



AMERICAN GROUP
PSYCHOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION
GROUP FOUNDATION
FOR ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH
INTERNATIONAL BOARD FOR
CERTIFICATION OF GROUP
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AGPA CONNECT 2020 “GROUP: GROWTH AND RENEWAL” PLENARY RECORDINGS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE

NEW YORK, June 20, 2020— The American Group Psychotherapy Association branded channel on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/agpa01> provides a wealth of information for clinicians, the public-at-large as well as media seeking expert information on the use of groups.

Select Plenary events from the recent 2020 AGPA Connect in New York City are now available on the channel as follows:

Dr. Melyn Leszcz presented “[All I Really Need to Know in Life, I Learned in Group](#),” at the **Anne and Ramon Alonso Presidential Plenary Address**. This presentation focused on the essential contributions our understanding of group therapy, group process and group principles make in every aspect of our professional lives. Dr. Leszcz highlights that beyond the powerful role of group therapy in the delivery of meaningful and effective mental health care, thinking like a group therapist can shape how we work organizationally in AGPA, and what we can bring to the healing of the fractures in our society.

Dr. Jonathan David Haidt presented “[How Social Media Is Changing Social Networks, Group Dynamics, Democracies, and Gen Z](#),” at the **Conference Opening Plenary Address**. Dr. Haidt addressed what social media has done to Gen Z, the generation born beginning in 1996. Because social media changes networks, it has effects on most groups and organizations. The big challenge is to find ways to help groups and communities use social media in more healthy ways.

Dr. Andrew Solomon presented “[Far from the Tree](#),” at the **Mitchell Hochberg Memorial Public Education Event**, featuring the documentary based on the highly acclaimed award winning book of the same name by Dr. Solomon. Excerpts from the film are shown, tying together Dr. Solomon’s own life and story with the experiences highlighted in the families he interviews. Following the showing, Dr. Solomon was interviewed and responded to questions from the audience.

Dr. Morris Nitsun presented “[Reflections on Art & Life Through Dolls: The Power of Visual Images to Evoke Personal and Social Themes](#),” at the **Louis R. Ormont Lecture**, followed by a [discussion](#). Dr.

Nitsun reflected on psychotherapy and art. Themes that emerged from group reflections on his doll painting exhibit included projections and perspectives on childhood.

“We are so fortunate to have nationally renowned speakers present at AGPA Connect,” said Marsha Block, CAE, CFRE, AGPA Chief Executive Officer. “Each presentation provides an opportunity to explore the connection of current issues in society with the field of group therapy.”

For more information on the channel or on group psychotherapy, or to find out how to participate on the channel, contact AGPA at (212) 477-2677 or visit our website at www.agpa.org.

About AGPA

The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) is the foremost professional association dedicated to the field of group psychotherapy, operating through a tri-partite structure: AGPA, a professional and educational organization; the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health, its philanthropic arm; and the International Board for Certification of Group Psychotherapists, a standard setting and certifying body. AGPA represents over 2,000 mental health professional members including psychologists, psychiatrists, and social workers, as well as mental health, family, and pastoral counselors, many of whom have been recognized as specialists through the Certified Group Psychotherapist credential. Its members are experienced mental health professionals who lead psychotherapy groups and various non-clinical groups. Many are organizational specialists who work with businesses, not-for-profit organizations, communities and other "natural" groups to help them improve their functioning. The Association also has 22 local and regional Societies located across the country.

AGPA is committed to supporting the dignity and psychological safety of every individual without discrimination regarding race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sex, age, or disability. Central to our mission is a belief in the power of groups to treat mental illness, heal the scars from traumatic events, and enhance the well-being of adults and children in their families, schools, corporate settings, and communities.

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