PRESENTATION

Is homelessness an expression of breakdown — as is commonly believed — or is it a defense against breakdown? This presentation challenges the common assumption that treatments derived from psychoanalytic theories are appropriate only for people of means. On the contrary, working with underserved populations goes back to the very beginnings of psychoanalysis. Dr. Luepnitz will describe IFA (Insight For All), which she launched in 2005 -- a program that connects analysts willing to work pro bono with homeless and formerly homeless adults in Philadelphia. Clinical material will be presented, which will make use of concepts both from Donald Winnicott (e.g. the holding environment, the use of countertransference, "fear of breakdown") and Jacques Lacan (e.g. the paternal metaphor, the three registers, the family até). Sara Smith, LMFT, Licensed Clinical Supervisor and Ekaterina Alexeeva, Mental Health Counselor, will report on their work at the Broward Outreach Centers as part of Dr. Luepnitz’ introductory remarks.

PRESENTER

Deborah Anna Luepnitz, Ph.D. was on the Clinical Faculty of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine for over 30 years. She is currently on the faculty of IRPP--Institute for Relational Psychoanalysis of Philadelphia. She is the author of The Family Interpreted: Psychoanalysis, Feminism and Family Therapy --published in 1992-- as well as Schopenhauer's Porcupines: Five Stories of Psychotherapy which has been translated into seven languages. She was also a contributing author to the Cambridge Companion to Lacan. In 2005, Dr. Luepnitz launched I.F.A. (Insight For All) a pro bono project connecting psychoanalysts with homeless and formerly homeless adults in Philadelphia. In 2013, she received the Distinguished Educator award from the International Forum for Psychoanalytic Education.

OBJECTIVES

Participants will be able to:
- Identify 3 different psychological types of homelessness.
- Describe one of the basic challenges of treating individuals who are living with staff in a residence for homeless adults.
- Cite 2 concepts from Winnicott and one from Lacan that could be helpful in working with homeless patients.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

This program, when attended in its entirety, is offered for 3 CE credits. SEFAPP is an approved continuing education provider by the Agency for Health Care Administration of the Florida Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy and Mental Health Counseling (BAP #587, expires March 31, 2023). Division 39 is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Division 39 maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Division 39 is committed to accessibility and non-discrimination in its continuing education activities. SEFAPP and Division 39 are committed to conducting all activities in conformity with the American Psychological Association's Ethical Principles for Psychologists. Participants are asked to be aware of the need for privacy and confidentiality throughout the program. If participants have special needs, we will attempt to accommodate them. Please address questions, concerns and any complaints to SEFAPP Administrator at (954) 637-3883.

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