



Clinical Issues in Adoption: What Therapists Need to Know

FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2008

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Jewish Community Center
3200 California Street
San Francisco, Ca 94118

PSYCHOLOGISTS • SOCIAL WORKERS • MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS • ADOPTION PROFESSIONALS

Clinical Issues in Adoption: What Therapists Need to Know

A one day seminar by clinicians working in the adoption field, designed to assist therapists in understanding the complexities of adoption and related issues. This conference will help therapists understand the practical, systemic and intrapsychic realities of adoptive life. The training will offer interactive and didactic components in order to provide attendees with a positive and dynamic learning environment. Designed for clinicians who have limited knowledge of adoption as well as those who are experienced in this area.

Objectives

- Learn to identify adoption-related issues in your practice when adoption is not part of the presenting problem
- Assist your clients in developing compassion for each member of the triad
- Understand the necessity of internal integration of characters in the triad
- Appreciate the clinical impact of the therapists' unconscious adoption-related assumptions

Schedule

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Registration
Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Presentations

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch on your own

1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Presentations
Film/Discussion

Contact Information:

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The Program

Working Clinically with Expectant/Birth Families and Adoptive Families Before, During and After Adoption: The process of forming families through adoption creates a dynamic system whereby each person affects and is affected by the others. This presentation will delineate an interplay of providing individual, dyadic and family system therapy that will enhance the child's well-being and reflect current practices in child-centered adoptions.

Grief and Healing: The Powerful Impact of Loss on Post Placement Birthparents:

Each birthparent experiences grief in his or her own way, but there is a commonality and uniqueness to birthparent grief; This presentation will explore different theories of grief as it relates to post-placement birthparents, help the therapist understand long term implications of placing a child for adoption and explore effective ways to help birthparents identify and understand grief-related issues.

The Theoretical Picture: Understanding Unconscious Assumptions and Fantasies in Adoption:

Focusing on therapeutic work with the psyche in adoption, this presentation addresses unconscious assumptions and fantasies that have a powerful impact on adoptive relationships and identities. Introducing the notion of "Constellation Integration," a means to offer patients a container that includes the entire web of relationships.

Continuing Education:

MFT/LCSW: Third Choice Books is an approved provider with the State of California, Board of Behavioral Sciences, Provider # PCE 3892. Full attendance at this course meets the qualifications for 6 hours of continuing education for MFT's and LCSW's.

Psychologists: Dr. Holub is an approved MCEP provider, Provider # HOL013. Pending approval, full attendance at this course will qualify Ph.D's for 6 hours of continuing education. For additional information, please contact Melissa Holub, Ph.D. at (510) 658-7119.

Participants with disabilities are encouraged to contact conference organizers early. We will make every effort to accommodate special needs. Please see contact information at left.

Conference Location:

Jewish Community Center
3200 California St (at Presidio Ave)
San Francisco, CA

All day parking at the JCC is available for \$20/day. Street parking is very limited. For directions and public transportation log on to www.jccsf.org

"Excellent! Very provocative and informative."

"Very helpful...excellent variety of subjects."

"I enjoyed the day! I liked the balance of practical, clinical, historical and theoretical frameworks."

"Excellent clinical perspectives... very empathic to the adoption triad."

PRESENTERS

Leslie Foge, MFT:

Leslie Foge, MA, MFT was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area where she still lives and practices. She received her Bachelors Degree in Psychology from UC Berkeley and her Masters Degree in Counseling from St. Mary's College. Leslie sees children, adolescents, adults, couples and families in her private psychotherapy practice in Northern California, where she specializes in working with triad members. She is a popular workshop and conference presenter and is on the faculty at St. Mary's College. Leslie is the co-author of *The Third Choice: A Woman's Guide to Placing a Child for Adoption*.

Melissa Holub PhD:

Dr. Holub is a California licensed psychologist with 20 years in the field of psychology. She provides psychoanalytically oriented psychotherapy to individual adults and couples in her Berkeley office, where she also specializes in adoption-related treatment, consultation, and groups. She is a consultant to PACER, the Post Adoption Center for Education and Research. Dr. Holub is the President-Elect of the Northern California Society for Psychoanalytic Psychology. She is on the clinical faculty of the Wright Institute and the Women's Therapy Center in El Cerrito, California.

Gail Mosconi, MSW, LCSW

Gail Mosconi, LCSW, is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with over 30 years of experience working with children, adolescents, adults and families in many different settings. She received her Bachelors Degree in Sociology from UC Santa Barbara and her Masters Degree in Social Work from Sacramento State University. She has worked with birth and adoptive families in private and agency adoptions and presents adoption topics at conferences and support groups throughout the Bay Area. She is the co-author of *The Third Choice: A Woman's Guide to Placing a Child for Adoption*.