

OREGON PSYCHOANALYTIC CENTER PRESENTS
THE DIVERSITY LECTURE SERIES SPONSORED BY
ARLENE SCHNITZER
PSYCHOANALYSIS, SEX, AND
GENDER IN THE 21ST CENTURY
WITH JACK DRESCHER, MD



DATE: SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2021
TIME: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

PRICING:

\$150 - NON-MEMBERS

\$135 - MEMBERS

**\$75 - STUDENTS/ RESIDENTS/
INTERNS/ COMMUNITY
MENTAL HEALTH
PROFESSIONALS**

4 CMES*

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*This workshop is designed to meet requirements of the Oregon Board of Psychologists, Examiners for four hours of Cultural Competency CE

TALK #1 - ETHICAL ISSUES IN TREATING LGBT PATIENTS

The American Psychiatric Association's Principles of Medical Ethics emphasize competence, respect and up-to-date knowledge as a basis for appropriate professional behavior toward lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) patients. This presentation first reviews historical psychiatric attitudes towards LGBT patients that could be construed, at best, as patronizing and, at worst, overtly hostile. In modern clinical practice, as opposed to trying to "cure" homosexuality or "transsexualism," LGBT patients are helped to live their lives according to their own natures and desires. This presentation outlines some common clinical questions raised by LGBT patients—what is known and not known about the origins of homosexuality and transgender expression, sexual orientation conversion efforts (SOCE), therapist self-disclosure, how therapists should address LGBT patients, and controversies surrounding treatment of transgender children—as well as ethical issues raised in these clinical encounters

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the end of this presentation, attendees will

1. Be cognizant of issues specific to the treatment of LGBT patients
2. Be prepared to answer the kind of questions LGBT patients frequently ask of clinicians
3. Be cognizant of important ethical principles salient to the treatment of LGBT Patients

REFERENCES:

- Drescher, J. (2015). Ethical issues in treating LGBT patients." In: Oxford Handbook of Psychiatric Ethics, Eds. J. Sadler, C.W. van Staden & K.W.M. Fulford. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 180-192.
- Drescher, J. & Pula, J. (2014). Ethical issues raised by the treatment of gender variant prepubescent children. The Hastings Center Report, 44(Suppl4): S17-22.



TALK #2 - A BISEXUAL MAN'S SEARCH FOR IDENTITY: AN INTERPERSONAL PSYCHOANALYTIC PERSPECTIVE

This is a case presentation of a man starting treatment in his thirties, initially presenting with obsessional anxiety about his sexual identity. Questions about his sexual identity were never resolved in a previous treatment despite eight years of four-time-a-week psychoanalysis. Shortly after beginning a new, once a week treatment, that included pharmacotherapy for Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, the patient experienced a significant reduction in anxiety that allowed him to address questions about sexual identity in a more productive manner.

The clinical material evoked in the analyst associations to the process by which homosexuality was removed from DSM-II in 1973. That history, which includes the replacement of "homosexuality per se" with "sexual orientation disturbance" is reviewed. These associations were shared with the patient.

As the patient began feeling more comfortable exploring his sexual desires for both men and women, he managed to put aside questions of identity until he had accumulated more intimate experiences with both sexes. The case illustrates how the therapeutic task of defining a sexual identity is often a complex, interpretative and interpersonal process.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the end of this presentation, attendees will

1. Learn to tell the difference between a sexual orientation and a sexual identity.
2. Identify etiological theories of homosexuality as normalizing, pathologizing or juvenilizing.
3. Identify patients' etiological theories of homosexuality as having underlying, moralizing value judgments about human sexuality.

TALK #3 - FROM BISEXUALITY TO INTERSEXUALITY: RETHINKING GENDER CATEGORIES

The study of human sexual identities is changing, and these changes oblige analysts to think about sexualities in ways never envisioned by their psychoanalytic forbears. These changes also require that they be aware of some of the limitations imposed upon by their own theoretical traditions. Toward that end, this presentation begins with a definition of terms related to modern conceptions of sexuality and sexual identities. This is followed by a review of historical assumptions underlying the theory of bisexuality. The next section introduces the audience to the role of categories and hierarchies in general, and to the clinical meaning of sexual hierarchies in particular. This is followed by a discussion of the meanings and uses of the "natural." The final section concludes with a commentary on intersexuality as an example of both the social and surgical construction of gender.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the end of this presentation, attendees will

1. Formulate the theoretical and cultural context in which Freud developed his theory of bisexuality
2. Delineate some of the usually unexamined cultural beliefs about gender that led to medically treating intersex infants and children with unnecessary surgery and secrecy
3. Articulate some of the unexamined and often dissociated roles of values in psychoanalysis and psychotherapy
4. Identify terms from sexology research that are not commonly used in psychoanalytic theorizing and case formulations

REFERENCES:

- Drescher, J. (2007). From bisexuality to intersexuality: Rethinking gender categories. *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*, 43(2):204-228.
- Rubin, G. (1984). Thinking sex: Notes for a radical theory of the politics of sexuality. In: *The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader*, eds. H. Abelove, M.A. Barale, & D. Halperin. New York: Routledge, 1993, pp. 3-44.

BIOGRAPHY

Jack Drescher, MD, is a psychiatrist and psychoanalyst in private practice in New York City.

He is Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons and a Faculty Member at Columbia's Division of Gender, Sexuality, and Health. He is a Senior Psychoanalytic Consultant at Columbia's Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research and Adjunct Professor at New York University's Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis. He is a Training and Supervising Analyst at the William Alanson White Institute.

Dr. Drescher Co-Chairs the Committee on Public Information of the American Psychoanalytic Association and co-edits APsA's Psychoanalysis Unplugged blog on PsychologyToday.com. He is a consultant to the Sexual & Gender Diversity Studies Committee of the International Psychoanalytical Association.

Dr. Drescher is a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, Past President of the Group for Advancement of Psychiatry and a Past President of APA's New York County Psychiatric Society. He presently serves as a Consultant to APA's Ethics Committee. He served for many years as a Consultant for APA's Council on Communications.

Dr. Drescher is Section Editor of the Gender Dysphoria Chapter in the DSM-5 Text Revision (DSM-5-TR) process (anticipated 2020 publication). He served on APA's DSM-5 Workgroup on Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders and served on the World Health Organization's Working Group on the Classification of Sexual Disorders and Sexual Health that revised sex and gender diagnoses in the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11). He served on the Honorary Scientific Committee revising the 2nd edition of the Psychodynamic Diagnostic Manual (PDM-2).

Dr. Drescher's professional honors include the American Psychiatric Association's John Fryer Award (2018), the Federation of State Medical Boards' Award for Excellence in Editorial Writing (2017), Albert M. Biele Visiting Professor in Psychiatry, Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University (2016), Sheppard-Pratt's Harry Stack Sullivan Award Lecturer (2013), an APA Special Presidential Commendation (2009) an APA Distinguished Psychiatrist Lecturer (2009), APA's Irma Bland Award for Excellence in Teaching Residents (2006), and the James Paulsen Service Award from the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists (2004).

Dr. Drescher is Author of *Psychoanalytic Therapy and the Gay Man* (Routledge) and Emeritus Editor of the *Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health*. He has edited and co-edited more than a score of books dealing with gender, sexuality and the health and mental health of LGBT communities. He has authored and co-authored numerous professional articles and book chapters as well. His publications have been translated into Italian, Portuguese, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Finnish and German.

Dr. Drescher is an expert media spokesperson on issues related to gender, sexuality and mental health, appearing frequently on broadcast and cable television networks and often sought for comments by print and internet media outlets.

Continuing Medical Education

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint providership of the American Psychoanalytic Association and the Oregon Psychoanalytic Center. The American Psychoanalytic Association is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The American Psychoanalytic Association designates this Live Activity for a maximum of 4.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURE INFORMATION FOR ALL LEARNERS: None of the planners and presenters of this CME program have any relevant financial relationships to disclose.

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