The Pandemic as an Après-Coup: Helplessness and Uncertainty

This presentation will focus on the work of Loewald to conceptualize our reaction to the contemporary pandemic as an après-coup, a traumatic recreation of conditions of early helplessness. Loewald, who was an important influence on the relational perspective, especially the work of Mitchell, Bromberg, and Ghent, viewed the emergence of the self in the context of self and other. He considered the beginning of life as a time of primal density and meaning, aspects of which are reexperienced in response to current life events.

2 CE Credits for Psychoanalysts, Psychologists, and Social Workers

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2022 • 9:30 - 11:30 AM (Eastern), via Zoom

PRACTITIONERS AND GENERAL PUBLIC: $40 | STUDENTS: FREE

Adrienne Harris, PhD, is an instructor and supervisor at the New York University Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis and the Psychoanalytic Institute of Northern California. In 2009, she, Lewis Aron, and Jeremy Safran founded the Sandor Ferenczi Center at New School University. With Aron, Eyal Rozmarin, and Steven Kuchuck, she co-edited the book series Relational Perspectives in Psychoanalysis. She is an editor of Psychoanalytic Dialogues and Studies in Gender and Sexuality, and was an editor of the IPA ejournal, Psychoanalysis.today.

CONTINUING EDUCATION INFORMATION

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Participants will be able to (1) explain how the contemporary crisis in safety and continuity evokes an après-coup, a critical trauma at the origins of development, and (2) identify the demands of clinical work in the pandemic with various diagnostic groups.

Psychoanalysts: The Center for Modern Psychoanalytic Studies is recognized by the New York State Education Department’s State Board for Mental Health Practitioners as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed psychoanalysts (#P-0032).

Psychologists: The Center for Modern Psychoanalytic Studies is recognized by the New York State Education Department’s State Board for Psychology as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed psychologists (#PSY-0163).

Social Workers: The Center for Modern Psychoanalytic Studies is recognized by the New York State Education Department’s State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers #SW-0206.