

THE BOSTON PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETY AND INSTITUTE

141 Herrick Road, Newton Centre, Massachusetts 02459

Fall 2016

Freud III

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Welcome to Freud III. In this seminar we want to deepen our understanding of Freud's thinking by comparing some of his earlier case studies with his later writings in the New Introductory Lectures on Psycho-Analysis (1933/1932).

In this course, we trace the development of Freud's theory of human subjectivity and his understanding of symptoms, passions and discontents. We focus on three case histories: Schreber, the Wolf Man and Dora, through which we trace Freud's ever-advancing theory of the mind. We examine Freud's shift in emphasis from hysteria to obsessional neurosis, and the importance of the role of the father.

One way of reading Freud is to see how, after he turned away from seduction as the primary cause of the symptom, he developed a general theory of the symptom as the product of the interweaving of multiple dimensions of the human experience. Over the course of his career, this interweaving became increasingly complex, involving the drive, sexuality, memory, trauma, transference, prohibition and the law, and the way the unconscious engages and represents these phenomena as well as the defenses that are used against these representations.

By the time of the Wolf Man case, Freud was in a position to make the seemingly simple, yet astounding remark about the psychological life of an individual (referring to the case history), that "Naturally a single case does not give us all the information that we should like to have. Or, to put it more correctly, it might teach us everything, if we were only in a position to make everything out, and if we were not compelled by the inexperience of our own perception to content ourselves with a little" (S.E. pg.10).

Our last set of readings returns to Freud's earliest concerns about the nature of the symptom, in particular, the hysterical symptom and its relationship to a cause, or hidden truth that must remain hidden.

9/22/2016: *Psycho-analytic notes on an autobiographical account of a case of paranoia (Dementia Paranoides)* 1911, Vol XII pp 3-58. [PEP Web Link](#)

New Introductory Lectures on Psycho-Analysis, Vol XXII, "Femininity," pp. 112-135. [PEP Web Link](#)

9/29/2016: *Psycho-analytic notes on an autobiographical account of a case of paranoia (Dementia Paranoides)* 1911, Vol XXII, pp 59-82. [PEP Web Link](#)

- 10/6/2016 *From the History of an Infantile Neurosis*, Vol XVII, pp 3-71. [PEP Web Link](#)
- New Introductory Lectures on Psycho-Analysis, Vol XXII, "*Anxiety and Instinctual Life*," pp 81-111. [PEP Web Link](#)
- 10/13/2016 *From the History of an Infantile Neurosis*, Vol XVII, pp 72-103. [PEP Web Link](#)
- 10/20/2016 *From the History of an Infantile Neurosis*, V. XVII, pp 104-122. [PEP Web Link](#)
- 10/27/2016: *Fragment of an Analysis of a Case of Hysteria*, Vol VII, pp 3-63
New Introductory Lectures on Psycho-Analysis, Vol XXII, "*Revision of the Theory of Dreams*," pp 7-30. [PEP Web Link](#)
- 11/3/2016: *Fragment of an Analysis of a Case of Hysteria*, Vol VII, pp 64-122. [PEP Web Link](#)
- 11/20/2016: New Introductory Lectures on Psycho-Analysis, Vol XXII, "*Explanations, Applications, and Orientations*," pp. 136-158. [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning Objectives

Week One: At the conclusion of this session, candidates will be able to explain Freud's developing concepts of female sexuality.

Week Two: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to analyze Freud's understanding of paranoia as related to the case of Schreber.

Week Three: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to describe two models of anxiety and symptom formation in Freud's theory.

Week Four: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to explain Freud's model of symptom formation in the case of the Wolf Man.

Week Five: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to contrast Freud's concepts of sexual development as described in the Wolf Man case with those of Adler's and Jung's.

Week Six: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to discuss revisions in Freud's theory of dreams over the course of his writings.

Week Seven: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to describe Freud's description of hysterical symptom formation.

Week 8: At the conclusion of this session candidates describe two revisions Freud made to the clinical uses of psychoanalysis.