Kidding Our Kids?

M. Hossein Etezady

It is a privilege to be the first in line for an anticipated future series of contributions in this newsmagazine from the Committee on Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (COCAP). On behalf of child and adolescent analysis, child development and research, and child analytic training and practice, these articles are intended to enhance the status of child and adolescent analysis amongst the fellow members of the analytic community. This series is part of a plan to firmly plant the scepter of advancement and advocacy for the interest of children in the broader institutional underpinnings of our national organization. Psychoanalysts have always been keen on development and the circumstances that shape its course. For this and other compelling reasons, there is unwavering fascination in all analytic encounters with the events of early life and their salutary or deleterious lasting after-effects. This profound fascination is visibly reflected not only in the enormous volume of published material on various aspects of early development but also in the impressive number of papers, panels, workshops, discussion groups and presentations during all of APsaA’s scientific meetings, involving child and adolescent analytic treatment, clinical and observational research, along with developmental implications and technical applications, whether in pure clinical terms or in relation to our neighboring fields.

Looking back at my own career, I am able to trace the course of this ever-expanding arena of influence, the widening scope of interest, and increasing utilization of these findings in analytic treatment of children as well as in treatment and management of severe pathology in adults where specific trauma, deficit, vulnerability or unmet developmental needs are rooted.

He resented frequent instances when he felt dismissed, not taken seriously or pacified, and his wishes and views were taken lightly, or at times even openly ridiculed by adults. In psychoanalysis, we take children and their universe very seriously, not only regarding their needs and wishes but also with respect to the enormous treasure trove of insight and scientific information our field has unveiled and accumulated since the publication of “Little Hans,” Freud’s well-known child case, celebrated as the first case of applied psychoanalysis in the history of our field.

Continued on page 19
CONTENTS: Spring/Summer 2015

1 Kidding Our Kids  M. Hossein Etezady

3 A Week in the Life: Addressing the “Real Issues”  Mark D. Smaller

5 The Challenge of Certification: A Personal Account and Reflection  Beverly J. Stoute

6 San Francisco: Centennial City for 2015  Gina Atkinson

7 Highlights of the 104th Annual Meeting in San Francisco  Christine C. Kieffer

10 Theory of Mind and the Psychoanalytic Model  Elizabeth Auchincloss

12 Film: Choice Drowns in Mystic River  Robert Winer; Bruce H. Sklarew, Film Column Editor

14 COPE: Rehabilitating Analytic Communities after Ethics Violations  Marvin Margolis

15 Poetry: From the Unconscious  Sheri Butler

Correspondence and letters to the editor should be sent to TAP editor, Janis Chester, at jchestermd@comcast.net.
A Week in the Life: Addressing the “Real Issues”

Mark D. Smaller

After our winter meetings in New York, I heard from a friend and colleague. Although he found the Joint Meeting of the Executive Council and BOPS productive, he worried we were not addressing the “real issues.” “I mean the decline in analytic candidates, analytic patients, and the general public profile of psychoanalysis,” he wrote.

Was I not focused on these critical issues? Had I, too, fallen into the grips of our political discord at the expense of addressing the real challenges to APsaA and psychoanalysis? Past APsaA presidents had warned me this could happen.

To evaluate this concern, and preoccupation, I decided to keep track of one week’s activities related to APsaA responsibilities. I would let you, the membership, be the judge.

MONDAY
On Monday, March 9, in between patients, I responded to some emails regarding an upcoming conference call with the Association’s attorney and the American Board of Psychoanalysis (ABP) attorney regarding whether a bylaw change would be needed to externalize certification.

Wylie Tene, our public affairs director, emailed a reporter’s request to respond to the reporter’s upcoming article about “Internet trolling,” and why people become more aggressive and abusive on the Internet. I emailed answers to the reporter’s questions.

Later in the day I had to turn down a friend’s request to be on his southwest Michigan radio show the following Saturday. I would be in Durham, North Carolina, for the American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work (AAPCSW) Conference. As a regular guest on this radio show, we address everyday topics (education, parenting, families, social issues and others) from a psychoanalytic perspective. It broadcasts to about 30,000 listeners in southwest Michigan.

Steve Wein, our colleague at the New York Psychoanalytic Society & Institute (NYPSI), sent me a question regarding his prospective letter to the New York Times about an article dismissive of psychoanalysis. He asked if the Arnold Pfeffer Center for Neuropsychanalysis (NPSA) of NYPSI was the only such center at an APsaA affiliated institute. As former executive director of the Neuropsychanalysis Foundation, I wrote that it was. Steve’s letter was published later that week.

As former executive director of the Neuropsychanalysis Foundation, I wrote that it was. Steve’s letter was published later that week.

TUESDAY

A Week in the Life: Addressing the “Real Issues”

Mark D. Smaller

Later in the day I had to turn down a friend’s request to be on his southwest Michigan radio show the following Saturday. I would be in Durham, North Carolina, for the American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work (AAPCSW) Conference. As a regular guest on this radio show, we address everyday topics (education, parenting, families, social issues and others) from a psychoanalytic perspective. It broadcasts to about 30,000 listeners in southwest Michigan.

Steve Wein, our colleague at the New York Psychoanalytic Society & Institute (NYPSI), sent me a question regarding his prospective letter to the New York Times about an article dismissive of psychoanalysis. He asked if the Arnold Pfeffer Center for Neuropsychanalysis (NPSA) of NYPSI was the only such center at an APsaA affiliated institute.

During our weekly telephone meeting, Dean Steen, APsaA executive director, reviewed the agenda for the upcoming weekly Executive Committee conference call. We discussed members’ dues to both APsaA and the International Psychoanalytical Association (IPA). Our aging membership is my ongoing concern. We discussed dues to the North American Psychoanalytic Confederation (NAPsaC) and administrative questions regarding the externalizing of certification.

Later in the day I had my weekly call with President-elect Harriet Wolfe. We reviewed Thursday’s Executive Committee conference call agenda and the summary from the past Executive Committee retreat. She shared information from a conversation with Jeffrey Kerr; the consultant who has facilitated the two Joint Meetings and one of the Executive Committee retreats. We discussed the Program Committee and the Science and Research Department.

Had I, too, fallen into the grips of our political discord at the expense of addressing the real challenges to APsaA and psychoanalysis? Past APsaA presidents had warned me this could happen.

WEDNESDAY

Wednesday I awoke to an email from HEAL Trafficking, which had seen the flyer from the upcoming Human Trafficking webinar, inviting me to join their group. HEAL Trafficking is a group that connects health care professionals with education, advocacy, and linking to address human trafficking. I responded to an invitation to a meeting during the upcoming European Psychoanalytic Federation annual conference in Stockholm. This is the annual meeting of the leadership of the three IPA regions: North America, Latin America and Europe.

Continued on page 4
A Week in the Life

Continued from page 3

Responding to a request from the International Neuropsychoanalysis Society, I posted information regarding Mark Solm’s online course, “What is a Mind?”

During a phone call, the diversity consultant and I finalized details of the contract. A data questionnaire to local groups would be reviewed as well as an attitudinal survey for the membership. I confirmed a time to speak with IPA President Stefano Bolognini on Thursday afternoon once I arrived in Durham.

That evening I had an hour-long conference call with Harriet Wolfe and Andrew Gerber, chair of APsaA’s Science and Research Department. We have been reorganizing this department and our research efforts.

THURSDAY

During Thursday’s weekly Executive Committee call, we approved co-sponsorship of a 2016 meeting of the Music Teachers National Association, a 22,000 membership organization. Member Julie Nagel had been nurturing this relationship and we will have a psychoanalytic presence at their conference.

We reviewed retreat issues regarding governance, standards and regulation, and agreed on an email posting to the membership about externalizing certification. We discussed Dean Stein’s findings about APsaA and IPA membership dues. We also discussed the upcoming phone conversation with Stefano later that day.

That afternoon while waiting for my flight to Durham (and keeping track of the Michigan-Illinois basketball score), I confirmed I would be on the NAPsaC call Sunday evening, wrote a draft of a posting to members regarding certification and sent it to the BOPS Task Force on Externalizing Certification.

I reviewed a letter Jim Pyles, our D.C. lobbyist, had written to the staff of Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN), urging him to support our position on patients’ rights to medical privacy.

On the plane I completed my presentation for the AAPCSW conference the next day in Durham. As my flight was late (shocking), I worried whether Stefano would still be awake in Italy to take my call. He fortunately was and during our Skype call we discussed membership dues, the aging of membership, and length of time for training, finding analytic patients for candidates, and IPA standards and regulations.

I then returned Ralph Fishkin’s call about the Executive Committee meeting earlier in the day.

FRIDAY

Close to 400 people attend the biannual AAPCSW conference. I accepted an invitation a year before for two reasons. First, it is an opportunity to represent APsaA in this vibrant psychoanalytic group, and, also, the Accreditation Council for Psychoanalytic Education (ACPE) meets during this meeting. I wanted to attend that meeting and be familiar with this accreditation board. APsaA member Sheila Hafter Gray, president of ACPE, enthusiastically invited me to come.

I was told that Joe Palombo’s and my presentation, “Psychoanalytic Transformations: How Neuroscience Enriches Clinical Practice,” was completely full. Two people approached me and said they found the recent APsaA National Meeting the best ever. One participant approached me to say she was joining APsaA through the Expanded Membership Pathway. (During my presentation, I received an MGoBlue alert that Michigan had lost to Wisconsin during the quarterfinals of the Big Ten Tournament).

SATURDAY

On Saturday, the ACPE meeting proved extremely informative to address governance and standards issues. The ACPE Board was welcoming, and interested in current issues regarding APsaA standards.

SUNDAY

On the plane home, I worked on this TAP article, now two weeks overdue. I reviewed minutes from the January NAPsaC meeting, and the agenda for the call the next evening.

In reviewing one week’s activities, I was relieved to see that my time appears spread over various critical issues: practice, research, clinical work, diversity, liaison with other groups (including the IPA, NAPsaC, AAPCSW), membership, our D.C. lobbying efforts, and governance, standards (ACPE). I remain committed to doing more regarding practice, recruitment and membership. I believe that issues related to governance and standards, once more resolved, will facilitate our efforts in practice, recruitment and research. But you be the judge.
FROM THE BOPS CHAIR

The Challenge of Certification: A Personal Account and Reflection

Beverly J. Stout

Dear colleagues, this is a personal account of my experience going through the process of certification in psychoanalysis. In my view, the debate over certification—what it means “to be or not to be” certified—has missed an essential point about the enormous personal and professional development this process can engender. If you choose to read on and get a glimpse of my viewpoint, I will warn you with a disclaimer. I am a “glass is half full” kind of person. Like many, I had put certification on the back burner. I had pursued my adult and child psychiatry board certifications without ambivalence and while I had theoretically valued certification in psychoanalysis as an important professional goal, I ran up against internal resistance to writing up my analytic cases for certification.

RESISTANCE GIVES WAY TO MOMENTUM

Like many, life demands had fueled my resistance to taking the time to write the summaries. To be sure, many external obligations and obstacles interfered including life threatening events, but still there was resistance because of my own anxiety. Older colleagues from time to time would say, “And when you write your certification summaries…” and I would think, “when I feel I know enough.” Then I went through a series of life events that led me to relocate from New York to Atlanta. At the New York Psychoanalytic Institute where I trained there were many analysts, so the institute wanted but did not need me to push myself to accomplish certification. But at Emory Psychoanalytic Institute, which is much smaller, the director called me one day and said, “Beverly, why don’t you get certified.” I said, “OK” I had some spare time since my new practice was not yet full.

I pulled out my partially written summaries and notes and decided to pursue the double certification in child and adolescent psychoanalysis, and adult psychoanalysis. When I made this decision I had six weeks to meet the deadline; I was determined. As I pushed myself to write, an amazing experience unfolded. I wrote up my cases one by one. Each one I finished helped me to write the next. I made the tricky decision of rewriting a case that had “failed,” many years before, but I realized that now, a more mature analyst, I had greater insight into why the patient had fled treatment. (I also had saved my process notes, which was a big plus.) Being a child analyst, my five cases spanned many stages of development. My youngest patient was four at the start of that analysis and my oldest was fifty. The experience of writing and discussing my cases with colleagues in preparation for the oral examination was profoundly transforming.

Never before had I realized the extent to which I had grown as an analyst and how my insight had deepened with maturity. I almost fell folded when I realized the summary of an eight-year analysis had been destroyed on a computer disc during my office move. But, fortunately, I discovered I had the initial impression in a paper file as well as the first-year summary and a thank you letter from the patient who wrote me months after termination explaining how analysis had changed her. With those elements I reconstructed the entire analysis from memory, now realizing what was truly important had never been forgotten; I just needed to be motivated to retrieve it. I made it to the UPS store nine minutes before the last express pickup to meet the deadline the following day.

IDENTITY CONSOLIDATION

As I told a friend afterward, you will spend a lot of your time questioning whether you are really an analyst, and a good enough analyst. Do not wait to feel you are an analyst in order to launch the process of getting certified. Instead, start writing, and, in the process, you will discover you are an analyst. It will hit you all of a sudden that this process of preparing for certification and going through the examination will consolidate your identity as an analyst.

In the middle of my adult certification interview, I read the process notes from a powerful termination session in which my patient assessed how she had changed in her view of herself. She had “grown up” in her nine-year analysis, which spanned from late adolescence into adulthood, and I had helped her to heal her early trauma. Forgetting I was in the interview for a moment, I said, “This is profound; what we do as analysts is really cool.” Although my interviewers maintained their professional demeanor and poker faces, I could detect a warm gleam of knowing connection in their eyes.

During my child certification interviews, I read the notes of the analysis of a preschool child who was mute. As I read the process notes from one session, I blurted out, “Oh my gosh, that was an intuitive interpretation, I really am an analyst.”

But the new process of certification is different from the process of years ago. I dare say if I had gone through the process years ago when I finished analytic training, I probably would not have such a positive view; the process was not nearly as collegial and user friendly. I joked with Harvey Schwartz, the chair of the Certification Examination Committee, on one occasion, “Your cell phone must be the bat phone to certification (if you remember the old red phone Commissioner Gordon used to summon Batman).” Every time I called, Harvey was available. I called to review cases to clarify that I met the criteria;
This is a terrific year for APsaA members to visit San Francisco. 2015, the Lunar Year of the Sheep (which Chinese astrologers predict will be one of healing and positive thinking) is a year of celebration for San Francisco’s 100th anniversary of the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition and World’s Fair.

Those who attend APsaA’s 104th Annual Meeting in June will find a familiar San Francisco icon transformed for the centennial event. The Ferry Building, only a few blocks from APsaA’s conference venue, the Palace Hotel, will be decorated with the numerals “1915,” just as it was for the Pan-Pacific Exposition a century ago. Eleven and a half feet high and placed above the tower’s famous clock, the numerals will be illuminated in white lights at night, along with the rest of the tower, in an accurate re-creation of its splendid appearance during the Exposition and World’s Fair. At that time, the Ferry Building was the symbol of San Francisco, by far the busiest passenger terminal in the Western United States. Before construction of the Golden Gate Bridge and Oakland Bay Bridge in the 1930s, almost all visitors to the city arrived via the Ferry Building.

CITY RISING

During the centennial celebration a variety of events will take place throughout San Francisco and around the Bay. APsaA attendees interested in a historical overview of the 1915 Exposition and World’s Fair can check out what promises to be a fascinating exhibit, “City Rising,” at the California Historical Society on Mission Street, just two blocks from the Palace Hotel. The exhibit’s title is well chosen since San Francisco was indeed a “city rising” in 1915, literally rising out of the ashes of the devastating earthquake and fire of 1906 that killed hundreds and left thousands more homeless.

“City Rising” will tell the story of the international exposition’s development and popularity—it was attended by nearly 19,000,000 people, more than 20 times San Francisco’s population at the time—through vintage photos, souvenirs, and artifacts. The Historical Society invites visitors to share in this moment of history when San Francisco stepped onto the world stage and, perhaps, to draw their own connections between that era and the present day.

An orientation to the 1915 exposition would not be complete without a visit to the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco’s Marina District, the only building that remains today out of a network of pavilions, fountains, and gardens that stretched along the Bay. Stroll through the Palace’s grand colonnade and rotunda and venture inside the exhibition hall

Continued on page 8

Gina Atkinson, M.A., is the managing editor of The Psychoanalytic Quarterly and a translator of psychoanalytic materials from Italian to English. She is an educator associate member of APsaA and a community member of San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis.
Welcome to the 104th Annual Meeting of the American Psychoanalytic Association. The Program Committee, APsaA officers and staff invite you to page through our June preliminary program. We urge you to join us in gorgeous San Francisco to experience once again (or for the first time) the new features and “old reliables” of our streamlined Annual Meeting.

CONTINUED EMPHASIS ON CLINICAL CONTENT

Among the offerings at the June meeting, our clinical events are a standout. Alice Jones will present a case at the Clinical Plenary, chaired by Nancy Kulish, with discussions by Aisha Abbasi and Ellen Pinsky. We will feature a film, Black Psychoanalysts Speak, followed by audience discussion led by Francisco Gonzalez, Forrest Hamer and Donald Moss. Among our popular Two-Day Clinical Workshops are featured discussants: Dominique Scarfone, Anton Kris, Eslee Samberg, Wendy Stern and Alan Sugarman.

We also are pleased to offer another cutting edge panel that offers both a clinical and theoretical presentation, “The Subjective Experience of Time,” with presentations by Stephen Seligman and Dominique Scarfone, and with discussions by Robert Stolorow and Blakey Vermeule. Speakers at our lively Psychoanalysis Here and Now program, chaired by Hans Agrawal, will feature talks by Robert Galatzer-Levy, Joseph Lichtenberg, Mary Margaret McClure, Robert Stolorow and Joan Wheelis. A reception will follow, giving participants time to have a drink, mingle and share ideas stimulated by the talks.

PHILOSOPHY, POSTERITY AND FORENSICS

For our Meet the Authors session this spring, we are fortunate to feature two authors who integrate philosophical and psychoanalytic ideas in the understanding of clinical and organizational work: Robert Stolorow and Kate Schechter. This session offers participants an extended opportunity to exchange ideas with both established and upcoming writers. Be sure to check them out.

And do not miss our two new Practice-Building Workshops: Audrey Kavka will offer a program, “Just Do It: Bringing Professional Wills into Your Practice Routine,” combining a practical focus with an opportunity to share personal narratives. This program will help participants prepare for the ending of their practice with the same thoughtfulness with which they began it. Another practice-building workshop will feature Robert Galatzer-Levy, who will share his perspectives and advice concerning the “Psychoanalyst as Expert-Witness.” Our Ticho lecturer this year will be Andrew Gerber, who will focus on “Research-Supported Treatments, Research Domain Criteria and the Clinical Science Model.”

The University Forum will feature another outstanding program, “The Unseen and the Unheard: South African and Indian Responses to Social Invisibility and Psychic Pain.” Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, and Raka Ray, two internationally recognized experts on the traumatic effects of apartheid and poor peoples’ social movements in India will present their groundbreaking work. Nancy Chodorow, a prominent sociologist and psychoanalyst, will discuss how psychoanalysis might contribute meaningfully to an understanding of construction and amelioration of these pressing social problems.

ENDURING TIES

As always, there will be an array of Discussion Groups to attend, including long-standing groups and some new offerings. New discussion groups include: “Ethical Dilemmas in Psychoanalytic Institutes” and “Neuroscience Perspectives on Psychoanalysis.” Participants often tell us that one of the most compelling features of our discussion groups is the opportunity to form enduring ties with colleagues while sharing ideas and clinical vignettes in a smaller, more intimate setting.

Finally, do not miss the great open house and cocktail party hosted by the San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis in honor of our visit to their city. Gary Grossman and his local arrangements committee have worked hard to help assure you will not only learn but have some fun as well.

Hope to see you there.

Christine C. Kieffer, Ph.D., ABPP, is the chair of the Program Committee of the American Psychoanalytic Association.
Centennial City  
Continued from page 6

(formerly the site of the Exploratorium museum of science and technology; now located on the Embarcadero) to discover what this World’s Fair meant to the city. Historical film footage, salvaged architectural fragments, and a digital animation will bring visitors closer to understanding how the fair entertained and enchanted so many people from around the world.

During APsaA’s Annual Meeting, the Palace of Fine Arts will also host a multicultural ethnic dance festival (www.worldartswest.org). And for another glimpse into the marvels of the exposition, APsaA attendees can take a short walk from the conference hotel to the Wells Fargo History Museum, where there will be a display of original Austrian cut glass “novagems” that hung from the 1915 “Tower of Jewels,” as well as more historical photos, maps and illustrations of the exposition.

SYMPHONIES, JAZZ & THEATER

Of course, the City of San Francisco will have much more to offer visitors in June beyond its historical celebration. For the musically inclined, the San Francisco Symphony will present Ravel’s _L’heure espagnole_ at Davies Symphony Hall, a short cab ride from the Palace Hotel (www.sfsymphony.org).

During the meeting, the San Francisco Opera will stage a matinee of _The Trojans_ by Berlioz, a rarely performed epic depicting the fall of Troy (www.sfopera.com).

New to San Francisco as of January 2013 is SFJAZZ Center, a performance venue for nationally renowned jazz artists. Like the city’s symphony hall and opera house, SFJAZZ, the only stand-alone facility built specifically for jazz in the United States, is located in the Civic Center area. It’s an excellent choice for an evening out since dinner is available both on site and in excellent restaurants nearby (www.sfjazz.org).

For theater fans, the Broadway version of _The Book of Mormon_ will run through June 7 at the Orpheum Theater on Market Street (www.san-francisco-theater.com). In addition, American Conservatory Theater’s _A Little Night Music_ will be performed every evening during the Annual Meeting (www.act-sf.org) at the Geary Theater, only a block and a half from Union Square. Repeat visitors to the city will remember Union Square as the heart of downtown and a focal point for serious shopping. Among the numerous shops and stores located either right on the square or just steps away are: Neiman Marcus (with its famous café under the rotunda, perfect for a teatime shopping break), Saks 5th Avenue, Tiffany, Cartier, Williams Sonoma, and Gump’s. In addition, Chinatown is about a 10- to 15-minute walk from the square (though visitors should be forewarned, depending on the route they choose, they may encounter iconic San Francisco hills).

BATTER UP!

For a contrast to music or the theater, APsaA attendees can also choose to catch the San Francisco Giants, World Series Champions in 2010, 2012 and 2014, slug- ging it out against the Philadelphia Phillies during the week of the Annual Meeting (www.sanfrancisco.giants.mlb.com). San Franciscans are justifiably proud of their baseball park, located just a mile and a half from the Palace Hotel. Built to a classic design, the park was completed in 2000 and boasts glorious views of the Bay.

Continued on page 9
APsaA attendees interested in fine arts will find several special exhibits underway. The Legion of Honor, a museum housed in a full-scale replica of the French Pavilion at the 1915 exposition, and located in a naturally beautiful setting overlooking the Golden Gate Bridge, will have two special shows during the Annual Meeting. A stunning collection of porcelain from the Meissen manufactory near Dresden and a costume collection on loan from the Brooklyn Museum augment the Legion of Honor’s permanent collection, which spans 6,000 years of ancient and European art. This museum will also host a San Francisco Symphony chamber music concert during the meeting (www.sfsymphony.org).

A trip to one of the nation’s largest urban parks, the 1.5-square-mile Golden Gate Park, about a 20-minute cab ride from the conference hotel, offers visitors many other attractions as well: the California Academy of Sciences, which includes a world-class aquarium, planetarium, rainforest ecosystem, and a “living roof” (and don’t miss the penguins); the Conservatory of Flowers, where in June there will be a special exhibit on plants that aid tropical island survival; tranquil Stow Lake, perfect for a relaxing stroll; the Japanese Tea Garden; the 55-acre San Francisco Botanical Garden; two restored windmills and even a few live buffalo. San Francisco has countless other interesting sites to beguile APsaA attendees, among them the Embarcadero and waterfront area mentioned in my article in the last issue of TAP. First-time visitors to the city may want to check out Fisherman’s Wharf, Ghirardelli Square, Pier 39, Alcatraz Island, a sightseeing cruise on the Bay, or the Exploratorium, to mention only some of the highlights in this area. And many of those who know the city well don’t consider their visit complete without returning to at least some of these.

Certainly, no description of San Francisco’s tourist attractions would be complete without mentioning Telegraph Hill and Coit Tower (whose WPA-era murals have been newly restored), the world-famous cable cars, the Asian Art Museum, Lombard Street, the Disney Family Museum, Fort Point, the Contemporary Jewish Museum, Mission Dolores, the Maritime National Historic Park, Japantown, Grace Cathedral and the Cartoon Art Museum. This list can be extended on and on. Viewers may want to add their own favorite places in the city from previous visits or ones they are interested in seeing for the first time.

In short, whatever you’re looking for—from a centennial celebration to a Broadway musical, from baseball to opera to ethnic dance, from incomparable Bay views to shopping delights, from a lively waterfront to tranquil gardens—you’ll find it during APsaA’s 104th Annual Meeting in San Francisco. I hope to see you there.
When we first began teaching our course on the psychoanalytic model of the mind to Cornell residents in the 1980s, some of the brightest PGY-2 residents used to confront my co-teacher and me with the question, “Why do we need a model of the mind? Can’t we help our patients without it?” At the time, we responded to these students with arguments about good clinical practice, reminders about the biopsychosocial model, and other lofty arguments about the philosophy of mind.

But things have changed. Ever since the field of psychiatry has become familiar with a fascinating idea called “theory of mind,” emerging from cognitive neuroscience in the late 1970s, the argument is quite different. As it turns out, having a theory of mind is not an option. The question becomes moot as to whether mental health professionals need a model of mind. We have one, whether we like it or not.

The concept of theory of mind suggests that we are all hardwired with the potential to develop a theory about how minds work—our own mind as well as those of other people. In their groundbreaking 1978 paper, “Does the Chimpanzee Have a Theory of Mind?,” cognitive scientists David Premack and Guy Woodruff used the phrase “theory of mind” for the first time to describe what cognitive psychologists had been discussing for a number of years, to designate specific capacity to (1) understand that other people have beliefs, desires, and intentions; (2) know that these beliefs, desires, and intentions might be different from one’s own; and (3) form operational hypotheses, theories, or mental models about what these beliefs, desires, and intentions might be.

Theory of mind (ToM, as it is often called) is something with which each of us is endowed as part of the equipment we use to get by in a world where complex interactions with others are part of everyday life. As an evolutionary biologist might put it, ToM is essential to survival in our evolutionary niche. ToM begins as an innate potential in infancy and develops in a facilitating matrix of normal matura-
tion, social interactions, and other experiences. Under normal circumstances, ToM can be shown to be present in children by about age four. In adults, ToM exists on a continuum ranging from the elaborate, complex, and reasonably accurate to the rudimentary, barely functional, or virtually nonexistent. The ability of each of us to accurately represent what others are feeling or trying to do predicts how well we will perform in a variety of interpersonal tasks. At one end of the spectrum, individuals with autism, who often have specific defects in the ToM module, have a very hard time functioning in the social world. At the other end of the spectrum, people with highly developed capacities for ToM can negotiate a range of social and interpersonal transactions ranging from parenting, friendship,

Continued on page 11

Elizabeth Auchincloss, M.D., vice chair of graduate medical education, director of the Institute for Psychodynamic Medicine, and professor of clinical psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College, is senior associate director of the Columbia Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research.

Elizabeth Auchincloss, M.D.
and romantic intimacy to business, teaching, politics, and, of course, practicing psychiatry.

Cognitive psychologists have developed a wonderful array of ingenious experiments testing whether adults, children, and non-human primates have a functioning theory of mind. It is very difficult to discern whether nonverbal children and animals can imagine the minds of other creatures, and scientists argue like crazy among themselves about this question. Experiments in support of each side of these arguments make for interesting reading.

Recently, some scientists, using the techniques of functional neuroimaging (fMRI), can illuminate brain regions that may play a role in the brain systems responsible for ToM. Even more recently, other neuroscientists have demonstrated the existence of mirror neurons, widely distributed throughout the primate brain, that fire when we perform an action and when we see someone else perform the same action. Scientists believe they may be a crucial part of the neural substrate for our capacity to understand what others are thinking, feeling, and planning to do.

ToM reminds us that, like it or not, most human beings are born with the ability to know and make sense of what goes on in the minds of other people. Therefore, when our students ask why we need a model of the mind, we respond with the statement: “You already have a theory of mind. Therefore, it might as well be a good one!”

In our view, the psychoanalytic model of the mind is not altogether different from what ordinary people do every day. We all use our innate capacity for understanding minds to explain ourselves to ourselves and to understand the behavior of others. In other words, when things go as planned, we are all psychologists.
Choice Drowns in Mystic River

Robert Winer, Bruce H. Sklarew, Film Column Editor

The Mystic River is seven miles long, traversing eastern Massachusetts, just outside Boston. In an Algonquian language, “Missi-Tuk” means, “a great river whose waters are driven by waves”; this refers to the tidal nature of the Mystic. And that captures the relentless cyclical force of destiny in this film, its tragic inevitability, which in turn has led many critics to think about Sophocles and Shakespeare when they discuss it. Considering destiny and tragedy, we would like to believe we have the capacity to choose between alternatives, and one moral of this film is, more than we realize, we do not.

ARISTOTELIAN TRAGEDY

How do things go wrong? Aristotle, who defined tragedy in his Poetics, thought the key development in tragedy is that a great person experiences a peripeteia, a reversal of fortune. And this reversal is caused by the tragic hero’s hamartia, which is a mistake of some kind, based on not knowing. (It derives from hamartanein, missing the mark, a spear missing its target.) Unable to help himself, because he does not understand, the hero moves to his doom. Oedipus’s hamartia was his lack of knowledge about his own identity, which resulted in his feeling free to slay the man at the crossroads who was his father; and to bed the woman who was his mother. In the face of hamartia, the situation is hopeless. Ignorance unscrews choosing. In Oedipus at Colonus, the chorus repeats, “Not to be born is best.”

Shakespeare’s tragic heroes could only move to their destruction. It was not ignorance now, but character flaws that sealed their fate—Macbeth’s ambition, Othello’s impetuosity, Hamlet’s indecisiveness, Lear’s vanity. Tragic figures in Shakespeare’s work are doomed by the difficult aspects of their natures. We have no sense that their fabrics could unravel otherwise, they are done in from the start. It is not only Hamlet who is incapable of choice, the rest may think they are choosing, but we know better: Richard III says, “And therefore, since I cannot prove a lover; / To entertain these fair well-spoken days, / I am determined to prove a villain.” He could not do otherwise.

DESTINY

The film opens with Sean’s and Jimmy’s dads talking about tonight’s Red Sox game, they have Luis Tiant pitching, and those of us who know baseball realize we are watching the team that is trying to go a full century between World Series wins. Our team of destiny.

We move to the road, where young Sean, Jimmy and Dave are playing street hockey. A car pulls up and the driver gets out, claiming to be a cop. The boys buy it, although Jimmy is street smart enough to claim he lives right here, so the guy worries maybe mother is watching. Dave is a naïf, he is scared of authority, and so he tells the truth, I live on Rester Street. No dilemma, not even a choice there. Makes it easy for the driver to grab him, stuff him in the car, and peel away.

Robert Winer, M.D., is the co-creator and co-chair of New Directions: Writing with a Psychoanalytic Edge and of the Psychoanalytic Studies Program of the Washington Center for Psychoanalysis. He authored Close Encounters: A Relational View of the Therapeutic Process. Bruce H. Sklarew, M.D., an associate editor and co-founder of the award-winning Projections: The Journal for Movies and Mind, organizes the film programs at meetings of the American Psychoanalytic Association and has co-edited two books on psychoanalysis and film.
bar where she was dancing on the counter, the last place she was seen alive on the night she was murdered.

Dave’s abuse has cut both ways, inside and outside. Inside it becomes the narrative of his life—he is the prey and he is the wolf. PTSD moments. “GET IN!” The novel tells us that he has to fight his urge to molest children. Managing himself takes every bit of his energy and resolve. He lies at will, as though the truth of his life could actually be plastic, whatever he decides it is, not a fracture that has been cast in stone. Stooped, he folds in on himself. The way the abuse cuts from the outside is that he lives in a community where, as critic Stephanie Zacharek wrote, “When a sexual crime is committed against you, it counts against you.” Dave is damaged goods.

Sean has become a cop. He seems like a decent, capable, colorless guy, the sort of a guy a wife might leave for someone more exciting, which is what has happened. He seems pretty emptied out.

Throughout the film I get the sense at various points that it is not impossible things could work out, it does not have to go badly, but some combination of accident, coincidence, fate, misunderstanding, and the inevitability of character just will not let it play out that way. In another Clint Eastwood movie, Unforgiven, Strawberry Alice says, “You just kicked the sh*t out of an innocent man.” Little Bull replies, “Innocent? Innocent of what?”

Although they have not stayed friends, Dave, Jimmy and Sean have stayed entangled with each other in their minds. It’s been almost 30 years, but Jimmy and Sean are still tortured by the same thought, what if I had been the one to get in the car? Seeing Dave underlines it for them. They cannot escape feeling guilty they got away and Dave did not.

TRAGIC HERO

Continuing the story of tragedy into modern theater, the tragic hero never has agency over his life. With a few notable exceptions—the likes of Eugene O’Neill, Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller, August Wilson, Sam Shepard—American playwrights do not write tragedy. And that has been explained as the consequence of its interfering with a particularly American sensibility, the idea that man is captain of his fate. Check out Broadway. But the British playwright, Howard Barker, writes, “You emerge from tragedy equipped against lies. After the musical, you’re anybody’s fool.”

The story’s other cop, Whitey, who is black, is setting in motion the sequence of events that will seal Dave’s fate. He’s decided Dave Boyle fits this killer’s profile to a T. He is the right age, he is marginally employed, he was abused, now he is the abuser. Sean says the obvious: Katie was not sexually abused. I think Whitey has stopped thinking clearly because he is so convinced Sean is trying to cover up for a childhood friend. This is the consequence of Sean’s deciding to stay on the case even though he was Jimmy’s friend, the cops’ form of a boundary violation, which made Whitey an angry outsider.

In fact, Katie has been killed by Just Ray’s son, using the gun Just Ray had hidden while he was still alive. Maybe he was panicked about his brother’s leaving him to elope with Katie, stranding him with their crazy mother. Full circle. This universe is not benevolent.

And in his culture it would be a mark of shame to fail to avenge such a killing. But revenge has not provided relief in the past. He got revenge on Just Ray who ratted him out, put him in jail 30 years ago, by killing him and dumping him in the Mystic, which did not solve much. Now, as one way of dealing with his guilt about having done that, Jimmy hates Just Ray’s kids.

Continued on page 18
Rehabilitating Analytic Communities after Ethics Violations

Marvin Margolis

The COPE Study Group on Boundary Violations and Rehabilitation is now in its eighth year of existence. Our scope has been inclusive as serious boundary violations affect both the analyst and patient as well as the entire analytic community. When the boundary violation is sexual and the analyst is a respected senior colleague, the damage is exponential and will affect the psychoanalytic community for years to come.

APsaA has been dealing with the problem of boundary violations for several decades prior to the establishment of this COPE study group. In 1975, the Ethics Code was established and has been periodically revised. APsaA mandated the establishment of Ethics and Colleague and Patient Assistance Committees, in all our societies and institutes, and required teaching ethics courses to candidates. We were no longer in denial as we moved ethics to the forefront of our attention. In 2001, APsaA published the Ethics Casebook, edited by Rita Clark and Paul Dewald. No other psychoanalytic organization in the world has done more to address this problem. These institutional and educational measures are important beginnings. They may reduce boundary violations, however; they do not completely eliminate them.

In this article, I will focus on short- and long-term community-wide strategies that address the continuing problem of what to do after an ethics violation has come to our attention. Models for rehabilitation do not formally exist in APsaA; our ethics code is silent about this possibility. Fortunately, five of our APsaA communities have embarked on extensive ad hoc programs and we have been able to study these efforts, some of which now extend 12 to 15 years following the original ethical breach. The following has been gleaned from these nascent efforts.

The first task of the shocked community has been to conduct an ethics committee investigation. Once the case has been adjudicated, the sanctions are usually made public to both faculty and candidates who hear the troubling information and make an initial attempt to deal with their painful feelings. The community at this point has been traumatically fractured. There is a widespread feeling of betrayal, anger and profound demoralization within the analytic community and the broader mental health community.

Unattended this community reaction constitutes an existential danger to psychoanalysis itself. We need to find opportunities to clarify to our members and to mental health professionals that we welcome their concerns and complaints and the integrity of the analytic process is our highest concern.

The analyst and patient also need support, as it is a time of considerable humiliation and even suicidal potential. Either party may require emergency care; support from family and friends can be critical. If the patient is a candidate or attending our extension courses, it often is necessary to set aside class time for discussions and support. If there has been a recent history of several such unethical events, it may be desirable to establish a committee to study this problem and, if indicated, seek institutional remedies.

LONG-TERM REMEDIAL EXPERIENCES

The issue of what to do about a long-term approach to the colleagues and patients who were caught up in unethical involvements, so far, has proved to be a vexing situation that is far from being consensual. While some believe we should adopt an approach built around punitive sanctions, including temporary and/or permanent loss of membership, most favor a case-by-case approach, taking into consideration the potential for rehabilitation of each colleague. There is now an equal concern about dealing with the profound damage to patients directly involved in boundary violations. More recently, there is also a belated recognition of collateral damage to all patients of the unethical analyst and to the members of the analysts’ and patients’ families.

THE MEMBERS OF THIS STUDY GROUP

Sidney Arkowitz, Ph.D.
Deborah Boughton, M.D.
Rita Clark, M.D.
John Crow, M.D.
Suzanne Gassner, Ph.D.
Rion Hart, Ph.D.
Elizabeth Hersh, M.D.
Peter Kotcher, M.D.
Frederic Levine, Ph.D.
Howard Levine, M.D.
Gayle Marshall, M.S.W.
Lynne Moritz, M.D.
Vaia Tsolas, Ph.D.
Peggy Warren, M.D.
From the Unconscious

Sheri Butler

Arnold Richards is a member of the New York Psychoanalytic Society and Institute. He is a well-known former editor of The Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association from 1994 to 2004.

Arlene Kramer Richards’s institute memberships are with the Institute for Psychoanalytical Training and Research and the Contemporary Freudian Society. Her current position is as a representative from North America to the International Psychoanalytic Association.

Both are in the private practice of psychoanalysis in their communities.

Elegy for my brother

How I want to die:
Like a dry leaf crushed underfoot;
Like a stone dropped in a well;
Like a dove swooped by a hawk;
Like a lightening flash out of a cloud;
Like a minnow pounced by a shark;
Like a moment;
Like a leaf;
Like a stone;
Like a dove;
Like a flash;
Like a minnow;
And before my thirty days in hospice run out.

—Arlene Kramer Richards

Elegy for Muriel

You celebrated your self
and rightly so.
You reveled in your senses,
pampered them with aliment
sonatas and sauces
flavorful.
You tuned your body
Sharpened its sensuality
prepared for its adornment,
clothes your advertisement.
You wrote your own
jacket copy
prideful
before your fall.

—Arnold D. Richards

Sheri Butler, M.D., is an adult training and consulting analyst and a child consulting analyst in the child division at the Seattle Psychoanalytic Society and Institute. A published poet and member of TAP’s editorial board, she welcomes readers’ comments, suggestions, and poetry submissions at annseattle1@gmail.com.
Challenge of Certification
Continued from page 5

I called to clarify the details of the procedure; I called to ask for mentors; I called to tell him my mentor had not called me back; I called to say I was nervous and was not sure I would finish the fifth case; I emailed him (by now figuring I had called too much) and said, “I did it.”

When I arrived at the meeting the day of my exam, Harvey met and greeted each of us personally. He asked if we were okay, he asked if we felt understood, he asked if the process was collegial. I thought, how could you not do well. Every interviewer was collegial, respectful, and aware of our normative developmental anxiety and seemed to want to give us the opportunity to show what we knew. The child certification interviewers seemed to love talking about the cases almost as much as I did, and they invited me to discuss, agree, or disagree all in the service of certification or; quite frankly, of learning. It was an amazing and awe-inspiring experience. As I left the hotel and jumped in the cab to get to the airport to catch my flight, I felt I had crossed over and become a full-fledged psychoanalyst, and my interviewers had made me feel very much a part of the fold. I received two calls the following day letting me know I had passed each exam. Going through the process of certification reminded me of how amazing it is to be an analyst.

AN UNEXPECTED MILESTONE
What happened was something I would never have predicted. In the process of discussing my patients and demonstrating my competency as an analyst, I conveyed what I thought would be impossible to convey: the passion and the magic that I see as an analyst, that in moments we rarely get to share, in that intangible match of an analyst-analysand dyad, we are transformed by a relational and transferenceal human connection—analyst and analysand alike. We bring insight to our patients as they transform us in our understanding of who they are in their transference, and they remind us of our quintessential humanity. Months later, I was in my office one day, and something happened to me that I used to see in others, my senior teachers whom I always admired and used to think: How did they know that? I began listening in a calmer way. One day I sat listening to a troubled man tell me his life story in a pressured and detailed way over the course of the hour and a half initial consultation session.

I put my pen down, cleared my mind and thought to myself, why is he really here? What happened was not planned or rehearsed. I opened my mouth and what came out was a lucid compelling retelling of his life history with a formulation of his conflict and why I felt he had come at this point in his life looking for understanding without which he felt he could not move forward in his personal life or career. When I finished, he replied, “No one has ever told me that or spoken to me like that before; when do we start?”

What I realized upon reflection was I no longer thought about what to say. I trusted that no matter what I did I had become an analyst and my mind would organize the information without effort; I could not help but think like an analyst and be an analyst. There was no anxiety, no pressure, just a calm understanding. All those years that I had delayed the process I did not need more knowledge, I just needed to trust what I already knew and consolidate my understanding and identity as an analyst. I discovered this in the process of certification; it is a process indeed. Writing up all those case summaries, making sense of the years of all those lives in treatment, and confronting myself in my memory as the participant and observer in the consultation room, had helped me understand the analytic process in a deeper way. There is an old adage: What does not kill you makes you stronger.

It was a moving developmental experience that allowed me to see how I had developed into a mature analyst; it gave me the opportunity to discuss my work with colleagues who assessed it and shared it with me as we all were reminded of our passion as analysts. This, I believe, is what the process should be. I was fortunate it became that for me. We need standards in our field. We need to help each other to become analysts, and certified compassionate analysts. The argument over the details of the process and the externalization of the process may continue, but standards are necessary and certification can and should be a positive developmental experience and achievement.

To this debate, I offer a simple parallel. When I make a recommendation of analysis to parents, they often ask how are we going to figure out all those appointments and do you have the time in your schedule? My reply is always some variant of the same. If you are willing, and you give 100 percent and I give 100 percent, we will be able to work out the details. There will be times when you will be glad you made this decision, there will be times when you will hate me and hate coming to my office, but if we all survive it together I doubt you will regret it because it will get rid of the conflict that impedes your child’s development, and you and he will grow and be forever changed.

For months after my certification exam, I would wake up and remind myself, yes it is real, it was not a dream. I really am a certified child, adolescent and adult psychoanalyst. How fortunate am I? There is nothing that compares to the full realization of an amazing and awe-inspiring achievement based on one’s own hard work and growth.

Editor’s Note: The BOPS chair invited a guest columnist to write for this issue. You may wish to review TAP 48/2, “Pre-Graduation Certification,” page 5, for another view of this topic.
How to Participate in APsaA's Scientific Program

Scientific papers for oral presentation must be no longer than 18 pages and timed for 40 minutes reading time. Submit all manuscripts by electronic mail and please include an abstract. Send one blind paper, with all references to the author deleted. The first page of the manuscript must show only the author’s name, address, phone number, and the title of the paper. The author’s name should not appear on any subsequent page. JAPA has right of first refusal on any paper accepted for presentation. The paper cannot have been accepted or be under consideration for publication by another journal.

Panel proposals should be two pages maximum. The proposal should contain a description of the format, the objective of the panel, and names of possible participants (chair, panelists, discussant, if any). The Program Committee chooses panels one year in advance.

Discussion group proposals should be two pages maximum. Decisions concerning new discussion groups are made based upon how subject matter relates to what is already taken up in existing groups and on space availability.

Symposia explore the interface between psychoanalysis, society, and related disciplines, attempting to demonstrate how psychoanalytic thinking can be applied to non-psychoanalytic settings. Symposia must be in talking points format, 10 to 15 minutes per presentation (no papers read), with a minimum of 15 minutes for audience participation with emphasis on audience interaction. Submit a brief (two pages maximum) proposal outlining rationale, program format, and suggested speakers.

The deadline for submission of panel proposals is October 1 for the National Meeting (January) and March 1 for the Annual Meeting (June).

The deadline for all other submissions is May 1 for the National Meeting (January) and December 1 for the Annual Meeting (June).

Address correspondence to Scientific Program Submissions, American Psychoanalytic Association, 309 East 49th Street, New York, New York, 10017 or email cgatto@apsa.org,
**Mystic River**

*Continued from page 13*

Dave’s wife, freaked out by her husband’s erratic, menacing behavior, and with the lasting memory of seeing him bloody that night (he had actually killed a child molester), naively tells Jimmy her suspicions. If she tells Jimmy, she thinks, then he and his thug friends can create a moat around her that Dave would never dare cross. There is no space anywhere in her mind for thinking about loyalty to her husband.

Dave again gets in the back seat of a car he should not be getting into, and the die is cast. Out behind a waterfront bar on the Mystic, Dave is intimidated by Jimmy and his thug pals into making up a false confession that he killed Katie. For Jimmy, the waterfront scene is his capitulation. He thought he was finished with all this. Going straight had been his private pledge to Katie, and how could violating that pledge honor her memory? He is abandoning the honorable person he had worked to become. When Dave says, “I did it,” Jimmy quickly shakes his head, like something in him actually did not want to hear this. Then Jimmy stabs him, saying, “We bury our sins here, Dave. We wash them clean.” Nothing could be further from the truth.

**CHOICE**

Jay Greenberg was invited to give the Plenary Address at the 2007 spring meeting of the American Psychoanalytic Association, and he wrote a paper called “Choice.” He writes that we understand the necessity for “working through” in our treatments, for revisiting the same conflicted solutions time and again in various guises. But he also sees a deeper truth: Reasons do not explain choices. He quotes Leo Rangell saying the idea that “expanded choice” follows easily from analytic work is “perhaps one of the most prevalent fallacies in psychoanalytic practice.” Greenberg’s argument is that our patients’ significant choices are often manic acts, actions they think can be taken without emotional cost. Like Jimmy’s saying, “We bury our sins here, Dave. We wash them clean.” Meaningful choice, in contrast to flight, requires bearing the various dimensions of the situation, the conflict of motives, the gains and the losses, the harms done, the uncertainty of consequences. Using the Kleinian metaphor: choice can exist only in the depressive position.

**Ethics Violations**

*Continued from page 14*

A several year period ensues, in which there will be other institute-wide meetings, sometimes with colleagues from out of town, selected to continue the healing process. This may be facilitated by a site visit of the Committee on Institutes. The analyst and his former patient may each benefit significantly from a second analysis. There have been patients who have had a second analysis, continued their development as candidates, and eventually became leading members of their analytic communities. Some analysts with a good enough re-analysis may be able to return to some of their former institute/society activities.

It is painfully true that some of these patients and analysts turn their backs on analysis itself. There is obviously a wide range of outcomes. Most colleagues and patients can be significantly helped and deserve our support and encouragement.

You can search long and hard in Mystic River to find meaningful choice, action taken with awareness, action that affects who we are. Jimmy is unable to reflect on what Dave is about as a person, and so he cannot help Dave’s wife think about him or understand her anxiety; and he cannot imagine what it would mean to Katie to revenge her death; and he cannot contemplate what committing a murder will do to his own sense of himself; or what failing to seek revenge would do to his family; and whether he could survive that. In spite of ourselves, we repeat, because that is home.

A footnote: Baseball frames the film, now we see the huge ball in the float moving away from us as the movie ends. Ironically, the year after the film was released the Red Sox won the World Series for the first time in 86 years. A mixed blessing for us long-time sufferers. What can you count on?
THE WIDENING SCOPE ON
Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis

Kidding Our Kids?
Continued from page 1

early in the lives of these individuals and their families. I can also recall the considerable and gradual organizational and programmatic expansion that has come about within APsaA aimed at incorporating child analytic material and theoretical perspectives in our professional and academic engagements with adults, therapeutically or as preventive interventions in communities, institutions and families.

THE VULNERABLE CHILD

In 1969, as I was beginning to explore the practical implications of beginning my psychoanalytic training, coincidentally APsaA began exploring ways and means of social outreach by taking psychoanalytic intervention from the confines of the consultation room out to the community where vulnerable children and their families resided, attended school, or struggled to cope with formidable levels of deprivation, pathology and accumulative trauma. The Executive Committee of APsaA then established the Subcommittee on Social Issues, which was tasked to pursue this objective.

An immediate offshoot of this effort was the establishment of the Vulnerable Child Workshop, whose original members initiated the first regularly held discussion group focusing on children at risk. This was also intended to serve as an ongoing, long-term scientific event dedicated to highlighting the clinical work and research activities of child analysts. In 2011, the Executive Council designated The Vulnerable Child as a permanent discussion group embedded in the organizational structure of APsaA, where contributions of child/adolescent analysis and child advocacy could be highlighted within an organization where the majority of the members were adult analysts.

APsaA’s Vulnerable Child Discussion Group made its most recent presentation this past January, when it embarked on its 46th year of continuous activity. During the first 40 years, Theodore B. Cohen chaired a Vulnerable Child Study Group in Philadelphia and also chaired and organized these presentations at the meetings of APsaA as well as the Association for Child Psychoanalysis. For many years, this was the lone voice and later the dominant feature representing child analytic work at APsaA meetings. I have had the good fortune of maintaining 36 years of uninterrupted participation, initially as reporter, contributor, and then co-editor of The Vulnerable Child series publications, and for the past 16 years as the co-chair, first with Cohen who stepped down as the chair in 2009 after 40 years, and currently with Mary Davis, a child analyst and a graduate of the Chicago Institute who is the only trained child analyst currently residing in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Today, The Vulnerable Child is no longer the sole voice of children or even a dominant child-based feature at the national meetings, thanks to widespread interest and unfailing enthusiasm that now dominates innumerable aspects of our scientific programming at APsaA meetings.

MAD RACE TO THE BOTTOM

Having expounded the impressive enhancement of the status of child analytic research, infant observation, and child development amongst our colleagues and APsaA membership, I should also acknowledge the glaring absence of recognition and utilization of psychoanalytic tools in situations of obvious clinical needs of children and their families in the society at large and in routine practice of medicine and mental health services.

We have witnessed a pervasive tendency towards emphasizing shortcuts, quick answers and economizing when it comes to dealing with the intrapsychic universe of children as well as adults. Psychoanalytic treatment of children under present sociopolitical circumstances is hard to come by and receives negligible support from our traditional institutions. In nearly all cases, the main focus is on easy fixes and popular methods designed primarily to enrich the business community in a mad race to the bottom in quality and quantity. For psychoanalysis to survive and to continue to grow as a scientific method and a therapeutic tool and for us to maintain our status as members of the profession, we need to identify systemic elements that work against us, look into their origin and examine their context for the purpose of arming ourselves with means and methods that could address these concerns for the long term.

As a new member of COCAP, I am pleased to join this organized effort by like-minded colleagues dedicated to the welfare and well-being of the young and vulnerable population that has so much to gain from the knowledge and expertise that psychoanalytic research, treatment, and preventive intervention can bring to this challenging arena. COCAP, under its present leadership aspires to these ideals and looks, with a hopeful and enthusiastically expectant eye, to the future, when the well-being of our children will be still more paramount in our thoughts, actions and plans.
SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 5-7, 2015

104th ANNUAL MEETING

Palace Hotel | San Francisco