Michelle Stephens, L.P., Ph.D. is a graduate of the William Alanson White Institute of Psychiatry, Psychoanalysis & Psychology and a practicing psychoanalyst. She is also Professor of English and Latino and Caribbean Studies at Rutgers University, and the Founding and Executive Director of Rutgers’ Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice (ISGRJ). She is the author of Black Empire: The Masculine Global Imaginary of Caribbean Intellectuals in the United States, 1914 to 1962 (Duke University Press, 2005) and Skin Acts: Race, Psychoanalysis and The Black Male Performer (Duke University Press, 2014). Recently she has published articles on the intersections of race and psychoanalysis in such journals as JAPA, Contemporary Psychoanalysis, Psychoanalytic Dialogues and Psychoanalytic Quarterly, Studies in Gender and Sexuality, and Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society.

Stephen Frosh, Ph.D., M.Phil., BA is internationally renowned for his work on the relations between psychoanalysis, antisemitism and racism. He has recently retired as Professor of Psychology at Birkbeck, University of London. He has a background in academic and clinical psychology and was Consultant Clinical Psychologist and latterly Vice Dean at the Tavistock Clinic, London, throughout the 1990s. He is an Academic Associate of the British Psychoanalytical Society. Stephen Frosh is the author of many books and papers on psychosocial studies and on psychoanalysis, from The Politics of Psychoanalysis (1987) to Antisemitism and Racism: Ethical Challenges for Psychoanalysis (2023). Other books include Those Who Come After: Postmemory, Acknowledgement and Forgiveness (2019), Hauntings: Psychoanalysis and Ghostly Transmissions (2013) and Hate and the Jewish Science: Anti-Semitism, Nazism and Psychoanalysis (2005).

APsA will host the Antisemitism and Racism Symposium, the third in our ongoing series. Join us Sunday, April 7 for this important 2-hour virtual event.

Both antisemitism and racism give expression to profound and intertwined psychic and historical determinants. Michelle Stephens, L.P., Ph.D. and Stephen Frosh, Ph.D., M.Phil., BA are internationally renowned for their work on the persistence of these structured and deadly forms of hatred. Their ground-breaking dialogue will aim to illuminate some of the affinities and tensions that link antisemitism and racism. Each brings a deep understanding of psychoanalytic thought to their shared project — understanding and combating the paired scourge of racism and antisemitism. — Donald B. Moss, APsA Program Committee Chair

DESCRIPTION: Psychoanalysts and psychotherapists are now showing considerable interest in, and concern over, the relevance of different forms of racism to psychological suffering and to psychoanalysis itself. This 2-hour virtual session includes a constructive exploration of both the relationship of antisemitism to the theories and practices of the field, and how they connect, historically and interpersonally, with white supremacy and antiblack racism specifically, and issues raised by different forms of racism in relation to psychoanalysis. This session will allow for meaningful engagement in critical discussions on the intersectionality of antisemitism and racism, and learners’ ability to navigate complex issues in clinical settings.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES: After attending, participants will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a deeper understanding of the historical roots and manifestations of antisemitism and racism, within the context of psychoanalysis.
2. Analyze and enhance their awareness of subtle forms of bias and discrimination in their clinical practice to act ethically in the field of antisemitism and racism.
3. Apply this knowledge to adaptations of clinical technique, broadening in their lines of inquiry and perception of intrapsychic and interpersonal racialized clinical dynamics.

CME/CE CREDITS: 2