 12], adding additional therapy with other family members as needed. During the next 36 month I followed the dramatic milestones the family has gone through. The focused treatment of the youngest daughter was extended gradually to the other children and guidance to the father before and after the mother's death. My presentation will include description of the process, the nature of the treatment in each stage, and the effectiveness of turning the individual treatment into family treatment, which supported the healing of the family.

Lost in Translation: Cultural Diversity in South African Family Therapy Training

Marna Dreckmeier-Meiring, Maria Marchetti-Mercer

University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa

Cultural diversity in South African communities remains an important backdrop for the training of family therapists. Masters students in clinical psychology at the University of Pretoria take part in systemic family therapy training comprising of theoretical, experiential, and practical components. They explore issues related to their family of origin through genogram presentation and family sculpting; they also take part in family therapy sessions, either as co-therapists or members of a reflecting team behind a one-way mirror. Since the trainee group and client population consist of members from various cultural backgrounds, both the experiential and practical components of training bring students in contact with issues related to culture. Practical family therapy sessions inevitably result in a degree of cultural and language “mismatch” between the therapy team and the client-family. This presentation explores the challenges and opportunities that arise in culturally “mismatched” family therapy systems within a training context.

The Positive Psychology of Successful Families

Paul Lee

Retired, Forest Institute of Professional Psychology, Springfield, MO, USA

What are the qualities of Successful Families? Eight positive qualities have shown-up repeatedly in research over the past half-century:

1. Clear Parent Leadership
2. Climate of Warmth and Love
3. Commitment to Growth & Autonomy
4. Clear Positive Communication
5. Collaborative Problem Solving
6. Compassionate Forgiveness
7. Competent Live Management
8. Connectedness

Each of the eight qualities will be discussed individually as well as how all fit together in synergistic fashion. This research-based model can be used in a variety of ways:

1. The outline for a graduate class in MFT or Family-Life Education
2. A series on Successful Family Relationships for study groups
3. A positive guide, as a whole or selectively, for qualities needed in MFT therapy

Health Promotion and Cognitive Therapy: Making Sense of Salutogenesis

Therese Brask-Rustad

Clinic for Mental Health and Drug Rehabilitation, Vestre Viken, Drammen, Norway

There is an increasing focus in mental health care, not only on the causes and cures for mental health problems, but also on psychological and social factors that may increase coping and mastery despite such problems. Salutogenesis and the concept “sense of coherence” stress factors that contribute to experiencing the world and life as comprehensible, manageable, and meaningful. Sense of coherence has been found to correlate well with well being and life quality, and thereby promote experienced health. There is still the need to work out how to apply these principles in therapy in order to increase health promotion both on an individual and systemic level. The concept of salutogenesis is particularly useful to bridge the ideas of cognitive therapy and health promotion. Cognitive therapy stresses information sharing and psycho-education, adaptive problem solving, and reconstruction of meaning and motivation in line with salutogenesis. We need to provide therapies that focus on health promotion for individual, but we also need to strengthen this perspective in community mental health care so that our patients may experience the total services as integrated, continuous, and making sense, irrespective of where they are treated.

Social Representations Theory: Introducing the Social in Family Conversations

Thomas Fondelli

University of Leuven, Belgium

The family therapy room could be considered a place where stories are shared and different perspectives are discovered and negotiated. Although each family member brings his personal story to bear, no story is a-contextual. The theory of social representations (Moscovici, 1976) clarifies how people come to understand themselves, others, and their surrounding world through communicative practices in community. Social representations can be thought of as a system of ideas, values, and practices of human communities about specific social objects as well as the social and communicative processes that produce and reproduce them (Jovchelovitch, 2007). In the ways people attribute meaning to themselves and their surrounding world, social representations are the socially shared points of reference. Over the years the theory has inspired many scientific researchers to investigate lay beliefs. Much less has been written about the relevance of the theory for therapeutic practice. I believe, however, that the theory offers an important framework to understand many of the struggles that bring families to therapy. Furthermore, it can inspire therapists in helping their clients in contextualizing their struggles and finding alignment in the differences that once led to conflict.

Transition to Parenthood: Health, Differentiation, Relationship Satisfaction

Katharine Wickel*, Anne B. Edwards**, Joseph L. Wetchler**, Jane A. Walker**

*University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, USA.

**Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, IN, USA

The transition to parenthood is a common process. Extensive research has been done on this stage of life, and much of it shows negative effects on relationship satisfaction for both partners. The purpose of this study was to look at factors that play a role in this change, in an effort to decrease the negative effects. Study participants included 101 first-time mothers in relationships, with babies between 6 and 12 months old. Through a series of regression analyses, the researchers found that higher levels of differentiation were significantly associated with higher levels of perceived health and higher levels of relationship satisfaction. Further, higher levels of perceived health are associated with higher levels of relationship satisfaction, and levels of coping act as a moderator between these two variables. The therapeutic implications of these findings are also discussed.

Multiple Family Therapy for Chinese Parents With Parenting Difficulties

Joyce Lai Chong Ma, Mooly Mei Ching Wong, Erica Suk Fan Wan

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China

Children with special needs have posed a great challenge on parenting. While multiple family therapy (MFT) has been widely practiced in Western societies, its practice in Hong Kong is uncommon due to mental health professionals' lack of knowledge and training. In March 2008 our team launched a one-year project to adapt the MFT model developed in the UK to help Chinese parents of children with special needs (numbers of families = 23 families) experiencing parental difficulties. A qualitative study was employed to learn about the participants' views towards the therapeutic process and the different treatment activities, with the aim to identify core treatment components in the process pertinent to effect positive changes of the participants, using an in-depth post-treatment interview. The participants have identified three treatment components that were facilitative to changes in parenting: (a) mutual learning and mutual support; (b) cross-generational dialogue between the parents and the children; and (c) the contextual approach. Among the different treatment activities, they found surrogate parenting, multiple family games, and preparation of family lunch stimulating creative and therapeutic. The adapted model was refined based on the participants' feedback. Implications of the study for clinical practice and research were discussed.

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Stress Reduction in Mothers of Autistic Children

Nasser Aloud*, Ibrahim Alothman**

*Imam University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia,

**King Saudi University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

While the experience of negative psychological outcomes among mothers of children with autistic spectrum disorders is far from inevitable, there is considerable evidence to suggest that such mothers are at significantly increased risk of experiencing psychological difficulties compared with mothers of non-disabled children. The purpose of this study was to examine the effectiveness of a cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) on reducing the level of stress for mothers of children with autism in Riyadh Region, Saudi Arabia. Thirty mothers of children with autistic symptoms participated in the study where they were randomly assigned to experimental groups (N = 15) and Control group (N = 15). At the post-treatment assessment, the mother in the CBT Group reported significantly lower stress symptoms compared with the mother in control Group. Also, the CBT Group showed lower scores on the Parenting Stress Scale than the control Group. There were a number of significant differences between the two groups to suggest Cognitive behavioral intervention as beneficial. The study presents the key elements of the CBT approach and applies its strategies for effectively helping mothers understand.

The Psychotherapist's Professional Development

Sofia Ferreira

University of Porto, Porto, Portugal

This study focuses on the psychotherapist and the personal and professional influences in his professional development. First of all, through an analysis and review of literature, the main factors in professional development were gathered up, which are referred and detailed, but dispersed in the general studies. Secondly, the study is completed with the reports of five therapists, from novice to expert, giving their testimony referring to their own influences. Age, psychotherapy approach, and practice experience are variable according to the therapists interviewed, since the most important concern their opinion about professional development. A qualitative study is presented, using a semi-structured interview in the collection of the testimonies. They were collected by several ways and analyzed according to grounded theory. Finally, the importance of knowledge of these factors to better prepare the psychotherapist in their professional practice is discussed.

**What Homeless Youth Want:
Exploring Treatment Expectations of Homeless Youth**

Rikki Patton

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA

Mounting evidence suggests common factors of therapy are essential to the therapeutic process (Messer & Wampold, 2002). However, most research on common factors focuses on constructs such as therapeutic alliance (Meier, Barrowclough, & Donmall, 2005), while neglecting inquiry into other potentially important common factors, such as the clients' treatment expectations (Sprenkle & Blow, 2004). Further, most research evaluating treatment expectations focuses on the effect of expectations on treatment outcomes (Constantino et.al., 2007; Delsingore. & Schnyder, 2007; Greenberg, Constantino, & Bruce, 2006), without exploring what clients want from treatment or what factors influence the expectations that clients have for treatment. The current study sought to elucidate 1) what clients want from treatment and 2) what factors predict treatment expectations among a population considered difficult to engage and treat – homeless youths. Findings from the current study suggested that homeless youth were primarily interested in finding ways to meet their basic needs, learning how to cope, and how to enhance their personal relationships. Identifying what homeless youth want from treatment can provide clinicians and intervention researcher's helpful tools to streamline, or otherwise improve, therapeutic engagement strategies and systemic interventions for homeless youth (DeRosa et.al., 1999).

**Implementing a Support Program
for Families of Young Substance Users: Challenges**

Adchara Khamchiangta

Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Despite the wide-ranging impact of substance use on other family members, treatments for family members in their own right are rarely available. The Thai Family Support (TFS) program was designed for implementation in Thailand. The aims were to increase well-being of family members, reduce mental distress, and improve family relationships between family members and substance users. A small-scale randomized controlled trial with a Delayed Treatment control together with structured interviews was used. Repeated Measures ANOVAs were employed to analyze outcomes. Thematic analysis was used for qualitative data. Thirty-six participants (Immediate Condition=18, Delayed Condition=18) were recruited. From Baseline to Post1, the immediate condition showed greater improvements on the Thai GHQ-28, WHOQOL-BREF-THAI and FAS, but by Post2 the groups showed similar improvements over baseline scores. There was no different effect of TFS on FES subscales. On Conflict, but not Cohesion, there was a significant improvement across conditions, from Baseline to Post2. TFS has greater immediate impact on the distress, quality of life, and burden of family members of drug users than standard primary care.

Anxiety Disorder in a Child of Divorce: A Case Study

J. Sue Fletcher, Connie Kane

California State University, Stanislaus, Turlock, CA, USA.

A case study involving a 9-year-old 4th grade male presents the Critical Incident at his elementary school resulting in the school counselor's referral of the subject's divorced parents to a child clinical psychologist and subsequently the diagnosis of anxiety disorder in the child. There is a marked difference in the stability of living conditions between the households of the mother and father. Consistency in discipline and setting boundaries were the major issues between households. The mother of the child has alcohol-substance abuse issues and is unable to maintain discipline in a structured setting. He receives no assistance with homework, often has to get his own meals or eat fast food, has no consistent bedtime, and so forth. The father of the child sets more structured boundaries but uses an authoritarian approach to discipline, routinely supervises the boy's homework, sets a consistent bedtime, and coaches him in youth sports. Recommended interventions are presented.

War and Peace: Co-Parenting Challenges for Divorcing Families

Matt Morris

Our Lady of Holy Cross College, New Orleans, LA, USA

Courts are seeking ways to help divorcing parents mitigate the effect of the divorce on their children. Said differently, "How do you effectively manage one family living in two houses?" One of these methods involves Co-Parenting Counseling, which is a specifically designed therapeutic intervention used to help parents collaborate on parenting, during and after divorce. Families participate in couple, family, and group treatment, all designed to increase cooperation within the parental sub-system, despite marital separation. During the presentation the Co-Parenting Counseling structure will be described, along with the therapeutic concepts and legal justification. Additionally, techniques for working with divorcing couples will be described. Handouts will assist the presentation.

Family Conflict Resolution with Lawyers and Mediators: What Works?

Rachid Baitar

Catholique University, Leuven, Belgium

In the last three decades, there has been a surge in research on divorce. In particular, research has focused on causes and consequences as well as on a comparative competition between family mediation and litigation on producing the best family conflict outcomes. In contrast however, very little attention has been paid on the role of the family conflict practitioner and the processes that generate positive outcomes. In this presentation, we will present results of what divorcing persons experience in meetings with lawyers and mediators, and how this is related to their reported quality of agreement, and quality of life.

Cross-Cultural Equivalence in Measuring Differentiation of Self

Tatiana Glebova*, Suzanne Bartle-Haring**, Janice Strength***

*Alliant International University, Sacramento, CA, USA,

**The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA,

***Fuller Theological Seminary, USA

This is a presentation of the study which examined the cross-cultural equivalence of Bowen's concept of differentiation, as measured by the Differentiation of Self Inventory (DSI, Skowron & Friedlander, 1998) in three samples: a non-clinical Russian, a clinical US, and a non-clinical US (Skowron & Friedlander, 1998) samples. The DSI was translated into Russian following established guidelines for instrument translation (Brislin, 1976; Sue, Kuraski, & Srinivasan, 1999). The DSI equivalence was examined through various strategies: 1) comparison of item distribution; 2) internal consistency reliabilities; 3) internal structure (CFA); and 4) equivalence via construct validity. Results revealed that while the factorial structure of the DSI replicated across the samples for the most part, the relationships among the subscales were not invariant across the cultures under the study. Construct validity evidence showed that in both the Russian sample and American clinical sample, the associations between emotional reactivity and cut-off components of the DSI and outcome variables were in accordance with Bowen's family systems theory. However, the I-position subscale of the DSI was problematic for the Russian sample. The findings provide information on using the DSI, especially its emotional reactivity and cut-off subscales across cultures. Limitations and future research are discussed.

Gender Roles in Couple Therapy: Evaluating the CAGRIC Model

Jacob Priest*, Rebecca Cobb*, Christine Walsh**

*Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL, USA,

** East Carolina University, Greenville, NC, USA

In 2010, Cobb, Walsh and Priest introduced the Cognitive-Active Gender Role Identification Continuum (CAGRIC) to address gender roles in couple therapy. Recent research (Priest, et al., under review) found support for the hypotheses of the CAGRIC model in seven different countries: Australia (n=687), Brazil (n=537), Israel (n=669), Japan (n=569), Russia (n=757), Spain (n=1047) and the United States (n=431). The purpose of this presentation is to introduce the CAGRIC model, discuss the research, and demonstrate how the model can be used with a variety of presenting problems in couple therapy including sexual satisfaction, power, and division of labor expectations.

Studying Relational Ethics Among Couples in Treatment

Rashmi Gangamma*, Tatiana Glebova**, Suzanne Bartle-Haring*

*The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA,

**Alliant International University, Sacramento, CA, USA

Studies on relational ethics, a hallmark of the Contextual therapy approach, indicate its influence on individual well-being and relationship satisfaction. However, these studies are limited by the use of data analysis methods that did not account for the interdependence of dyadic variables. Also, not many studies have focused on clinical populations. This paper presents findings from two related studies using a sample of couples seeking therapy at a university's couple and family therapy clinic in the United States. The first, a quantitative study, examined the impact of relational ethics on relationship satisfaction; and second, a qualitative study, explored the meaning of relational ethics among couples. Findings from the first study with 69 heterosexual couples showed that variance in relationship satisfaction was significantly predicted by relational ethics, and male partners' perception of greater fairness predicted greater discrepancy in partners' levels of satisfaction. The qualitative study using hermeneutic phenomenology as a methodological framework involved a sample of five couples from the original data set and helped explain results of the quantitative study.

Beyond Theory: The Use of Self in Family Therapy

Monique Walker, Ana Hernandez

Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, USA

As students in Drexel University's Couple and Family Therapy (CFT) Program we realize that we are among a fortunate group of CFT's that are receiving self-of-the-therapist (SOT) training. This in-depth exploration of ourselves as people and therapists involves looking at how what we bring with us into therapy sessions impacts the therapeutic process. As therapists, we are trained extensively on techniques and theories that can be useful in our clinical work. SOT is an approach that emphasizes discovering the internal hidden processes of people by looking at our unresolved issues. It involves examining family of origin and contextual factors, and their roles in our work and relationships. Historically, MFT theories have not taken into account the unique situations that diverse families face. There are even fewer theories about SOT and its utility in training more culturally sensitive and empathic therapists. We believe this training to be a critical component of working effectively with clients, as it allows us to be more present with clients. . By working through these internal processes we are able to better understand our clients and facilitate healing.

Healing and Transforming Pain: Couples Rearing Children with Disabilities

Laura Marshak

Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA, USA

Worldwide, many families are feeling the powerful impacts of rearing children with disabilities. The reverberations are often experienced throughout the family system as well as in the individual lives of parents and siblings. Despite multicultural differences, families generally face some similar struggles and challenges. These include mourning the loss of the “perfect child”, coping with societal stigma, intensified stress, upheavals in family routines, and changes in family and marital relationships. Marriages appear to be particularly effected as reflected in heightened rates of divorce and marital dissatisfaction. Some families struggle without success with these issues while others find ways to heal and transform themselves. The focus of the session will be on learning how couples and families successfully adjust to childhood disability over time and how therapists can facilitate this process. Particular emphasis will be placed on strategies that help strengthen marriages and families. This presentation will draw, in part, on the presenter’s clinical experience with couples raising children with diverse disabilities and illnesses including autism spectrum disorders as well as other developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, and medically fragile children. Input from the hundreds of couples she has learned from will be included.

Authentic Voices: A Young Women's Group

Elizabeth Zmuda-Swanson

Marriage and Family Counseling Service, Rock Island, IL, USA

Authentic Voices is a grassroots young women's group I developed over 12 years ago with other women in my community. We were concerned for teenaged girls and the challenges and conflicts American culture presented for them, as we witnessed increased depression, anxiety, and eating disorder rates as well as lowering of self esteem. AV's purpose is to provide opportunities for girls to bring forward their particular challenges and conflicts inherent in growing up by developing skills, attitudes, and techniques, empowering them to bring about change. This presentation will also educate participants in how to go about constructing similar groups in their communities.

Family Therapists Develop Therapeutic Practices Together With Clients

Ottar Ness*, Tom Strong**

*Buskerud University College, Trondheim, Norway,

**University of Calgary, Calgary, Canada

Research on family therapy has generally focused on how specific therapeutic models (e.g., Cognitive Behavioral Therapy) have yielded outcomes and effects from therapeutic conversations. In this presentation we outline experiences and outcomes from Ottar Ness's recently completed PhD research. This research examined how family therapists collaborated to develop and optimize new therapeutic practices (Johnella Bird's relational language approach) while working together with families, and each other. Borrowing ideas from action research, social constructionist thought, and discursive psychology we examined how therapists learned how to enhance their use of Bird's therapeutic practices: from viewing their videotaped use of these practices, from client feedback, and from collaborative and personal reflections. We share our analysis of this collaborative learning process, as it related to improving practice in a group of family therapists in Norway. We conclude with recommendations for how members of therapeutic communities can learn from each other, and enhance family therapy, from multiple sources of practice-based evidence in contrast to just learning therapeutic models.

Therapists' and Clients' Assessment of Therapists' Multicultural Competency

Elise Cole

California State University, Chico, Chico, CA, USA

Multicultural training is believed to help family therapists meet the needs of their increasingly diverse clientele (Kocarek, Talbot, Batka, & Anderson, 2001). The primary purpose of this study was to assess therapist multicultural competency among marriage and family therapy students in training. We were interested in the comparison between client and therapist ratings of therapists' multicultural therapy competency. Receiving client feedback is an important step to take because clients are the consumers of therapy and their perceptions can be very important to the process and outcome of therapy (Feurtes et al., 2001). The second purpose of this study was to assess the relationship between clients' ratings of therapists' multicultural therapy competency and clients' reports regarding both the outcome of therapy and their satisfaction with therapy. While it is assumed that there is a positive relationship between multicultural therapy competency and process or outcome indexes of therapy, little research has studied this relationship (Atkinson & Lowe, 1995; Steenbarger & Pels, 1997; Sue, 1998). Results will be reported, followed by a discussion and recommendations.

The Flotation of Theories in Our Practice of Systemic Training

Michel Wawrzyniak*, Gerard Schmit**

*University de Picardie Jules Verne, Amiens, France

**University Champagne Ardenne, Reims, France

The reference to the phenomenological psychopathology and to the psychoanalysis enriches constantly our trainer's practice in the systemic approaches. Our statement will thus handle, since an orphan's psychic position of a unified theoretical corpus, contributions of these other currents of thought in our practice of training.

Pulled in Two Ways: Cultural Demands on Mexican Immigrant Children

John Knudson-Martin*, Carmen Knudson-Martin**

*Eastern Oregon University, La Grande, OR, USA

**Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA, USA

Families immigrate primarily to seek a better future for their children. Thus how immigrant children make sense of engaging in school is a critical issue. This workshop focuses on the experience of Mexican immigrants to the United States, drawing on focus group interviews with children, their parents, teachers, and counselors. Qualitative, grounded theory analysis addresses how children and families manage the discrepant expectations of family and school cultures that create internal conflicts such that children want to stay connected with family bonds, expectations, and responsibilities, but also desire to meet the demands of the dominant culture at school. Commitment to family brings with it numerous positive emotional supports and a sense of solidarity, often at the cost of successful engagement in school, leaving students under prepared to be economically successful in the dominant culture and at risk for declining health and well-being. Practitioners are challenged to support family bonds while exploring avenues for educational and economic advancement.

Easily Forgotten: Experiences of Those Left Behind in South African Emigration

Maria Marchetti-Mercer

University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa

Much of the literature on emigration focuses on the experiences of those who leave but little attention is given to those “left behind” and how they cope with the loss and social void caused by the departure of their loved ones. This paper will discuss some of the results of a NRF supported research project exploring the impact of emigration on South African families, with specific emphasis on the experiences of those left behind. The results generally indicate that the losses experienced by those who do not emigrate are equally painful as they have to recreate a new social network out of the void created by emigration. They often compared emigration to a ‘death’ and felt unfulfilled by the so-called “virtual” relationships resulting from emigration; whilst those leaving placed a lot of faith on the role that technology can play in maintaining ties with those back home. Suggestions on how to assist families preparing for emigration as well as supporting those left behind will be put forth; as well as some ideas for future research into the field of family therapy and emigration.

**A Three Generation Family's Experience with Immigration:
A Phenomenological Study**

Yudum Akyil, Binh Pham, Norja Cunningham, Amy Blanchard

Antioch University New England, Keene, MA, USA

Few qualitative studies have been conducted to understand the lived experiences of immigrant families and even less is known about the shared experience of immigration from the perspective of a whole family. This presentation will present the process and findings of a qualitative phenomenological study that explored the multiple layers of one three generation family's shared experiences of immigration. Five thematic clusters were identified: (a) process of immigration/acclimation/assimilation, (b) national identity/pride, (c) family and cultural capital, (d) religious freedom/choice, and, (e) judgments and opinions. An exhaustive description will be presented to summarize the essence of the family members' lived experience as well as bias statements and notes from the researchers about the process and challenges of conducting the study given their own minority and immigrant status.

An Evaluation of Functional Family Therapy in an Irish Youth Justice Context

Laura Wilson*, Clare Graham**

*Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, USA,

**University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

The study is an evaluation of Functional Family Therapy in an Irish youth justice context. Functional Family Therapy is an evidence-based practice developed for delinquent adolescents in their families. It has been proven effective in over 300 sites in the United States and 4 international sites. In response to an increase in youth crime in Ireland, the head of the Irish Youth Justice Organization recommended that evidence-based interventions be implemented in Ireland as an aim to reduce crime. This is a preliminary evaluation of FFT in Ireland, examining the results of improved family functioning, reduction in youth crime. The hypothesis is that these results would be favorable, especially when FFT is implemented by a treatment-adherent therapist.

Using Web 2.0 Tools in Family Therapy Education

John Lawless

Empire State College/SUNY, NY, USA

The development of Web 2.0 tools (e.g., Facebook, Ning, Twitter) have changed the way people connect with each other. These digital technologies allow people to communicate faster, share ideas, and collaborate across vast distances. In addition, these tools have called into question ideas of expertise, knowledge, and hierarchy. These concepts are prominent in the traditional model of education. The professor is an expert who “professes” her/his own knowledge to those who do not know. Web 2.0 tools have allowed students to connect with an array of experts, peers, and faculty unlike ever before. These tools have also allowed teachers to have access to current information, novel research findings, and shape learning so that it is not context bound to “the classroom.” This presentation will highlight various technologies that systemic therapies teachers or supervisors can utilize to foster critical thinking about the topic at hand.

Bipolar Disorder and the Family: A Systems Approach in Cognitive Therapy

Therese Brask-Rustad

Vestre Viken HF, Drammen, Norway

Living with bipolar disorder may pose a great challenge and strain on both the patient and the family. The family may provide vital social and emotional support, but may also be a source of stress and conflict if communication and emotional climate become adversely affected. The bipolar symptoms may exceed what the family can cope with. The symptoms may result in financial problems, anger, hurt, and shame. The resulting distress and chaos may in turn be a risk factor for relapse. While the positive symptoms of mania or psychosis may be attributed to illness, withdrawal, or apathy while depressed, or side effects of medication, may be attributed to personality and intentional behavior, causing conflict and further distress. The well spouse may also resent the illness, feel the burden of the stigma, and regret having had children by the affected spouse. The interpersonal balance between the spouses may be disrupted when the well spouse may have to alternate between dealing with an equal or sick partner. Therapy therefore also needs to focus on the family, and look at the individual within a social perspective.

Musings from a Memory Keeper

Carol Pfaffly

Fort Collins Family Medicine Residency Program, Fort Collins, CO, USA

As a clinician and educator, learning about Alzheimer's disease as an academic subject is fascinating; and interacting with dementia patients as part of my job is rewarding albeit challenging. But entering into a caregiver relationship with a family member afflicted with Alzheimer's is beyond anything my training prepared me for in the past. This presentation provides the audience with an insider's perspective on the day-to-day struggles of living with the person inside the disease. Clinicians will learn strategies for assisting clients who are acting as caregivers. Additionally, participants will gain a greater understanding of how the progression of the disease alters the trajectory of a family as interpersonal relationships become increasingly more complex.

Families and HIV/AIDS: A Global Comparison of Survival Stories

Emmerentie Oliphant*, Madhu Kasiram**, Willem Roestenburg***

*Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX, USA

**University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

***University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg, Gauteng, South-Africa

Families across the world share stories of survival and strengths. Challenged by realities such as HIV/AIDS, they often survive extreme difficulties. The questions addressed in this proposal are (1) how do families survive the difficulties they experience with HIV/AIDS and (2) how can their survival be used towards enhancing family therapy? The purpose of this paper is to share information related to survival strategies of families who suffer from the devastation of HIV/AIDS. The presenters draw on data from South Africa and Rural East Texas to present these survival stories. It is assumed that families across the world draw on the same type of emotional, physical, social, and spiritual strengths, even though their environments may differ. Intervention with these families is based on specific principles such as the client being the expert and all role-players participating actively in the decision-making process. Interventions are based on the strengths perspective exploring the resources and relationships within the family and the community. Data on the survival stories were collected over two years and were analyzed by means of NVivo 9. The main themes and comparisons between the countries will be shared and suggestions made how to utilize survival stories in family therapy.

Who is Your Soulmate?

Hejan Epozdemir, Emre Konuk, Canan Savran

DBE (Institute for Behavioral Studies), Istanbul, Turkey

How do you select your partner? Which criteria determine your choice? Generally people base their choice on several beliefs and values during the premarital stage. This choice can include a wide range of criteria such as physical appearance\attractiveness, intelligence, sexual attractiveness, resources, profession, social status, personality characteristics etc. This study investigated the criteria in Turkish adults' partner choice. The study sample consisted of 120 couples 60 of whom were engaged while the other 60 were dating couples. Data were collected by a professional research company in Turkey. A relationship survey and a demographic information form were prepared for use in the study. Couple adjustment was measured by "The Relationship Assessment Inventory (IDE)" developed by DBE (Institute for Behavioral Studies) and the personality characteristics "16PF Personality Inventory" were filled out by the participants. Results indicated that intelligence, love, physical appearance, having a good time together, having a good sense of humor and personality characteristics of a partner were the most important criteria for partner choice in the Turkish sample but they were also dependant on gender.

Does Marriage Kill Love?

Emre Konuk, Hejan Epozdemir, Canan Savran

DBE (Institute for Behavioral Studies), Istanbul, Turkey

In the last several decades increased divorce rates have raised questions around marriage as a social institution. Although living together seems to be an alternative to marriage, legitimizing the relationship by marriage still is the standard universally. Most of the time, the marriage process starts with two people are attracted to each other. After dating or going out for a period of time, they form a bond and that continues with being together for a while, and the journey ends with marriage. In some countries, an engagement process precedes marriage and is considered as a sign of commitment and preparation for it. Couples most frequently claim that their relationship has altered after the marriage. The motto is: “marriage kills love”. This study aims to investigate whether couple adjustment is better in non-married couples compared to married couples within a Turkish sample. The sample consisted of 180 couples; 60 dating, 60 engaged, and 60 married couples. The RAI Inventory developed by DBE and administrated to the participants. The results indicated that the engaged couples had the lowest couple adjustment scores whilst dating couple had the highest scores.

Extramarital Infidelity: Is This Really Traumatic?

Serkan Ozgun*, Hurol Fisiloglu**

*INDA Center for Solution Focused Therapy and Training, Istanbul, Turkey,

**Middle Eastern Technical University, Ankara, Turkey

This presentation is part of a PhD study about the effects of extramarital infidelity (EMI). We worked with the married individuals who were hurt with EMI in their marriage. Participants were examined regarding how much they covered Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder symptoms because of the EMI.

Stepfamilies: Barriers to Integration

Cecile Dillon

Dillon Psychological Services, Huntington Beach, CA, USA

This presentation, clinical in nature, will focus on the processes that cause stepfamilies to get stuck when dealing with issues of integration. At some point in the divorce process, one or both parents become involved in a new significant relationship and either move in with that person or remarry. Parents often assume that their children will accept and love their new person and vice versa that this person who is dear to them will love their children. In some families, now new stepfamilies, this occurs easily. However, in other stepfamilies, the children's linking to the new person may turn out to be a problematic one from the start, or soon after. Some of those stepfamilies do seek treatment and require professional assistance. The presentation will address the barriers to integrational processes, explore ways to assess steps of integration from the beginning to the point of completion, review two fundamental integrational tasks that families usually complete over two to three years. , In conclusion, specific reasons why family clinicians need to be aware of these integrational processes will be delineated. The case presentation will be used to illustrate presented issues throughout presentations.

Training Students to Promote Peace and Healing in Non-traditional Families

Carmen Lugo,

Jennifer Crespo, Viviana Padilla, Freddy Perez, Daniel Martinez, Greisa Ramos

Carlos Albizu University, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Non-traditional families have been increasing in the past decades. As a family therapist, the possibility of treating one of these families is high, depending on where the mental health professional trains. Non-traditional families include: Latinos, racially mixed, Afro-Americans, gays and lesbians, immigrants of diverse countries, single-parent and grand-parent led households. Working with non-traditional families can be challenging when the therapist is not prepared. The purpose of this presentation is to demonstrate how family therapy doctoral students are trained to treat non-traditional families and promote peace and healing in their integrants. The presentation will be divided in three main topics. First, through a social-historic framework the presenters will show different situations, news, events, and other relevant worldwide information that attend the non-traditional issues. Second, the participants will learn basic therapeutic skills and how to apply them to these families. Some of those skills are: developing rapport, using non-offensive vocabulary, and being empathic with the non-traditional referral information. Third, the audience will learn research results of a variety of investigations with non-traditional families.

Compatible and Incompatible Couples: Coping, Attachment, Self Differentiation

Mahdi Zarebahrabadi

Islamic Azad University, Arak Branch, Markazi, Iran

The goal of this research was comparing the coping styles, attachment styles and self differentiation in compatible and incompatible couples. The research method was ex post facto method. 50 women and 50 men between compatible couples and 50 women and 50 men of incompatible couples of Abargho city of Yazd province in Iran selected as a sample. The incompatible couples selected randomly between the referred couple of counseling center and the compatible couples selected based on randomized clustered sampling. The tools for gathering data were: a) the questioner of coping styles of Karl et al. b) The questioner of adult attachment styles of Kolins. C) The questioner of self differentiation. Data of research analyzed with independent t test. The results showed that there was significant difference between the self differentiation of the compatible and incompatible of couples. Between the coping styles, the avoidant style was significant different. Also in the different attachment styles the significant difference was just for the anxious style. Regarding the findings of the research we can say that the compatible couples had more self differentiation in comparison with the incompatible couples. Also the compatible couples used less avoidant coping style and anxious Attachment style.

Dating Violence and Substance Abuse: Are They Two Sides of the Same Coin?

Clara Lucio Teles*, Filipa Calado**, Luis Neto*

*University of Lisbon-Faculty of Psychology, Lisbon, Portugal,

**Santa Casa da Misericórdia da Arruda dos Vinhos, Vila Franca de Xira, Portugal

Adolescence is a period where many physical and psychological changes take place that may initiate considerable risks for deviant behaviors, such as drug use and dating violence, which affect youths' well-being and damage their conversion to adulthood. In order to overcome some gaps in empirical literature, this study aims to investigate the relationship between substance use and aggressive/victimization behaviors within youth romantic relationships, suggested by some clinical evidence, in which these phenomena seem to appear associated. We propose to examine the influences of attachment to parents and social support on those behaviors, and also the mediating effects of coping strategies, self-esteem, self-concept, and emotional skills. Therefore, 300 Portuguese adolescents and young adults who attend high school and college volunteered to complete the following: Inventory of Parents and Peers Attachment, Social Support Scale, Self Concept and Self-Esteem Scale, Coping Inventory of Stressful Situations and Emotional Skills, and Competence Questionnaire. Finally, we propose a prevention model of those phenomena and present a case study to discuss its practical implications.

Forgiving Infidelity in Married Life

Osnat Beery Grinspan

University of Haifa, Israel

This presentation will discuss the issue of coping with infidelity in married life with a special focus on forgiveness. Results from a study with 30 participants who have experienced marital infidelity will be presented and clinical implications for therapy and counseling will be discussed. The study examined the lived experience and meaning of forgiveness following infidelity in marriage, from the perspective of both spouses, using qualitative methods in the phenomenological, naturalistic tradition. The presentation will show how infidelity and forgiveness perceived and experienced by those who live it and the meaning of forgiveness for them. Additionally a grounded theoretical model of the process of forgiveness for betrayal in marital relationship will be presented. The model consists of eight components and offers a description of what forgiveness is composed of, how it happens, and therefore what is needed in order to achieve forgiveness. Following the insights gained by the research a variety of intervention methods will be proposed for dealing with the crisis that arises following infidelity in married life.

Couples in Therapy: Finding Their Intimacy to Resolve Their Disagreements

Cidália Duarte, Maria Emilia Costa

University of Porto, Porto, Portugal

We present our psychotherapeutic practice in conjugal relationships based in a ecological-developmental and systemic perspective. We assume that couples searching professional help are in crisis for several reasons. Indeed, during the course of his marriage couples face several tasks, sometimes simultaneously: issues of power, boundaries, capacity to resolve their differences (conflict resolution strategies), decision-making, relationships with their origin families, affects, cognitions, and expectations about the other. Sometimes, the relationship between partners reflects past experiences, also, in a situation of crisis it's common the emergence of mutual accusations and understanding this interactions and dynamics implies necessarily that we must intervene in the intimacy domain. In fact, we cannot forget the relational and developmental context, the present and the past, the individual and the relational of the couples. In this sense, partners become able to see themselves in another perspective understanding their own history but also the history of his partner. Now, when they talk about their marriage they are able to speak in terms of "i", "you" but also "us" which means the couple.

Triangulation, Overt Parental Hostility, and Adolescent Behavioral Problems

Marzieh Behzadi, Ali Zadeh Mohammadi, Mazaheri Mohammad Ali, Mahmood Heidari

Shahid Beheshti University, G. C., Tehran, Iran

Being triangulated into parental disagreements is likely to make the conflict more threatening to children because they may become the target of parental hostility or aggression or feel torn between their loyalties toward each parent. In this research the mediating effect of triangulation between parental overt hostility and behavioral problems in adolescents were studied. 900 participants (450 fathers and 450 mothers) were selected by accidental cluster sampling. O'Leary-Porter Overt Hostility Scale, Adolescents' Triangulation into Parents Marital Dispute, and Youth Self Report (YSR-CBCL) were applied in this research. Path analysis was used for analyzing the data. Mediating effect of triangulation on internalizing and externalizing problems was observed ($P < .001$). Being caught in the middle of a parental disagreement places youths in a difficult position in which they may feel pressure to choose between their parents. It may facilitate aggression in adolescents through maladaptive behaviors.

Clinical Indicators for the Conjoint Treatment of Violent Couples

Giancarlo Tamanza, Marialuisa Gennari

Catholic University, Milan, Italy

The literature has been dealing with such topics for the past 30 years. Different theoretical currents have given relevance to either individual traits and personality characteristics of each partner (psychopathological aspects, factors related to the transmission of values from origin, disadvantaged economic and socio-cultural conditions, risk behavior such as substances abuse, and gender differences) or interactive dynamics highlighted by attachment theory and the contributions by Crittender (2002), Frency & Noller (2001) and Blumstein-Blond (2005). The present contribution, instead, places the elements that may facilitate the onset of a violent relationship in the couple's history and in distinctive characteristics of the bond and the unique connection that ties the partners. Relational indicators that have been found originate from the systematic analysis of ten clinical conjoint interventions (trial consulting, consulting, and couple's therapy) with couples that have experienced episodes of physical violence in their relationship. On the basis of data collected throughout individual self-report instruments used in assessment phase (QAI, Di Nuovo et al., 1998; POMS, Profile of Mood States) as well as conjoint interactive instruments such as the clinical generational interview (ICG, Cigoli & Tamanza, 2008) researchers have identified different type of violent couple bonds and clinical indicators for conjoint treatment.

Domestic Violence Related Homicide – A Prevention Framework for Counselors

Kerrie James

University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

Recently, there have been a number of high profile cases reported in the Australian media where men have murdered their wives or partners, children, and/or other close family members, and may then have themselves committed suicide. These cases are often preceded by long histories of domestic violence and coercive control of the female partner. Many victims of domestic violence do not seek formal help from counselors and frequently when women do seek help, they do so for other related problems such as relationship conflict, depression or, parenting issues. These women may 'fall under the radar' if counselors fail to identify domestic violence. Services not specializing in domestic violence such as relationship counseling, mental health, and drug and alcohol services may not routinely screen for domestic violence. They therefore need to develop appropriate intervention strategies to ensure that counselors and frontline workers are able to assess and intervene with a woman who is being abused by her partner and is at risk of serious injury or death. This paper provides a multi-systemic framework incorporating practice directions for counselors and organizations for identifying DV.

Recovery of Anorexia Nervosa: An Individual or Family Trajectory?

Maria Araujo*, Margarida Henriques*, Isabel Brandão**, António Roma Torres**

*University of Porto, Oporto, Portugal,

** S. João Hospital, Oporto, Portugal

Despite the extensive literature about family implication in the development and/or maintenance of Anorexia Nervosa, there is little research on family implication in recovery. According to Minuchin, the anorectic term should be addressed not only to the patient but also to the family. The question of this study is to explore if the term 'recovered' should also be addressed to families. Using a qualitative method of semi-structured interviewing and an interpretative method, in order to analyze data from 10 interviews with families with a recovered daughter, this study was aimed at exploring whether the trajectory of recovery is individual or family-based and, in cases of family recovery, what they have effectively recovered from. Results showed that although some families do not show differences in their functioning besides their daughter recovery, others seem to have recovered or be in recovery. Families show differences, for example, in the new ability to: 1) deal and understand emotions of each other; 2) respect different opinions or personality traits; 3) give up from battles and replace authority or over-protection by accountability; 4) feel united in spite of the physical distance.

**Couple Therapy:
Depression and Dyadic Adjustment, a Bidirectional Relationship?**

Terje Tilden

Modum Bad Research Institute, Vikersund, Norway

This study examined the relationship between depressive symptoms and dyadic adjustment, as well as between interpersonal problems and dyadic adjustment, during residential couple therapy and at three-year follow-up (N = 106). Mixed models were used in the analyses. Significant improvement ($p < .001$) occurred on all measures from admission to discharge (effect sizes .27 - .83) and from admission to three-year follow-up (effect sizes .52 - .79). During the observation period, improvement in depressive symptoms at a time point predicted improvement in dyadic adjustment at the subsequent time point. Further, the dyadic adjustment level at discharge predicted improvement in depressive symptoms in the follow-up period. There were only modest associations between personality variables and dyadic adjustment. The clinical implication is that in couples suffering from co-existing relational and symptomatic distress, couple therapy should include the aim to lower the depressive symptoms.

The Measure of Differentiation of Self: Implications for Theory Development

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Differentiation of Self is one of the core concepts of the Systemic Theory of M. Bowen. Research suggests that a greater degree of Differentiation of Self is related with a positive impact on psychological health (Bohlander, 1999; Jenkins, Buboltz, Schwartz, & Johnson, 2005; Peleg-Popko, 2002, 2005; Skowron, Homes, & Sabatelli, 2003) or marital satisfaction (Lim & Jennings, 1996; Skowron & Friedlander, 1998; Skowron, 2000), among other variables. Nevertheless, the discussion on how to measure the degree of Differentiation of Self is still present. Is it possible to measure the Differentiation through a questionnaire or is an interview required? There is also debate about the universality (all families, in all cultures) of Bowen's hypothesis. Both issues will be addressed through the exhibition of the validation process of DSI-R (Skowron & Schmitt, 2003), as well as the first results in the Spanish and Portuguese population on this scale, adding new clues in this research. Finally, implications for therapy applications and theory development will be discussed.

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Supervision: A Matter of Positions with The Growth Model

Marianne Grønbaek

MG-UDVIKLING, Haderslev, Denmark

Supervision is a wonderful place for the supervisor and the supervised to be in a process from having a problem to create new ideas and possibilities. The questions are: Who has the problem? Who has the creative ideas? Who do we expect to bring the new ideas to life? The Growth Model (Gronbaek, 2009) offers a very simple conversation model in which both the supervisor and the supervised can tag their positions in a very clear and powerful way without getting mixed up in their different positions. The Growth Model is based on the positioning theory (Campbell & Gronbak, 2006), and with its simple tools and visuality it is a fantastic way of creating a space of creativity and preciseness that helps supervision getting into a more active conversation. At the same time the model can be used by the supervised in family therapy conversations.

Viewing Multicultural Competence As an Immigrant Family Therapist

Yudum Akyil

Antioch University New England, Keene, MA, USA

There are very few writings on the challenges of minority therapists working within the mainstream American culture. This article discusses how therapists might be influenced by their culture of origin when defining family relationships, conceptualizing family problems and intervening with families. As a student and Turkish immigrant therapist, the author describes the contradictions of being brought up in a collectivist culture and practicing in an individualistic society. A case study is presented to exemplify some of the techniques that might be used from a collectivist perspective to reengage a mother-daughter dyad. Implications and recommendations for clinical work, training, and research are included.

Working with Military Children and Families

Thomas F. Carr

Thomas F. Carr & Associates, Inc., Natick, MA, USA

Family therapists working with families of services members deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan often find themselves in uncharted territory as the conflict drags on. Many stressors and demands on these families were not contemplated in previous military conflicts, including not only the multiple separations for deployments and specialized trainings, but also the fact that families are expected to rapidly reintegrate after service members returns home. We will identify emerging issues facing children and families and the therapists working with them including; how children and families can identify and cope with their feelings, building problem-solving teams and coping mechanisms, and conflict-resolution skills.

**The Use of Emotion Focused Therapy and
Narrative Therapy with Open Relationships**

Kelly Hearold, Chasity Kern, Laura Vann, Laura Vann

Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, IN, USA

While the reported number of individuals in polyamorous relationships is growing, research is still limited. This paper focuses on therapeutic implications for sexually open committed relationships. The authors provide a brief review of current research highlighting specific characteristics of this diverse population and introduce common difficulties experienced by partners in open relationships. The authors use Emotion Focused Therapy to show how accessing and expressing emotions can strengthen the emotional bond in the primary relationship. A revision to the nine steps of EFT was made to foster trust, boundaries, and time management skills in open relationships. In addition to EFT, the authors propose the use of Narrative Therapy interventions within the nine steps of EFT to reauthor the relationship boundaries, change negative interactional patterns, and promote flexibility.

Religious Therapists and Clients in Same-Sex Relationships: Lessons from Court

Katharine Wickel*, Jacob B. Priest**

*University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, USA,

** Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL, USA

Therapist and client values play an important role in the therapeutic process. When these values conflict, the process can be inhibited. One scenario in which clear value conflicts can be seen is when individuals in same-sex relationships work with therapists who have differing values, stemming from their religious convictions. This paper discusses *Bruff v. North Mississippi Health Service, Inc.*, a legal case that encompasses this dilemma. Further, a theoretical overview of value conflicts is given and specific attention is paid to how some religious therapists triangulate their values into therapy in a way that impedes the process of working with clients in same-sex relationships. Further, four strategies are given that help therapists manage anxiety that can arise from value differences.

When the Family is Absent From Family Counseling

Madeleine De Little

Private Practice, Satir Institute of the Pacific, Fort Langley, BC, Canada

This presentation is designed to provide therapists with the knowledge and skills to work with clients through the metaphors of figurines in the sand tray when members of the family are absent. The focus will be on using the Satir Transformational Systemic Therapy model through the 3D dimension of pictures or scenes set up in the sand tray by the child or adult. The therapist can help the individual to “invite” family members into the Sand Tray. The figurines chosen can be represented by adjectives e.g. “He is always mad at me,” could be a dragon figurine. Clients choose the figurines which speak to them. The transformational process evolves as the client expresses their yearnings in relation to the family members by changing the size or type of figurine, changing the proximity of the figurines to each other, have the figurines connect with each other differently. The changes in the sand tray are then experienced by the client and the change is anchored internally. The Sand Tray serves as a way of expressing the iceberg of the individual, transforming the perceptions, feelings, feelings about feelings, expectations, yearnings and subsequently creating positive change internally.

Beyond Acculturation: Supervising to Enhance Students' Cultural Skills

Leila Aftahi*, Tania Lorenz-Meyer Riosvelasco* Jeehee Sung**, Michele Smith***

*University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA, USA,

**Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX, USA,

***Atlanta Medical Center, Atlanta, GA, USA

The majority of the literature on supervising international students focuses predominantly on the impact of acculturation on students' training as mental health professionals, but fails to acknowledge how to train and supervise these students to help them develop their own cultural skills to enhance their training and practice. Many international students in the USA provide therapy to people of their own culture, and might plan to practice therapy in their countries of origin. It is therefore imperative to incorporate their culture into how they learn to do therapy. This presentation will focus on cultural training for family therapists and how the supervisor can help them to work both within their culture and the culture in which they are training. The strengths and challenges of supervision for both the supervisor and the supervisee will be outlined.

**Outcome Research:
How Families Make Marriages Last Happily More than 20 Years!**

Angélica Torres, Jose Rodriguez, Christian Melendez, Roxany Rivera,
Jennifer Crespo, Yahaira Zayas, Daniel Martinez

Carlos Albizu University, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Marriage is one of the most important experiences that can affect the life of men and women. It is conceptualized as a vital life cycle of individuals who give it continuity by couples intimacy and family expansion. Uchwat (2008) found that functional communication was an important dynamic in a couple's relationship. Diaz (2003) stated that communication gave form to the fundamental behaviors in a couple's relationship. Couples intimacy was seen as vital to a long-lasting marriage. Doherty (2001) defined intimacy as friendship, closeness, familiarity, and the internal qualities of the couple. The role of religion in marital satisfaction has also been investigated. Brown, Orbuch, & Bauermeister (2008) specifically researched the effect of religion across gender and race. Present research design was ex post facto of a correlational descriptive type. The instrument administered was the "Scale of Family Functioning Style" translated and validated by Alonso (1996). The current research will present the principle factors that promote marriage stability and satisfaction while identifying the strategies implemented in a sample of couples who have been married more than 20 years. In this way we will be able to promote healing in couples and families that attend therapy searching for strategies to improve their marriage.

**Family Therapy with Foster Youth Moving into Adulthood:
Permanency Implications**

Shantay Mines, Eugene Holowacz

Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, USA

As youth in the foster care system reach the ages of 18 or 21, they begin their transition into adulthood and emancipation. The creation of permanency in these young adults' lives moves to the forefront of the professionals who provide supports and services to them. For the purposes of this research presentation, permanency will be defined as a person or persons who will be a positive, steady, supportive and long-lasting part of the young adult's life. It has been shown that more than 50% of those transitioning into adulthood have the desire or necessity to reengage their family of origin in an effort to redevelop a relationship. However, the young adult has been kept from this family for reasons of child abuse or neglect and reengagement should be facilitated by a family therapist. This can be accomplished by proposing an integrative view of therapy that will include elements of cultural contextual therapy, larger systems theory, Bowen therapy, and structural family therapy. Information will be presented in an effort to investigate the nuances of family therapy with this unique population.

**South African Emigrant Families' Relational Patterns:
Some Directions for Therapy Research**

Maria Marchetti-Mercer

University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa

In this report the author will discuss relational patterns in emigrant families based on a larger study exploring the experiences of South African families who decided to emigrate. A detailed genogram analysis was carried out looking at factors such as, a) Family structure, b) Family life cycle, c) Pattern repetition in families across generations, d) Life experiences, e) Family relational patterns, and f) Family balance or imbalance. The report will focus on whether there are specific family structures and patterns that make some families more likely to emigrate than others. Another question that will be addressed is whether there are certain interactional patterns that may facilitate or hinder successful emigration. The different experiences of family members and how they are impacted by emigration will also be highlighted. Generally it will be argued that emigration can be viewed as a “geographical cut-off” where there appears to be a deliberate attempt to remove oneself from uncomfortable or unresolved social or interpersonal situations and look for change in a new country. Some ideas for further research in the area of family therapy and emigration will be presented.

Perception Scale of Parenting Communicational Patterns (COMPA)

Alda Portugal, Isabel Alberto

Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal

Empirical and theoretical literature shows that communication is vital to family well-being and quality in parenting. Several variables seem to influence the relationship between communication and parenting, of which family's structure type and lifespan cycle stand out (family with scholar children and family with adolescent children). In international scientific community there are several authors who have studied this field of knowledge (Barnes & Olson, 1985; Watzlawick, Beavin & Jackson, 1993). However, despite the huge relevance of this matter, there is a clear lack of knowledge about parent-child communication in Portuguese scientific community. Thus, the present study aims to contribute to a better understanding of this subject through the construction of a parental communication assessment tool. So, the purpose of this presentation is to state the tasks/steps that preceded the assessment instrument construction (COMPA) as well as its theoretical and practical implications.

Parent-Child Communication: A Portuguese Qualitative Study

Alda Portugal, Isabel Alberto

University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal

Parental communication seems to be vital to the quality of parenting exercise (Carr, 2006). Several variables influence the relationship between communication and parenting, of which family lifespan cycle stand out. In fact, the challenges of family's communication depend on lifespan cycle characteristics (Relvas, 1996). Literature shows that stage "family with scholar children" is one of the most challenging stages because it marks the first disruptive family crisis. All family members face up with separation and a beginning of a relationship with school (Relvas, 1996). However, despite the huge relevance of this matter, there is a clear lack of knowledge about parent-child communication in Portuguese scientific community. It is possible that this lack of knowledge is because an assessment tool is not available to Portuguese population. Thus, we planned a qualitative study with school children (from 7 to 12 years old), parents of school children, family therapy technicians, and family and systemic researchers/masters, who aims to understand the communicational relationship between parents and children. The results are useful to identifying lifespan cycle specificities and constructing a parental communication assessment tool to promote scientific research in this matter.

Voluntary vs. Involuntary Clients: A Research Proposal

Luciana Sotero, Ana Paula Relvas, Valentín Escudero

University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal

The fact that mental health technicians often work with clients that haven't voluntarily applied for help – clients referred by services or public institutions (courts, schools, child protection services) – has founded the interest in a topic that has been very little addressed from a theoretical and empirical framing. In this sense, a research project was developed to study the therapeutic process with involuntary clients in the context of systemic family interventions, particularly at the level of therapeutic alliance and narrative change. The first stage of this research was to collect and randomize the sample, and attend to the process of identifying the involuntary clients. Due to the complexity of this stage, the idea would be to present the main results of the meta-analysis of the clinical files from two family therapy centers: the majority of the cases were referred by services and public institutions; even in these situations, several cases were identified in which customers agreed and wanted to be in therapy; nevertheless, more than half of the cases analyzed perceived the therapy as undesirable. In spontaneous requests clients were more likely to agree with therapy, although there were situations in which most customers perceived the therapy as undesirable.

Portuguese Version of the System for Observing Family Therapy Alliances

Luciana Sotero, Ana Paula Relvas, Valentín Escudero,
Alda Portugal, Diana Cunha, Margarida Vilaça

University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal

The aim of this presentation is to show the psychometric characteristics of reliability and validity of the System for observing Family Therapy Alliances (SOFTA_Observacional Version – Escudero, Friedlander & Deihl, 2004) and to present the SOFTA's process of translation and adaption to the Portuguese language. This family therapy instrument evaluates the therapeutic alliance, specifically on four sub-dimensions: Safety within the Therapeutic System, Shared Sense of Purpose within the Family, Engagement in Therapeutic Process, and Emotional Connection with the Therapist. An important aspect of SOFTA also involves identifying the quality of family member's interactions with each other as well as each individual's interactions with the therapist. The main goal of these preliminary studies is, on one hand, to make SOFTA available and possible to use in Portugal and, on the other hand, to promote research related to investigating process and outcome of systemic therapy.

Differentiation of Self and Physiological Symptoms: A Cross-Cultural Examination

Ora Peleg

Academic College, Emek Yezreel, Israel

The study tested several propositions about Bowen's (1978, Kerr & Bowen, 1988) theory of differentiation of self, using an Israeli (Jewish and Arab) sample of university students to examine relationships between differentiation of self and physiological symptoms. Findings were: Differentiation of self was negatively correlated with physiological symptoms; there were gender and cultural differences; relationships between differentiation of self and physiological symptoms were stronger among Jewish than Arab participants.

Triangulation and Adolescents' Internalizing and Externalizing Problems

Ali Zadeh Mohammadi, Marzieh Behzadi, Mahmood Heidari

Shahid Beheshti University (G.C.), Tehran, Iran

Exposure to hostile marital conflict is a risk factor for adolescents' development in two-parent families. One of the mechanisms by which marital conflict becomes a risk factor is the triangulation of the child or adolescent into parental disputes such that youth feel "caught in the middle" and torn between divided loyalties. Triangulation can occur in a variety of ways, but always involves a pair of family members incorporating or rejecting a third family member. In this research we compared the different effects of triangulation when occurs within or outside family on adolescents' on internalizing and externalizing problems. 900 participants (450 daughters and 450 mothers) were selected by accidental cluster sampling. The sample completed Triangulation-Adolescent, Parent and Relative Questionnaires, and Youth Self Report Based (CBCL-YSR). The results showed correlation between mothers' perception of triangulation and internalizing and externalizing problems (0.25, 0.23), adolescents' perception triangulation and internalizing and externalizing problems (0.28 , 0.29) and between relatives' triangulation and internalizing and externalizing problems (0.26 , 0.22). No significant meaning found between different triangulations and adolescents' internalizing and externalizing problems.

The Health of Family Caregivers of Substance Misusers

Jente Vandeburie

Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium

Substance misuse is associated with a great deal of distress and life disruption, not only at a personal but also at an interpersonal level. Family caregivers (parents, partners, brothers/sisters, children...) of substance misusers experience severe and long-lasting stress as a result of the various difficulties encountered in living with someone with an alcohol or drug problem. A direct consequence of this chronic stress is that family caregivers are at risk of strain that manifests itself in symptoms of physical and/or mental illness. This study investigates whether variations in background characteristics of family caregivers of substance misusers, such as sex, age, and relationship with the misuser, lead to differences in the amount of experienced physical and/or mental health symptoms. The first data of this study will be available in the beginning of 2011 and presented at the congress.

The Use of Music in the Construction of New Narrative in Foster Homes

Ana Paula Cascarani, Otaviano Doralice, Celina Daspett, Ana Lucia de Moraes Horta

UNIFESP – Univerdidade Federal de Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brazil

This study was intended to investigate and facilitate communication and relationships between children and adults who live in two foster homes at an institution in São Paulo (Brazil). This is a qualitative study in the form of action research. 15 sessions were realized biweekly frequency with which we used narrative techniques and music therapy. The material was coded and categorized semantically. We realized by means of sound and musical expressions that foster home creates insecurity, disrespect, and is not binding because participants did not consider the home as a family, therefore having difficulty understanding the meaning and significance of their foster home in their lives, building a relationship pattern of not listening, that is, “what you say makes no sense to me.” This study showed the importance of using music as an expression of "voice" of a social group as a communication of the theme, as well as a problem situation, in other words, to make music or sing a song collectively on the whole it is necessary develop and reactivate the ability to hear (auditory sensory), listen (auditory affectivity) and understand (hearing consciousness). Music gave the study participants opportunity to reflect on their place in existence.

Action of Music and Sound in People Who Suffered Trauma

Ana Paula Cascarani, Celina Despett, Ana Lucia de Moraes Horta

UNIFESP – Universidade Federal de Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brazil

Frightening and unpredictable situations can occur suddenly and intensely. These situations make the mind and body transmit signals of distress, fear, anxiety, and apprehension and often the situation becomes traumatic. The person after going through a traumatic situation, has the constant feeling of passing again by the tragedy, the person relives the situation through intrusive thoughts, feelings, and emotions. Remembering scenes forgotten by the sounds and music, desensitizing them, and using the sounds to rearrange the attention can be an effective possibility of intervention. This approach is intended to support through music and sound the desensitization, the reorganization of attention, balance and tuning with the group through the auditory sensory, auditory affectivity, and auditory consciousness. Music gave the study participants reflect on their using tuning forks, listening, and making music in groups.

Widowhood in the Family Context

Ana Lucia de Moraes Horta, Celina Daspett, Ana Lucia Kardosh

UNIFESP, São Paulo, Brasil

The grief experience, lived through the loss of an intimate person, seems to be a striking event of powerful meanings in the individual's life. Widowhood occurs especially for women because they live longer than men and life brings them numerous challenges that involve physical, psychological, social, spiritual, and family aspects regardless of stage of the lifecycle they are. This study presents a reflection on the impact of widowhood in the family context. This is a qualitative study in which data were collected through the narratives of participants in the last eighteen months in group sessions. Participants were aged between 30 and 78 years old and the time of grief ranged between 3 and 27 months. Through the analysis of the contents, categories were established: impact of widowhood, secondary losses; family participation in the mourning process; a strategy to overcome; participation in the therapeutic group. We conclude that the impacts caused by widowhood affect physical and emotional health of participants, in turn; the group sessions favor talks and meetings, establishment of a new social network, and resumption of everyday life.

Homoparentality and Family Alliances: Studying Triadic Interactions

Salvatore D'Amore, Linda Scarciotta, Marina Miscioscia

University of Liège, Liège, Belgium

Literature on family dynamics in homoparental contexts shows that only few studies focus on a systematic analysis of interactions. Various authors such as Patterson and Chan (1995) suggest that the psychological evolution of a child who grew up in a homoparental family is not different from that of a child pertaining to other types of family structures. In this perspective, we assert that there is not any significant difference as regards the quality of the child's triadic interactions when he comes from a homoparental family. We believe that alliances are shared in a quite similar way in this kind of family forms too. In order to define a congruent and rigorous methodology, we chose to recur to the Lausanne Trilogue Play (Fivaz-Depeursinge, 2001). The first outputs seem to confirm our research hypothesis. These first results, although they are quite few, may turn out to be true milestones within our ongoing study.

Linking Women in Prison with Their Families through Community Therapy

Dora Doralice Otaviano, Ana Paula Cascarini, Maria Vitoria Piva

Universidade Federal de Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brazil

According to data of Penitentiary Information System, Brazil has 31,401 women in prison, which represents 6.6 % of the total number of prisoners in the country. 2,674 of these women stay in Santana Penitentiary in Sao Paulo. During periodical visits on Saturdays, only 50 % are visited and from this percentage only 25 % are visited by their partners and the story experienced by these people almost always has the same script; they have been involved with crime and they are in prison due to their partners. These women are in prison, emotionally touched because of familiar link and freedom loss. Goal: Establish through Community Therapy links with their families. Methodology: Execution of biweekly encounters of community therapy with prisoners. Results: The encounters of community therapy besides sensitizing the prisoners, provides them self esteem.

Working Toward Healing of Trauma in Family Therapy

Valerie Acosta-Alicea, Joselene Martínez-Correa, Adriana Soltero

Carlos Albizu University, San Juan, Puerto Rico

In the task of giving the most effective and empirical family therapy to our clients, it is a challenge to address topic like trauma and its aftermath. Trauma has evolved over time from a medical issue to one of universal human existence and expression. Specific models should be studied to ensure the quality of treatment. Trauma is by nature interpersonal and is, therefore, a systematic entity. The inclusion of the family in the process of dealing and healing of trauma is often beneficial for both the individual and the family. It helps the person individually and the family as a system, on how to work with the situation. Studies suggest that the family is the most important unit of intervention for helping the traumatized individual. Also, the literature suggests that the family will be the unit that will help the individual to cope with his trauma. We propose the use of various resources to work with the family systems that are dealing with trauma, considering the need, in cases, of working with individual therapy. This will have the finality of dealing with hurting families and individuals to increase their wellbeing and health.

Goals, Resources, and Barriers: Coaching Techniques in Training and Supervision

Alicia Moreno

Universidad Pontificia Comillas de Madrid, Madrid, Spain

At the beginning of the school term, the students in a masters program in marriage and family therapy are asked to set their own goals and areas of change for the year. The training program is designed to meet a series of goals and requirements both in the courses and the internship during the school year. However, it is important that the students identify the areas that they need to focus on, those that will be most relevant for their own learning process and professional growth. Several coaching techniques are used to help the students choose the skills they want to develop during the year, identify the resources that will help them in this process, the barriers that could hold them back, and the specific goals they set for themselves. They share this in the classroom at the beginning, the middle, and the end of the school year, and recruit the help of other classmates, teachers, or supervisors. This methodology increases the motivation and commitment of the students, holds them accountable for their own learning process, and gives them the opportunity to learn about the process of change through their own experience. The presentation will describe this methodology and the results of a group of students at the masters program in Marital and Family Therapy of Universidad Pontificia Comillas de Madrid.

The Making of a Transcultural Systemic Course

C.M. (Nel) Jessurun, de A. (Anna) Voogt, F. (Fariba) Rhmaty, K. (Kitlyn) Tjin A Djie

Collective of Transcultural Therapists, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Pillars of a transcultural systemic course are:

1. Awareness of the societal mechanisms on the client's life: The impact of migration through the generations, racism, discrimination, inclusion and exclusion mechanisms, deprivation of education, and of practical skills.
2. The therapist's skills: Intercultural competence, knowledge of the own ethnicity and culture, personal pitfalls and subjectivity; Being attune to the client's attitude and having a way of coping with the client's expertise and beliefs on truth.
3. A sound theoretical framework: System and communication theory combined with understanding of anthropological assumptions and language issues.
4. Knowledge of the main family therapeutic perspectives with emphasis on the multi-ethnic-multi-context family lifecycle model.
5. Methodical skills - How to use: Genograms; Principles of fusion and differentiation from a cultural perspective; Rituals and the issues of religion and spirituality.

The poster clarifies the course "In the footprints of history and culture"

The Role of Spirituality in Family Care Giving: A Phenomenological Study

Chan Lay Lin

Institute of Mental Health, Singapore

This qualitative study of four Chinese Christian caregivers of the infirmed elderly is an attempt to add to the dearth of research in Singapore on family care giving. Using Interpretative Phenomenology Analysis, it explored the role spirituality played in family care giving, in the context of family scripts and dynamics, and the wider societal context. The significant themes that emerged included the following: (1) Family care giving is set in the context of family scripts, reciprocity, loyalty and commitment; (2) Family care giving is set in the context of family relational dynamics, patterns and unresolved anxieties; (3) Caregivers seek out meanings such as care giving being a response to a divine mission, the rewards of personal growth, etc.; (4) Love has significance in understanding care giving dynamics; (5) The spirituality of religious-oriented clients may be heavily informed by their faith orientation (6) The emergence of a recursive relationship between family care giving experience and the caregiver's spirituality. As in other earlier studies, though the position of incorporating a spirituality-informed approach to systemic psychotherapy with caregivers is affirmed in this study, more is needed to establish how this can be advanced and to validate its efficacy.

The Pathological Gambler and the Family Relationship

Ferreira Fernanda Cruz Vieira, Rossini Danielle,
Braga Edilson de Oliveira, Blasquez Fabiano, Tavares Hermano

University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brasil

The Pathologic Gambling rated in the Impulse Control Disorders affects both the pathological gambler (PG) and people around him, especially family members. This study examined the impact of behavior on the family relationship. 302PG were evaluated (174 men), on the Gambling Follow-up Scale (GFS), who looked for treatment at a school hospital in Brazil and each answer (including one for family relationship) rating from 1, worst result to 5, best. Due to non-homogeneity of variance the nonparametric Kruskal-Wallis test was used to compare groups and in case of a statistically significant difference the nonparametric test to compare 2x2 Mann-Whitney test with correction Bonferroni was used (p value = 0.005). The frequency of responses was: category 1-6.10%, 2-21.86%, 3-34.41%, 4-28.67%, 5-8.96%. The overall outcome differed between: a) those who responded to a category than those who responded to 5, b) 2x3, 4x5 c) 3x5 d) 4x5. Frequent difficulties in family relationships when they looked for treatment were noticed and the best overall result was associated with a better understanding of family relationship. Despite the precise analysis, a reflection on the importance of family relationships in the treatment is proposed.

Family Social and Educational Network in the Development of Childhood Sexuality

Ferreira Fernanda Cruz Vieira, Rodini Sarina Roberta de Sá, Camargo Tiago Silva,
Santos Vanusa Soares dos, Mota Célio Corrêa, Santos Juliana Moura dos,
Silva Fátima Cristina da, Alcantara Sara Sotero de, Checchia Marcelo Amorim

Universidade Federal de São Paulo Escola Paulista de Medicina, São Paulo, Brasil

This material is aimed at investigating what infantile sexuality is and its different ways of expression, and produce a handout, for parents and educators, seeking to break the taboos and prejudice regarding the manifestations of childhood sexuality in order to promote a healthy development for children. Infantile sexuality is an issue present in childhood more than parents and educators believe, so how can infantile sexuality exist? What does sexuality mean? What is its importance? What are its possible manifestations in childhood? What do children think about it? What is the difference between sexuality and gender? How to address these issues in schools with young children? These issues will be discussed throughout this material, but we do not intend to create rules nor show a "magic solution" to solve it. The theme of sexuality is not easy to tackle, especially at school, because there are issues such as: family values, school, and teacher, besides the question about how, what, and when to speak. With the influence of the media in our lives, it is necessary to discuss the topic.

Playing for Peace: The Pedagogical Importance of Games

Jennifer Killham

University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH, USA

Come discover how games are an important part of peace education, violence prevention curriculum, and anti-bullying initiatives for all ages. Games harness the potential to promote healthy social, cultural, and psychological development, as well as cooperation, understanding, community building, and personal healing. The material covered can be applied to a wide range of settings and age groups (including adults). Traditional and online games will be presented and discussed within the context of the theoretical foundations of the importance of play and learning, why games and other interactive illustrations are important pedagogical strategies, and the essential components of an empowering peace game.

Bowen: Rights, Justice, and Regression

Henry Warnock

Northcentral University, Savannah, GA, USA

Bowen's concept of Societal Regression was put forth in essays discussing among other things, environment and overpopulation. He freely acknowledged his debt to Darwin, who in turn, acknowledged his debt to Thomas Malthus, a political- economist of the 19th century, famous for ideas of nature's restraints on human growth. While not speaking of Justice overtly, Bowen gives a lot of attention to the discussion of rights in democratic society, which he saw prone to periods of regression. He attributed this to Anxiety, a manifestation of humanity's evolutionary past, arising from "togetherness". Togetherness, or enmeshment, leads to diminishment in Individuation, and demand of groups for Entitlement rights. The relation between Emotion and Rationality, a duality that Bowen focused on in therapy, is discussed. Ideas of Evolutionary Psychology emphasizing Emergent Cooperation and Affiliation as the foundations for society are explored, such as the Prisoner's Dilemma, which would seem to demand rationality, but often does not in practice, resulting in emotional win-wins. On the other hand, willingness to share wealth is often contingent on group loyalties, hearkening back to our evolution. Such ambiguities lead to the question, 'On the scales of Justice, if we are rational creatures, just how far developed are we?'

Becoming a Psychologist: A Developmental Group with Psychology Students

Ana Cristina Rocha, Graça Silva, Raquel Barbosa, Cidália Duarte

Oporto University, Oporto, Portugal

Research has highlighted the relevance of personal and professional development as a major component in the psychologist's practice, specifically in psychotherapy. This study was conducted in Portugal, at Oporto University, and explored the experience of intervention with a group of students, in the last stage of the Integrated Master Psychology. These students will intervene later with families and couples. From the needs assessment and review of the literature, we proceeded to the construction, implementation and evaluation of a group intervention. The main goals were to promote the students' professional and personal development, construction of professional identity, and psychologists' basic skills and self-knowledge. The relevance of the role of psychologist in identity, the personal model of psychologist (characteristics, skills, and theoretical orientation), the potential and boundaries of psychological intervention, and the difficulties at the start of practice's were some topics addressed during the intervention through exercises as, for example, role-playing, watching movies clips, reflection, and discussion about real cases. To evaluate the effectiveness of the intervention, we administered, before and after, a questionnaire with primarily qualitative that focuses on the crucial aspects in personal and professional development of the psychologist.

Partner Satisfaction, Maternal Attachment Quality, and Depression In Pregnancy

Hajnalka Makó, Anita Deák

University of Pécs, Pécs, Hungary

Childbearing is one of the most significant periods in the development of partner relationships and family life cycles. Pregnancy related psychological processes such as decision-making about it, the experience of pregnancy and maternal/paternal feelings of attachment to the coming baby are always conceptualized in terms of interrelation between the partners. Positively perceived partner relationship could be a relevant source of support in numerous life situations including childbearing as well. This study analyzed the level of maternal depression during pregnancy and the quality of prenatal attachment in relation to partnership satisfaction. The research sample consisted of 150 pregnant women who were asked to fill in the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS), the Prenatal Attachment Inventory (PAI), and the Dyadic Adjustment Scale (DAS). The study results seem to justify that the quality of the partner relationship including partner satisfaction, expressing emotions toward and cohesion between partners correlates positively with maternal attachment and negatively influences the degree of depression. Partner satisfaction itself and also by decreasing the level of depression exerts its positive influence toward shaping the prenatal attachment.

Family Resiliency During Breast Cancer Treatment

Anne Prouty

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX, USA

The researcher reports on the first of three studies aimed at answering the question: Can we facilitate key family dynamics so as to help families be more resilient during cancer treatment? The researcher reports the results of an initial qualitative study in which women breast cancer survivors were asked to discuss their perspectives about changes in family dynamics during chemotherapy and radiation treatments. Qualitative analysis of the groups' discussions produced several key relational themes. The researcher concludes with participants' suggestions for ways in which family therapists could be more involved with families during and after treatment, and with ideas for future research about family level resiliency during the cancer experience.

Keeping the Faith: Integrating Person-of-the-Therapist Training and Spirituality

Marlene Watson, Argie Allen

Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, USA

Over the past decade there has been increased interest in the role of spirituality among couples and families globally. With widespread human suffering, people are seeking greater meaning to life and deeper connection to faith. As such, it is crucial that we explore more effective ways of utilizing the many dimensions of spirituality within the context of training future couple and family therapists. Hence, person-of-the-therapist training (POTT) as developed by Drexel University's family therapy icon, Harry Aponte, may offer a major opportunity for couple and family therapy programs to incorporate and formalize the development of spiritual awareness. The primary aim of the POTT model is to prepare clinicians to access freely their emotional, intellectual, and spiritual selves within the context of the therapeutic setting. In particular, our focus is to utilize the key concepts of freedom and intentionality to illustrate the integration of POTT training and spirituality. Therefore, this presentation will discuss the need for clinicians to understand the magnitude of spirituality in therapeutic encounters along with connecting this level of awareness to the person-of-the-therapist.

Designing Family Interventions Relating to Children in Temporary Shelters

Maria Goreti da Silva Cruz, Nicole Hannes Caldeira, Celina Daspet,
Ana Lucia de Moraes Horta

Universidade Federal de São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

The aim of this study was to design interventions with children and adolescents living in social housing. The main focus of these interventions was coping with crises and conflicts and strengthening family and social links. It is a qualitative study in two temporary shelters, children and adolescents at risk due to several conditions - the abandonment, inadequate family income, abuse, and lack of care for parents or caregivers. Intervention and data collection was performed for ten 90-minute meetings held every two weeks. Data were collected from observation during the workshops of the creation and manufacture of games and toys from recyclable materials, as well as narratives by participants in group sessions. The analysis of data generated the following themes: the situation that led to sheltering; relative isolation from family to family reintegration; willingness to join the family of origin, early trouble with the idea of starting a new batch, the social mother as the principal (the attachment) and a family mediator; recognition of the influence and importance, and longing for the biological family. The meetings facilitated communication of the families.

Building Family Stories and Contributions to the Nursing Student's Training

Mônica Camargo, Celina Daspett, Ana Horta

Professional Affiliation: Federal University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil

We observed from built stories content analysis: identification of changing the way the students connect themselves to family values, providing a larger linking after the meetings; linking extension between the students from an active listening of the told stories and a perception of the group and their family's resonance and resilience. This study may cooperate in the development of other studies not only in nursing educational process area but in other areas that have family health as a work objective. Nineteen students of the family discipline in the nursing graduation course took part in this study, through the building of family stories and identification of the lived experienced meanings. It is a qualitative study held in four week meetings during three hours each, from August and September 2010. It used the theoretical reference of narrative practices for an expansion of the comprehension about the care with the family from thinking and retelling stories. The objective of the study was to verify which dimensions the story building may contribute to help redeem students' feelings, meanings, beliefs, values, and family rituals.

The Impact of the Family on Sexual Identity Development of Gays and Lesbians

Steve Farmer, Lee Kinsey

University of North Texas, Denton, TX, USA

Since Vivienne Cass introduced her model of homosexual identity formation more than forty years ago, several models of sexual identity development of gays and lesbians have been offered in the fields of Psychology, Counseling, and Marriage and Family Therapy. From these models and related research, what have we learned about the family's impact on the process of forming a homosexual identity? Researchers have indicated the family's role as both a source of support and a roadblock to sexual minority identity development. This poster presentation explores the sexual identity development models found in the professional literature and presents their common themes and overall contribution. The presenters also discuss what research has found regarding the family's role in the sexual identity development and "coming out" process for sexual minorities. Presenters use case studies and interview material to supplement findings from research.

Effectiveness of Gottman Integrative Couple Therapy with Incompatible Couples

Mahdi Zarebahrabadi

Islamic Azad University, Arak Branch, Markazi, Iran

The goal of this research was the effectiveness of integrative couple therapy in increasing of quality of life and material satisfaction of incompatible couples. For this goal in a quasi-experimental design, 30 of couples who refer counseling center of governmental and nongovernmental services of the Kermanshah city in Iran, selected through an intentional sampling method and divided randomized in 2 groups of control and experiment. For gathering data the questioner of marital satisfaction of Enrich and the test of quality of life SF-36 used. With these tests each group tested in the stage of pretest. The plan of Gottman integrated couple therapy performed in 12 sections of 90 minutes and just on the experiment group. After treatment on experiment group both groups based on the previous tests, tested in the stage of post test. Data analyzed by t test and variation analysis. The results of statistical analysis showed that method of Gottman integrated couple therapy affected the satisfaction of quality of life of incompatible couples. Other findings showed that the couples avoided presenting their problems in the groups and they prefer to present them in the separate sections. These results insist on the cultural factors of the couple therapy sections.

Impact of Interparental Violence and Gender Role Identification on Adult IPV

Rebecca Cobb*, David Nalbone**, Lorna Hecker**, Gisele Casanova**

*The Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL, USA,

**Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, IN, USA

The purpose of this study was to identify the function of gender role development as a mediating factor between witnessing one's parents being physically violent with one another as a child and experiencing violence within intimate relationships as an adult. Participants completed surveys assessing the degree of violence within their family of origin, maternal and paternal gender role identification, individual adherence to gender role tradition, and violence within their present intimate relationship. For women, paternal perpetration of intimate partner violence predicted greater victimization from one's parents, which in turn predicted greater perpetration and greater experience of violence within adult intimate relationships. In addition, greater gender role tradition of fathers predicted less gender role tradition in daughters, which in turn predicted fewer perpetrations and less experience of violence for women. These findings suggest that in order to adequately address intimate partner violence, therapists must also be willing to address issues of gender with their clients.

Treating Suicidal Adolescents: Considering Family Structure and Roles

Steve Livingston*, Lee Bowen**, Bowden Templeton*, Jane Hardee*

*Mercer University School of Medicine, Macon, GA, USA,

**Mercer University School of Medicine, Savannah, GA, USA

This poster presents research and a clinical treatment protocol for working with suicidal adolescents and their families. Adolescent suicidal behavior continues to present an ever increasing crisis for families across cultures. Suicide is currently the third leading cause of death for adolescents in the United States. Family structure and adolescent role assignment within the family are found to be variables significant to the adolescent suicidal crisis. Family structure and adolescent role assignment within the family will be defined and discussed, reviewing existing literature. Quantitative research will be presented that explores the relationship between adolescent suicidal behavior, family structure and adolescent role assignment within the family. Implications for family therapy practice are explored. This presentation is split into three sections. The first section will be a brief presentation of the existing literature on adolescent suicide, family structure, and adolescent family role assignment. Section two presents original clinical research involving suicidal adolescents and their families. Section three includes a presentation sharing a clinical treatment protocol for counseling suicidal adolescent and their families.

Facilitating Change Affiliatively in Systemic Therapy Practice: A Paradox?

Vasiliki Chrysikou

Loughborough University, Loughborough, United Kingdom

One of the core tasks of systemic therapy is to facilitate change and this task is meant to be achieved in a collaborative and affiliative manner. This presentation provides findings from a qualitative piece of research that shows the role of argumentation in the pursuit of 'change' in systemic therapy encounters. The analytic method employed in the study is conversation analysis whereas the data consists of recorded and faithfully transcribed naturally occurring talk that has been derived from a systemic therapy setting.

This presentation reports argumentation in the data arises from the use of routine systemic therapy techniques. Evidence of that is given by presenting extracts of talk derived from the data. It is also argued that the close inspection of the talk in the data reveals the argumentative potential of routine systemic therapy tools or concepts as well as the hidden role of argumentation in facilitating psychotherapeutic change.

An “Ideal” Nation: National Policy and Social Justice

Senem Zeytinoglu, Ana Hernandez, Florina Hort

Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, USA

This poster presentation will utilize an international perspective to explore the impact of national policies have on the identities of people in Mexico, Turkey, and the Dominican Republic. The poster will focus on how these three countries passed policies in order to assimilate and discriminate against certain minority groups, which directly affected ethnic and racial identity development. An exploration of the themes identified in the literature as it relates to assimilation, discrimination, and national identification will be portrayed, as well as the impact of intercultural and interracial conflicts that have arisen and its effect on identity formation in these specific countries.

Some Predictors of Change Among Substance-Abusing Adolescents and Caregivers

Denitza Bantchevska

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA

Research consistently documents the effectiveness of family systems therapy for families in distress. However, little is known about specific aspects of the therapeutic process that contribute to treatment success. This is an observational study of in-session communication behaviors among a sample of 30 substance abusing runaway adolescents (ages 12 to 17) and their parents. All families received up to 12 sessions of a family systems intervention (Ecologically-Based Family Therapy). The study uses an infrequently used approach, sequential analysis, to assess the dependencies of therapist and client verbal behaviors. Of interest is client's verbal response to the therapist's reframes and interpretations, and how client response varies over the course of therapy. It is hypothesized that therapist's interpretations and reframes will increase the probability of positive client responses, and the probability of these responses will increase across sessions. Also of interest is whether client's response to therapeutic reframes and relational interpretations influences individual and family change post-treatment. It is hypothesized that successful therapist reframes and interpretations will predict improved individual and family functioning. Hierarchical Linear Modeling will be utilized to examine change post-baseline.

Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Content in Couple and Family Therapy Journals

Erica Hartwell*, Julianne Serovich*, Erika Grafsky* Zachary Kerr**

*The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA

**The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, USA

This poster will present the results from a content analysis of gay, lesbian, and bisexual (GLB) articles in couple and family therapy (CFT) related journals from 1996-2010. The present study extends previous research regarding literature related to GLB issues published in CFT related journals from 1975 to 1995 (Clark & Serovich, 1997). Results of the analysis revealed a 238.8% increase in total GLB content published since the original review. Articles pertaining to therapy with GLB clients continue to represent the largest area of publication. With one exception, all surveyed journals showed an increase in the percentage of GLB content since the first study. Emerging areas of research include studies related to supervision and training, GLB mental health and substance use, and sexual minority adolescents. The authors suggest that a movement away from deficit-based perspectives could open a new lens on family life. While the increase in content is encouraging, the scope of the GLB-related research base is narrow and shallow. Therefore, family scholars should work to expand the use of family theory within and strengthen the rigor of GLB-related research in order to better serve this population.

Reaching Out to the Community: A Preventive Approach

Jacqueline Tome

Marriage and Family Counseling Service, Rock Island, IL, USA

The work of a family therapist can take new dimensions and achieve positive outcomes when it involves the community and other organizations, and focuses on prevention. The presenter will share her experience working for several years as a business consultant and as a family therapist, and how “collaboration” has been the key word for her approach in both areas. This presentation will show the projects developed by the collaboration of 7 organizations: one family therapy agency, a multicultural consulting company, a church, a shelter for domestic violence survivors, a school, a TV channel and a newspaper. You will find here guidelines to create your professional “collaboration plan” to reach out to the community and develop your own program.

Coping Styles with Psychological Pressures of Iran University Medical Students

Mohammadreza Pirmoradi, Fariba Asadi

Iran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran

The purpose of the current study was to assess different kinds of students' problems during academic year and their coping styles. Methods: In a descriptive–cross sectional study, a sum of 940 medical students filled demographic, psychological pressures, and coping styles questionnaires. Sum of 5 indicators via psychological pressures questionnaire, and cognitive, emotional, behavioral, problem-solving, and avoidance styles were assessed via coping styles questionnaire during the last year. Results: Nearly 71.8% of sample was aged from 19 to 20. From whole of the sample 65.46%, 95.29% and 49.45% were female, single, and being township respectively. The percentage of economic, educational, familial, individual, and social problems were 26%, 25%, 20%, 17% and 12% respectively which were significant based on gender and marital status ($p < 0.01$, $p < 0.04$) but in case of being or not being township. The percentages of coping styles questionnaire subscales, problem solving, cognitive, emotional; behavioral, and avoidance styles were 25%, 24%, 19%, 18% and 14% respectively, while there was no significant difference in gender, marital status, and township ($P > 0.05$). Conclusions: Findings are congruent with previous studies; psychological disorders and coping styles of IUMS students are nearly compatible with other researches done in our country.

Family Caring Patient in Vegetative State

Ambrogio Cozzi*, Lara Franzoni*, Claudia Maggio**, Sandro Feller**

*Guido Salvini Hospital, Milano, Italy, **Milano, Italy

The aim of the research is to observe family functioning into family involved in caring patients in vegetative state in north Italy and how their relations change in time. Sample is composed from 126 families involved in a semi-structured interview, SF-36 Questionnaire on state of health and FLS, a projective graphic drawn on family. The research seems to show a strong isolation of some members of family from social activity and weak relations with extended family, desire of support concerning information and a strong impact on work activity on at least one of family members. Results underline often and serious conflicts among wives and husband family and that condition of vegetative state suspends all household stopping perspective and change of life cycle; task care catalyzes all family and personal resource. Network of relation is not accessible: for this reason it's important to undertake a rapid evaluation and psychological support for families of patients in vegetative state, especially during the stages in which the patient is moved from rehabilitation to long-term care, whether this is in a hospital or at home.

A Study of Familial Amyloidotic Polyneuropathy (FAP), and Symbolic Immortality

Paula Isabel dos Santos, Mafalda Mendes, Teresa Brito, Vera Silva

Universidade Fernando Pessoa, Porto, Portugal

Familial amyloidotic polyneuropathy (FAP) is a neurodegenerative autosomal dominant disease caused by a mutant gene chromosome in pair 18, causing the mutation of TTR. Thus the mutated protein (TTR Met 30) will cause amyloid deposits on the tissues, which leads to death within a period of about 14 years after the onset of symptoms, which appears about de 34 years. Liver transplantation (LT) is the only effective therapy, that will not ill the disease but will prevent future damages, once TTR is produced by the liver. Being a genetic and fatal disease, we wanted to evaluate the Symbolic Immortality in two groups of familiars of FAP patients: a group at risk for PAF (N=65) and another who has not (N=121) Participants completed the Sense of Symbolic Immortality Scale (SSIS) from Drolet (1990) (The two scales were adapted for the Portuguese population by Santos, 1999). We concluded that familiars not at risk group, show the highest score in symbolic immortality (M = 99.67, SD = 12.66) versus Familiars at risk, (M = 95.12, SD = 11.45) ($F(4.732) = 9.99, p = 0.000$). These results seem to show that being at risk decreases the desire of symbolic immortality, i.e., decreases the desire for projection in the future.

Suicide, Family, and Maladjustment: A Case Study

Mafalda Mendes, Paula Isabel Santos, Silva Vera, Brito Teresa

Universidade Fernando Pessoa, Porto, Portugal

We present a case study about a woman who is being clinically followed for she is a victim of mistreatment by her husband for about two decades. This case seems to illustrate the theory of transgenerationality, because we knew that this patient had already experienced a similar scenario in her parents' home, watching the ruthlessly violent episodes of her father's aggressions towards her mother, who ended up committing suicide, fourteen years after her marriage. After her mother's death, this patient - a young girl then - was the victim of her father's anger. Eventually this family portrait "forced" her to marry at a very young age - being only 15. Believing to be escaping from a dysfunctional situation that she had experienced, she saw it repeated, this time in the first person, for she became victim of abuse by her husband, a month after the wedding. This situation was being consented by her socio-economic dependence. This case, for us, seems to illustrate how a dysfunctional family is often the root cause of suicide. Family therapy is thus discussed in order to prevent suicide in the future generations.

**Preliminary Data From SCORE-29
in a Representative Sample of Portuguese Families**

Margarida Vilça

Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences - University of Coimbra, Portugal

The main goal of this paper was an exploratory and comparative analysis from two moments of the therapeutic process: therapy's beginning and course, departing from a sample of families/couples that were in systemic family therapy process. To do that, it was used SCORE-29 (Systemic Clinical Outcomes and Routine Evaluation), a measure of therapeutic process, in its "Pre-therapy" (the first one session) and "During therapy" (the third/fourth sessions) versions. Attending to the lack of evaluative measures about systemic family therapy outcomes, it was important to evaluate an application of this measure to Portuguese families.

Relationship: Personality Traits, Marital Satisfaction, and Life Satisfaction

Manoochehr Taghi Pour, Afsaneh Shekh Zadeh, Khadijeh Bahram Pour, Roghayeh Bigdeli

Shahid Chamran University, Ahvaz, Khuzestan, Iran

The present study examined the relationships of personality traits and marital satisfaction with life satisfaction. The statistical population consisted of female and male employees who work at state banks in Ahvaz city in Khuzestan province in Iran. The sample for the study consisted of 153 employees who were selected by a multistage random sampling method. The instruments were used in this research consisted of NEO Personality Inventory- Revised (Costa & McCrae, 1992), Index of marital satisfaction (Hudson, 1992) and Satisfaction with life scale (Diener, Emmons, Larsan & Griffin, 1985). The Analysis of the data consisted of descriptive and inferential statistics. Personality traits and marital satisfaction were as predictors, variables and life satisfaction as criterion variable. The results showed that there are significant differences among some of the target groups in terms of personality traits, marital satisfaction with life satisfaction. Also, the results showed that there are simple and multiple relationships between predictors and criterion variables. In this study the significance level of the statistics tests was $P=0/05$. The results are discussed in the light of previous literature and some ideas for further investigation are presented.

Violence Against Iranian Women by their Partners

Manoochehr Taghi Pour, Koumars Beshlideh, Seyedeh Zobaideh Jazayeri, Nasser Behroozi

College of Education and Psychology, Shahid Chamran University, Ahvaz, Iran

Violence against women is a global phenomenon that cuts across all social and economic classes. In a survey of more than 24,000 women in 10 countries, the World Health Organization (WHO) found that 10-69% of women reported being physically assaulted by an intimate male partner at some point in their lives. The present study was performed to determine intimate partner violence in a city of Khuzestan province, Iran. In this cross-sectional study, 200 married women were examined ultimately. Data were collected by questionnaires and then analyzed by descriptive and analytical statistics. SPSS (version 16) was used to analyze hypotheses. Overall, these findings of this study showed a correlation between education, job, income, and exerting violence. Correlation was also found between the types of abuse and woman's age, time of marriage, number of children ($p < 0.05$). According to the results of this study, Policymakers, researchers, psychologists, and social workers should consider factors related to violence are biological and personal; close relationships, intimate partner; the community context; and the broad societal factors. The results obtained in this study are presented in detail.

Conflicts and Problem-solving in the Course of Marriage-Remarriage

Gonçalo Fernandes, Cidália Duarte

University of Porto, Porto, Portugal

With this study we intended to analyze how individuals who were involved in a first marital relationship (which culminated in divorce) and currently remarried, perceived the conflicts – nature/intensity, frequency of resolution and solving conflicts strategies used to solve them - in those relationships. Therefore, we used a sample of 113 Portuguese participants (57 women, 56 men), who are currently remarried, after a divorce process. All participants answered an adaptation of the instrument Conflicts and Problem-Solving Scales-CPS (Kerig, 1996; adapted by Fernandes & Duarte, 2009). The results obtained suggest that in the past relationship the communication between spouses has been the main problem for both genders, unlike the present relationship. In general, problems in the past marital relationship were perceived as more intense than in the remarriage. Also, problems are more often resolved in the present relationship. Results also suggest that non-physical aggression was the main solving problem strategy used in the past marital relationship; in remarriage the most frequently used strategy is collaboration/positive-solving problems. Concerning conjugal satisfaction, higher levels were found in the present marital relationship than in the previous one. At the same, associations between the way to manage conflicts and marital satisfaction were found. Finally, this study suggests a positive look about remarriage.

**Sexological Systems Theory:
Sex Therapy Ecological Model and Treatment Approach**

Kathryn Jones, Aurora Meneses da Silva, Kristy Soloski

Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, IN, USA

Sexuality is a portion of one's being that develops throughout a person's life. Current models of sex therapy, consisting of both cognitive-behavioral and systemic approaches, show moderate results in the treatment of sexual disorders, indicating that something is lacking in treatment. The Sexological Systems Model proposes sexuality as a developmental process similar to Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Model (1977). The Sexological Systems Diagram was developed as both assessment and intervention tools. In this regard, the diagram can provide psychoeducation for couples presenting for sex therapy as it maps out the contextual factors that impact human sexuality. Consequently, the information obtained with the Sexological Systems Diagram can also be used by the therapist to determine the most appropriate treatment plan.

Demotic Violence Against Iranian Girls

Manoochehr Taghi Pour, Gholam Hossain Maktabi,
Seyedesmaeil Hashemi Sheykhshaban, Nasser Behroozi

Shahid Chamran University, Ahvaz, Khuzestan, Iran

In recent years, there has been a greater understanding of the problem of domestic violence, its causes and consequences, and an international consensus has developed on the need to deal with the issue. Millions of girls and women suffer from violence and its consequences because of their sex and their unequal status in society. The purpose of this study was to identify domestic violence among girls in a university in Ahvaz city, Iran. The sample of the study included 200 student girls. The participants voluntarily responded to the survey packet that was given, which included a letter inviting them to participate in the study, an information sheet about the study, and the instruments. According to the objectives, data were collected by questionnaires and then analyzed by descriptive and analytical statistics. SPSS (version 16) was used to analyze hypotheses. The results revealed important information related to domestic violence against student girls. Overall, these findings provide some evidence in support of the role of members of family in domestic violence against girls that should be considered by policymakers, psychologists, and social workers. The results and implications are discussed.

Emotional Reactions to Affective Visual Stimuli (IAPS) in Pregnancy

Anita Deak, Hajnalka Szentivanyi-Mako

University of Pecs, Pecs, Hungary

The International Affective Picture System (IAPS) is a set of emotionally evocative stimuli for measuring emotional reactions. Affective ratings are assessed on three dimensions: valence (ranging from pleasant to unpleasant), arousal (ranging from calm to excited), and dominance/control (ranging from being overwhelmed by emotions to controlling an affective state). In our study, we have presented three categories of pictures to 149 pregnant women: 1. baby pictures as cues of prenatal attachment; 2. couples in erotic and family situations as cues of relationship to the partner; 3. other pictures related to pregnancy (such as the physical changes of the body, experiencing social support) as cues of potential fears and coping with stressful situations. Results have shown that women who expected their first baby found the pictures from the third category more arousing than mothers who have previously given birth to a child. If the pregnancy was not planned by either the mother or the father, the ratings of baby pictures were less pleasant and more overwhelming.

A Systemic Case Study Using Hermeneutic Single-Case Design Efficacy

Sofia Ferreira, Manuela Correia

Autónoma's University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal

The aim of this study is to determine the effectiveness of family therapy treatment applied to a Portuguese family consisting of three elements: a mother and two daughters. The initial request, relationship difficulties between mother and daughter (s), has been reframed to a difficulty in overcoming the grieving of the father / husband. Patients were treated at the Center for Research and Family Support (CIAF), in Lisbon, having been used the Hermeneutic Single-Case Design Efficacy (HSCED, Elliott, 2002), a non experimental interpretative approach that aims to determine 1) whether change occurred, 2) if change was due to therapeutic strategies, and 3) identifying what, in therapy caused change. The interest of this type of case studies in systemic perspective lies in developing effective strategies in addressing these issues.

The Therapist and Crime, Blackness, Whiteness, and Dialogue in Family Therapy

Marna Dreckmeier-Meiring

University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa

Assignment of the label “criminal” to black South Africans may be as common as assignment of the label “racist” to white South Africans, and in particular to the Afrikaner. However, members of all ethnic groups in SA fall victim to crime on a daily basis and clients who seek help from psychologists after having been exposed to crime reflect the whole spectrum of ethnicity in South Africa. As a clinical psychologist and family therapist the author has often listened to generalized statements regarding a relationship between criminal behavior and “blackness”. In therapy these statements were made most often by members of the authors own ethnic group, the Afrikaner. On the other hand, black therapy clients who report a personal or family history fraught with traumatic experiences embedded in the political context of Apartheid, very seldom express generalizations regarding the relationship between “whiteness” and discrimination or oppression. This observation raises questions around the role of cultural or ethnic identity within the context of family therapy. In this presentation the author explores her own cultural identity, the manner in which it interplays with her professional identity, and the role it plays in family therapy in the South African context.

Family Therapy for Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Roy A. Salgado, Jr.* and Dorothy Martin**

Our Lady of the Holy Cross College, New Orleans, USA
University of New Orleans, New Orleans, USA

Domestic violence and sexual assault are issues that plague many people around the world, in particular individuals who do not have a voice within their communities. This presentation discusses the effects of domestic violence on immigrant women within the United States as well as the interventions in family therapy that are utilized in their treatment. Victimized women often have been led to believe by their abuser that they have little recourse with regard to rights or justice. Undocumented immigrant women in particular are led to believe that they have no one to advocate for them because of their status within their host country. Particular attention is paid to the specific cases and data gathered at a battered women's shelter in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.

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