Special Topics: Psychoanalytic Views on Dreams and Dreaming

Fall 2015

PSA 4th Year

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This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the American Psychoanalytic Association and the Institute for Psychoanalytic Education (IPE). 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 [number of credits] 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.

All readings are available via PEP-Online except ones marked by an * and these will be supplied

In this ten week course, we will begin with seminal readings from Freud on the structure and meaning of dreams. Following a consideration of classical work of dreams we will examine more contemporary views. The course will highlight considerations on the mental apparatus and the conditions which allow the special and bizarre thinking manifest in dreams. We will address dreams from a theoretical/historical perspective while considering their clinical usefulness. Topics will include manifest versus latent content, the primacy of wish fulfillment, topographic versus structural theory, the shifting role of transference and the value of historical reconstruction. Specific aspects of dream work will be highlighted by clinical material provided by candidates and instructors.

*Available on PEP

**Week One:** Freud’s Irma dream

**“The method of interpreting dreams: an analysis of a specimen dream,” S.E., IV Ch. II., pp. 96-121.

**“A dream is a Fulfillment of a Wish,” S.E., Ch III, pp. 122-133.

**Week Two:** The role of the censor and the implied division between primary and secondary process thinking.

**“Distortions in Dreams,” S.E., IV, pp. 134-162
**Week Three:** Manifest content versus unconscious intent, Freud’s idea of cryptography.

*“The Manifest Content of Dreams and the Latent Dream Thoughts,” S. E., XV, Lecture VII, pp. 113-115
*“Censorship,” S. E. XV, Lecture IX, pp. 136-148
*“Symbolism,” S. E. XV, Lecture X, pp. 149-169

**Week Four:** The dream work: condensation displacement, reversal of affects and plastic representation.

*“Dreamwork,” S. E. XV, Lecture XI, pp. 170-183
*“Analyses of Sample Dreams,” S. E. XV, Lecture XII, pp. 184-198

**Week Five:** The Classic Position The dream as principally a creation of the dreamer as the disguised expression of past conflict retrieved by the analytic process


**Week Six:** The Structural Model Microanalysis and Defense in Dream Work


**Week Seven:** The Dream Screen Dreams and their connection to the mother-child dyad


**Week Eight:** Questioning the Freudian Opus What is manifest, what is latent, and is the dream the royal road to self-narrative


**Week Nine:** Klein, Bion and the Dream Space Is dreaming thinking and is the recovery of dreaming the beginning of psychic growth


*Khan, Masud “The Changing Use of Dreams in Psychoanalytic Practice—In Search of the Dreaming Experience” _IJP_ 57:325-330

Week Ten: Dream “poetry”, the development of discursive language. Meltzer is presented as a soporific and an example of where “wild analysis” greets “brilliant analysis”

Meltzer, D. “The Interaction of Visual and Verbal Language in Dreams” from _Dream Life_ 2009 Karnac*

Sharpe, Ella “The Dream as Psychical Product” from _Dream Analysis_ London: Hogarth Press 1949*