



The Post-Graduate Center
Institute for Graduate Clinical Psychology
Widener University
www.postgraduatecenter.org

Cultivating Ideas.

Fall 2008 Workshops

Loss and Traumatic Stress
 & Child Sexual Abuse Treatment Series



**Trauma in the African American
 Community: A Culturally Enhanced
 Perspective**

Christina Gallman, PsyD

Friday, November 14th, 2008 9:00am-4:00pm
 University Center | Webb Room
 LT | CSA | ACT 48



Workshop Description

Traumatic experiences in the African American community, such as abuse and domestic violence, often go unnoticed until people outside of the family intervene. Trauma is typically not an isolated experience, but rather a pattern of events repeated across generations. Crime, overcrowded homes, unemployment, single-parent families and other factors associated with poverty contribute to the prevalence and perpetuation of trauma in the African American community. Racial solidarity and protection of family members may allow these incidents to remain as family secrets. This workshop will examine the prevalence and patterns of trauma in the African American community and its psychological effects on the individual and family. To assist clinicians in providing more effective care, a culturally sensitive framework for exploring and understanding trauma among African Americans will be described and applied through case vignettes.

This workshop applies as an elective to both the Loss and Traumatic Stress and the Child Sexual Abuse Treatment Certificate Programs.*



Objectives

- Identify racial and gender differences in prevalence rates of neglect, sexual, physical and domestic abuse.
- Describe how persistent patterns of race, social class, and gender inequality produce, promote, and perpetuate violence.
- Consider practical ways to empower African American families to utilize their inherent strengths in healing from trauma.
- Define the concept of "blaming the victim" and examine how the therapist's own biases may hinder treatment compliance and effectiveness.
- Apply skills to clinical vignettes to practice culturally competent case formulation.

LT = Applies to the Loss and Traumatic Stress Certificate Program

CSA = Applies to the Child Sexual Abuse Treatment Certificate Program

ACT 48 = Workshop approved for ACT 48 credits

Individuals do not need to be enrolled in a certificate program to participate in this workshop.

*Note: Mandatory/Core Knowledge workshops cannot be applied to both certificate programs. Electives can be credited towards both certificates, provided they are designated as applying to both.

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