

AIP Posting Number Seven

Sunday, November 16, 2014

Hey You Lovely AIP Members,

Having "gone live" just over three months ago, we have nearly 30 members BUT I personally know at least 30 more who have been intending to join us. I shall cc a bunch of them in the hope that they take the leap.

Each of these 30 know another 30, and so on.

We shall build AIP one member at a time.

I'm attaching the newest and less-confusing membership application. Remember that membership only costs \$100 and is good through all of 2015! Students only pay \$50 and Friends \$75.

I now offer one idea for an all-inclusive vision of the psychoanalytic process and one funny story.

It seems to me that we all, regardless of our preferred theoretical orientation, offer these three professional behaviors: We provide *presence*, alternatively known as empathy or attunement; we *engage* our patients using interpretations, confrontations, clarifications of feelings and other means of eliciting interpersonal (and sometimes intersubjective) dialogue; we *frame* the relationship to ensure proper professional boundaries. These professional behaviors, in turn, disrupt patients' *internalization* processes -- their internal conversations going by such names as "psychic retreat," "narcissistic withdrawal," etc.

What do y'all think about that?

Here's the funny story: AIP has a bank account with US Bank that allows persons from other countries, particularly Mexico, China, and India, to join via credit card that, in turn, is directly deposited into the AIP bank account. Right before AIP launched, the bank froze the account (!!) fearing we were doing money laundering of some sort!! I actually had to make a personal appearance at a branch in Seattle to convince them of the nature of our all-inclusive professional organization.

Whoa!

I lean towards that grandiose and so thought we'd have more members by now. But the Board members and I have not lost faith. I've heard this so many times now:

"How do I learn about AIP?"

"How do you join it?"

Etc.

I attach, again, an updated membership application. I hope it avoids the confusion that some have had re: student status, proof of training, etc. It's really simple. To be a *member*, all you have to show is that you have some sort of mental health license and any kind of psychoanalytic training, even of an entirely informal nature. *Students* must only list where they are studying. And, well, *Friends* just have to have a pulse.

Please spread the word about AIP -- the only professional psychoanalytic membership organization that organizes itself around psychoanalytic ideas without concern for specific ideology, level of training, training analyst status, etc.

You can obtain updated info re: AIP at our website, allinpsych.org. You can also join by completing the membership application and using your credit card to join on the website.

Stay tuned for upcoming information about meetings, conferences, a newsletter, and more.

With affection,

Alan