

Adoption As Trauma: Clinical Implications for Effective Treatment of Adoptees in Practice

Adoption is often society's "nice neat solution" to a tragic situation. The myriad of situations that lead to a baby or a child being disconnected from their biology, identity and families is so traumatic for the adoption triad (birth parents, adoptive parents and adoptee) that it is rarely spoken of as such. In the past 30 years there has been an increasing body of literature and research documenting the common responses in adoptees to this "primal wound" which parallel the symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder. This workshop will outline existing literature and resources on the complicated reactions to adoption trauma in adoptees. Clinical examples will be shared to illustrate how to accurately identify and interpret the symptoms an adoptee experiences. Clinicians will be empowered with concrete information and statistics about adoption trauma in order to normalize, validate and ultimately empower their adoptee clients to integrate their adoption experience. Effective trauma intervention and treatment strategies will also be outlined and community resources will be shared.

Friday, April 13, 2012

9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

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Washington, DC 20036

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