Psychotherapy After Relational Trauma
Cultivating Clinical Hospitality when Struggles for Power Become Central as Repeated Early Themes

Presented by Dr Jackie Amos
23rd & 24th June 2020

Overview
There are times in every practitioner’s life when we find ourselves working with people whose creative adaptations to profoundly inhospitable early environments mean that they are habitually dominant, dismissing and even contemptuous of those around them. Whilst the painful experiences that lead to these characteristic ways of relating are often encountered in clinical practice, people whose suffering is expressed in this way create particular challenges for the relationally oriented therapist.

The aim of this workshop is to deepen practitioner’s capacity for compassion and clinical hospitality in these situations. Drawing on evolutionary, and systems based understandings of interpersonal trauma and entrapped relationships (e.g. Stockholm syndrome) Jackie will present a detailed theoretical model that seeks to explain how both dominance and submission are repeating themes derived from early, relationally traumatising environments. How we, as practitioners embody power will be explored experientially, to help us recognise our own tendencies to dominance or submission. The ways in which this affects our ability to remain present to the suffering behind the clinical presentations, and how to enhance our abilities to so will also be considered.

General Information
Venue / The Gestalt Centre, 622 Lygon St., Carlton North.
Dates / 23rd & 24th June 2020
Time / 9.30-5.00pm
Fee / Full Registration $580 / GTA Enrolled Students $420
Book & pay / Contact the office on 03 9489 6300 to register and make payment

Who should attend?
Psychotherapists, psychologists and counsellors. Students of counselling and psychotherapy training programs are also welcome to attend.
Dr Jackie AMOS (University of South Australia, Centacare)

Dr Jackie Amos is a child and adolescent psychiatrist and Gestalt psychotherapist. Jackie works psychotherapeutically with severely distressed families, where ongoing abuse and neglect of children is a central concern. She currently supports child protection programmes at Centacare a non-government agency. In her doctoral research, Jackie developed two complementary models of the intergenerational transmission of neglect and abuse and the role of trauma in maintaining relationship difficulties. These models were then used to understand the key objectives of treatment for families where the care and protection of the children is compromised.