Many psychologists and therapists are observing a notable increase in cases where gender is the presenting or underlying concern. Youth dealing with gender dysphoria are often contending with other psychological challenges such as anxiety, depression, and self-harm ideation, often resulting from parental denial or rejection of the child’s experience. Even when parents are empathetic, the child can find themselves in unsafe school environments, navigating uncertainties in peer relationships, unaware faculty and limited support systems. Youth who are on the autism spectrum and diagnosed with gender dysphoria navigate their own host of unique challenges, with very few providers and services addressing both of these dimensions of the child together. This session will review the current state of knowledge on gender transitioning and gender non-binary youth, highlight best practices in gender-affirmative clinical care, and share lessons learned working with children and families impacted by gender. A panel of youth and parent guest speakers who have received psychotherapy will share their personal journeys on gender and engage in Q&A with participants. The importance of linking families with peer support and educational services will also be reviewed. Handouts of vital contacts and resources across South Florida schools and local communities, who are supporting and empowering transgender youth and their families, will be shared.

PROGRAM LOCATION

Nova Southeastern University
Health Professions Division, Assembly I Building
Terry Auditorium, Room 2101
3200 South University Drive
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33328

For maps and directions to the Health Professions Division, please visit our web site at http://www.nova.edu/cwis/campusmaps/maincampus.html. Telephone directions to the main campus are available 24 hours a day by calling (954) 262-1563.
Jamie Joseph, Ph.D. has received extensive training in working with and counseling individuals struggling with gender, including transgender youth and their families, friends and loved ones. She is a certified transgender therapist and works with children, adolescents and adults dealing with gender and orientation concerns in an affirmative, supportive environment. She is a member of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) and is a clinical speaker for YES Institute, a non-profit agency based in Miami, Florida. As an educator, Dr. Joseph has presented to licensed psychologists and doctoral students on issues related to working with transgender children, adolescents and adults. Dr. Joseph works closely with other treating professionals, community support agencies and personnel involved in the care of management of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals to help those in need of assistance and counseling. She provides individual and group therapy to gay and transgender individuals and their families in coping with difficulties they encounter regarding gender and orientation.

Joseph Zolobczuk, M.S.Ed. is the director of education at YES Institute and has served at the organization for over 20 years. Joseph is also a researcher working with public health colleagues at the University of Miami investigating how the social climate on gender and orientation impacts safety and well-being. Joseph conducts continuing education courses for Florida-licensed nursing professionals, mental health therapists, and public school teachers in Miami-Dade and Broward County Public Schools for the past ten years. He is also a national consultant with SAMHSA’s Technical Assistance Network, working with systems of care and school districts throughout the country to improve the lives of students and families impacted by gender and orientation. Joseph also trains medical personnel, medical and nursing students, presents at medical conferences, and is a lead trainer and consultant through South Florida Behavioral Health Network.

YES Institute (www.yesinstitute.org) provides powerful, action-oriented dialogue and quality research-based education on gender and orientation. It began as a community-based initiative in 1996 to address the high rates of teenage suicide impacting young people who identified or were labeled as gay. In 2003, YES Institute added cutting-edge education courses on gender. Each year, they conduct over 150 presentations and courses for a wide variety of communities – parents and students, nurses and medical personnel, school teachers and administrators, counselors and psychologists, business executives, police departments, and other non-profits and human service organizations. YES Institute is based in Miami, Florida and has reached communities across the country, including Alabama, Georgia, and New York, and have worked in Latin America, including Bogotá, Colombia and Cuernavaca, México. People travel to Miami from all over the world to participate in their courses, including participants from Australia, Italy, South Africa, and Kenya.
PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Participants will be able to:

- Critically analyze the distinctions between biological assigned sex, gender, and sexual orientation, and explain the difference between binary vs. continuum theories of biological sex and gender.
- Describe the current terms for gender and orientation youth are using, the importance of using affirmed names and pronouns, and creating revised standardized form options that include sensitivity to gay and transgender clients and their families.
- Critically assess and critique barriers to care at the interpersonal and/or institutional levels.
- List and explain key recommendations for providing client care from the APA “Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Transgender People” (2015).
- Critique the current state of knowledge on clinical guidelines for co-occurring Autism Spectrum Disorder and Gender Dysphoria (Strang, et al., 2017).
- Evaluate the differences in psychological and social concerns that typically arise for young children compared to adolescents when they are pursuing a gender transition.

PROGRAM AGENDA

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  Registration and refreshments
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  Binary vs. Continuum Theories of Gender
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  Mental health disparities of transgender and gender non-confirming youth
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  Best practices in working with transgender and non-binary youth in schools and mental health settings
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.  LUNCH (on your own)
1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.  Psychologist Competencies; APA Guidelines,
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Gender Dysphoria
2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  Case Studies
3:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.  Panel of guest youth and parent speakers
3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  Questions and answers

For additional information on continuing education policies, please visit http://psychology.nova.edu/continuingeducation/index.html

To register for this workshop, please visit the YES Institute’s website at https://yesinstitute.org/3378-2/.
**CONTINUING EDUCATION INFORMATION**

**Psychologists:** Nova Southeastern University’s College of Psychology is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Nova Southeastern University maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

**Clinical social workers, mental health counselors, and marriage and family therapists:** Nova Southeastern University’s College of Psychology is approved by the state of Florida’s Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, and Mental Health Counseling to offer continuing education. Provider number: BAP# 330, Exp. 03/31/19

**School psychologists:** Nova Southeastern University’s College of Psychology is approved by the state of Florida’s Board of Medical Therapies/Psychology, Office of School Psychology, to offer continuing education. Provider number: SCE# 11, Exp. 11/30/19.

Nova Southeastern University’s College of Psychology is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists to offer continuing education for school psychologists. Nova Southeastern University maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Provider# 1024

**Professional counselors:** Nova Southeastern University’s College of Psychology has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 4548. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. Nova Southeastern University’s College of Psychology is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs.

All mental health professionals will receive six (6) continuing education credits for the workshop. Full attendance is required. No partial credit will be awarded. Check your licensing state’s rules and regulations for more information regarding your continuing education requirements.

Nova Southeastern University is committed to making its programs accessible to all prospective attendees. Let us know if you have specific requirements due to a disability.

**ABOUT THE SPONSOR**

Nova Southeastern University’s College of Psychology is dedicated to providing high-quality training, education, research, and service for its students and the community. The college offers three American Psychological Association (APA)-accredited doctoral programs (Ph.D. and Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology; Psy.D. in School Psychology); a specialist program in school psychology; master's degree programs in mental health counseling, school counseling, counseling, forensic psychology, experimental psychology, and general psychology; and bachelor's degree programs in psychology and behavioral neuroscience. The college also has two APA-accredited doctoral internship programs.

**NOTICES OF ACCREDITATION, MEMBERSHIP, AND NONDISCRIMINATION**

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate's, baccalaureate, master's, educational specialist, doctorate, and professional degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Nova Southeastern University. • Nova Southeastern University admits students of any race, color, sex, age, nondisqualifying disability, religion or creed, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school, and does not discriminate in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs. • The College of Psychology Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology (Ph.D.) program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association (APA). The College of Psychology Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology (Psy.D.) program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association. The College of Psychology Doctor of Psychology in School Psychology (Psy.D.) program is accredited by the commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association. The College of Psychology has two APA-accredited doctoral internship programs, the South Florida Consortium Internship Program and the Psychology Services Center Internship Program. Questions related to the programs’ accreditation status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation: Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation American Psychological Association, 750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002, phone: 202-336-5979, E-mail: apaccred@apa.org, www.apa.org/ed/accreditation. The college’s degree programs in school counseling and the specialist and doctoral programs in school psychology are approved by the Florida Department of Education. In addition, the specialist and doctoral programs in school psychology hold the designation of National Recognition by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). The College of Psychology offers three programs, (1) the M.S. in School Counseling, (2) the Psy.S. in School Psychology, and (3) the Psy.D. in School Psychology for practitioners in P–12 schools that have been accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The accreditation for these programs is awarded to the university through the Fischler College of Education as follows: The Abraham S. Fischler College of Education at Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). **www.ncate.org**