



PCOP

Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia

CE/CME Educational Program

Stepparents and Their Children
with Andrew I. Smolar, MD

&

PCOP Welcome Back Party

Join us for a community celebration to kick off the new year at PCOP. The morning will begin with a presentation, *Stepparents & Their Children*, by Andrew I. Smolar, MD, followed by a Welcome Back Party for members, students, and program guests.

This gathering is an opportunity to reconnect, meet new colleagues, and celebrate the start of the academic year!

Program Details

Stepparents and Their Children

**September 19, 2026
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT
Rockland & via Zoom
2 CE/CME credits
available**

**\$80 for CE/CME Credits
\$40 for Admission Only
Free for PCOP Members**

Party Details

Welcome Back Party

**September 19, 2026
12:00 - 1:30 PM EDT
Rockland**

**Free & Open to PCOP
Members and Attendees of
the CE/CME Educational
Program**

**Stay after the program
for snacks, refreshments,
and conversation!**

**RSVP for the
virtual
program
online via
Zoom -
CLICK HERE!**

RSVP

**RSVP for the
in-person
program at
Rockland
and/or the
party -
CLICK HERE!**

CE/CME Educational Program

Stepparents and Their Children

with Andrew I. Smolar, MD

About the Program

In this presentation, **Andrew I. Smolar, MD**, will discuss the challenges and potential growth for stepfamilies. While reviewing the psychoanalytic literature on the subject, Dr. Smolar will describe the circumstances that lead to the formation of the stepfamily – such as parental death, alienation, or the most common, which is divorce – and then describe how the stepfamily's development is experienced from the point of view of child, parent, family group and community. Dr. Smolar will then provide clinical examples of the impact of stepparents on various therapy processes, within psychoanalytic, couples, and group therapy settings. Psychoeducational and in-depth processes are described. Dr. Smolar will emphasize how the transference is handled, and how group attachment insecurity, for some patients, restricts their participation in groups. Dr. Smolar will note that internal object images of parents and stepparents may be in conflict, and this conflict may be experienced within the therapist and patient, thus complicating therapeutic process. Dr. Smolar will conclude with several technical recommendations for therapists working with patients who may struggle to appreciate the full impact of stepfamilies in their histories, and for therapists working with patients who may be struggling to help children adapt to these new family structures.

About the Speaker

Andrew I. Smolar, MD is Training and Supervising Analyst at the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia and Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Temple University School of Medicine. He has been in the private practice of psychiatry, psychoanalysis, and group therapy in Wynnewood, PA since 1998. Dr. Smolar has served as President of the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia from 2015-17; he also served there as Chairman of the Education Committee, Training and Supervising Analyst Committee, Ethics Committee, co-Chair of the Supervision Study Group for Supervising Analysts, and is co-Director of the Developmental Pathway for recent graduates. Dr. Smolar has contributed to the academic literature by writing on the following subjects: analytic work with an immigrant analysand; group therapy in various clinical settings; combining analytic treatment with group therapy techniques; and most recently, psychotherapy during this era of political turmoil, contributions of group fragmentation toward national discord, the role of group identifications during normative development, and traumatic group identifications during adolescence with co-author Fred Baurer. He is co-editor of a book on marriage with Salman Akhtar and Ann Eichen, and is working with the same co-editors on a book on parenthood. He is co-investigator of research of American citizens suffering from conspiracy thinking. He has published op-eds on mental health subjects in the Philadelphia Inquirer and Pittsburgh Tribune-Review.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Describe common developmental experiences leading to stepfamily formation.
2. Identify indications within the therapeutic process that the patient's development may have been affected by blended family adaptations.
3. Analyze expectable blocks for parents and for children—especially adolescents—in adaptation to blended family dynamics.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION/CONTINUING EDUCATION Continuing Medical Education (CME):

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of American Psychoanalytic Association and the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia. The American Psychoanalytic Association is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The American Psychoanalytic Association designates these Live Activities for a maximum of 2 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURE INFORMATION FOR ALL LEARNERS: Disclosure Statement

The APsA CE Committee has reviewed the materials for accredited continuing education and has determined that this activity is not related to the product line of ineligible companies and therefore, the activity meets the exception outlined in Standard 3: ACCME's identification, mitigation and disclosure of relevant financial relationship. This activity does not have any known commercial support.



Continuing Education for Psychologists (CE):

The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Every session of this program offers CE credit for psychologists.

Continuing Education for Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors (CE):

In accordance with the requirements of the Commonwealth of PA dated 12/23/06 [PA Code: Title 49, Ch. 47-49], The State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors recognizes the American Psychological Association (APA) as a preapproved provider of continuing education programs for social workers and clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists, and professional counselors in the State of Pennsylvania. The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education programs.

For more information, please contact the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia:

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The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia is committed to reasonable accommodations for any member or program attendee with a disability, unless doing so would cause significant hardship to the organization. Advance written notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs. To request accommodations for this program, please click [here](#) to complete an Accommodation Request Form.