

Registration is OPEN!
www.bestco.info/events

See pricing below

*Price includes coffee/tea, light
breakfast and buffet lunch



ASTO SPRING MEETING

May 2 & 3, 2024

Chestnut Conference Centre

Education Module: May 2 2024, 8am-4:30pm EST

Pro-active Responses to Sexualized Violence: Applying an Intersectional Lens

Morning: Ableism as a Form of Violence: Shifting the Narrative of Pity, Fran Odette

Research suggests that disabled people experience significant risk and vulnerability to being survivors/victims of gender-based violence at the hands of partners, family members and care workers. Ableism as a form of disability oppression, supports the creation of barriers that increase disabled people's experiences of isolation, exclusion, and lack of agency. Combined, these elements influence the ability to engage in informed decision-making around sexuality and sexual expression.

This workshop will provide opportunities to uncover biases and beliefs that limit work with disabled clients and foster the belief that people with disabilities always need 'protection.' We will explore ways sex therapists can work in partnership with disabled people to reduce the risks of sexual violence while fostering avenues for meaningful engagement in the claiming and reclaiming of clients' sexualities.

Afternoon: Narrative and Response-Based Approaches to Sexualized Violence Angel Yuen, MSW/RSW

Angel Yuen will present on Narrative Therapy and Response-Based therapy approaches that focus on the skills and knowledges of racialized persons responding to sexualized violence.

Narrative Therapy approaches assist people in reclaiming their lives from the effects of sexualized violence and suggest that there is always another story. These are often subordinated stories of values, acts of resistance, skills in living and the many unacknowledged ways in which people respond. People suffering from the ongoing effects of the trauma of sexualized violence often experience a diminished sense of agency. However, from a Response-Based approach we can co-discover people's acts of resistance. These acts of protest, refusal and resistance are not necessarily grand or overt actions, but more often are hardly visible.

Together with Angel we will discuss and co-discover how it is possible to elicit descriptions and render meaning in sex therapy to small acts of resistance. What might seem an ever-so-small form of resistance to sexualized violence may not only be significant, but also can elevate personal agency.

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ASTO SPRING MEETING

May 2 2024, 8am-4:30pm EST

Agenda-ASTO Spring 2024 Meeting Education Module

8:00-9:00am Meet and mingle – coffee, tea, and pastries provided

9:00-10:15am Fran Odette, The sexualized violence of ableism

10:15-10:30am Break

10:30am-12:00pm Fran Odette, The sexualized violence of ableism

12:00-1:00pm Lunch Provided

1:00-2:30pm Angel Yuen, Response based therapy with sexualized violence

2:30-2:45pm - Break

2:45-4:30pm - Angel Yuen, Response based therapy with sexualized violence

***No Refunds--credit toward future meeting only. (No credit after registration
deadline April 27th 2024)*

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ASTO Spring Meeting

May 3 2024 8am-4:30pm EST

Agenda-ASTO General Business Meeting

Morning

8:00 - 8:30am	Meet and Mingle- – coffee, tea, and pastries provided
8:30 - 8:45am	Welcome
8:45 - 10:15am	ASTO Business meeting (ASTO members only)
10:15 - 10:25am	Break
10:25 - 10:30am	Welcome Guests
10:30am -12:00pm	Clinical consultation with Angel Yuen
12:00pm -1:00pm	Lunch Provided
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Associate Case Presentation by Amie Latta, MDiv, RP
2:10 - 3:10pm	Associate Case Presentation by Carol Anne Austin, MEd, C.Psych
3:20 - 4:20pm	Associate Case Presentation by Betty Ann McPherson, MA, RP
4:20pm-4:30pm	Closing remarks

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Presenter Bios



Fran Odette is a queer-identified, feminist and disability rights activist. Her advocacy efforts have spanned over 25 years, with a focus on the intersections between gender, disability and sexualities. Fran brings a wealth of knowledge on the issues for survivors of gender-based violence through her research, writing and programming in agencies working to end violence against women. As a trainer and educator, Fran's work supports service providers in building capacity to make the linkages needed to ensure that persons with disabilities, inclusive of gender identity and sexualities to have access to services. Co-author with Cory Silverberg and Dr. Miriam Kaufman of The Ultimate Guide to Sex and Disability - For All of Us Who Live with Disabilities, Chronic Pain and Illness (*Cleis Press), Fran has been on faculty at George Brown College since 2008 where teaches in the Assaulted Women and Children Counselor Advocate Program, Social Service Worker Program and Liberal Arts and Sciences.



Angel Yuen MSW RSW (she/her) works as a narrative therapist, supervisor and consultant in alternative-private practice in Durham region of the Greater Toronto Area. Angel's previous work in the public sector spanning three decades included experiences in school, community, and adult and children's mental health settings. Angel facilitates narrative workshops locally, internationally and virtually. Within these spaces she continually is honoured to share hopeful stories, skills and wisdom of the people who consult with her. As a member of the Dulwich Centre international faculty in Adelaide, Australia Angel is part of their team for the Master of Narrative Therapy and Community Work program. Angel is the author of the 2019 book titled Pathways beyond despair: Re-authoring lives of young people through narrative therapy. Angel has also published the following papers re: narrative ideas and responding to trauma: Discovering Children's Responses to Trauma: a response-based narrative practice (2007) and Less Pain More Gain: Explorations of responses versus effects when working with the consequences of trauma (2009).

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Presenter Bios

Betty Ann McPherson, MA is a Registered Psychotherapist with a Masters in Counselling Psychology, a Certified Traumatologist, and a professional member of EMDR Canada. Betty Ann is also a member of the World Professional Associate for Transgender Health (WPATH), and a member of the Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society (CFAS). Betty Ann has been helping individuals, couples and families for the last 20 years.

Amie Latta, MDiv, RP is a Registered Psychotherapist and a Registered Marriage and Family Therapist with over 15 years of mental health experience. Amie's work helps clients establish healthier narratives around their relationships, sex lives, and family dynamics.

Carol Anne Austin, MEd, C.Psych is a clinical and counselling Psychologist, with the College of Psychologists of Ontario, and the founder of Candor Psychology & Psychotherapy. She received a Master's of Education in Counselling Psychology from the University of Toronto (OISE) and a Master's of Arts in Psychology from Carleton University. Carol Anne builds sexual health into her clinical practice as a service. Carol Anne approaches each and every session with compassion, warmth and energy, mixed with a touch of light humour.

Pricing

Thursday Education Module:

Members \$129	Guests \$199	Students \$109
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Friday Business Meeting:

Members \$99	Guests \$139	Students \$99
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