

Seminars in Child Neuro-Developmental Psychotherapy

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Professional seminars for child psychotherapists regarding the scientific advances in understanding brain neuro-development during childhood, and the implications and applications for child psychotherapy.

Behaviorism is no longer an appropriate treatment paradigm for child psychotherapy.

Topics covered include:

- Limitations of behaviorism
- Neuro-biological principles of brain development
- The three primary brain systems governing socio-behavioral development
- The socio-developmental role of protest behavior
- Motivational systems
- The relationship systems of attachment and intersubjectivity (psychological connection)
- The socially mediated development of self-organization
- Description of integrated brain system functioning (the arousal-body-affect system; the communication & language system; the social meaning system; executive functioning; the anxiety-relationship connection; and the attention system)
- Neuro-developmental explanations of ADHD, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, emotional regulation problems (commonly diagnosed as Bipolar Disorder)
- Neuro-developmental child psychotherapy

Introductory Seminars

1 hour – Basic Introduction

Introduces the fundamentals of brain development (“we build what we use”) and the three systems organizing behavior (Authority – Socially Organized Behavior – Psychological Connection). Concludes with “Finding Solutions” approach to developing guidance interventions.

2 hour – Introductory Lecture/Seminar

Frames the basic neurodevelopmental findings and the broad implications for child therapy. Discusses the three systems and the role of protest behavior. Discusses the role of organizing intentions and offers a 3-step intervention framework.

Professional Training Seminars

4 hour – Beginning Training Seminar

Provides a basic framework for neuro-developmental intervention. Discusses the three systems, the role of protest behavior, the role of organizing intention, and introduces the relationship systems of attachment and psychological connection (intersubjectivity).

6 hour – Foundational Training Seminar

Discusses limitations of behaviorist approach. Provides an extended discussion of the framework for neuro-developmental intervention, with a particular focus on the developmental role of protest behavior. Extends the explanation of the integrated neuro-developmental functioning of the relationship systems of attachment and intersubjectivity (psychological connection).

12 hour – Advanced Training Seminars

Provides extended training in the limitations of behaviorism, the neurodevelopmental research, and the brain systems involved in child emotional and behavioral expression. Discusses the integrated functioning of specific neuro-behavioral systems (the Arousal-Body-Affect axis, the Communication System, the Social Meaning System, Relationship Systems, and Executive Functions).

18 hour – Training to Professional Competence

Extends information provided in the Advanced Training Seminars to explain

- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- Oppositional Defiant Disorder
- Affect regulation disorders (often diagnosed as Bipolar Disorder)
- School related behavioral and motivational problems
- Adolescent emotional, behavioral, and motivational problems
- Attachment related disorders

Provides specific treatment recommendations for resolving each of these diagnostic areas. Discusses relevant legal and ethical issues involved with child psychotherapy, particularly with regard to traditional behaviorist interventions.