

Rapaport-Klein Study Group

www.psychomedia.it/rapaport-klein

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February 2023

Dear *Rapaport-Klein Study Group* Members,

We are pleased to invite you to the 61st Annual Meeting of the *Rapaport-Klein Study Group*, which will be held on **June 9-11, 2023**. This June, after three years of on-line meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we finally have the opportunity to meet in person. With that said, the option of attending via Zoom will also be available for those who are unable to come to Stockbridge. There is also a big change, this year. After many years of gathering at the Lippmann's home for our Saturday evening cocktail party, sadly this year we need to find a new venue. Gratefully, *Austen Riggs* has offered to host us at Prospect House (3 Prospect Hill Road), a venue we formally used in the 1990s.

As you will see, we have put together an excellent program based on recommendations made by several of our members. Below is a list of speakers, including a description of their presentations and biographical statements.

Friday night, June 9, 2023

8:00-10:00 pm:

Peter Coleman, "The Way Out: How to Overcome Toxic Polarization" [this presentation will be introduced by Ellen Rees]

The partisan divide in the United States has widened to a chasm. Legislators vote on party lines and rarely cross the aisle. Political polarization is personal too—and it is making us miserable. Surveys show that Americans have become more fearful and hateful of supporters of the opposing political party and imagine that they hold much more extreme views than they actually do. We have cordoned ourselves off: we prefer to date and marry those with similar opinions and are less willing to spend time with people on the other side. How can we loosen the grip of this toxic polarization and start working on our most pressing problems? The book *The Way Out: How to Overcome Toxic Polarization* offers an escape from this morass. Conflict resolution and complexity science are explored in order to provide guidance for dealing with seemingly intractable political differences. Deploying the concept of attractors in dynamical systems, it is explained why we are stuck in this rut as well as the unexpected ways that deeply entrenched oppositions can and do change. Principles and practices for navigating and healing the difficult divides in our homes, workplaces, and communities are meticulously analyzed, blending compelling personal accounts from years of working on entrenched conflicts with lessons from leading-edge research. We need a guide to breaking free from the cycle of mutual contempt in order to better our lives, relationships, and country.

Peter T. Coleman, Ph.D., is Professor of Psychology and Education at Columbia University and a renowned expert on constructive conflict resolution, addressing intractable conflict and sustaining peace. Dr. Coleman has authored well over 100 scientific articles and chapters, is the recipient of various awards, and his work has been featured in media outlets such as The New York Times, The Guardian, Nature, Scientific American, PBS Newshour, and Harvard Business Review. Among other books, he is

the author of The Five Percent: Finding Solutions to Seemingly Impossible Conflicts (New York: PublicAffairs, 2011), Making Conflict Work: Navigating Disagreement Up and Down Your Organization (Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014) and The Way Out: How to Overcome Toxic Polarization (New York: Columbia University Press, 2021, www.thewayoutofpolarization.com).

Saturday, June 10, 2023

9.00-10:15 am: Informal go-around and introduction of guests

Saturday morning will open with our traditional informal go-around to discuss members' current work and introduce guests. This will be followed by our two Saturday speakers.

10:30 am-1:00 pm:

Michael Lewis, “The Emergence of Consciousness and the Development of Shame and Pride” [on-line] [this presentation will be introduced by Morris Eagle] [

Following Charles Darwin, the argument is made that innate action patterns, something we call early emotions, are evolutionary adaptive responses to environmental events. These early innate action patterns, such as surprise, anger, fear, sadness, and joy, give rise to consciousness, here defined in 3 ways: recognition of self in the mirror; personal pronouns, such as me and mine; and symbolic play. These give rise to species-specific human self-conscious emotions, or what have been called moral emotions, social emotions, or self-conscious emotions. Utilizing experimental procedures, a theory of development suggests that the onset of shame, guilt, and pride takes place in the 2nd-3rd year of life and requires both biological changes as well as cultural and familial values. These self-conscious emotions will be discussed in terms of individual differences as well as the consequences of pathological social experiences.

Michael Lewis, Ph.D., is University Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry, and Director of the Institute for the Study of Child Development at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. He has written and edited over 65 books, including Social Cognition and the Acquisition of Self (New York: Plenum, 1979), Children's Emotions and Moods (Berlin: Springer, 1983), Shame, The Exposed Self (New York: Free Press, 1992), and Altering Fate: Why The Past Does Not Predict The Future (New York: Guilford, 1997), which was finalist for the 1998 Eleanor Maccoby Book Award. His most recent book, The Rise of Consciousness and the Development of Emotional Life (New York: Guilford, 2014) won the William James Book Award from the American Psychological Association. In addition, he has published over 540 articles and chapters in professional journals and scholarly texts. Among his honors, Dr. Lewis received the 2009 Urie Bronfenbrenner Award for Lifetime Contribution to Developmental Psychology in the Service of Science and Society from the American Psychological Association, as well as the 2012 Hedi Levenback Pioneer Award from The New York Zero-to-Three Network for his pioneering research in child development. The Society for Research in Child Development awarded him the 2013 Distinguished Scientific Contributions to Child Development Award, in recognition of Professor Lewis's lifetime contribution to the scientific body of knowledge and understanding of children's development. In 2016, Dr. Lewis was elected a Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences (FABBS) honoree for his contributions to behavior and brain sciences. More recently, in 2018 the International Congress of Infant Studies (ICIS) awarded Dr. Lewis an inaugural Distinguished Contribution Award, in 2019 he received a Rutgers University Board of Trustees Award for Excellence in Research, and most recently he was awarded the 2022 Rutgers RBHS Chancellor Lifetime Distinguished Achievement Award.

Saturday, June 10, 2023

2:30-5:00 pm:

Everett Waters, “Cross-Cultural Criticisms of Attachment and the Benefits of Charitable Interpretation” [this presentation will be introduced by Doris Silverman]

Critics have often characterized attachment theorists as uncompromising and uncomprehending. Yet, we have much to gain from listening patiently to thoughtful criticism. Here we outline what philosophers and others know as the “Principle of Charitable Interpretation” and suggest taking this approach to recent criticisms from cross-cultural psychologists and anthropologists. We identify 154 critical statements from recent books and articles and classify them into 11 categories. Having multiple exemplars for each of these categories helps fully appreciate their meaning and significance. We then illustrate four steps to applying the Principle of Charitable Interpretation to cross-cultural criticisms and show how this can help clarify and correct attachment theory and, most importantly, facilitate new lines of thinking. Our analysis raises several broader issues, e.g., “Why do developmentalists find attachment so special?”, “Is universality central to attachment theory?”. Finally, we emphasize that attachment theory, as well as its critics, deserves a charitable reading.

Everett Waters, Ph.D., began his career in psychology in the late 1960s as an undergraduate research assistant to Mary Ainsworth at Johns Hopkins University (just luck). His first assignment was helping Mary Main and Inge Bretherton with their dissertation projects (more luck). He then earned his Ph.D. in 1977 from the University of Minnesota’s Institute of Child Development (ICD), where he worked with Alan Sroufe (yet more luck). Each of these associations resulted in career long friendships and collaborations. After a brief stint at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Everett and his wife Harriet moved to the State University of New York at Stony Brook so their children could grow up with their maternal grandparents and speak Greek (lucky decision). He retired from Stony Brook in 2020 (due to health problems, now resolved. So, bad luck turned to good luck). Everett is a co-author (together with Mary C. Blehar and Sally Wall) of Mary Ainsworth’s book, Patterns of Attachment: A Psychological Study of the Strange Situation (Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum, 1978). He and Alan Sroufe co-authored an influential article entitled “Attachment as an organizational construct” (Child Development, 1977, 48, 4: 1184-1199). His early work demonstrating the stability of individual differences in attachment classifications helped defend attachment study from early critics of the individual differences tradition. He is well known for his work on attachment assessment. His most recent research has to do with script-like representations of early attachment and secure-base experiences. In 2000 Everett co-founded the New York Attachment Consortium and the Bowlby-Ainsworth Award program. He has co-edited two influential SRCD Monographs, two collections of papers honoring Mary Ainsworth, and the books Attachment from Infancy to Adulthood: The Major Longitudinal Studies with Klaus and Karin Grossmann (New York: Guilford, 2005), and Measuring Attachment: Developmental Assessment Across the Lifespan, with Brian Vaughn and Harriet Waters (New York: Guilford, 2021). He is currently working with Morris Eagle to address cross-cultural criticisms of attachment, and is well along on an essay, “Rereading John Bowlby’s Attachment: 50 years later”.

Sunday, June 11, 2023

9:00-10:00 am: Members' Business Meeting

10:00 am-12:30 pm:

Jessica Benjamin, "More than One Can Live: Reconceiving Harm and Reparation in the Intersubjective World" [this presentation will be introduced by Jim Fosshage]

The lecture will juxtapose the intrapsychic idea of reparation, based on understanding the unconscious anxieties of harming the love object, with the intersubjective ideas of repairing rupture and restoring recognition. That is, it aims to use and also reformulate the Kleinian idea of reparation of the internal object. Researchers have noted a process beginning in infancy of rupture and repair, generating the experience of a lawful world of secure attachment. I call this the moral Third. In the absence of intersubjective repair, the child may interpret her needs especially for acknowledgment and soothing as destructive (destabilizing) to the needed other. The enactments in the analytic relationship often repeat this constellation and these are governed by mutual fear of harming. Fear of harming and being injured drives the doer-done to complementarity involving both partners. Acknowledgments of fears and injury arising in enactment are therapeutically essential and strengthen the moral Third. I also consider the social implications of this process, of acknowledgment and reparation regarding collective harming.

Jessica Benjamin, Ph.D., is best known as the author of The Bonds of Love: Psychoanalysis, Feminism, and the Problem of Domination (New York: Pantheon, 1988), which is translated into many languages, and of the well-known article, "Beyond doer and done to: An intersubjective view of thirdness" (Psychoanalytic Quarterly, 2004, 73, 1: 5-46), the basis for her book Beyond Doer and done To: Recognition Theory, Intersubjectivity and the Third (New York: Routledge, 2018). In addition, she is the author of Like Subjects, Love Objects: Essays on Recognition and Sexual (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1995); and Shadow of the Other: Intersubjectivity and Gender in Psychoanalysis (New York: Routledge, 1998). She is a supervisor and faculty member of the New York University Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis and the Stephen Mitchell Relational Studies Center where she is a founder and board member. In addition to her private practice in New York City she lectures, teaches and supervises at numerous institutes throughout the United States, and throughout the world. In 2019 she was the Master Clinician in Residence at the New Center for Psychoanalysis in Los Angeles. In 2015 she was awarded the Hans-Kilian-Prize at the Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany, the largest European award for work that joins psychoanalysis with the humanities. From 2004-2010 she initiated and directed "The Acknowledgement Project" involving Israeli and Palestinian mental health practitioners and international dialogue leaders.

Website, Guests, and Dues

Our website remains <www.psychomedia.it/rapaport-klein> to review the history of every meeting since the beginning of our group including many of the papers presented (this year program's web page is <www.psychomedia.it/rapaport-klein/june2023.htm>). If there are any changes in your e-mail address, please notify Paolo at <migone@unipr.it>. We will post on our web site the documents that speakers would like to pre-circulate. We will post also the video and audio recordings of all sessions. Any suggestions for improving our website are welcome and should be directed to Paolo.

In the near future, Craig will be emailing dues statements. Given the return of the in-person conference, dues for this year return to \$150 for members, and \$50 per guest. Kindly let Craig know if you plan to bring a guest.

We look forward to seeing you once again and enjoying the weekend together.

Warm regards,

Paolo Migone and Craig Piers, *Co-Chairs*