

## Ethics and Praxis 2014

We shall commence our work on the ethics and praxis of psychoanalysis on **Saturday March 8, 2014**, 8-11am (8am sharp), at the Treacy Conference Centre, 126 The Avenue, Parkville. An outline of the program and a list of texts are attached.

I will conduct the first four seminars and Veronica Sinclair will be in charge of the remaining three. [Veronica's email: [veronica.sinclair@bigpond.com](mailto:veronica.sinclair@bigpond.com)]

The topics and texts to be studied are at the core of psychoanalysis and the formation of a psychoanalyst. Yet they concern matters that have occupied humans since the advent of civilization – not only philosophers and other thinkers, but also the ordinary peoples of all times. Hence the significance of the ethical dimension of our praxis, brought to us in concrete forms by each of our patients and present in each of our own acts.

As we have established in previous seminars, exchanges (in the form of reflections, comments, questions or papers) in between our meetings are most welcome. They have become an active part of our style of study. You are invited to start sending your contributions right now.

I look forward to another productive and enjoyable series of seminars.

Dr Leonardo Rodríguez  
756 Drummond Street, North Carlton, Victoria 3054, Australia  
Tel 61 3 9349 3462

### §

- 1      MARCH 8      Introduction to the ethics of psychoanalysis  
                         Ethical questions in the works of Freud  
                         Freud, S. (1912e) Recommendations to Physicians Practising  
                         Psycho-Analysis. *Papers on Technique*. SE 12:111-120.  
                         Freud, S. (1913c) On Beginning the Treatment, pp. 134-139.  
                         *Papers on Technique*. SE 12.  
                         Freud, S. (1919a) Lines of Advance in Psycho-Analytic Therapy.  
                         SE 17:159-168.  
                         The moral law and the superego according to Freud  
                         Freud, S. (1923b) *The Ego and the Id*. Ch. III ['The Ego and the  
                         Super-Ego (Ego Ideal)']. SE 19:28-39.  
                         Freud, S. (1924c) The Economic Problem of Masochism. SE  
                         19:159-170.  
                         The Oedipus complex and the law  
                         Freud, S. (1912-13) *Totem and Taboo*. Part IV, Sections 3-7. SE  
                         13:126-161.  
                         Clinical examples

### §

- 2 MARCH 15 Kant's categorical imperative and the superego.  
 Kant, I. *Critique of Practical Reason*. Book I ('Analytic of Pure Practical Reason'), Chapter I ('Principles of Pure Practical Reason'), § 1-7 Trans. Lewis White Beck. Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill, 1956, pp. 17-33.  
 The Oedipus complex and the prohibition of incest: the critique of Claude Lévi-Strauss.  
 Lévi-Strauss, C. (1969) *The Elementary Structures of Kinship*. Chapter XXIX ('The Principles of Kinship'). Boston, Beacon Press, pp. 478-497.  
 Melanie Klein and the analysis of the superego.  
 Klein, M. (1975 [1927]) Symposium on Child Analysis. *The Writings of Melanie Klein*. Vol. 1. London, Hogarth and The Institute of Psycho-Analysis, p. 139.  
 Clinical examples

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- 3 MARCH 22 The ethics of psychoanalysis according to Lacan: desire and the law, jouissance, the pleasure principle, the Thing.  
 Freud, S. (1950a) *Project for a Scientific Psychology*, Part I, Section 11 ('The Experience of Satisfaction'), pp. 317-319; Part III ('Attempt to Represent Normal  $\psi$  Processes'), Section 1, 360-371. SE 1.  
 Heidegger, M. (1971) The Thing. In *Poetry, Language, Thought*. New York, Harper & Row, 1971.  
 Lacan, J. (1992) *The Seminar, Book VII, The Ethics of Psychoanalysis, 1959-1960*. Chapters I-V. New York, Norton. London, Routledge.  
 Clinical examples

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- 4 MARCH 29 The Thing and the object *a*.  
 Lacan, J. *The Ethics*, op. cit. Ch. VI.  
 Lacan, J. (1977) *The Four Fundamental Concepts of Psycho-Analysis*. Ch. 20. London, Tavistock.  
 Kant and Sade, Kant with Sade.  
 Lacan, J. *The Ethics*, op. cit. Ch. VI.  
 Clinical examples

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- 5 APRIL 5 Ethics and tragedy: *Antigone, Oedipus Rex, Oedipus at Colonus, King Lear*.  
 Lacan, J. *The Ethics*, op. cit. Ch. XIX-XXI.  
 \*Shakespeare, W. (1623) *King Lear*.  
 \*Sophocles *The Oedipus Trilogy: Antigone, Oedipus Rex, Oedipus at Colonus*.  
 \* Several editions available  
 Clinical examples

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- 6      APRIL 12      The moral goals of psychoanalysis (I)  
The desire of the analyst  
Lacan, J. *The Ethics*, op. cit. Ch. XXII-XXIV.  
Lacan, J. (2006 [1961]) The Direction of the Treatment and the Principles of its Power. Ch. V (*Desire must be taken literally*). *Écrits*. New York, Norton.  
Rodríguez, L. (2005) Some reflections on the last three sessions of Lacan's *Seminar VII*. Web Journal of the Centre for Freudian Analysis and Research, London. <http://www.cfar.org.uk>  
Clinical examples

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- 7      MAY 3      The moral goals of psychoanalysis (II)  
Guilt, depression, melancholia  
Freud, S. (1917e) Mourning and Melancholia. SE 1 4:239.  
Lacan, J. *The Ethics*, op. cit. Ch. XXII-XXIV.  
Tóibín, C. (2012) *The Testament of Mary*. New York, Scribner.  
Clinical examples