

interactive CE training

PRESENTS

Female Brains/Male Brains: What's the Difference in Relationships?

July 27, 2017

7 p.m. - 10 p.m. ET (6 p.m. - 9 p.m. CT)

Online via WebEx

Featuring



Suzanne Hanna,
PhD, LMFT

One of the most intriguing findings of neuroscience is the fact that no other mammal has the ability to imagine something that does not yet exist. The ability to imagine a better world is uniquely human. This webinar suggests how therapists can use neuroscience to improve male/female relationships in couples and families. In addition, what are the gender politics of the therapist-client relationship? How does neuroscience uncover important elements here?

Developmentally, males and female show strikingly different paths to health and mental health problems. A gendered discussion of risk factors for boys and girls will lead to a collection of interventions as protective factors in the public health arena. What can be done to address the developmental onset of cognitive/behavioral disorders in boys and the adult onset of emotional disorders in young women? These can have a domino effect on functioning and family life.

In couple relationships, studies of men's and women's brains reveal differences in perception, information-processing, family roles, and chemical pathways. These account for neurological profiles that can become the basis for equal partnerships and teamwork in couples. Taking individual worldview to the physiological level, therapists now have creative tools that can make couple and family sessions gender-sensitive and brain-informed. Using the concept of biological empathy, it is possible to deconstruct these microdynamics and develop interventions that account for these differences (Hanna, 2013).

Course Outline

Part I: Biological Empathy (60 minutes)

- Gendered physiology: Information processing, task mastery, chemical profiles
- Early childhood gendered development: What boys need, what girls need
- The cooperative brain: Jump-starting the social brain into action
- Couple therapy on the cutting edge: Common biological factors across models

Part II: Women, Men, and Love (60 minutes)

- The Chemicals of Love
- Evolutionary perspectives on men's and women's relationships: The Double Date
- Achieving trust and teamwork as an evolutionary imperative

Part III: Couple Therapy and the Brain (60 minutes)

- The golden rule: Gender neutral or gender sensitive?
- "Why traditional men hate psychotherapy" (Brooks, 1998)
- Has psychotherapy become female dominated? What are the gender politics of therapy?



Objectives

1. Develop biological empathy as a map for gender sensitive interactions.
2. Identify the different vulnerabilities for male and female development.
3. Use the chemistry of love, loss, and treatment in treatment planning.

About the Presenter



Suzanne Midori Hanna, PhD is an MFT faculty member at Amridge University and Capella University. She is the author of several books including "The Transparent Brain in Couple and Family Therapy: Mindful Integrations with Neuroscience" and "The Practice of Family Therapy: Key Elements Across Models" Dr. Hanna has been the featured presenter at the Indiana Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference and the Pennsylvania Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference. Dr. Hanna is well equipped to offer a systemically oriented, neuroscience informed, presentation on trauma focused therapy.

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