

Gender and Sexuality - June 2026

This first session, 'Gender and Sexuality in our times' will focus on the issues and debates around gender and sexuality in a contemporary socio-cultural context, as these relate to psychoanalysis and Jungian analytical psychotherapy. The second session, 'Sexual identity', will focus more closely on sexualities, exploring writings from authors who critique the heteronormativity of much traditional (psycho)analytic theory, and who seek to re-theorize same sex desire and identities. Please read / listen to at least the key resources. The podcast (Curtis 2022) is quite a time commitment but is well worth listening to in full if you can. Some of the supplementary resources (those with web links) are quick reads.

Key resources

Barden, N. (2011). Disrupting Oedipus: The legacy of the Sphinx. *Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy*, 25:324-345.

Curtis, P. (2022). *The Tavistock: inside the gender clinic*. Podcast.
<https://www.tortoisemedia.com/collection/the-tavistock-inside-the-gender-clinic/>

Elise, D. 'The primary maternal oedipal situation and female homoerotic desire'. In Hertzmann, L. and Newbigin, J. (2020) *Sexuality and Gender Now: Moving beyond heteronormativity*. Oxon: Routledge. Pages 104-120.

Giaccardi, G. (2020) 'Mending the Symbolic: when a place for male same-sex desire is not found'. In Hertzmann, L. and Newbigin, J. (2020) *Sexuality and Gender Now: Moving beyond heteronormativity*. Oxon: Routledge.

Supplementary resources

Rohleder, P. (2020) 'Homophobia, heteronormativity, and shame', in Hertzmann, L. and Newbigin (2020) *Sexuality and Gender Now: Moving beyond heteronormativity*. Oxon: Routledge. Pages 40 – 56. Pages 121 – 164.

Cohen, A. (2024) This is who I am: psychotherapy with gender questioning and transgender adolescents. *Journal of Child Psychotherapy*, 50:1, 145 – 165.

Cook, R. (2021) 'Tavistock Trust whistleblower David Bell: 'I believed I was doing the right thing'. *The Guardian*, May 2nd 2021.
<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2021/may/02/tavistock-trust-whistleblower-david-bell-transgender-children-gids>

Memorandum of Understanding on Conversion therapies (2022)
<https://www.bpc.org.uk/download/8661/mou2-revision-a-update-nov-2022.pdf>

Newbigin, J. (2015) 'Re-thinking our approach to sexualities'. *New Associations*. British Psychoanalytic Council.
<https://www.britishpsychotherapyfoundation.org.uk/app/uploads/2023/04/Rethinking-our-approach-to-sexualities.pdf>