

# THE BOSTON PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETY AND INSTITUTE, INC.

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## RESISTANCE

### ATP Year Seminar, Fall 2014

#### Instructor: Karen Melikian

Even before acknowledging the central role of transference, Freud became intrigued with his patients' reluctance, recalcitrance, or refusal to recollect the very memories that would lead to cathartic release. By examining this reluctance, Freud shifted focus from a supportive treatment in the service of recollection to an interpretive treatment seeking to "work through" the dynamics of conflict in the interpersonal arena of the analysis.

Beginning with Freud, this seminar will explore how psychoanalytic treaters have understood and utilized this working through in the service of helping people change. We will examine key transitions in perspective on the concept of resistance, looking at different shifts in theory and treatment through the lens of resistance. We will also use this opportunity to explore the larger issue of influence and power in psychodynamic work.

Throughout, we will also discuss the relevance of resistance in our own clinical work. In this regard, in addition to discussing reading, we will examine clinical process material with a special ear tuned to the nuances of resistance in sessions with our patients. Is resistance relevant? How does it inform what we hear, what we do?

#### September 18—Introduction and Overview

- Ullman, C. (2011) Fear of Metamorphosis. *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*, 47:4, 480-496. [PEP Web Link](#)
- Moody, Rick (2008) In praise of Resistance. *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*, 44:295-300. [PEP Web Link](#)

#### October 2—Freud and Resistance

- Freud, S. (1904) Freud's psychoanalytic procedure. *S. E.*, 7:249-254. [*Available in the [Library](#)*]
- Freud, S. (1914) Remembering, repeating and working-through. *S. E.*, 12:147-156. [PEP Web Link](#)

### **October 9—From Freud to Classical Theory**

- Brenner, C. (1982). Chapter 5: Defenses. In: *The Mind in Conflict*. Madison, CT: International Universities Press (pp. 72-92). [Available in the [Library](#)]

### **October 16—Ego Psychology I: Defense Analysis**

- Busch, F. (1995). Neglected classics: M.N. Searl's "Some Queries On Principles of Technique". *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 64:326-344. [PEP Web Link](#)
- (Optional) Searl, M.N. (1936). Some queries on principles of technique. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 17:471-493. [PEP Web Link](#)

### **October 23—Ego Psychology II: Close Process Analysis**

- Gray, P. (1973). Psychoanalytic technique and the ego's capacity for viewing intrapsychic activity. *J. Amer. Psychoanal. Assn.*, 21:474-494 [PEP Web Link](#)

### **October 30—Kleinian Perspectives: Intimations of an Intersubjective Process**

- Joseph, B. (1983) On understanding and not understanding: Some technical issues. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 64:291-298. [PEP Web Link](#)

### **November 6—Object Relations: Further Intimations of an Intersubjective Process**

- Ogden, T. (1983) The Concept of Internal Object Relations. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 64:227-241. [PEP Web Link](#)

### **November 13—Self Psychology: Deficit vs. Defense**

- Stolorow, R., Brandchaft, B., & Atwood, G. (1995). Chapter 4: Bonds that shackle, ties that free. In: *Psychoanalytic Treatment: An Intersubjective Approach*. Hillsdale, NJ: The Analytic Press (pp. 47-65). [Available in the [Library](#)]

### **November 20—Contemporary Theory: The Relevance of the Concept of Resistance**

- Bromberg, P. (1995) Resistance, object-usage, and human relatedness. *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 31:173-191. [PEP Web Link](#)
- Renick, O. (1995) The Role of an analyst's expectations in clinical technique: reflections on the concept of resistance., *JAPA* 43:83-94. [PEP Web Link](#)

**December 4—Resistance In The Treater**

Hammer, Forest (2002) Guards at the Gate: Race, Resistance and Psychic Reality. JAPA, 50: 1219-1237. [PEP Web Link](#)

Lamothe, R. (2012) Potential Space: Creativity, Resistance and Resiliency in the Face of Racism. Psychoanalytic Review, 99(6):851-876 [PEP Web Link](#)