



Loss and Transition: Disrupted Attachments and Life Patterns

*How Therapists Understand Radical, and Not So Radical,
Life Changes*

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Elizabeth Kübler-Ross published her model of the five stages of grief in her classic book *On Death and Dying* which was published in 1969. Since that time new models have arisen within the field of thanatology for understanding the nature of grief and bereavement. Despite these new paradigms, many laypersons and professionals continue to reflexively adhere to the Kübler-Ross stage theory. This presentation will explore several contemporary conceptions of the loss process, review treatment strategies that aid in fostering accommodation to loss and the many other significant life changes patients experience that involve elements of loss and letting go, and offer reflections on how treating patients coping with death and other losses, impacts the personal life of the therapist.

PRESENTER: R. Benjamin Cirlin, LCSW

R. Benjamin Cirlin, LCSW, has been practicing psychotherapy for thirty years. A graduate of the Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University, Benyamin completed postgraduate program in psychoanalytic and family therapy at the Long Island Institute for Mental Health. His early career included work with children, adolescents and adults at Manhattan Children's Psychiatric Center, Four Winds Hospital, and North Shore University Hospital. For seventeen years, Benyamin served as Bereavement Coordinator at the Jacob Perlow Hospice of Beth Israel Medical Center in New York City, and currently serves as the part-time Social Work Supervisor at the Visiting Nurse Service of New York Hospice. Since 1988 Benyamin has served as the Executive Director of the Center for Loss and Renewal (www.lossandrenewal.com), a group practice focusing on life transition therapy. Benyamin has presented on the dynamics of grief and loss at numerous workshops, health care facilities, hospices, and conferences across the United States.

Cresskill Senior Center, 38 Spring St., Cresskill, NJ 07676

10:30 – 11AM Registration and Continental Breakfast

11 – 11:30AM BCPA Business Meeting

11:30 – 1PM Program

BCPA Members – No Charge • Guests \$30 • Students \$10

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