



Contextual Therapy in different fields

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How to introduce CT to culturally and professionally diverse students and clinicians at the interface of mental and physical health: teaching the teachers.

Directly mentored by Ivan Boszormenyi-Nagy in the 1990s, the presenter experienced first-hand the power of CT beyond techniques and structural family analysis. Upon her return from the USA, the presenter began to develop the first model of teaching the universal applicability of the wisdom of CT to Israeli multicultural and multi-ethnic students and clinicians from diverse healthcare professions. She has continued to offer this course in many different academic and clinical settings.

This presentation will demonstrate a model of teaching the principles of communicating the power of CT to practitioners and students of occupational, physical, speech, art, and music therapy, special education, nurses, physicians and psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers used to deal with the individual identified patient only, usually experiencing the patient's family as a mere disturbance or a problem to the envisioned patient rehabilitation process.

The presenter will show how through the specifically tailored process of the course, the participants will understand theoretically and through personal experience the power of the hidden forces as well as the dynamics of relational ethics in **every** family system.

The didactic and experiential ways of communicating the existential tenets of CT immediately connect the multiethnic and multicultural participants in each course not only with their own family of origins as well as their patients', but also with each other. They discover the communality of family experiences and principles of behavior, and begin to inquire about differences with curiosity and without judgment, prejudice or stereotype— a small miracle in a diverse and often hostile society.

This workshop will demonstrate the model of teaching offered by this presenter, combining persistent theoretical focus with actual application of each CT concept to their patients' families as well as their own. The skilled orchestration of this complex parallel process profoundly changes the students' view of **all** families, their patients' and their own, from blame and impatience to multi-partiality and a deep understanding, appreciation and respect of the universal forces that influence every relationship.

Participants of this workshop will receive concrete suggestions how to teach the universal offerings of CT to culturally, ethnically and professionally diverse groups to promote more efficient intervention with equally diverse individual patient and their families.