The American Institute for Psychoanalysis
Of the Karen Horney Psychoanalytic Center

SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS PROGRAM
2004 - 2005

The Traumatizing Impact of Culture
Date: Thursday, October 21, 2004 8:00 P.M.

Presenters:
Etty Cohen, Ph.D., is a Training and Supervising Analyst at The American Institute for Psychoanalysis and an Adjunct Professor at NYU Ehrenkranz School of Social Work. She is the author of Playing Hard at Life: A Relational Approach to Treating Multiply Traumatized Adolescents (The Analytic Press, 2003), for which she received the 2003 Author’s Recognition Award from the Post Graduate Center for Mental Health. Her conference presentations, edited special issues, and award-winning papers on psychoanalysis and clinical social work address such topics as: Sándor Ferenczi’s theory and his therapeutic techniques, aspects of violence, trauma, terrorism, war, group therapy, and adolescence. Dr. Cohen is also Associate Editor of the Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy Journal and is on the editorial board of The American Journal of Psychoanalysis. She is a former major in the Israeli Defense Forces and she is in private practice in NYC.

Giselle Galdi, Ph.D., is the Editor of The American Journal of Psychoanalysis. She is Director of Academic Affairs and a Training and Supervising Analyst at The American Institute for Psychoanalysis. In addition, she is a member of the Sándor Ferenczi Society, Budapest, Hungary and a member of the Core Organizing Committee of International Ferenczi Conferences.

Discussant: Robert Prince, Ph.D., ABPP, is Faculty of the NYU Post-Doctoral Program. He is the author of The Legacy of the Holocaust and The Death of Psychoanalysis, and many articles on trauma.

All of human knowledge, beliefs, language, institutions, art, and techniques are part of the idea of culture, an all encompassing and ever-present concept. It will play, inevitably, a major role in analytic work. In this panel, two authors, from Israel and from Hungary, describe their unique perspectives on being part of a new culture: American Society. Their different cultural backgrounds afford them a
special vantage point of bearing witness to cultural processes that can become especially pronounced within their analytic dyads.

Dr. Etty Cohen's paper describes that therapists' cultural biases are powerful in fostering countertransference - thus promoting traumatic reenactments - akin to those more directly observed in encounters with traumatized patients, whose worlds differ so markedly from their analysts' in so many ways. Exploring cultural differences can be a key to grasping more fully a patient's experience and undoing dissociation.

Dr. Giselle Galdi's paper approaches the issue from the Horneyan culturalist perspective. She describes that, during traumatizing times - such as the recent Iraq conflict - identifications with our respective conflicted cultures are intensified, and create blockages in the therapeutic process. Understanding the underlying cultural dynamics is the key to working with these blockages.

Dr. Robert Prince will discuss the above papers, bringing his expertise in trauma and cultural issues to the topic.

**Discovering Child Abuse**
**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 2004 8:00 P.M.
**Presenter:** Elisabeth Young-Bruehl, Ph.D., is on the faculty of the Columbia Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research and has a private practice in Manhattan. She is the author of (among other works) Anna Freud: A Biography, Creative Characters, The Anatomy of Prejudices, Subject To Biography, Cherishment, and Where Do We Fall When We Fall In Love?

This lecture (illustrated with slides) will present the history of how the field of "child abuse and neglect" (CAN) was constructed after the 1962 publication of Kempe et al's article "The Battered Child Syndrome." After forty years of research, the field now has four subfields defined in terms of the means used to maltreat children — physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse. The lecture will question whether this classification is any more illuminating than a catalogue of types of weapons would be to understanding war. Is there a way to frame study of the heterogeneous phenomenon of child maltreatment psychoanalytically? Dr. Young-Bruehl will use case material to raise this question.

**Psychoanalytic Reconstruction and Reintegration**
**Date:** Thursday, March 17, 2005 8:00 P.M.
Psychoanalytic reconstruction has declined in theoretical and clinical interest as greater attention has been directed to the here and now of the transference - countertransference field and intersubjectivity. Transference, however, is based upon childhood fantasy, and is a new edition of unconscious intra-psychic representation and relationships. In this paper transference is viewed as a guide to reconstruction, but transference itself is also an object of reconstruction. Reconstruction is a complementary agent of change, which integrates genetic interpretations and restores the continuity of the self. The patient's childish traits, features, fixations, and irrational childish fantasies and
behavior point to the necessity for reconstruction. Reconstruction organizes dissociated, fragmented memories, potentiating the further retrieval of repressed memories. Reconstruction is essential to the working through and attenuation of early traumatic experience. Recapturing of the past is necessary to demonstrate and diminish the persistent influence of the past in the present, and to meaningfully connect past and present. A case is presented in which reconstruction had a central, vital role in the analytic process.

**Masculinity in the 21st Century: Another Dark Continent?**

**Date:** Thursday, April 28, 2005 8:00 P.M.

**Presenter:** Janice S. Lieberman, Ph.D. is a Training and Supervising Analyst at the Institute for Training and Research (IPTAR) in New York, where she is a member of the Faculty and chairs the committee on Scholarships and Awards. She is also a member of the Psychoanalytic Association of New York (PANY); the American Psychoanalytic Association, where she is on the Editorial Boards of JAPA and TAP and the Committee for Government Relations and Insurance (CGRI); and the IPA, where she is on the North American New Groups Committee. She is the author of *Body Talk: Looking and Being Looked at in Psychotherapy* (Jason Aronson, 2000) and co-author of *The Many Faces of Deceit: Omissions, Lies and Disguise in Psychotherapy* (Jason Aronson, 1996). She has published numerous articles and book reviews in JAPA, IJP, Psychoanalytic Review, TAP, Psychoanalytic Books, etc. and is a regular presenter at IPA Congresses, meetings of the American Psychoanalytic Association (where she leads a Discussion Group on The Role of Visual Interaction Between Patient and Analyst), Division 39, international training analyst conferences, and various institute scientific meetings. She has been an editorial reader for JAPA, IJP and Psychoanalytic Psychology for several years. She is currently a Contributing Book Review Editor of the PANY Newsletter. Among her special interests are gender issues and body image, modifications of classical technique for certain types of patients, and the relationship between psychoanalysis and art. She writes about and lectures on the latter subject at the Whitney Museum of American Art.

**Discussant:** Arthur A. Lynch, DSW is a Training and Supervising Analyst, faculty member, and an officer of the Board of Directors of the American Institute for Psychoanalysis, as well as an Adjunct Associate Professor at Columbia University School of Social Work. He has co-authored articles on comparative psychoanalysis including “Metron Gill – A View of His Place in the Freudian Firmament” and
“From Ego Psychology to Contemporary Conflict Theory: A Historical Overview.”

In 2005 the concept of “masculinity” is broad-ranged, on a continuum and difficult to define. In the past thirty years, “femininity” has been analyzed and dissected and has been the main subject of gender studies. The highly complex process of “becoming a man,” having a male body in all its vicissitudes, and in particular, the construction of a male’s sense of his masculinity, has not yet been fully elaborated in the context of the vast socio-cultural changes in gender roles and gender relations that the feminist movement has made possible. Three cases of contemporary “masculine” men will be discussed as illustration.

A reception follows each meeting and all are welcome!

Scientific Meetings Committee
Donna Lieberman, Psy.D. Chairperson