



Joint Conference

Building Better Beginnings:



*Perinatal and Infant
Initiatives in Context*

24~26 July, 2003

(Helen Mayo House Workshops: 23 July)

Adelaide University

**Announcement
& Call for Abstracts.**
Closing Date for
Receipt of Abstracts:
Tuesday, 15 April, 2003



The Marcé Society



Australian Association for
Infant Mental Health, Inc

conference overview

On behalf of the Australian Association for Infant Mental Health and the Marcé Society we would like to welcome you to the conference ***“Building Better Beginnings: Perinatal and Infant Initiatives in Context”***

This year we are holding a joint conference in conjunction with the Helen Mayo House (mother baby unit) annual training day on Wednesday 23 July, which will include the first day of Kent Hoffman's workshop as well as concurrent Helen Mayo House sessions on working with mentally ill mothers and their children. This means that conference participants will have the benefits of the combined understandings of two national organisations involved with infant and perinatal mental health and the opportunity to link these with a day of preconference workshops convened by Helen Mayo House.

This conference provides us with a very special opportunity to bring to Australia world leaders in attachment, cross cultural issues in working with infants and their families and maternal mental health. In addition we have invited Australian speakers who have special interest and knowledge in the field.

The conference and day workshops will focus on making the earliest connections - between parent and infant, between parents, infants and professionals and between different cultural approaches and perceptions. It will be relevant to all people working in the early intervention area including nurses, social workers, psychiatrists, paediatricians, child care workers, general practitioners, psychologists and others with an interest in infants and their parents and what brings about the best chance of positive future outcomes for them.

We very much hope that you will join us for this exciting meeting in one of Australia's most attractive cities.

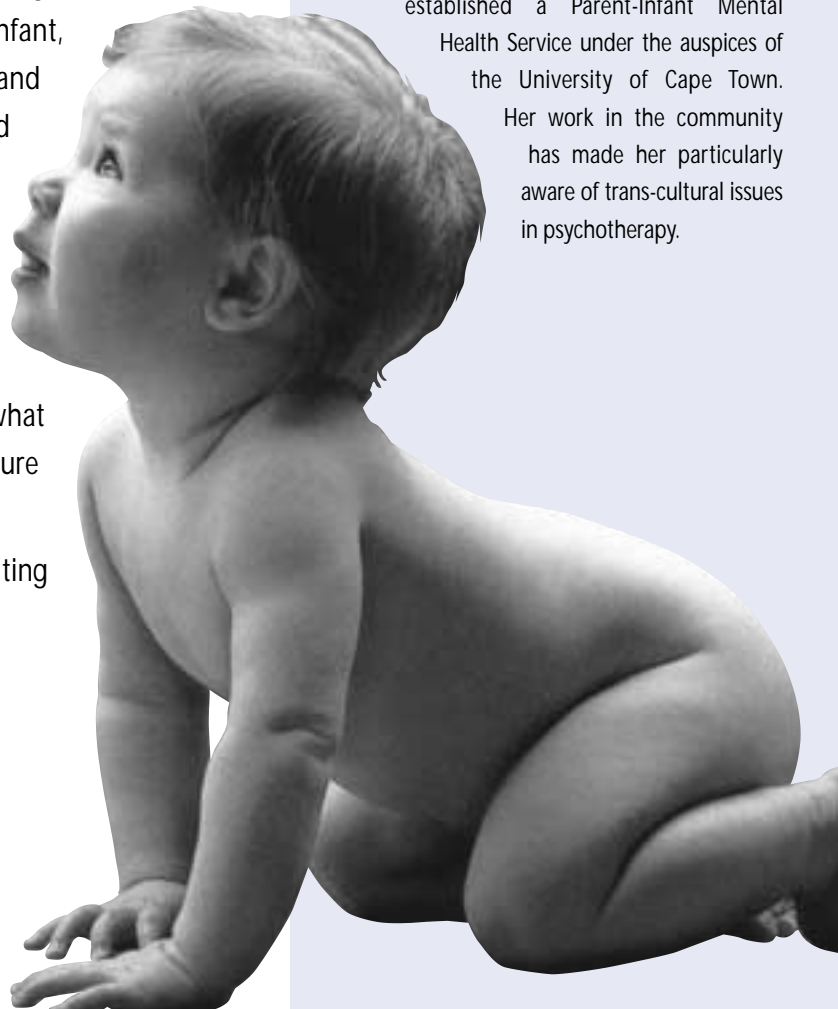
*John Condon (President - Australasian Marcé Society)
Elizabeth Puddy AM (National President - AAIMH) and
Anne Sved Williams (Director - Helen Mayo House)
on behalf of the Conference Organising Committee*

keynote speakers

Astrid Berg

Astrid Berg, M.D., was born in Pretoria in 1950 of German immigrant parents. She studied medicine at the University of Pretoria, and Psychiatry and Child Psychiatry at the University of Cape Town. She was part of the first group of trainees in Jungian Analysis in Cape Town and was accepted as an individual member of the IAAP in 1992. Dr. Berg is one of the founding members of SAAJA (Southern African Association of Jungian Analysts) and its current president. She joined the IAAP Executive Committee as the representative of the Southern African Association of Jungian Analysts after SAAJA was elected to the Executive Committee at the 1998 IAAP Congress in Florence/Firenze.

Astrid works as a Child Psychiatrist at the Red Cross Children's Hospital in Cape Town and is a senior consultant in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Cape Town. She also has a part-time private practice for adult analysands. Her main interest is in Infant Mental Health, and she has established a Parent-Infant Mental Health Service under the auspices of the University of Cape Town. Her work in the community has made her particularly aware of trans-cultural issues in psychotherapy.



program format

Kent Hoffman

Dr. Kent Hoffman is the co-founder of the *Circle of Security Project* at *Marycliff Institute* in Spokane, Washington. He has, for the past 30 years, sought to synthesise work in family therapy, developmental psychopathology, object relations theory, and attachment theory. For the past 15 years he has mentored with leading psychoanalytic and developmental theorists from the United States and Great Britain. He is, along with his colleagues Glen Cooper and Bert Powell now partnering with Robert Marvin at the University of Virginia in a study of attachment based interventions for at-risk families.

Their work is internationally recognised as an innovative, first-of-its-kind parent education program designed to alter the developmental pathway of at-risk parents and their young children. This project's goal is to integrate university-based attachment research into a video-oriented intervention to strengthen parents' capacity to observe and improve their caregiving skills. Attachment theory, taught in this user friendly way, gives each parent an individualised parenting "road map", a clear pathway to providing a secure relationship for her / his child.

Kent presents this work to clinicians and researchers and was recently given the 2000 Washington State Governor's Child Abuse Prevention Award for "Innovations in Prevention" by Governor Gary Locke and *The Washington Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect*. He was also given the Year 2000 - *Child Advocate of the Year Award* - by the Washington Children's Alliance.

Margaret Oates

Dr. Margaret Oates is Senior Lecturer, University of Nottingham, and Honorary Consultant in Perinatal Psychiatry Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust at University Hospital, Nottingham. She leads a Perinatal Mental Health Service, which provides a Community Team, Obstetric Liaison and a Regional Mother and Baby Inpatient Unit. She is a Past President of the Marcé Society, and current Chair of the Royal College of Psychiatrists Perinatal Special Interest Group. She is involved nationally in developing services and management guidelines for serious perinatal mental illness and is a member of the Confidential Enquiries into Maternal Deaths and the Children and Women's National Service Framework.

The conference will be preceded, on Wednesday 23 July, by workshops organised by Helen Mayo House, Adelaide, including a full day workshop presented by Kent Hoffman and focusing on attachment theory and brain development. This workshop can stand alone and will also be an important introduction for conference participants who are not familiar with attachment theory and who will be attending Dr. Hoffman's presentations on Day 1 of the conference

On the first day of the conference (Thursday 24 July), Kent Hoffman will present an advanced workshop on leading participants through his program designed to alter the developmental pathways for at risk parents and their young children. A concurrent session will focus on aspects of severe postnatal mental illness.

The remainder of the conference will comprise plenary addresses, concurrent workshop and paper sessions, and a poster display.

It is anticipated that the cost of conference registration will be approximately \$375 for Marcé and AAIMH members (including the conference dinner).

social program

Drinks and dinner at the University of Adelaide Staff Club will follow the day's proceedings on Thursday 24 July.



invitation to attend

If you wish to be included in the mailing list to receive the advance program and registration brochure, please complete the following and return to:

AAIMH / Marcé Conference
C/- The Conference Organiser
PO Box 385
MALVERN, VICTORIA 3144

Name:

Address:

..... Post Code:

Telephone: (.....) Fax: (.....)

Email:

For further details regarding the meeting, please contact:



The
Conference
Organiser

PO Box 385
Malvern, Victoria 3144
Telephone: (+61) (03) 9509 7121
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call for abstracts

First and Final Call for Abstracts. Closing Date for Receipt of Abstracts: Tuesday, 15 April, 2003

Proposals for papers (30 minutes INCLUDING 10 minutes for discussion), posters and workshops (90 minutes) are invited.

Please note that the acceptance of papers, posters and workshops is contingent on registration for the conference.

Please ensure that you comply with the following and forward (details below) no later than 15 April 2003.

The abstract must be:

- typed in Microsoft Word
- no more than 350 words
- submitted by email as an attachment or by post on a floppy disk (faxes will not be accepted)

Abstracts should include:

- Name of conference ("AAIMH/Marcé Conference")
- Title of presentation
- Preferred format (and second choice if applicable)
- Author/s name(s), with name of presenting author underlined:
- Authors' affiliations
- Main author's address and contact details (postal and email addresses, phone and fax numbers)

Please forward abstracts by **email** to:
info@conorg.com.au

or on a **floppy disk** to:
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C/- The Conference Organiser
PO Box 385
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