

Is That Unethical, or Just Queer? Postmodern Ethics, Queer Theory & Narrative Practice
Saturday, November 10, 2018 (9am to 4:30pm)

Postmodern ethics, queer theory, and narrative practice share many theoretical and philosophical tenets. When used to inform our work, these concepts and ways of approaching therapeutic conversations challenge a variety of taken-for-granted beliefs and techniques of conventional practice. As such, these critical ideas and practices create a crucible for a *queering* of our work, wherein “to queer something is an emergent process of disrupting expected norms in such a way that new possibilities emerge, and standard, unquestioned practices become open for interrogation” (Tilsen, 2013, p.6). This will be a unique opportunity to experience these ideas in conjunction with one another.

The day will be broken into 2 parts: with the first 3 hours covering: **Relational Responsibility and an Ethic of Care: Considerations for Responsive and Just Practice**. Following lunch there will be 3 hours covering: **Therapeutic Conversations with Queer Youth & Their Families: Queer Theory in Action**. Both of the parts will include lecture and experiential learning.

Julie Tilsen, PhD provides supervision, training, and consultation to a variety of agencies, therapists, and youth workers focused on socially just, anti-oppressive, and harm-reduction practices. In addition to numerous professional journal articles and book chapters, Julie is the author of *Therapeutic Conversations with Queer Youth: Transcending Homonormativity & Constructing Preferred Identities* (2013, Rowman & Littlefield), and *Narrative Approaches to Youth Work: Conversational Skills for a Critical Practice*, (2018, Routledge).

Julie is community faculty in the Youth Studies Program of the University of Minnesota, Director of Ethics and Practice at the International Center for Clinical Excellence, an associate of the Taos Institute, and recipient of the Minnesota Association of Marriage and Family Therapy *Distinguished Service Award*. Her work is featured in several counselor training videos produced by Alexander Street Press and Sage/UPG Media.

Julie is a hard-core fan of the University of Minnesota Gophers Women’s Hockey team and likes drinking cold press. She has a greyhound named Feet and two cats, Presto and Juno. The sorting hat has decidedly placed Julie in the House of Ravenclaw.

Educational Narratives
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