



April 22, 2016 - Harrisonburg at EMU - call 540-432-4243 to register.

Reactive Attachment Disorders and Disturbances of Attachment: History, Treatment and Ethics

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On April 22, 2016 Professor Bob Marvin, internationally recognized attachment researcher, clinical psychologist, and developer of The Circle of Security® Intervention, will conduct a two-part workshop on Reactive Attachment Disorders and Disturbances of Attachment. In the first part of the workshop, Dr. Marvin will discuss the two best known approaches to diagnosing problems in children's attachments to their caregivers: the DSM 4/5 approach, and the approach that has developed through the academic research tradition begun by John Bowlby and Mary Ainsworth in the early 1950's. This discussion will focus on the increasing convergence of these two traditions over the past 15 years, and on a number of the ethical issues involved in current clinical assessment practices.

The second part of the workshop will focus on two current approaches to intervening in attachment problems: behavioral approaches and attachment research-based approaches. The Circle of Security® protocol will be introduced, and the workshop will conclude with a screening and group discussion of the award-winning documentary, "The Dark Matter of Love," a documentary about a family who adopt three children from a Russian orphanage and participate in the Circle of Security intervention.

Learning Objectives (revised 1/20/15 to include ethics):

- Identify the two approaches historically used in understanding severe problems in attachment
- Identify the use and limitations of the DSM approach to assessment and treatment
- Describe the advantages of a relationship-based approach to the assessment and treatment of attachment problems
- Describe the roles of therapist and parent in the treatment of a child with attachment problems
- Describe features of an evidence-based approach to assessment and treatment of attachment problems
- Identify some of the ethical issues involved in the assessment and treatment of attachment problems

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