



## **Melanie Klein in Contemporary Psychoanalytic Practice**

November 2018 - January 2019

Instructor: Rita Teusch, Ph.D.

In this eight-week course we will study how ideas and concepts first introduced by Melanie Klein inform psychoanalytic practice today. We will focus each week on a key Kleinian concept and examine its contemporary psychoanalytic significance. We will read some original Klein texts and the works of those who followed her, for example Betty Joseph, Elizabeth Bott Spillius, Judith Mitrani, Ruth Stein, Edna O'Shaughnessy, Priscilla Roth, Catalina Bronstein, Ruth Riesenbergn-Malcolm, Ronald Britton. We will finish up with a session on the work of Wilfred Bion. I have included several of the most recent works of these writers to show how much Melanie Klein's ideas continue to inspire clinicians today. A reference for each Kleinian concept by R.D. Hinshelwood (1991) is included for each session. An additional resource is: "The New Dictionary of Kleinian Thought" (2011) written by Elizabeth Bott-Spillius, Jane Milton, and Penelope Garvey. Cyril Couve, and Deborah Steiner, published by Routledge.

I look forward to a stimulating learning experience together with all of you.

### **Session 1 (November 29, 2018):**

#### **The Importance of Affects in Melanie Klein's Theory**

Learning Objective: At the completion of the session, participants will be able to identify two affects each characteristic of the paranoid-schizoid and depressive positions.

Readings:

Stein, R. (1990). A new look at the theory of Melanie Klein. *Int. J. Psychoanalysis*. 71, 499-511. [PEP Web Link](#)

Frisch, S. & Frisch-Desmarez. (2010). Some thoughts on the concept of the internal parental couple. *IJPA* 91(2), 325-342 [PEP Web Link](#)

Suggested Readings:

Rusbridger, R. (2012). Affects in Melanie Klein. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 93(1), 139-150. [PEP Web Link](#)

Schafer, R. (1994). The contemporary Kleinians of London. *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 63, 409-432. [PEP Web Link](#)

Spillius, E.B. (1983). Some developments from Melanie Klein. *Intern. Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 64, 321-332. [PEP Web Link](#)

Spillius, E.B. (1994). Developments in Kleinian thought: overview and personal view. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 14(3), 324-364. [PEP Web Link](#)

Klein, M. (2017). J. Steiner (Ed.) *Lectures on Technique*. Routledge. [Available on reserve in the library]

## **Session 2. (December 6, 2018):**

### **The Depressive Position**

Learning Objectives: At the completion of the session, participants will be able to describe a central unconscious phantasy in the infantile depressive position.

Reading:

Klein, M. (1940). Mourning and its relation to manic-depressive states. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 21, 125-153. [PEP Web Link](#)

Suggested Readings:

Bronstein, C. (2001). What are internal objects? In *Kleinian Theory - A Contemporary Perspective* (Chapter 8. pp. 108-124). Whurr Publishers. [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org).]

Hinshelwood, R.D. (1991). Symbol formation and internal objects. In *A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought* (444-452 and 68-83). [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org).]

Isaacs, S. (1948). The nature and function of phantasy. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 29, 73-97. [PEP Web Link](#)

Malcolm R.R. Interpretation: the past in the present. In *Melanie Klein Today. Vol. II. Mainly Practice* (73-89). [PEP Web Link](#)

Rockwell, S. (2014). Problems of internalization: a button is a button is not. *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 83(1), 23-47. [PEP Web Link](#)

### **Session 3 (December 13, 2018):**

#### **The Depressive Position continued**

Learning Objectives: At the completion of the session, participants will be able to describe the difference between a “tragic” and “moral” resolution of the depressive position.

#### Readings:

Likierman, M. (1995). Loss of the loved object: tragic and moral motifs in Melanie Klein's concept of the depressive position. *Brit. J. Psychotherapy*, 12(2), 147-159. [PEP Web Link](#)

Mitrani, J. (2007) Some technical implications of Klein's concept of premature ego development. *IJPA*, 88(4), 825-842. [PEP Web Link](#)

#### Suggested Readings:

Klein, M. (1975). A Contribution to the psychogenesis of manic-depressive states. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, 16, 145-174. [PEP Web Link](#)

Hinshelwood, R.D (1991).The depressive position. In *A dictionary of Kleinian thought* (138-155). London: Free Association Books. [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org).]

Hinschelwood, R.D. (2007). The Kleinian theory of therapeutic action. *The Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 76, 1479-1498. [PEP Web Link](#)

### **Session 4 (December 20, 2018):**

#### **The Paranoid-Schizoid Position**

Learning Objectives: At the completion of the session, participants will be able to describe two defenses characteristic of the paranoid-schizoid position.

#### Readings:

Roth, P. (2001). The paranoid schizoid position. In C. Bronstein (Ed.) *Kleinian Theory - A Contemporary Perspective* (Chapter 3, pp. 32-46). Whurr Publishers. [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org).]

Spillius, E. (1993). Varieties of envious experience. *Intern. Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 74, 1199-1212. [PEP Web Link](#)

#### Suggested Readings:

Chiesa, M. (2001). Envy and gratitude. In C. Bronstein (Ed.) *Kleinian Theory - A Contemporary Perspective* (Chapter 7, 93-107). Whurr Publishers. [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org).]

Hinshelwood, R.D. (1991). The paranoid-schizoid position. In *A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought* (156-166). Free Association Books: London. [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org).]

Klein M. (1975). Notes on some schizoid mechanisms. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, 27, 99-110. [PEP Web Link](#)

Klein, Melanie (1946). *Envy and Gratitude and Other Works 1946–1963*. London: The Hogarth Press and the Institute of Psycho-Analysis, p.176-235. [PEP Web Link](#)

### **Session 5 (January 3, 2019):**

#### **Splitting and Projective Identification**

Learning Objectives: At the completion of the session, participants will be able to assess clinical manifestations of splitting and projective identification.

#### Readings:

Feldman, M. (1999). Splitting and projective identification. In E.B. Spillius (Ed.) *Clinical Lectures on Klein and Bion* (Chapter 6). *The New Library of Psychoanalysis*, 14, 74-88. [PEP Web Link](#)

Joseph, B. (1983). On understanding and not understanding - some technical issues. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 64, 291-298. [PEP Web Link](#)

#### Suggested Readings:

Joseph, B. (1985). Transference: the total situation. *IJPA*, 66, 447-454. [PEP Web Link](#)

Hinshelwood, R.D. (1991). Projective identification. In *A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought* (179-208). [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsj.org](mailto:library@bpsj.org).]

Joseph, B. Projective identification - some clinical aspects. In E. Bott-Spillius (Ed.) *Melanie Klein Today, Vol. I. Mainly Theory* (138-150). [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsj.org](mailto:library@bpsj.org).]

Blass, R. (2015). Conceptualizing splitting: on the different meanings of splitting and their implications for the understanding of the person and the analytic process. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis* 96, 123-139. [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsj.org](mailto:library@bpsj.org).]

### **Session 6 (January 10, 2019):**

#### **The Concepts of Death Drive and Ego-Destructive Superego**

Learning Objectives: At the completion of the session, participants will be able to describe two characteristics of an ego-destructive superego.

#### Readings:

O'Shaughnessy, E. Relating to the superego. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, 80(5), 861-870. [PEP Web Link](#)

DeMasi, F. (2015) Is the concept of the death drive still useful in the clinical field? *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 96, 445-458. [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsj.org](mailto:library@bpsj.org).]

#### Suggested Readings:

Bell, D. (2015). The death drive: phenomenological perspectives in contemporary Kleinian theory. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 96, 411-423. [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsj.org](mailto:library@bpsj.org).]

Hinshelwood, R.D (1991). Superego. In *A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought* (94-111). [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsj.org](mailto:library@bpsj.org).]

Klein, M. (1948). On the theory of anxiety and guilt. *The International Psycho-Analytical Library*, 104, 1-346. [PEP Web Link](#)

Segal, H. (1957). Notes on symbol formation. *IJPA*, 38, 391-397. [PEP Web Link](#)

**Session 7 (January 17, 2019):  
Early Stages of the Oedipus Complex**

Learning Objectives: At the completion of this session, participants will be able to identify two early Oedipal phantasies.

Readings:

Boswell, J. (2001). The Oedipus Complex. In Bronstein, C. (Ed.) *Kleinian Theory- a Contemporary Perspective* (Chapter 6, 77-92). Whurr Publishers. [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org).]

Britton, R. (1989). The missing link: parental sexuality in the Oedipus complex. In *The Oedipus Complex Today Clinical Implications* (Chapter 2), 83-101. [PEP Web Link](#)

Suggested Readings:

Klein, M. (1928). Early stages of the Oedipus conflict. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, 9, 167-180 [PEP Web Link](#)

Hinshelwood, R.D. (1991). The Oedipus Complex. In *A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought* (57-67). London: Free Association Books. [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org).]

Feldman, M. (2008). Grievance: the underlying Oedipal configuration. *IJPA*, 89(4), 743-758. [PEP Web Link](#)

O'Shaughnessy, E. (1983). Words and working through. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, 64, 281-289. [PEP Web Link](#)

Steiner, J. (2018) The trauma and disillusionment of Oedipus. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 99(3), 555-568. [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org).]

**Session 8 (January 24, 2019):  
Wilfred R. Bion**

Learning Objectives: At the completion of this session, participants will be able to identify three concepts introduced by Bion.

Readings:

Riesenberg-Malcolm, R. (2001). Bion's theory of containment. In Bronstein, C. (Ed.) *Kleinian Theory - A Contemporary Perspective* (Chapter 12, 165-180). Whurr

Publishers. [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org).]

Bergstein, A. (2015). Attacks on linking or the drive to communicate? tolerating the paradox. *The Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 84(4), 921-942. [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org).]

#### Suggested Readings:

Bion. (1967). Notes on memory and desire. In E. Bott Spillius (Ed.) *Melanie Klein Today. Vol.II* (17-21). [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org).]

Mitrani, J. (2001). Taking the transference: some technical implications in three papers by Bion. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, 82(6), 1085-1104. [PEP Web Link](#)

Hinshelwood, R.D. (1991). Wilfred Bion. In *A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought* (231- 237). [Available in the library: check the reading folder or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org).]

Grotstein, J. S. (1981). Wilfred Bion: the man, the psychoanalyst, the mystic - a perspective on his life and work. *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*, 17, 501-536. [PEP Web Link](#)

Charles, M. (2002). Bion's grid - a tool for transformation. *Journal of the American Academy Psychoanalysis*, 30(3), 429-445. [PEP Web Link](#)