

THE DENVER PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETY
invites you to attend the

2018-2019
Psychoanalytic
Lecture Series

Friday, February 22, 2019 at
7PM

Montview Blvd. Presbyterian Church
1980 Dahlia St., Denver, CO

How the Despot Gets His Sex
Appeal: Psychoanalytic
Observations on How the Despot
Gets His Followers to Deny Reality

featuring David Stevens, Ph.D.



Course Description:

This paper takes Freud's often overlooked theories on group psychology as its starting point. The role of infantile sexuality, in particular, is explored as a source for hypotheses for understanding the paradoxically intense attachment of adherents to their cult leaders.

Goals:

1. Gain an understanding of Freud's concepts of group psychology.
2. Understand how an application of ideas associated with infantile sexuality can affect how individuals identify with groups.
3. Appreciate how a sense of grievance (originally derived from the vicissitudes of infantile sexuality) promotes an allegiance to a group leader that allows for denying reality.

David Stevens is a practicing clinical psychologist and psychoanalyst who works with adolescents and adults. He earned his PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Colorado and received his psychoanalytic training at the Denver Institute for Psychoanalysis where he has been a faculty member for more than twenty-five years, teaching courses on psychoanalytic theory and technique as well as being a Training and Supervising Analyst for the past fifteen years. In addition, he is an Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center where he teaches psychiatric residents principles of psychodynamic thought. He is the co-author with Jim Grigsby of the *Neurodynamics of Personality* published in 2000. He has a longstanding interest in participating in the mutually enriching conversations that can occur at the intersection of psychoanalytic thought and the humanities.

No RSVP necessary but registration is appreciated.

This meeting is offered *free* of charge as a service to the local mental health community and is open to all. Donations are welcome. The DPS embraces a policy of nondiscrimination in relation to gender, race, religion, national origin, and sexual orientation.

To register or view other events, please visit us online at www.denverpsychoanalytic.org