

DATE:

Friday, October 10, 2014

Registration: 8:30 am

Presentation: 9 am - 4 pm

Lunch (on your own): 12 - 1:15 pm

LOCATION:

Holiday Inn Burlington

1068 Williston Road at Dorset Street

South Burlington, VT

REGISTER BY:

October 3, 2014

CEUs OFFERED:

5.25 Continuing Education Units will be available for Psychologists, Mental Health Counselors and Clinical Social Workers.

PRESENTER:**Kathleen B. Kerr, MSN, MA, CNS**

Kathleen Kerr is a nurse clinical-specialist, and has had a private practice since 1975. She was on the faculty of the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family from 1978 to 2012. She is a founding Board member of the Bowen Theory Academy where she coordinates the Family History Database Project, which collects multiple multi-generational family histories to study basic concepts in Bowen theory.

Her research interests have included: aging and the family, applying Bowen theory to organizations, the different kinds of systems thinking, mother-offspring relationships, healthcare and applying Bowen theory in the emergency room. She has been given access to the data from the longitudinal research on chimpanzees begun by Jane Goodall, Ph.D. to research the effect of mother-offspring relationships on adult behavior.

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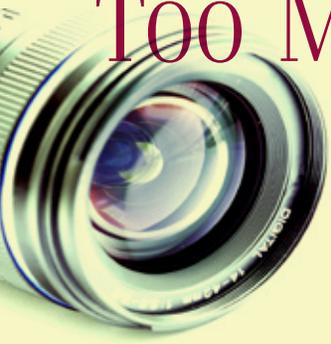
Vermont Center for Family Studies
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Essex Junction, VT 05453-5124

Too Much



or Too Little Love?

**PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS
THROUGH THE LENS OF BOWEN
THEORY VERSUS THE LENS OF
ATTACHMENT THEORY**



Too Much or Too Little Love?

Parent-Child relationships through the lens of Bowen Theory versus the lens of Attachment Theory

Bowen Family Systems Theory and Attachment Theory have quite a few similarities. However, they have some startling and significant differences especially in their assumptions about the underlying processes that create problems for people. Currently our society is permeated by the deprivation hypotheses of Attachment Theory that propose that if someone has a problem, it is because they received too little, or the wrong kind of, parenting. This formulation urges parents to do more to foster attachment with their children.

Bowen's theory is entirely different. Bowen proposed that it is the intense involvement of people with each other that generates problems. Bowen theory highlights how this intense emotional involvement limits the natural emotional growing apart of parents and children, thus leaving the children dependent on, or rebellious toward, their parents. It is in the emotional growing apart that children learn personal responsibility, take on challenges and succeed or fail, learning from their failures and building their self-esteem.

It's not a matter of which theory is right. Currently both are respectable theories of human behavior. However, they lead to very different places in understanding one's own behavior and family and in trying to lend a hand to others. In particular, failure to understand the differences can be a major obstacle to understanding and lending a hand to problems with children. This conference will present the similarities and differences of the two theories and the importance of the differences for therapy. The application of Bowen theory to clinical situations will be illustrated with clinical videos. There will be ample time for discussion and questions.



Kathleen Kerr, MSN, MA, CNS

Parent-Child Relationships: Bowen Theory -vs- Attachment Theory • October 10, 2014

REGISTER BY: OCT. 3, 2014

- \$85 per person
 - \$65 each (2 members of the same family)
 - \$95 AT THE DOOR
 - \$65 Senior citizen (62 or older)
 - \$65 Student (Full-time or in a formal program of study)
 - \$65 each (3 members of the same agency)
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