

THE PSYCHOANALYTIC EDUCATIONAL FORUM OF BOSTON

The PEFB invites trainees, students and recent graduates in mental health professions to participate in this **free** program. All mental health professionals are welcome.

Who Bullies Who? ***A psychoanalytic approach to victimization*** **Stephen Kerzner, M.D.**

Thursday, January 28, 2010 from 8:00 – 9:30 p.m.

Learning Center, 3rd Floor, The Cambridge Hospital, 1493 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, MA

Bullying is not only a problem in schools. It occurs in all human relationships, including those between therapists and patients. Psychoanalysis offers useful insights into the psychological dynamics of dominance and aggression as well as passivity and submission. In order to alter these behaviors, they must first be understood. Words must replace action.

Recently, psychoanalytic principles have been successfully applied to stop bullying. A research project, the Peaceful Schools Experiment, by Peter Fonagy, Stuart Twemlow and others, employed psychoanalytic insights to reduce bullying in schools. We will consider how recognition of the dynamics of the bully, victim and bystander triad led to an effective intervention. We will also consider how psychoanalytic understanding of bullying may have general applicability in relationships that involve dominance and submission.

Stephen Kerzner, M.D. is a child, adolescent and adult psychoanalyst in private practice in Brookline and Duxbury. He is on the faculty of the Psychoanalytic Institute of New England, East. He has had extensive experience consulting to schools and has written about psychoanalytic school consultation and bullying interventions.

The Psychoanalytic Educational Forum of Boston is a combined effort of three psychoanalytic institutes in Boston (Massachusetts Institute for Psychoanalysis, Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute, and PINE Psychoanalytic Center) to enhance opportunities to learn about psychoanalytic perspectives for mental health professionals, students and trainees.