

Psychoanalytic Readings on Sexuality and Gender

Michigan Council for Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy (MCP)
Spring, 2018

Wednesdays, April 4 – May 23, 2018, 9:30 – 11:30 am; Ann Arbor
Taught by Reena Liberman, MS and Peter Wood, LMSW

Reading the history of psychoanalytic thought starting with Freud is essential in understanding ideas that have contributed significantly to our understanding of human sexuality and its role in psychosexual and sexual development in Western culture. We will move through readings of the 20th century and into the 21st century to see how theories have evolved; how they have influenced us and continue to influence us; and what they mean for us personally and, therefore, in our clinical practices. Readings will include classical, feminist, modern and post-modern, relational, and queer theory literature. We will initially read about sexuality since it is present in humans at birth, and then incorporate gender identity, which is formed from birth on as a construction of biology, socialization, and intra-psychic formations. However, spoiler alert, this premise will be challenged.

The course will be conducted in a seminar style that will encourage participants to find ways to talk about sexuality, a topic often difficult to address because of its long-standing associations with secrecy, shame, and psychopathology. These have made it a subject easily avoided, ripe for humor, and awkward to discuss. Everyone will be responsible for raising questions, offering critiques, sharing clinical experiences that relate to the readings, and sharing reactions to materials to assist with understanding transferences and counter-transferences.

Required Texts:

Female Sexuality: Contemporary Engagements. ed. Donna Bassin. Jason Aronson Inc: New Jersey.

Who's That Girl? Who's That Boy?: Clinical Practice Meets Postmodern Gender Theory. Jason Aronson Inc.: Northvale, New Jersey

Recommended Text:

Corbett, K. (2009) *Boyhoods: Rethinking Masculinities*. Yale University Press: New Haven.

Week 1 – April 4:

Freud, S (1905). Three Essays on Sexuality, Part II: Infantile Sexuality. *Standard Edition*, 7: 173 – 206. London: Hogarth Press, 1953.

Marcus, I.M. and Francis, J.J., ed. (1975), Introduction and Chapter 1, Masturbation: From Infancy to Senescence. *Masturbation: A Developmental View*, 9 – 51. New York: International Universities Press, Inc.

Stoller, R. F. (1979), Introduction: xi – xvii and Chapter 1: 3-35. *Sexual Excitement: Dynamics of Erotic Life*. New York: Pantheon Books.

Dimen, M. and Goldner, V. (1999). Gender and Sexuality, 6: 93-114. *The American Psychiatric Publishing Textbook of Psychoanalysis*.

Dimen, M. (2005). Sexuality and Suffering, Or the Eew! Factor. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*. 6(1): 1-18.

Week 2 – April 11:

Jones, E. (1935). Early Female Sexuality. *The International Journal of Psychoanalysis*. 16:263-273.

Applegarth, A. (1999). Ahead of Her Time. Chapter 7: 187 – 192 . *Female Sexuality: Contemporary Engagements*. ed. Donna Bassin. Jason Aronson Inc: New Jersey.

Horney, K. (1933). The Denial of the Vagina: A Contribution to the Problem of the Genital Anxieties Specific to Women. Chapter 7: 193 – 206. *Female Sexuality: Contemporary Engagements*. ed. Donna Bassin. Jason Aronson Inc: New Jersey.

Olesker, W (1998), Female Genital Anxieties: Views from the Nursery and the Couch. *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 67: 276-294.

Spurgas, A. (2013) Interest, Arousal, and Shifting Diagnoses of Female Sexual Dysfunction, or: How Women Learn About Desire. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*. 14(3): 187-205.

Blechner, M (2017) The Clitoris: Anatomical and Psychological Issues. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*. Vol. 18, No. 3, 190-200.

Additional readings

Jones, E. (1933). The Phallic Phase. *Female Sexuality: Contemporary Engagements*. ed. Donna Bassin. Chapter 6: 153-184. Jason Aronson Inc: New Jersey.

Birksted-Breen, D. (1999). Holding the Tension. *Female Sexuality: Contemporary Engagements*. ed. Donna Bassin. Chapter 10: 282-286. Jason Aronson Inc: New Jersey.

Klein, M. (1952). The Effects of Early Anxiety-Situations on the Sexual Development of the Girl. *Female Sexuality: Contemporary Engagements*. ed. Donna Bassin. Chapter 10: 287-333. Jason Aronson Inc: New Jersey.

Week 3 – April 18:

Person, E.S. (1986), Male Sexuality and Power. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 6:3-25.

Layton, L. (1999). What Is a Man? Postmodern Challenges to Clinical Practice. *Who's That Girl? Who's That Boy?: Clinical Practice Meets Postmodern Gender Theory*, Chapter 7: 169-192. Jason Aronson Inc.: Northvale, New Jersey

Elise, D. (2001). Unlawful Entry: Male Fears of Psychic Penetration. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 11:499-531.

Diamond, M.J. (2006). Masculinity Unraveled: The Roots of Male Gender Identity and the Shifting of Male Ego Ideals Throughout Life. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 54: 1099-1130.

Blechner, M. (2009) Maleness and Masculinity. *Sex Changes: Transformation in Society and Psychoanalysis*, Chapter 8, pp. 77-94. Routledge Press.

Additional readings

Corbett, K. (2009).. Chapters 6: Fantastic Phallicism: Recognition, Relation, and Phallic Narcissism. *Bohhoods: Rethinking Masculinities*, 208-234. Yale University Press: New Haven.

Benjamin, J. (2015) Masculinity, Complex: A Historical Take. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 16: 271-277.

Week 4 – April 25:

Green, A. (1996). Has Sexuality anything to Do with Psychoanalysis?. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 76:871-883.

Dimen, M. (2003). Power, Sexuality, and Intimacy. *Sexuality, Intimacy, Power*, Ch. 7: 203 – 222. Hillsdale, NY: The Analytic Press.

Fonagy, P. (2006) Psychosexuality and psychoanalysis: an overview. *Identity, Gender, and Sexuality: 150 Years after Freud*, Chapter 1: 1-19. Fonagy, P., Krause, R., Leuzinger-Bohleber, M., eds.

Hansell, J. (2009), Where Sex Was, There Shall Gender Be?: From Bisexuality to Binaries in Psychoanalytic Gender Theory. *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, January 2011. 55-72.

Corbett, Dimen, Goldner, Harris (2015) Talking Sex, Talking Gender—A Roundtable. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 15:4, 295-317.

Week 5 – May 2:

Schwartz, A.E. (1999). Postmodern Masquerade. *Female Sexuality: Contemporary Engagements*. ed. Donna Bassin. pp. 115-125. Jason Aronson Inc: New Jersey.

Riviere, J. (1929) Womanliness as a Masquerade. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, Volume 10: 303-313. Also in *Female Sexuality: Contemporary Engagements*. ed. Donna Bassin. pp. 128-137. Jason Aronson Inc: New Jersey.

Harris, A. (2000). Gender as a Soft Assembly: Tomboys' Stories. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 1(3): 223-250.

Laplanche, J (2007). Gender, Sex, and the Sexual. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 8(2): 201-219.

Stein, R. (2007). Moments in Laplanche's Theory of Sexuality. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 8(2): 177-200.

Atlas, G. (2013). What's Love Got to Do with It? Sexuality, Shame, and the Use of the Other. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 14(1): 51-58.

Additional readings

Fast, I. (1999). Aspects of Core Gender Identity. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 9(5) 633-661.

Week 6 – May 9:

Chodorow, N. J. (1992). Heterosexuality as a Compromise Formation: Reflections on the Psychoanalytic Theory of Sexual Development. *Psychoanalysis and Contemporary Thought*, 15:267-304.

Mitchell, S. A. (1996). Gender and Sexual Orientation in the Age of Postmodernism: The Plight of the Perplexed Clinician. *Gender & Psychoanalysis*, 1:45-73.

Tyson, P. and Tyson, R. (1990). Gender Development: A Theoretical Overview. Chapter 15. *Psychoanalytic Theories of Development: An Integration*. Yale University Press.

Young-Bruehl, E. (2001). Are Human Beings “By Nature” Bisexual? *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 2 (3): 179-213.

Elliot, P. (2001). A Psychoanalytic Reading of Transsexual Embodiment. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 2 (4): 295-325.

Additional readings

Tyson, P. and Tyson, R. (1990). Gender Development: Girls; Boys. Chapters 16 and 17. *Psychoanalytic Theories of Development: An Integration*. Yale University Press.

Week 7 – May 16:

Layton, L. (1999). Beyond Narcissism: Toward a Negotiation Model of Gender Identity. *Who's That Girl? Who's That Boy?: Clinical Practice Meets Postmodern Gender Theory*. Chapter 2. Jason Aronson Inc.: Northvale, New Jersey

Layton, L. (1999). Performance Theory, Act 3: The Doer Behind the Deed Gets Depressed. *Who's That Girl? Who's That Boy?: Clinical Practice Meets Postmodern Gender Theory*. Chapter 9. Jason Aronson Inc.: Northvale, New Jersey

Mitchell, S.A. (2002). The Strange Loops of Sexuality. Chapter 2. *Can Love Last?: The Fate of Romance over Time*. W.W. Norton & Company: New York.

Mitchell, S.A. (2002). Aggression and the Danger of Desire. *Can Love Last?: The Fate of Romance over Time*. Chapters 4. W.W. Norton & Company: New York.

Cornell, W.F. (2009). Stranger to Desire: Entering the Erotic Field. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 10(2): 75-92.

Week 8 – May 23:

Harris, S. (2008). Lifting the Veil: African American Images and the European American Gaze. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 9(1): 32-51.

Corbett, K. (2009). Boyhood Femininity: Masculine Presuppositions and the Anxiety of Regulation. *Bohhoods: Rethinking Masculinities*. Chapter 3. Yale University Press: New Haven.

Blechner, M. (2009). Polymorphous Without Perversity: A Queer View of Desire. Chapter 14, pp. 157-168. *Sex Changes: Transformation in Society and Psychoanalysis*. Routledge Press.

Celenza, A. (2010). The Guilty Pleasure of Erotic Countertransference: Searching for Radial True. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 11(4): 175-183.

Lurkhur, K.A. (2010). Medieval Silence and Modern Transsexuality. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 11(4): 220-238.

Kwok, L. (2013). Object of Desire: Meditations on Race and Cannibalism. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 14(2): 140-143.