

# Lesbian and Gay Psychotherapy Association of Southern California, Inc.

6 CE Credits  
Available

**Note: this single class satisfies both the board mandated suicide prevention class and the law and ethics requirements!**



LAGPA  
In cooperation with  
The Listening Perspectives Study Center  
presents

Free Event  
for members  
Free Lunch

## THE CALL OF DARKNESS: MANAGING SUICIDALITY IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

Sunday June 24, 2018 (see back for registration details)

Instructor: Lawrence Hedges PhD, PsyD, ABPP

### Course Description:

The White House has declared suicide to be a national and international epidemic and has mandated suicide prevention training for educational and health workers nationwide. This class is in response to mandates from California licensing boards.

This intermediate to advanced course for mental health professionals begins with the awareness that our ability to predict suicide is little better than chance and that at present there are no consistently reliable treatment techniques to prevent suicide. However, in the past three decades much has been learned about the dynamics of suicide and many promising treatment approaches have been advanced that are slowly yielding empirical results. In this class Dr. Hedges reviews the major findings about the nature of suicide, the emerging treatment processes that are promising, and the dimensions of assessment and documentation that are essential for liability management in mental health practice.

The historical advances from traditional philosophical and theological positions through the profound sociological studies of Durkheim in the 19th century and the subsequent groundbreaking psychological studies of Freud and Menninger will be reviewed. The copycat and contagion phenomena from Goethe's Werther through Jonestown and worldwide favorite suicide sites will be elucidated along with the suicide studies of Shneidman and his many associates centering on "psychache".

A group of emerging techniques for assessment and treatment of suicidality will be reviewed along with the features in common that these treatment approaches seem to share. Dr. Hedges will put forth his own views and a relational/developmental context for managing suicidality. Critically, the tendencies towards blame and self-blame on the part of survivors including therapists raise issues of responsibility, accurate assessment and documentation, and professional liability. Many aspects of suicide will be illustrated through literature and film.

### Learning Goals:

At the conclusion of this class participants will be able to:

- Define what is meant by "psychache".
- List three critical ingredients of Joiner's interpersonal approach to suicide management.
- State why reliable suicide research has not been possible.
- List Hedges' four Listening Perspectives for managing suicidality.
- Define a "suicide contract" and describe its validity.
- List four key elements in documenting suicidality that limit your liability.



LAWRENCE E. HEDGES, Ph.D., Psy.D., ABPP is a psychologist-psychoanalyst in private practice in Orange, California, specializing in the training of psychotherapists and psychoanalysts. He is director of the Listening Perspectives Study Center and the founding director of the Newport Psychoanalytic Institute in Tustin, California where he is a supervising and training psychoanalyst. He has been awarded honorary membership in the American Psychoanalytic Association. Dr. Hedges is author of numerous papers and books including Cross-cultural Encounters: Bridging Worlds of Difference (2013), Listening Perspectives in Psychotherapy (1983 & 2003), Interpreting the Countertransference (1992), Strategic Emotional Involvement (1996), and Facing the Challenge of Liability in Psychotherapy: Practicing Defensively (2000 & 2007). To learn more about Dr. Hedges and his work, go to [www.listeningperspectives.com](http://www.listeningperspectives.com)

# 6 CE Credits Available, APA for Psychotherapists

(Note: these professional classes typically cost \$150)

- Current Members (Free to Attend):
  - do not want/need CE credits — no charge
  - want 6 CE credits — \$90 (\$15 per credit)
- Not Current Member:
  - do not want/need CE credit — Simply become a member at regular prices (\$75 students/interns; \$140 licensed professional) and attend for free. *You gain two benefits— membership and workshop — all for the price of one.*
  - want 6 CE credits — Simply become a member at regular prices (\$75 students/interns; \$140 licensed professional) AND pay an additional \$60 (\$10 per credit reduced price). *You gain three benefits— membership, attend workshop, and receive CE credits at reduced price.*

Sunday, June 24, 2018 • 9 AM to 4 PM

Free lunch provided by Twin Town Treatment Center. There will be coffee and snacks.

Hosted at Twin Town Treatment Center.

8739 Santa Monica Blvd, West Hollywood, CA 90069

Paid parking in basement of building or street metered parking.

**RSVP** – Chuck Stewart, Ph.D., at [LAGPA@sbcglobal.net](mailto:LAGPA@sbcglobal.net)

**Payment is accepted at the door in cash, check, or credit card.**

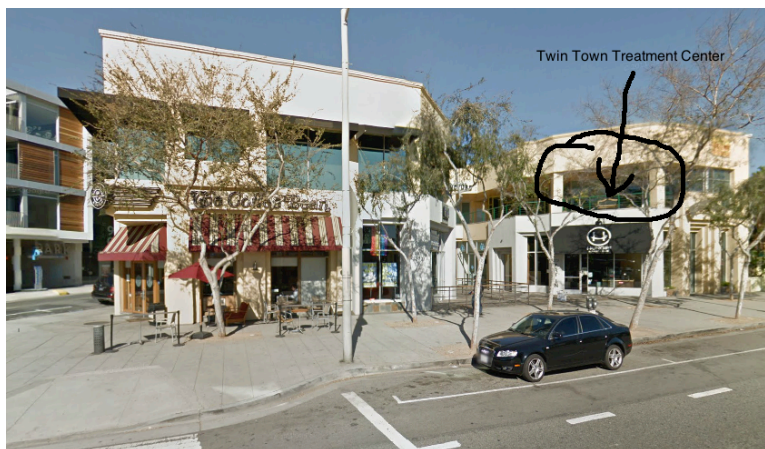
## LAGPA

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 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer and/or questioning individuals. LAGPA membership benefits include discounts to all LAGPA events, including academic forums, social events, professional women’s events, queer events, and the annual LGBTIQ Psychotherapy Conference. In addition, members also receive LAGPA’s tri-annual newsletter “Progress Notes,” an LGBTIQ resource directory, membership listing on the LAGPA website ([www.lagpa.org](http://www.lagpa.org)), and the online LAGPA membership directory. LAGPA is an accredited provider of continuing education for psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, and marriage and family therapists. **Visit us at [LAGPA.org](http://LAGPA.org).**

### Continuing Education Credit Disclosure

Listening Perspectives Study Center is approved to provide Continuing Education Credits for Psychologists, Marriage and Family Therapists, Social Workers, and Nurses. The exact number of credits awarded is equal to the number of contact hours for each event and is specified on the Syllabus and the Registration Form.

- APA CE Credits — Listening Perspectives Study Center is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Listening Perspectives Study Center maintains responsibility for this program and its content.



**Twin Town Treatment Center, 8739 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069**

Upstairs. Near the corner of Hancock and Santa Monica. Underground parking available accessed from Hancock.