***Morris County Psychological Association***



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**3/9/2022**

**Gender in Neuropsychology: An Introductory Conversation**

Presented by:

Christine Ghilain, Ph.D., ABPP-CN

**Meeting Announcements**:

Hayley welcomed members.

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

***Contact:*** Hayley Hirschmann, Psy.D. if you have any questions or prefer not to register online.

**Meeting Attendees:**

Leslie Becker-Phelps

Lisa Hahn

Margaret Tobias

Marilyn Lyga

Melissa Klika Mack

Phyllis Lakin

Richard Brewster

Roderick Bennet

Shapar Farzad

Susan Neigher

Sarah Dougherty

Nancy Sidhu

Hayley Hirschmann

Christine Ghilain (speaker)

Francine Rosenberg

Kenneth Gates

Alissa Glickman

Ida Welsh

Ilysa Michelson

Jayne Schachter

**Presenter Bio:**

Dr. Ghilain is a board-certified clinical neuropsychologist who has given over 20 presentations and invited talks at both national and international conferences. She is a lifespan neuropsychologist working with infants through older adults providing comprehensive evaluations in both clinical and forensic contexts. Her most recent book was published by Routledge in 2021 to promote competence in psychological testing procedures for those neuropsychologists working with psychometrists. Her research and clinical interests include refining assessment practices to enhance diagnostic accuracy and achieve optimal outcomes for individuals with diverse neurological conditions across the developmental life span. She has a passion for training and promoting competence in the field of neuropsychology.

**Overview and Objective of Today’s Talk**

This presentation is an introductory conversation for clinicians working with individuals who are exploring their gender identity, or who may not identify with their assigned sex at birth (ASAB). The goal of this presentation is to empower clinicians with up-to-date information, recommendations for practice enhancement, and support in their ongoing work with diverse clients. Resources for ongoing learning will also be provided.

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

1. Define differences in terminology around gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation  
2. Identify the ways to update office paperwork and staff training to be more inclusive of diverse clients.  
3. Engage with clients in a supportive and gender affirming way.

*This program is intended for psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, nurses, mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, physicians and graduate students. It will be presented at an introductory level, meant for those with little prior knowledge of the subject matter. The presenter does not have any commercial support and/ or conflict of interest for this program****.***

***-***

**Q & A:**

1. Any pushback on some of the testing and language with parents? We try to use gender combined norms when we can. The behavioral observation section of the report offers an opportunity for a more qualitative description. There can be pushback between parent and client regarding use of pronouns.
2. What is demisexual? We believe it refers to an individual somewhere between asexual and sexual. They need to have a strong emotional bond with someone prior to having sex.
3. There was a discussion regarding social media and the impact on understanding gender and sexuality.

**Newsletter submitted by:**

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