

Sharing Space: A Proposed Course Outline on Pre- and Peri-Natal Psychology

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Abstract: None available.

Full Text: Headnote ABSTRACT: Though there is mounting demand by students for information about Pre- and Peri-Natal Psychology there is no such course being offered at a recognized university at this time. The authors, in an attempt to facilitate discussion on this subject and eventual implementation have prepared a course outline. INTRODUCTION The course outline that follows is intended to chart the territory of Pre- and Peri-Natal Psychology as we know it. Course leaders will naturally need to change and fashion it according to their own areas of interest and expertise as well as the restraints of hours of instruction available and the level of sophistication and knowledge of the students. The authors would be happy to offer further advice, suggestions and references to academics who are considering offering this course. They would also like to receive information about any courses that are already being given on this subject or courses that incorporate some of these topics. COURSE OUTLINE ON PRE- AND PERINATAL PSYCHOLOGY Pre and Perinatal Developmental Psychology Embryology and Fetology Focus on Central Nervous System, Audiology Mental and Emotional-Consciousness, Memory Pre-Natal Learning Normal Development External Stimulation Psychological Development of Infants The Psychology of Pregnancy Psychological Preparation for Pregnancy Parents Risk Screening Once Pregnant Physiological Risks and Requirements During Pregnancy which Impact on Psychological and Developmental Health of Child Smoking, Drugs, Sleep, Rest/Anxiety, Work, etc. Psychology of Infertility Third Party Conceptions-Effects on Babies Born in This Way AI IVF (Test Tube) Surrogate Parents Ethical and Moral Issues Pre and Perinatal Loss and Grief Prenatal Death Perinatal Death Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Postpartum Depression Pre and Perinatal Psychology and The Family Pre-natal Communication/Bonding Between Parents/Siblings and Baby Talking and Playing Music Pregnancy and Dreams Mothers Fathers Pre-Natal Classes Physiological exercises Psychological Preparation Psychological Implications of Birthing Practices Medical Interventions During Pregnancy and Labour ie. Ultrasound, Amniocentesis, Fetal Heart Monitors-Effects On Mother Father Birthing Staff Obstetrics esp. Labor and Delivery, Effects of Analgesics and Anesthetics On Mother Infant Choice of Birthing Places and Methods, Midwives, etc. (who, how done) Leboyer type deliver, Advantages and Disadvantages Post-natal Bonding Talking, Playing Breast Feeding NICU's-What They are and How They Can be Humanized Pre and Perinatal Influences on Personality Pioneers of Pre and Perinatal Psychology-Freud, Rank, Fodor, Greenacre, etc. The Effects of Birth on Adult Personality Adult Dreams Birth, Suicide and Drug Addiction Infant and Child Personality The Effects of Prenatal Events on Adult Personality Adult Dreams Infant and Child Personality Adoption-Closed, Open, Long Term Effects on Child Adoptive Mother, Father, Siblings Biological Mother, Father, Siblings Abortion-Positive and Negative Psychological Effects on Mother Father and Siblings Future Pregnancies Unwanted Children and Survivors of Attempted Abortions Retrieval of Pre and Perinatal Memories Treatment Treatment of Pre-Natal and Perinatal Traumas Present Treatment Modalities With Adults With Children Further Implications The Effects of Pre and Perinatal Events On Mythology and Art Sociology and Politics THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CIRCUMCISION A forum for leading world authorities on the medical, cultural, psychological, religious, legal, and sexual aspects of genital mutilation was held in Anaheim, California, March 1-3, 1989. The three-day event had a profound effect upon speakers and participants alike. It became apparent that genital mutilation is primarily directed at children and that, with the mutilation, a very definite part of human sexuality is irretrievably lost. On the final day of the conference, the General Assembly unanimously passed the Declaration of the First International Symposium on Circumcision which recognized the inherent

right of all human beings to an intact body. Furthermore, the Assembly asserted, "physicians who practice routine circumcision are violating the most important maxim of medical practice, "Primum non nocere," "First do no harm," and anyone practicing genital mutilation is violating Article V of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights, "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment." The core proceedings of the International Symposium were published in the July/August issue of The Truth Seeker, available from NOCIRC. Audio and video tapes of the program are also available. For further information write to the National Organization of Circumcision Information Resources Centers, P.O. Box 2512, San Anselmo, CA 94960. AuthorAffiliation Thomas R. Verny, M.D. and Michael C. Irving, M.A. AuthorAffiliation T.R. Verny, M.D., 36 Madison Avenue, Toronto, ON, Canada, M5R 2S1 M.C. Irving, M.A., 274 Rhodes Avenue, Toronto, ON, Canada, M4L 3A3

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