***Morris County Psychological Association***



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**October 13, 2021**

**Three Areas of Clinical Concern in Adoptees and their Families**

Presented by:

Catherine Bianchi, PhD

**Meeting announcements:**

No announcements

***-Register for all upcoming programs at*** [***www.mcpanj.com***](http://www.mcpanj.com)

***Contact:*** Nancy Sidhu at nancysidhumcpa@gmail.com if you have any questions or prefer not to register online.

**Meeting Attendees:**

Roderick Bennett

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Kenneth Gates

Natalie Gatti

Susan Herschman

Hayley Hirschmann

Rebekah Katz

Melissa Klika Mack

Phyllis Lakin

Ilana Lev-El

Susan Neigher

Carly Orenstein

Jayne Schachter

Nancy Sidhu

Anthony Tasso

Beverly Signor

Aaron Welt

Michael Zito

**Presenter Bio:**

Dr. Bianchi has been practicing in Morristown since 1995.  She maintains a practice treating adults, children, and families, with a special focus on infancy and early childhood.  An interest in attachment theory and chronic developmental trauma has led her to serve adoptees and adoptive and foster families.

**Overview and objectives of today’s talk:**

This presentation is intended to be an introductory overview of common presenting issues in cases involving adoption.  There will be an introduction to the influence of the type of adoption on both the child and family, emotional themes and forms of family narratives about adoption, and finally, considerations in the adoptee’s search for identity.

***Learning Objectives:  By the end of the session, participants will be able to:***

* 1.  State three examples of how the influence of the type of placement/ adoption affects the adoption process.
* 2.   Describe 3 possible family narratives re: adoption
* 3.   Explain how the search for identity in adoptees manifests itself, especially in transracial adoptions and other examples of intersecting identity.

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**Q & A:**

1. When people come to see Dr. Bianchi how often do they highlight adoption as the problem and how often do they consider it to be incidental?
* Some families are clueless about the effect of adoption and other take no responsibility at all and blaming everything on the adoption. It truly varies.
1. What happens when an adoption is dissolved?
* There’s no legal way to dissolve an adoption and give a child back. That is why these Facebook groups exist and why these kids are so vulnerable.
1. There appears to be a link between the presence of stealing behavior and adoption, what is this about?

-Envy, jealousy, possible impulsivity, addressing a sense of scarcity.

**Newsletter submitted by:**

**MCPA Secretary – Melissa Klika, Psy.D.**