



Transference

ATP III - Spring – 2021

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Transference is a central concept in psychoanalytic psychotherapy and psychoanalysis. This course begins by reviewing the concept of transference from its historical beginnings to its present iterations. We will then explore the usefulness of working in the transference for understanding the past and helping to create therapeutic change in the present. Next, we examine the concept of countertransference and how it can be used as a guide to deepen the work with patients and contribute to therapeutic change as well. We conclude by looking at different types of transferences we encounter in our work with patients such as maternal, paternal, sibling, erotic and negative. Throughout the course we will bring in clinical examples from our own work to illustrate the concepts and enrich our understanding.

“...There is neither such a thing as reality nor a real relationship without transference. Any “real relationship” involves transfer of unconscious images to present day objects. In fact, present day objects are objects, and thus real, in the full sense of the word only to the extent to which this transference...is realized.” Hans Loewald (1960)

Class 1 - Transference

Readings

1. Freud, S. (1912). The dynamics of transference. *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud, volume XII (1911-1913): The case of Schreber, papers on technique and other works* (pp. 97-108). [PEP Web Link](#)
2. Winnicott, D. W. (1969). The use of an object. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis, 50*, 711-716. [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning Objective

1. At the conclusion of this class students will be able to describe the dynamics of transference as delineated by Freud.

Class 2 - Transference

Readings

1. Freud, S. (1914). Remembering, repeating and working-through (Further recommendations on the technique of psycho-analysis II). *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud, volume XII (1911-1913): The case of Schreber, papers on technique and other works* (pp. 145-156). [PEP Web Link](#)
2. Gill, M. M. (1979). The analysis of the transference. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association, 27S* (Supplement), 263-288. [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning Objective

1. At the conclusion of this class students will be able to articulate Freud's ideas about the compulsion to repeat and its relationship to the transference.

Class 3 - Countertransference

Readings

1. Gabbard, G. O. (1995). Countertransference: The emerging common ground. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis, 76*, 475-485. [PEP Web Link](#)
2. Loewald, H. W. (1986). Transference-countertransference. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association, 34*, 275-287. [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning Objective

1. At the conclusion of this class students will be able to compare initial views of countertransference as a clinical hindrance to the contemporary view of it as a useful aid in understanding the patient and the clinical work.

Class 4 - Countertransference

Readings

1. Gubb, K. (2014). Craving interpretation: A case of somatic countertransference. *British Journal of Psychotherapy, 30*(1), 51-67. [PEP Web Link](#)
2. Hamer, F. M. (2006). Racism as a transference state: Episodes of racial hostility in the psychoanalytic context. *The Psychoanalytic Quarterly, 75*(1), 197-214. [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning Objective

1. At the conclusion of this class students will be able to discuss the clinical importance of the analyst's self-state awareness and its capacity to limit or promote the patient's psychic growth.

Class 5 - Selfobject Transference

Readings

1. Ornstein, A. (1990). Chapter 5 selfobject transferences and the process of working through. *Progress in Self Psychology, 6*, 41-58. [PEP Web Link](#)

2. Kohut, H. (1987). Building psychic structure that regulates self-esteem and The admiring selfobject and the idealized selfobject. In *The Kohut seminars* (pp. 61-94). [Download from the [Reading folder](#) or request from library@bps.org].

Learning Objective

1. At the conclusion of the session the student will be able to describe selfobject transferences as well as different ways of working with them.

Class 6 - Maternal Transference

Readings

1. Wrye, H. K., & Welles, J. K. (1989). The maternal erotic transference. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, 70, 673-684. [PEP Web Link](#)

2. Kafka, H. (2008). The man who could not cry and the psychoanalyst who could: Mutual healing in the maternal transference/countertransference. *American Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 68(2), 156-168. [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning Objective

1. At the end of the session the students will be able to describe the nature of the maternal transference and its necessity in facilitating structural change.

Class 7 - Paternal Transference

Readings

1. Davies, N., & Eagle, G. (2013). Conceptualizing the paternal function: Maleness, masculinity, or thirdness? *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*, 49(4), 559-585. [PEP Web Link](#)

2. Diamond, D. (1993). The paternal transference: A bridge to the erotic Oedipal transference. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 13(2), 206-225. [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning Objective

1. At the end of the session the students will be able to describe a paternal transference and how to work with it to forward the therapeutic work with patients.

Class 8 - Sibling Transference

Readings

1. Lesser, R. M. (1978). Sibling transference and countertransference. *Journal of the American Academy of Psychoanalysis*, 6(1), 37-49. [PEP Web Link](#)

2. Vivona, J. M. (2010). Siblings, transference, and the lateral dimension of psychic life. *Psychoanalytic Psychology*, 27(1), 8-26. [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning Objective

1. Students will be able to discuss the lateral dimension and its sibling centered processes and relate it to identity development and transference.

Class 9 - Erotic Transference

Readings

1. Freud, S. (1915). Observations on transference-love (Further recommendations on the technique of psycho-analysis III). *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud, volume XII (1911-1913): The case of Schreber, papers on technique and other works* (pp. 157-171). [PEP Web Link](#)
2. Bolognini, S. (2011). The analyst's awkward gift: Balancing recognition of sexuality with parental protectiveness (G. Atkinson, Trans.). *The Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 80(1), 33-54. [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning Objective

1. At the conclusion of this session student will be able to describe an erotic transference and discuss how to effectively work with it within the confines of the therapeutic dyad.

Class 10 - Negative Transference

Readings

1. Winnicott, D. W. (1949). Hate in the counter-transference. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, 30, 69-74. [PEP Web Link](#)
2. Gabbard, G. O. (1991). Technical approaches to transference hate in the analysis of borderline patients. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, 72, 625-636. [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning Objective

1. Students will be able to apply technical strategies in working through the patient's negative transference.