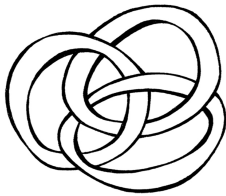


Australian Centre
for Psychoanalysis
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and the



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Forum of Melbourne



XXI ACP SYMPOSIUM and the FORUM of MELBOURNE COLLOQUIUM

The choice of sex and the unconscious

“It is from the Imaginary in so far as the Imaginary is the false second, with respect to the Real, in so far as the male in the speaking being is not the female, and that he has no other angle from which to posit himself. Only these are not angles with which we can be satisfied. It has got to the point that one can say that the unconscious is defined by this and by nothing else but this: that it knows more than this truth and that the man is not the woman.”

(Seminar XXI, Les non-dupes errent, 15th January 1974)

Saturday, August 29th 2020

10.00 am-1.00 pm Venue: ZOOM

(Zoom room open at 9.50 am)

For further information contact carmelo.scuderi@psychoanalysis.org.au or
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10.00	Welcome and Introduction	
10.10	The ethics of distance and the choice of sex in the clinic	Carmelo Scuderi
	<p>The ethics of psychoanalysis is an ethics of the unconscious, as discovered by Freud, and this discovery challenged the established notions of human ethics and the value of the sovereign good. However, Lacan, taking Kant as his guide, emphasises the importance of will and desire in the study of ethics, since for Lacan, the unconscious is essentially the subject of desire, the desiring subject. What does the ethics of desire mean when we consider the ethics of choice? Is the choice of sex always an ethical choice by the subject? And is the ethics of psychoanalysis enough these days to respond to the questions about choice of sex and sexual orientation in the clinic? What can we learn from the fragments of a case of transsexualism?</p>	
	<p><i>Carmelo Scuderi is a registered practising psychoanalyst with the ACP, the current President and a teacher in the Institute for Training. He is also a member of the Melbourne Forum of the International of the Forums of the Lacanian Field.</i></p>	
10.30	What do we know about how a woman's body enjoys and does this tell her anything about what a woman wants?	Serena Smith
	<p>What does a woman want has been a central question for psychoanalytic research. The answers have given rise to vigorous debates across the ages. Only recently has there been the completion of an anatomically correct mapping of a woman's body and her "instrument" of pleasure the clitoris. Has this mapping changed for us in anyway how psychoanalysis speaks of a woman's pleasure? But this certainly does not answer the question of her desire, her "want". Want and pleasure are not in the same place for women. Lacan's commentary on the dream of the witty butcher's wife, highlights that what a woman wants has nothing to do with bodily pleasure but is structured towards unsatisfied desire. I would like to use this paper to explore briefly this important distinction between bodily pleasure and desire for women.</p>	
	<p><i>Serena Smith is a psychoanalyst in private practice, teaches in the ACP Four-Year Program of Clinical and Theoretical studies and is a regular contributor to the activities of the ACP. She is a Member of the School of the Forums of the Lacanian Field and member of the Forum of Melbourne.</i></p>	
11.00	What do you want?	Susan Schwartz
	<p>For the subject of the unconscious, dependent on its representation by the signifier, the choice of sex can in part be situated in the space of the "Che vuoi?", (what do you want?) in the Graph of desire. This question addressed to the Other as lacking, establishes the subject's desire as desire of the Other, thus giving the symbolic and imaginary co-ordinates of identification and the ground for the formulation of the fantasy. But what of the <i>parlêtre</i>, the subject with its being of jouissance, the singular symptom through which it enjoys its unconscious? Lacan affirms in his seminar of 1973-74, <i>Les non-dupes errent</i>, that the sexed being derives his authorisation only from himself, that is, from his choice of jouissance. Given that the analytic discourse is a treatment of jouissance, what are the consequences for the treatment?</p>	
	<p><i>Susan Schwartz is an analyst in private practice, a registered practising analyst and teacher with the ACP, and Analyst Member of the School of Psychoanalysis of the International Forums of the Lacanian Field. With Esther Faye she co-translated Colette Soler's book, Lacan, The Unconscious Reinvented (2014) and Luis Izcovich's The Marks of a Psychoanalysis (2016).</i></p>	
Break		
11.45	The question of choice	Leonardo Rodriguez
	<p>Since Freud, choice is not what it used to be – and the same can be said of sexuality. The concept and praxis of the unconscious have subverted the established notions on choice and sexuality. A subversion, however, is not of eternal validity, and the historical evolution of our civilization demands a review of our current understanding of these terms and the ethical and clinical questions that arise about them.</p>	
	<p><i>Leonardo S. Rodriguez, PhD, is a founding member of the Australian Centre for Psychoanalysis and a founding member and Analyst Member of the School of Psychoanalysis of the Forums of the Lacanian Field; the current Coordinator of the ACP Institute for Training and a teaching member of its faculty. He has published extensively on psychoanalytic theory and practice in several languages.</i></p>	
12.15	Psychoanalysis in a pandemic: the body and the cyber couch	Barbara Hübl
	<p>A brief examination of some issues affecting the analytic clinic in our COVID-19 times. Plus, an invitation for participants from the ACP community and event participants to share their observations and experiences of working clinically during the current pandemic and the challenges of the cyber couch.</p>	
	<p><i>Barbara Hübl is an analyst in private practice and a member of the School of Psychoanalysis of the Forums of the Lacanian Field.</i></p>	
12.45	Final questions	