



Third Biennial Conference

*Tragedy and Triumph: A Multicultural
Perspective on Trauma and Resiliency*

Hosted by the
Multicultural Research and Training Lab
Graduate School of Education and Psychology
Pepperdine University

Sponsored, in part, by the
California School of Professional Psychology
Alliant International University

Saturday, October 16, 2010

Program

Unless otherwise specified, all activities are in Room 203

8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Registration and Continental Breakfast Served

9:00 a.m.

***Welcome and Introduction of Keynote Speaker: Stephanie Young, Psy.D. Student
Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology***

9:10 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Keynote Speaker: Gail Wyatt, Ph.D.

“The Risks of Romance: What Couples Bring to Relationships that Can Hurt You”

10:00 a.m. to 10:10 a.m.

Break

10:10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Session I Presentations

(See Schedule of Sessions for Room)

11:30 a.m. to 11:40 a.m.

Break

11:40 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Session II Presentations

(See Schedule of Sessions for Room)

1:00 p.m.

Buffet Lunch

1:30 p.m.

Closing: Sara Mehrabani, Psy.D. Student

Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology

Schedule of Sessions

Session I: 10:10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Session I-A: *Trauma and Women of Color* ROOM 203

Presenter: Shaquita Tillman (shaquita.tillman@pepperdine.edu)
Affiliation: Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology
Presentation title: *Influence of Social Support and Intimate Partner Abuse on African American Mothers' Substance Use*
Abstract: African American women and expectant mothers are at increased risk of experiencing severe forms of partner abuse. A growing body of literature has documented the association between partner abuse and substance use. In the current investigation, secondary analyses of the Fragile Families dataset were conducted to examine the relationship between partner abuse and prenatal substance use and the potential of social support, a culturally relevant coping strategy, to serve as a buffer against substance use among African American mothers.

Presenters: Lauren Glamb (lauren.glamb@pepperdine.edu)
Michele Archambeault (michele.archambeault@pepperdine.edu)
Affiliation: Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology
Presentation title: *Disclosure, Coping, and Conceptualization of Abuse among Latina and African American Women with a History of Childhood Sexual Abuse*
Abstract: A review of existing research will be provided on the relationship of ethnicity/race to the disclosure patterns, conceptualization, and coping strategies for women of color with childhood sexual abuse (CSA) histories. Also presented is an overview of two investigations focusing on these themes for African American women and Latinas who have experienced CSA. Findings from the two studies are discussed, focusing on culturally congruent treatment recommendations for these populations.

Session I-B: *Histories of Trauma: Stories of Strength* ROOM 334

Presenters: Ani A. Pezeshkian (ani.pezeshkian@pepperdine.edu)
Affiliation: Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology
Presentation title: *Giving Voice to Strengths: The Stories of Armenian Immigrants and Refugees*
Abstract: In recent decades, the primary theoretical approach in immigrant and refugee mental health research has been a trauma-centered, medical model. In keeping with the field's current shift towards examining the optimal conditions and characteristics that promote well-being in people and communities, this endeavor aims to give voice to the strengths and virtues that Armenian immigrants and refugees possess, which enable them to thrive in the face of adversity.

Presenter: Francesca Parker (francesca.parker@pepperdine.edu)
Affiliation: Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology
Presentation title: *Using Traditional Practices to Heal Historical Trauma in Native American Populations*
Abstract: Native Americans have the highest risk for mental health problems and suicide of any ethnic group in the United States, yet are less likely to receive treatment. This presentation will explore the concept of historical trauma, which refers to the inter-generational impact of cultural genocide, and the impact of integrating traditional healing practices into mental health treatment for Native American clients.

Session II: 11:40 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Session II-A: *An Experience of Cultural Trauma* ROOM 203

Presenter: Clandis Payne (cpayne@antioch.edu)
Affiliation: Antioch University Santa Barbara
Presentation title: *Birdsong's Freedom: An Experience of Cultural Trauma*
Abstract: "Maafa" (the African Holocaust) means disaster, terrible occurrence, or great tragedy, and it is the focus of a dramatization depicting the historical impact of Cultural Trauma (Eyerman, 2001) as suffered by African Americans. The theatrical piece provides a context from which to launch difficult conversations regarding cultural diversity.

Session II-B: *A Multicultural Perspective of Posttraumatic Growth* ROOM 334

Presenter: Renee Sloane (renee.sloane@pepperdine.edu)
Affiliation: Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology
Presentation title: *Examining Posttraumatic Growth Theory, Assessment, and Counseling Strategies from a Multicultural Lens*
Abstract: Posttraumatic growth (PTG) describes the experience of positive changes following one's struggle with trauma. This presentation will examine how culture is accounted for in PTG models, and critique how it is assessed with multicultural populations. The multicultural applicability of recommended counseling strategies for facilitating PTG in psychotherapy will also be examined.

Presenter: Ani Khatchadourian (annie.khatchadourian@pepperdine.edu)
Affiliation: Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology
Presentation title: *Addressing Autonomy When Working to Promote Posttraumatic Growth with Culturally Diverse Psychotherapy Clients*
Abstract: Research on autonomy as it applies to posttraumatic growth, particularly in ethnically diverse psychotherapy clients, is limited. This presentation reviews the literature on autonomy and posttraumatic growth and shares a proposed qualitative methodology to examine ways that trainee therapists address autonomy when working to facilitate growth for culturally diverse clients.

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