

Leading Psychoanalytic Association Mourns Victims of Orlando Terrorist Attack, Calls for Action

June 13th, 2016 - New York, NY – The American Psychoanalytic Association joins the nation in grieving from the deadliest terrorist attack in the United States since 9/11. Forty-nine confirmed dead, 50 more injured and countless more traumatized.

"While details are still emerging, one thing is undeniable - the trauma caused to the injured, survivors, the victims' families, to the LGBT community around the world and to all us, will be long-lasting and difficult to heal," said Mark Smaller, president of the Association. "Our sincerest condolences go out to the loved ones waking up today with this overwhelming loss."

The American Psychoanalytic Association will be addressing gun violence at their Annual Meeting this week in Chicago on June 17-19 and plans to have a special symposium addressing gun violence and U.S. gun culture at next year's annual meeting in Austin, Texas June 9-11.

"This plague of violence in our communities, in our country, and in the world must be addressed at our scientific meetings, in the education of psychoanalysts, in our consulting rooms, and out in the open through the media and social networks," continued Smaller. "All of us must commit to studying and understanding the psychology of hate, violence, homophobia, racism, and the obsessions with guns in our country so that we can work towards preventing future tragedies."

American Psychoanalytic Association:

The American Psychoanalytic Association is a professional organization of psychoanalysts with approximately 3,300 active members. The Association is comprised of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, educators, researchers, and students who have an interest in psych oanalysis and psychoanalytic therapy. Visit <u>www.apsa.org</u> for more information.

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