



Dr. Gabor Maté MD

THURSDAY JANUARY 26, 2012

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Croatian Centre, Vancouver BC

The Biology of Loss: What Happens When attachments Are Impaired and How to Foster Resilience

Gabor Maté, MD, Renowned physician, innovative and inspiring speaker and internationally published best selling author.

As a public speaker, he addresses professional and lay audiences all over North America. His four books are all Canadian bestsellers, published internationally in nearly twenty languages. The most recent, *In the Realm of Hungry Ghosts: Close Encounters with Addiction* has been awarded the Hubert Evans prize for literary non-fiction. A former family practitioner with many specialties, he has experience with palliative care, mental illness, drug addiction, childhood developmental issues, childhood and adolescent mental health, and parenting issues. His books include *Scattered*, about attention deficit disorder, on which he has unique perspective, and *Hold On To Your Kids: Why Parents Need to Matter More Than Peers*. He also has a unique view of stress and the mind/body unity in health and illness, the subject of his most-translated work, *When The Body Says No: Exploring The Stress/Disease Connection*.

Who Should Attend:

- Child Development specialists
- Special Education Teachers/assistants
- Early Educators
- Counsellors
- Social Workers
- Mental Health Workers
- Parents/Caregivers

This presentation outlines the mental health implications of early childhood emotional loss, whether due to abuse in the family or simply of stress on the parents, on the subsequent loss of attunement with the child.

Childhood developmental disorders such as ADHD, ODD, and other mental health problems such as anxiety, depression, personality disorders, etc. can all be traced to either negative childhood experiences or the absence of sufficiently positive ones. Addiction and adult mental health issues also flow from the same source.

The impact of the environment on brain development is discussed, along with ways of recognizing and helping to heal the negative consequences of early loss. Also discussed is the impact of peer orientation, as articulated in *Hold On To Your Kids*.

Topics covered:

1. The basis of healthy child development: the attachment relationship with parents, teachers and other adults
2. How the human brain develops in interaction with the social/psychological environment
3. The stresses in our culture that have undermined the necessary conditions for healthy development, and their consequences in childhood and adolescent disorders
4. The role of medicalized birth practices
5. Why, even for the average "normal" child, the traditional relationship has become undermined, leaving parents and teachers frustrated and many children alienated and immature
6. What peer orientation is and how it competes with children's adult attachments; how to recognize it and take action
7. How to recognize intra-family stresses, and how to deal with them to create a safe, nurturing environment for our children
8. Understanding resilience and its promotion as a function of attachment



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REGISTRATION

WHEN AND WHERE:

DATE: Thursday January 26, 2012
TIME: 9:00 – 4:00
PLACE: **Croatian Cultural Centre**
3250 Commercial Drive
Vancouver B.C. Canada. V5N 4E4
Tel: 604-879-0154
Free parking

REGISTRATION:

CONTACT: Dorothea Kraas
dorothea.kraas@childrens-foundation.org
PHONE: (604) 434-9101 ext: 100
Tuition: \$150.00
\$125.00 student rate (*send copy of student card*)
Includes coffee, snacks and lunch

C.E.U.'s: Applied for : **Canadian Counselling Association**

REGISTRATION FORM ~Payment method: VISA MC Cheque ~ by Fax, Phone, E-mail, or Post

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Fax: _____
(as it appears on credit card)

Organization: _____ Address: _____

Email Address: _____ (City and P/C) _____

Check here if you would like an email notice of future training opportunities

Please make cheque payable to:

The Children's Foundation

Send to:

2750 East 18th Avenue
Vancouver B.C. V5M 4W8



Payment due upon registration

Choose phone, fax or email with VISA, MC (need card # exp. date & name on card); or cheque by regular mail - include registration form. (we will e-mail confirmation notice).

SCHEDULE

8:00 : Arrival and registration
9:00 - 10:30: Session
10:30 - 10:45: Break (refreshments served)
10:45 - 12:00: Session
12:00 - 1:00: Lunch provided (salad, sandwiches, fruit)
1:00 - 2:30: Session
2:30 - 2:45: Break
2:45 - 4:00: Session