


# Pearson Lecture



## Appearance & Experience

The Power of Stereotype and Assumption: How Exploration of "Growing Up Black" Illustrates the Importance of Listening and Exploration

*Friday, October 14th*

*7:00 pm to 9:00 pm*

*Via Zoom*

**Presented by  
Lee Ascherman, MD, MPH, &  
Aaron Reliford, MD**

As society grapples with greater awareness and sensitivity to race, past and recent violations, structural racism, implicit bias, guilt, and the wish to atone and repair, analysts and mental health professions have undergone similar self-examination. An unintended consequence of this sensitivity may be a greater vulnerability to assumptions about individuals based on their outer appearance or ethnicity. This program will highlight the challenge of balancing sensitivity to issues of race, ethnicity, and intergenerational trauma with vigilance against assumptions that can interfere with listening and understanding the individual.

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)**

**2 CE/CME's Available**

FREE for PCOP Members

\$60 for Non-Members Seeking CE Credit, \$30 for Non-Members not Seeking CE Credit

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## Lee Ascherman, MD, MPH

Dr. Ascherman is a Training and Supervising Analyst and Child Supervising Analyst at the Cincinnati Psychoanalytic Institute and a geographic rule child psychoanalytic supervisor for the Western New England Psychoanalytic Institute. He has written and presented on the ethics of psychotherapy, psychoanalysis and psychoanalytic education, learning disorders, childhood trauma related to displacement and loss from war, and challenges faced by African American youth. He is a former Associate Editor of the Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association and an Honorary member of the Czech Psychoanalytic Society in appreciation of his support for their development and growth after the fall of the Iron Curtain and his encouragement of child treatment there.

Dr. Ascherman was the recipient of the UAB School of Medicine Dean's Excellence Award in Diversity Enhancement (2015), the UAB President's Diversity Award (2011), the Birmingham Child Advocacy Award for the establishment and leadership of the Engel Therapeutic Preschool Program (2007), a program also recognized by the Association for Child Psychoanalysis as the 2011 Program of Excellence.

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## Aaron Reliford, MD

Aaron Reliford, MD, is Vice Chair for Diversity Equity and Inclusion and associate clinical professor of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Training Director at NYU, and both the Director of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and the Associate Medical Director of Behavioral Health Sunset Terrace Family Health Center of NYU Langone Brooklyn. Dr. Reliford graduated from the University of Chicago where he completed his undergraduate BS degree in Biology with honors. He received his MD from NYU School of Medicine. He subsequently completed his adult residency training at Columbia University and the New York State Psychiatric Institute, and completed his child psychiatry fellowship at the NYPH Child & Adolescent Training program of Columbia and Cornell Universities. He completed psychoanalytic training at the Columbia Psychoanalytic Center in 2019. Prior to starting his work at NYU, he served as the Director and Chief of Service of the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Harlem Hospital, where he also served as the Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Training Director.

Dr. Reliford's clinical research interests include telepsychiatry, racial health disparities in pediatric mental health, identity development in minority youth, cultural psychiatry, pediatric psychopharmacology, effects of early trauma on development of psychopathology, child parent psychotherapy, psychoanalysis, and dynamic/insight oriented psychotherapy.

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## EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

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

- Identify the trajectory of racially motivated trauma on individuals from childhood through the life cycle by greater knowledge of the real life experience and testimony by a child victim of racially motivated violence, now in her sixth decade.
- Identify and discuss assumptions and stereotype by appearance related to gender, race, ethnicity, religion, dress, and age.
- Describe clinical experiences of discovery when what is learned about an individual in treatment betrays initials assumptions about that person, including individuals who seem "like me".
- Describe experiences when transference may attach to the gender, race, ethnicity, presumed religion, or age of the clinician and how assumptions linked to transference are not accurate.

## 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:** None of the planners and presenters for this educational activity have relevant financial relationship(s)\* to disclose with ineligible companies\* whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients. \*Financial relationships are relevant if the educational content an individual can control is related to the business lines or products of the ineligible company. -Updated July 2021-



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:**

Rockland – East Fairmount Park  
3810 Mt. Pleasant Drive Philadelphia, PA 19121  
215-235-2345  
pcop@philanalysis.org