

Loathing What We Desire: Clinical Manifestations of Kristeva's *Abject* Presented by Nancy M. Kulish, PhD

Ann Eichen, PhD - Program Director & Moderator

FRIDAY, APRIL 5TH, 2024

Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm EST
Location: Rockland - East Fairmount Park
3810 Mt Pleasant Dr. Philadelphia, PA
& Virtual via Zoom

Following a two-year personally driven immersive odyssey into the works of French Psychoanalyst Julia Kristeva, **Nancy M. Kulish, PhD** has arrived at a particular understanding of the concept of the *abject*. Dr. Kulish will guide us on her journey to show us a new way to understand the way the very early conflictual engagement between mother and infant can shape the development of one's subjective sense of the female body. Specifically, she will discuss the nature of the *abject*: the *abject* pertains to the developmental moment when the infant first separates from the mother, and it is in this moment when feelings of desire and fear directed toward the 'feminine' or maternal body are born. Dr. Kulish will discuss how the qualitative nature of this early experience can lead to the development of misogyny, both in men who simultaneously loathe and desire the female body and in women who harbor hatred toward themselves and their female bodies. Dr. Kulish will discuss case material to illustrate this concept.

2 CE/CME'S AVAILABLE
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Biography

Nancy M. Kulish, PhD, is an Adjunct Professor of Psychology at the University of Detroit/Mercy and an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at Wayne State Medical School, Detroit, Michigan. She also has a private practice in psychology and psychoanalysis in Birmingham, Michigan. Dr. Kulish received her psychoanalytic training at the Michigan Psychoanalytic Institute, where she currently serves on the faculty. She has delivered many invited presentations and authored numerous books and journal articles on the topics of sexuality, gender, and the Oedipal complex.

Among her presentations, she gave (1) a plenary panel address on sexuality at the International Psychoanalytic Congress in Mexico City in 2011, (2) an invited lecture on "The Psychological Significance of Sexuality" at the Centenary Conference of the International Journal of Psychoanalysis in New York in 2018, and (3) a plenary address at the Meetings of the American Psychoanalytic Association in 2021.

Her publications include a book, co-authored with Deanna Holtzman, entitled *A Story of Her Own: The Female Oedipus Complex Reexamined and Renamed* (Aronson, 2008). Dr. Kulish was honored to be chosen as a National Psychoanalytic Woman Scholar by the American Psychoanalytic Association.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

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

1. Discuss Kristeva's concept of the *abject*.
2. Apply the concept of the *abject* to clinical manifestations of disgust in both the analyst and the patient.
3. Consider the concept of the *abject* clinically to misogyny in men and women.

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 of this CME program have any relevant financial relationships to disclose.



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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