November 12, 2013

Fall Selective, 2013 - 2014

The Body as Metaphor: Psychoanalytic Representations of the Body in Eating Disorders

Instructors: Patricia Wright, MD; Deborah Shilkoff, LICSW

In this seminar we will explore the nature of the body ego and how it develops, moving from psyche to soma. We will explore the analytic underpinnings of psychopathology as if affects body boundaries and integrity. We will discuss the use and misuse of the body to express inchoate psychic states through anorexia, bulimia, binge eating, and obesity. We will look at the challenges facing the analyst in engaging analytically while simultaneously addressing issues which may, at the extreme, interfere with functioning. In discussing case material, we will focus on transference and countertransference. Participants' vignettes will be welcome.

Readings:

Week 1, November 14 -- The Etiology of Eating Disorders


Week 2, November 21 -- Typology of Eating Disorders


Week 3, December 5 -- Treatment Considerations from Different Theoretical Perspectives


**Week 4, December 12** -- Transference and Countertransference Considerations in Treating Eating Disorders


**Other Suggested Readings:**


Orbach, Susie (2006). How can we Have a Body?: Desires and Corporeality. Studies in Gender and Sexuality 7: 89-111. PEP Web Link


