Re: Class on Dreams: some general information  
To: Candidate Class  
Dates: 1/4/11 to 12/16/11  
Time: 12-1:30pm

We are going to use two rather long reading resources at the beginning of the semester to give us the background in psychoanalytic dream theory and then things will lighten up and I will give you only one or possibly two papers for the week.

Because the first three weeks will involve some extensive reading I wanted to get them to you now so you can have time to read them before we meet.

We will discuss the material for the first hour and then I am asking that one of you bring in a patient’s dream which we will go through, and attempt to apply the material from that reading perspective. Please decide amongst yourselves who will present a dream so we have one available each time.

I am hoping, starting with Freud, we can look at the evolution of analytic dream theory and what each analytic perspective has contributed to it. By the end of the semester I hope you can hear a dream from all five perspectives and use what is useful for that patient at the time. As something grabs you, I hope to help you access further resources to pursue on your own.

I love discussion and dialogue, and am not invested in one perspective being right or wrong, but in the richness we have available across the analytic perspectives to help us in our work.

If you have questions before, during or after the course, please feel free to call me at 952-9229144 or email me at segrostephan@gmail.com

Sharon Grostephan, LICSW
Psychoanalytic Dream Theory: Five Perspectives

Each class consists of one or two readings that are discussed for the first half of the class. The second half of the class will be the presentation of a patient's dream from one of the candidates. We will use the theory to try to analyze the dream as a group. Each week builds on the previous one, so at the end we can use five analytic perspectives and see how they are similar and different.

11/4 Summary of analytic dream theory


11/18 “Dream Life:” Donald Meltzer “Klein and Bion’s Expansion of Freud’s Metapsychology “(object relations)

12/2 “The Psychological Functions of Dreams: A Revised Psychoanalytic Perspective”: Jim Fosshage (self psychology)

12/9 “The Patients Dreams and the Counter transference”: Mark Blechner (relational school)

12/16 “Psychoanalytic Dream Theory-Reconstruction of Infant Trauma from Analytic Dream Material”: Linda Share (developmental approach)

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