

THE BOSTON PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETY AND INSTITUTE, INC.

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Child Analysis Seminar – Spring, 2016

**“Identifying, Understanding and Treating Autistic
Phenomena in Clinical Practice”**

Lawrence J. Brown, Ph. D.

This largely clinical seminar will focus on understanding the nature of autistic phenomena from a psychoanalytic perspective. Although it will primarily address child analysis, we will also consider how autistic defenses and protections are manifest in adult patients. Each session will include an assigned reading that is clinically focused and participants are encouraged to bring material from their work with these patients.

The main source of readings for this course is the book by Celia Fix Korbivcher (2014) *Autistic Transformations: Bion’s Theory and Autistic Phenomena*, Karnac Books. She is a prominent child analyst from Sao Paulo and the book is clearly written with many excellent clinical examples. Participants in the seminar are encouraged to buy this book, which is also available on Kindle.

The course will meet for 12 weeks on Monday evenings from 8-9:30 at Larry Brown’s home at 37 Homer Street, Newton Centre. The dates for seminar meetings are: January 11, 25, February 8, 22, 29, March 7, 28, April 11, 18, 25, May 9, 16, 2016 (no meetings are scheduled for MLK Day, most first Mondays each month, or during February and April school vacations). Please free to contact him with any questions (617-244-7587).

Schedule and Syllabus

January 11th: Theoretical and Clinical Overview

Holloway, H. (2016) *Asperger’s Children: Psychodynamics, Aetiology, Diagnosis, and Treatment*. London: Karnac. Pp. 123-142. [Available in [Library](#)]

January 25th: The Contributions of Frances Tustin

Hunter, V. (1992) An interview with Frances Tustin. *Psa Rev*, 79: 1-24. [PEP Web Link](#)
Korbivcher, (2014) *Autistic Transformations*. London: Karnac Books. Pp. xix-xxii and 1-13.

February 8th: The Concept of Autistic Transformations

Korbivcher, C. (2014) The theory of transformations and autistic states. In *Autistic Transformations*, pp. 47-67.

February 22nd: Autistic Transformations and Bion

Korbivcher, C. (2014) Bion and Tustin: The autistic phenomena and Bion's referential. In *Autistic Transformations*, pp. 93-117.

February 29th: Autistic States in Neurotic Adult Patients

Klein, S. (1980) Autistic phenomena in neurotic patients. *IJP*, 61: 395-402. [PEP Web Link](#)

March 7th: Countertransference Issues in Child Analysis

Korbivcher, C. (2014) The analyst's mind and autistic transformations. In C. Korbivcher *Autistic Transformations*. Pp. 69-91.

March 28th: Countertransference Issues in Adult Analysis

O'Neill, S. (2015) The countertransference impact of autistic defence in an otherwise neurotic patient. *IJP*, 96: 1283-1303. [Available in [Library](#)]

April 11th: Technical Parameters in Child Analysis of Autistic States

Brown, L. J. (2015) The capacity to tell a joke: Reflections from work with Asperger's children. Expanded version of paper given at Columbia Psychoanalytic Institute, October, 2015. [Available in [Library](#)]

April 18th: Emerging From an Autistic State

Brown, L. (2016) From ashes to ashes: The heroic struggle of an autistic boy trying to be born and stay alive. Paper given at the APsaA meeting, January, 2016. [Available in [Library](#)]

April 25th: Is There an 'Autistic' Level to the Oedipus Complex?

Rhode, M. (2011) The 'autistic' level of the Oedipus complex. *Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy*, 25: 262-276. [PEP Web Link](#)

May 9th: The Use of the Analyst as an Autistic Shape in Adult Analysis

Power, D. (In press) "Hoodwinked: The use of the analyst as Autistic Shape." *IJP*. (Dr. Power will be present for this meeting.) [Available in [Library](#)]

May 16th: Wrap-up and Reflections

Tustin, F. (1994) The perpetuation of an error. *J Child Psychother*, 20: 3-23. [PEP Web Link](#)