Course Description

To educate clinicians of the complexity of the emergence of transgender patients, which the presenter describes as neither a purely medical/psychopathological condition nor a socio-cultural phenomenon, and therefore uniquely lends itself to a psychoanalytic investigation of each case as the complex negotiation of an individual’s relationship to their body and their gender.

Target Audience

This program meets the needs of all mental health professionals, including psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses, psychologists, social workers, and marriage and family therapists

Goals and Objectives

Upon completion of this activity participants should be able to:

• Understand the history of transgender as a clinical concept.
• Think beyond the concept of the ‘natural body’ to grasp embodiment as a spectrum of possibilities.
• Help their transgender patients find a home in their bodies and embody their psyches.

From Transgender Identities:

“Transgender has become one of the most controversial social and cultural issues of our time. As we grapple with it in ourselves and in our practices, we are confronted with how the body, sexuality and gender plunge us into the realm of experiences that are for many of us difficult to articulate in words and may defy symbolization.”

“Transgender as I understand it, is the outcome of a three-part psychic process of a) consciously articulating subjective identity in relation to the category of gender, b) the articulation of being transgender induces a positive feeling of recognition and c) the resulting identification is accompanied by a need for a physical instantiation of the transgender identity, often but not always requiring varying degrees of medical intervention.”

“As it will no doubt be clear by now, the conceptual leitmotif in this book is that it is dangerous to view transgender homogeneously.... A theoretical conceptualization of transgender in 2021 cannot be reduced to either a pathology or a creative act in any absolute sense in all cases... Although I am a strong advocate of a psychoanalytic approach to transgender, the conceptual power of a psychoanalytic theory is undermined if it persists in ascribing to anatomy the role of normalizer as classical psychoanalysis has traditionally done. ‘Given’ anatomy is a starting point for the articulation of identity. It is a touchpoint in reality. Its psychic significance is ignored at our peril, but we must not conflate the psychic importance of recognizing difference and otherness with ‘given’ anatomy. ... Trying to understand transgender requires that we be willing to relinquish the pursuit of certainty. This way we can identify when clinging to certainty about gender – a quest that is not only the province of some cisgender people but of some transgender people too – is a defense against the inherent fluidity of identifications, as Freud understood, and those instances when embracing so-called fluidity reveals a more fundamental fear of accepting any kind of finitude.”

“Understanding transgender requires us to formulate at the intersection of socio-cultural processes and individual psychodynamics that implicate the therapist as much as the patient. Both parties need to make a sustained effort to question the signifiers that shape our individual relationship to our bodies and our gender.”
Registration Fees:
Transgender Identities

Registration Fee: $100.00
Student/Intern Fee: $85.00
(See refund policy under “Continuing Education”)

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CONTINUING EDUCATION

Important Disclosure: None of the planners or presenters of this CME/CE program has any relevant financial relationship to disclose.

Accreditation Statements:

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Psychologists: LAISPS is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. LAISPS maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

Board of Behavioral Sciences: The California Board of Behavioral Sciences accepts courses approved by the APA for Continuing Education for LCSW, LMFT, LPCC and LEP licenses.

To Earn Credit: Participants must complete an online evaluation within two weeks of completing each session of this CE/CME activity in order to receive credit.

Attention Psychologists: Psychologists can earn a maximum of 3 CE credits for this program. For psychologists to receive credit for any given session, all classes of the session must be attended. Partial credit may not be awarded, based on APA guidelines.

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Returned Checks: A $35.00 service charge will be assessed for checks returned by the bank.

Confidentiality: By registering for this educational event, attendees agree to strictly maintain confidentiality of any clinical material shared and will not distribute or convey such confidential material outside of the conference.