

Press Release June 2019
For Immediate Release

24th Annual LGBTQI Psychotherapy Conference

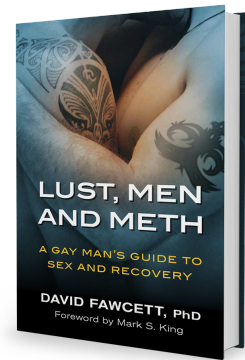
The Lesbian and Gay Psychotherapy Association of Southern California, Inc. (LAGPA) announces its Twenty-Fourth Annual LGBTQI Psychotherapy Conference. The conference is a one-day event co-hosted and co-sponsored by Mount St. Mary's University, Los Angeles. The conference is being held Sunday November 17, 2019 in Los Angeles and presents academic research and expertise on LGBTQI issues and concerns to professionals working with these clients in their counseling practices. The conference is designed to meet the educational needs of psychiatrists, psychologists, LCSW, LMFT, MSW, interns, and students of psychology, and earns continuing education credits from APA. Approximately 100 professionals are expected to attend.



We are honored to have David Fawcett PhD, LCSW as our keynote speaker. He is a social worker and sex therapist specializing in gay men's health. He is the author of *Lust, Men, and Meth: A Gay Man's Guide to Sex and Recovery* (Healing Path Press 2015) which explores the intersection of gay men, drug use, and high-risk sexual behavior. The book was named "2016 Best Nonfiction Literature" by POZ magazine. He is also Vice President for Clinical Programming at Seeking Integrity LLC (www.seekingintegrity.com) which develops and operates treatment programs for fused drug and sex behaviors (chemsex), sex addiction and other intimacy disorders. His work with crystal meth has led to invited presentations and consultations

in France, the Netherlands and the UK. In 2018 he was instrumental in advocating for the creation of a methamphetamine forum co-sponsored by the NYC Health Department and ACT UP NY which highlighted concerns about chemsex in minority MSM communities. He frequently presents workshops on LGBT health, addiction, HIV, and co-occurring disorders both in the US and internationally and is well-known for his work with persons living with HIV, especially mental health concerns of aging long-term survivors. He is a regular contributor to TheBody.com and TheBodyPRO.com, writing about HIV, mental health and substance abuse and he has been published in Huffington Post,

Positively Aware, and other journals. Most recently he co-produced *Crystal City*, a 90-minute documentary that follows the struggles and successes of eight gay men in recovery from crystal meth in New York and which is currently premiering at film festivals around the US before general distribution.



Conference_sponsors in prior years have included: Aids Project Los Angeles (APLA), Sexual Recovery Institute, Elements Behavioral Health, The Institute for Sexual Health, The Trevor Project, Vista Del Mar, PFLAG, Twin Town Treatment Centers, the Los Angeles LGBT Center Mental Health Services, Michael's House, Antioch University, University of Southern California, Mount Saint Mary's University, Philips Graduate University, CAMFT, LACPA, EEG Education & Research, ABC-CLIO publishers, L.A. Care, and many others.

About LAGPA

The Lesbian and Gay Psychotherapy Association of Southern California, Inc. (LAGPA) was established in 1992 as an organization of mental health professionals interested in the psychological well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals. LAGPA provides a wide variety of activities designed to strengthen professional knowledge and competence in the provision of mental health services. LAGPA exists to join mental health professionals together for academic and social events, to provide educational community outreach, and to foster and promote a positive identity for members of the LGBT community. LAGPA events include: academic forums, social events, professional women's events, and the annual LGBTQI Psychotherapy Conference. Members also receive a quarterly newsletter, a membership listing on the LAGPA website and the on-line directory. LAGPA is an accredited provider of continuing education for Clinical Psychologists, Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW), and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT) through the American Psychological Association (APA). For further information, visit our Website at: www.lagpa.org.

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