

**Working with Sexual Issues in Psychotherapy**

**Desa Markovic**

**Saturday 14th March 2020, 10:00AM to 12:30PM**

**Henley-on-Thames**

Sexual issues have been marginalised as a topic in psychotherapy training, literature, research and clinical practice. A secretive and taboo treatment of sex can increase clients’ anxieties, thus reinforcing their sexual difficulties. While many psychotherapists work skilfully and creatively with the subject of sex, the lack of professional support systems means that the topic is often still treated as a taboo in the psychotherapy room. Bringing the medical perspective of sexology together with systemic psychotherapy informed by social constructionism, this seminar will offer some practical guidance and theoretical framework for effective therapeutic interventions.

The presenter will address some of the most recent research studies in sexology and summarise the current principles and practices of working with sexual issues in psychotherapy. Drawing on her recently published book ‘Working with sexual issues in psychotherapy; a practical guide using a systemic social constructionist framework’ (2017), Desa Markovic will share her knowledge and expertise in both systemic and psychosexual therapy in relation to topics such as: sexual and gender diversity; sexual myths and misconceptions; useful techniques for working with the variety of sexual concerns both with individuals and couples; ways of integrating sexology and systemic psychotherapy. Clinical examples will be discussed using the presenter’s MOST (Multidimensional Open-minded Sex Therapy) Model - a working framework applicable to various different presenting problems related to sexuality and sexual relationships.

**Desa Markovic** is a UKCP registered systemic psychotherapist and supervisor, and COSRT accredited senior psychosexual therapist and supervisor. She worked in mental health hospitals, psychosexual clinics and private practice. She held senior academic posts at several training institutes, including Relate, Porterbrook Clinic in Sheffield, and Institute of Family Therapy London. In 2014 she was awarded fellowship from the Sheffield Society for the Study of Sexuality and Relationships for her contribution to sexology. Desa is a Professor in Systemic Psychotherapy and current Head of Psychotherapy Programmes at Regent’s University London.

Other publications include:

* Markovic, D. (2017). *Working with sexual issues in psychotherapy. A Practical guide using a systemic social constructionist framework.* Palgrave Macmillan.
* Markovic, D. (2016). Systemic Psychosexual Therapy: a guided tour, in: I. McCarthy, G. Simon (Eds.) *Systemic Therapy as Transformative Practice.* Farnhill: Everything is Connected Press.
* Markovic, D. (2015). Multidimensional Open Sex Therapy, Anthology of International Conference of Expressive Therapies. Palacky University, Czech Republic.
* Markovic, D. (2014). Systemic Family Therapists’ Narratives on Sexual Attraction in their Clinical Practice. A Narrative Analysis, in: Luca, M. (Ed). Sexual Attraction in Therapy: Beyond the Taboo- A Guide for Training and Practice. Wiley – Blackwell.
* Markovic, D. (2013). Multidimensional Sex Therapy: A Model of Integration between Sexology and Systemic Therapy, Sexual and Relationship Therapy, 28(4), pp. 311-323. Markovic, D. (2012). Psychosexual Therapy in Sexualised Culture; A Systemic perspective. Sexual and Relationship Therapy, Vol. 27, Number 2, May.
* Markovic, D. (2010). Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder; Can it be Treated by Drugs? Sexual and Relationship Therapy, Vol. 25 Issue 3.
* Markovic, D. (2010). A Case of Enhancing Sexual Confidence: Both the Client and the Therapist are the Experts, *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Family Therapy.*

bOOKING fORM

**Where:**

Riverside Counselling Service, Friends’ Meeting House, 45 Northfield End, Henley, RG9 2JJ. Directions and parking instructions available at: [www.riversidecounsellingservice.co.uk](http://www.riversidecounsellingservice.co.uk)



**Cost:** £30 (£20 concessionary rate for students & Riverside Associates\*)

**How to book:**

1. To book, please email this form to CPD@riversidecounsellingservice.co.uk

**OR**

Return by post to: **Cath Muston, 12A Woods Rd, Caversham, Reading RG4 6NA**

1. To secure your place payment needs to be made in advance. You can pay by bank transfer to **Lloyds Bank Account Number: 00792754, Sort Code 30-94-13** using your surname followed by initials of speaker as a reference. For example, Muston / DM

**OR**

Send a cheque payable to Riverside Counselling Service with your booking form to:

Cath Muston, 12A Woods Rd, Caversham, Reading RG4 6NA.

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

Name:

Address:

Contact No:

Email:

Payment made by: ☐ Bank transfer ☐ Cheque (enclosed)

Where did you hear about this workshop?

*RECEIPTS WILL BE EMAILED ON RECEIPT OF PAYMENT AND CPD CERTIFICATES WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE DAY.*

***ENQUIRIES****: PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE ON: 07879 381 334 AND WE WILL GET BACK TO YOU.*

*\*Riverside Associates: past counsellors, trustees or volunteers of Riverside.* Registered Charity No: 1018853

DM – 14/3/20