# Five-day Basic Training on Child-centered Play Therapy

By Ms Lau Suet Ha, Lottie B.Soc.Sc. & M.Ed.



## **INTRODUCTION**

Child-centered Play Therapy, originated by Virginia Axline as Nondirective Play Therapy, is an approach that emphasizes the provision of therapeutic conditions for children to naturally open up and express themselves fully through their own language – play. Empirical studies have shown this approach to be effective with emotionally disturbed children exhibiting difficulties, such as over-withdrawal, rebellion, aggression, school maladjustment, anxieties, and social skills problems, etc. With deep beliefs in children's growing potentials and resiliency, this approach aims at helping children work through negative feelings, restore the necessary sense of security and trust towards people, develop self-initiatives, and build up better self-esteem. In short, this approach works towards strengthening children's inner resources and enhancing their coping abilities. Familiarity with the use of this approach serves as a good base for integrating other play therapy approaches, including directive ones, into the process of working with children using play. (Information provided by Ms Lottie Lau)

## **TRAINER**

Ms Lottie Lau is a pioneer who has introduced and cultivated the approach of Child-centered Play Therapy in Hong Kong since the early 1990s.

Ms Lau received her Bachelor social work degree from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. After that, she pursued her postgraduate counseling study in The University of North Texas, where she specialized in learning Child Centered Play Therapy from Dr Garry Landreth, an internationally renowned scholar who developed the therapy based on Virginia Axline's nondirective approach.

Ms Lau has accumulated more than 25 years of clinical experience in counseling work. She has been particularly keen and well versed in steering psychological healing in emotionally disturbed children by means of Child Centered Play Therapy. In the 1990s, in addition to her formal teaching in tertiary education, Ms Lau began to spread the concept of Child-centered Play Therapy by pioneering systematic training programs. Over the years, she has laid down the cornerstone of the therapy in the local scene through hundreds of related training programs conducted with continual up-to-date refinement. Accumulatively, Ms Lau has delivered her basic training courses to more than 8000 helping professionals and parents. She has received numerous positive comments and her courses have always been fully enrolled with unreserved recommendations from participants.

CE20180928

# Five-day Basic Training on Child-centered Play Therapy

B. Soc. Sc. & M.Ed.

#### CONTENT

The training will illustrate both theoretical and technical aspects of the Child-centered Play Therapy. Theoretical illustrations will include the rationale for using play in child counseling, basic beliefs and philosophy of the therapy, stages of development that children may go through in the therapy process, and differentiation of adjusted versus maladjusted children in play, etc. Technical illustrations will cover techniques and procedures with children that help to realize the therapeutic conditions of the therapy, selection of therapeutic toys, setting up and management of playroom, handling of difficult play behaviors during the play sessions, and procedures of working with parents in the context of play therapy, etc.



### **OBJECTIVE**

The training aims to provide participants with the theoretical background of Child-centered Play Therapy and equip them with basic skills in practicing the therapy. It is expected that participants may begin to try out this nondirective approach with individual children in their work setting after attending the workshop.

### **FORMATS**

Mini-lecture. Video demonstration, Case illustration, Exercise, Discussion & Role-play

### **Important Note on Attendance**

- **Full attendance** of the <u>FIRST DAY</u> of workshop is compulsory and absence is not expected.
- <u>Certificate of Attendance</u> will <u>NOT</u> be given to participants who fail to attend the first day of workshop.

## **Entry Requirement\***

- 1. Registered Social Workers, Clinical Psychologists, or Educational Psychologists, or
- 2. Bachelor degree holders or above in **Counseling** could also be considered subject to relevant clinical experience.
- \*Qualified academic training is required for corresponding profession;
- \*Proof of qualification will be requested if necessary during enrolment process;
- \*Preferably with at least one year experience in working with children.

#### **Workshop Details**

Course Code : CE20180928

**Course Name**: Five-day Basic Training on Child-centered Play Therapy

Date : Sep 28, 2018 (Fri, full attendance required)

Oct 4 (Thu), 5 (Fri), 11 (Thu), 12 (Fri), 2018

Time : 9:00 am - 6:00pm

(40 hours, 90% attendance required)

Venue : CUHK

Language : Cantonese (Supplemented with English materials)

Class Size : 40 participants Course Fee : HK\$ 5,500

Application Deadline: Aug 27, 2018

Enquiry: 3943 1704

#### **Discount Scheme**

#### (on or before Jul 27, 2018)

- 10% (HK\$4,950) discount for Early Bird Registration
- 20% (HK\$4,400) discount for CUHK Department of Social Work's members (Current staff, current students, SWK Alumni Association members, or CPE members)

[20% discount is only applicable to registration through POST]

#### **Application Methods**

- 1. Send the following application form together with a crossed cheque payable to 'The Chinese University of Hong Kong' to CPE, the Department of Social Work, CUHK, Shatin, N.T. Hong Kong.
- 2. Register the workshop online via our website: https://web.swk.cuhk.edu.hk/en-gb/continuing-professional-education/programmes-information

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■ Website: http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/swk