From celebrities to political figures to the everyday individual...We have been bombarded by the news media in the US with the recent meteoric rise in attention to acts of sexual misconduct, sexual predators, addicts, and general sexual preoccupation. It is no surprise that we, as therapists, find ourselves continuing to peer in to the important underlying explanations and to evaluate the potential for helping individuals and relationships affected by these behaviors and attitudes to heal.

This conference will explore the specific issues and critical content related to sexual activity that is important to conceptualization and treatment. Participants will learn to (1) conceptualize the primary mode responsible for seeking hypersexual stimulation (2) identify early unmet needs and schemas linked to fantasy; (3) confront compensatory and detached modes responsible for rigid rationalization and defiant denial of the harmful impact on self and others; (4) attend to one’s own schemas and mode activation in order to remain a sturdy, curious, and empathically attuned helper, and (5) apply effective experiential (schema/mode) strategies designed to meet the primary unmet needs related to shame, failure, and unconditional love/acceptance.