

Attachment, Dissociation, and Unresolved Mourning of Trauma or Loss
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Presenter: Paula Thomson, PsyD

Presenter Biography: Paula Thomson, PsyD, is Professor in the Department of Kinesiology, California State University, Northridge (CSUN). She is a licensed Clinical Psychologist, adjunct faculty at Pacifica Graduate Institute, and Professor Emeritus and Senior Scholar at York University (Canada). She is Co-Director of the Performance Psychophysiology Laboratory at CSUN, which focuses on research investigating the psychological and physiologic effects of stress on performers, athletes, healthy active individuals and patients with functional disorders. She is co-author of the books, *Creativity and the Performing Artist: Behind the Mask* and *Creativity, Trauma and Resilience*. She is a former ISSTD Board of Directors and is a reliable coder of the Adult Attachment Interview. In 2013, she was named one of the top 20 female professors in California.

Abstract: Attachment theory is an evidence-based field of study that identifies attentional and coping strategies that are rooted in the quality of early infant-caregiver relationships. This webinar offers detailed descriptions of infant and adult classification patterns. Dissociative processing, including dissociative disorders, will be presented in relationship with early and adult attachment experiences, in particular, how unresolved mourning is associated with dissociation. Clinical approaches to treat dissociative disorders that are based on attachment research findings will be incorporated into this webinar.

Objectives

Upon Completion of this webinar, participants will be able to:

- Identify the three organized attachment classifications and the two forms of disorganized classification
- Describe markers indicating unresolved loss or trauma
- Recognize treatment pitfalls when implementing attachment-based theory with dissociative disordered patients

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If your schedule won't allow for you to attend, the webinar will be recorded and made available for purchase approximately two weeks after the live event. The recordings cost is \$25 for ISSTD members and \$45 for non-members. The webinar recording can be accessed on the CE-Credit.com website or in ISSTDWorld for ISSTD members. Exam fees for Continuing Education credits start at an additional \$10.46.

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