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Center for Family Consultation
1167 Wilmette Avenue, Suite 201
Wilmette IL 60091

The 27th Midwest Symposium on Family Systems Theory and Therapy

THE FAMILY EMOTIONAL SYSTEM:

*Its Influence on Behavior, Relationships,
and Symptom Development*

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

DAVID CREWS, Ph.D.

Professor of Integrative Biology and Psychology
at the University of Texas in Austin

"Epigenetic Modifications and the Development of Behavior."

MICHAEL E. KERR, M.D.

Director of the Georgetown Family Center
Washington D.C.

*"Interrelationship between Homosexuality
and Family Emotional Process"*

*Friday and Saturday, May 7 & 8, 2010
The Lakeview Center
on the shores of Lake Michigan in Wilmette*

Co-Sponsored by:

Center for Family Consultation
The Family Service Center

THE FAMILY EMOTIONAL SYSTEM:

Its Influence on Behavior, Relationships, and Symptom Development

Friday, May 7

9:00 am – 12:00 noon

“Interrelationship between Homosexuality and Family Emotional Process”
with

Michael E. Kerr, M.D.

It is possible that a specific cause for homosexuality will never be discovered, just like a specific cause for a successful politician or businessman will never be discovered. What does seem clear, however, is that it is difficult to determine where homosexuality ends--or heterosexuality, for that matter--and undifferentiation begins. The emotional process that plays out in homosexual couples is identical to the emotional process that plays out in heterosexual couples. It is typically difficult to determine how much of a person's actions and decisions in relationship to others are governed by anxiety and undifferentiation and how much by sexual orientation. The first part of this presentation will elaborate on these ideas and illustrate them by describing clinical examples and the second part will focus on the variable of chronic anxiety in Bowen theory.

Michael E. Kerr, M.D. is Director of the Bowen Center for Study of the Family, Georgetown Family Center in Washington, D.C. He is the author of *Family Evaluation* and Editor of *Family Systems: A Journal of Natural Systems Thinking in Psychiatry and the Sciences*. His primary research interests have been the relationship of Bowen Theory to evolutionary theory, the relationship of physical, emotional and social symptoms to family emotional process, and the process of differentiation in clinical work.

Saturday, May 8

9:00 am – 12:00 noon

“Epigenetic Modifications and the Development of Behavior”
with

David Crews, Ph.D.

An understanding of behavior and what contributes to the uniqueness of each person necessarily includes many factors and often leads to a discussion of the role of genes and the impact of the environment. What is biological, what is psychological, and what is cultural? More recently it has become clearer that they are not only all at play, but that they interact in a reciprocally influential manner. In this presentation Dr. Crews will demonstrate not only how each stage of development influences succeeding stages, but how the principal living unit in which development occurs, whether it be the family for humans or the litter for other species, can profoundly influence the biology and behavior of individuals throughout their lifespan. He will discuss how interactions in the living unit during development can lead to something as fundamental as changes in neural systems underlying mating and sexual behavior.

David Crews, Ph.D. is Ashbel Smith Professor of Integrative Biology and Psychology at the University of Texas in Austin. Dr. Crews has written over 250 research articles, book chapters, and essays in the areas of reproductive biology, neuroscience and endocrinology. His primary research interest in reproductive biology has included the evolution and adaptation of the hormonal and brain mechanisms involved in mating behavior, how an individual's gonadal sex is determined and how maleness and femaleness then differentiate.

DATES

Friday and Saturday
May 7 and 8, 2010
8:30 AM Registration
9 AM-4:30 PM Friday
9 AM-4 PM Saturday

LOCATION

Enjoy Spring on the Lake!
Wilmette's Lakeview Center is a retreat-like setting in beautiful Gillson Park and overlooking Lake Michigan.
Lunch will be served at the Center allowing time for a stroll on the beach or through the park.
email: corifsc@rcn.com for a map and directions to the Center

Brief Presentations

FRIDAY, MAY 7

Emotional Systems in Nature and the Family - Victoria Harrison, MA
The Regulation of Behavior in the Family Emotional System - Robert J. Noone, Ph.D.
Describing the Emotional Field - Daniel V. Papero, Ph.D.

Some Thoughts on a Beginning Theory about Society as an Emotional System -
Patricia A. Comella, JD

The Great Recession: Societal Emotional Process - Carol Moran, MSW
Territoriality and the Spirit of Place: The Continuum of Objectivity and Subjectivity -
Peter Titelman, Ph.D.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

The Father's Place in the Primary Triangle - Philip Klever, MSW
The Birds, the Bees, and the Emotional System - Stephanie Ferrera, MSW
Sibling Relationships: The Illumination of Triangles - Margaret Donley, MSW

The Loosely Connected Variables of Living Systems - James E. Jones, Ph.D.
Knowing Bowen Theory - James B. Smith, MS
Applications of Bowen Theory to Everyday Life - Selden D. Illick, MSW

CEU'S

12 credit hours will be offered for the 2 days.
Approved for social worker, marriage and family therapist
and professional counselor education credits.

Registration: (deadline April 30, 2010)

Both days: \$225
 \$195 organizational rate per person (3 or more)
Friday only: \$150 Saturday only \$150
 \$135 organizational rate

Fee includes CEUs and lunch

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Will attend: Both days Friday only Saturday only

For further information call: 847-251-7350

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