



*** * * * FAMILIAL ETHICS FOUNDATION * * * ***
SWITZERLAND (EUROPE)

CIMI (in French) CONSULTATION INTERDISCIPLINAIRE DE LA MALTRAITANCE INTRAFAMILIALE

ICIM: Interdisciplinary Consultation of Intrafamilial Maltreatment

A work dedicated to the re-establishment of dignity, to the cohesion and ethical quality of familial relations.

A medico-psychological facility intended for the expert appraisal and therapeutic approach & follow-up of abusive families.

To marry, start a family, accept all the children who are born, make them live in this uncertain world and even, if possible, guide them a little, therein lies, I am convinced of it, the utmost degree of what a man may attain.

Franz Kafka (*Letter to the father*)

Aimed at serving the public interest, the nonprofit, nondenominational and nonideological “Familial Ethics” Foundation is established in Lausanne (Switzerland) since June 2002. Its aims are the following:

- Provide therapeutic assistance to families experiencing maltreatment under its four main forms (physical violence, sexual abuse, serious neglect, mental cruelty). Here, maltreatment is taken into consideration regardless of the victim(s)’s age. Taken into consideration is not only ill-treatment inflicted on children, but on the elderly as well, and, finally, spousal abuse.
- Evaluate the abusive family’s functioning as an interactive whole (multilateral standpoint) without limiting oneself to the individual perspective (unilateral standpoint) which is insufficient. This evaluation is performed upon the family’s own request or upon third party request, within a therapeutic or expert appraisal framework (health care professionals, medico-social agencies, legal authorities).
- Extend knowledge pertaining to intrafamilial maltreatment through scientific research and impart it in turn by ways of lectures and scientific publications intended for professionals and, to a larger extent, for the public.
- Use social and media channels to promote dignity, cohesion and the ethical quality of family ties, for the individual family as for families in general.

CONTACT US : ICIM

FAMILIAL ETHICS FOUNDATION

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Francine FERGUSON, psychologist, psychotherapist, family therapist, head clinician

TEAM

4 physicians, 6 psychologists, 2 educators, 1 social worker, 1 art therapist

4 secretaries

4 trainees (psychologists)

CONSULTATION RATES SINCE JANUARY 2003

- 1230 families received for assessment, expert appraisal, family therapy, couple therapy, group therapy, mandatory therapy
- 3500 individuals belonging to these families
- 50% of them came on their demand
50% were referred by hospitals, doctors, therapists, court, protective legal structures against domestic violence
- 10'000 therapeutic or expertal sessions each year

EPISTEMOLOGIC MODELS AND STRATEGIES

- Systemic approach, implying multilateral confrontations & ethics
- Transgenerational levels and strategies (Boszormenyi-Nagy, Bowen)
- Structural model as well, mainly with recomposed families (Minuchin, Montalvo)
- Specific strategies in maltreatment (vulnerability model of CCC, Mary Jo Barret ; strategic approach, Cloe Madanes, Milano School)
- Ericksonian hypnotherapy (dissociative trauma, resiliency)
- Resource focused therapy (Wendel Ray, Bradford Keeney)
- Gender beliefs approach and workthrough with mothers (Marcia Sheinberg)
- Peer group process & self help models

It takes two to make one. (G. Bateson)

SEMINARS, PUBLICATIONS PRODUCED BY ICIM

- ★ 20 articles about this approach already published (mainly in French)
- ★ Several books about family therapy, ericksonian hypnotherapy, therapeutic approach of maltreatment (in press)
- ★ Lectures given at the faculty of psychology and the faculty of biology & medicine in Lausanne
- ★ Lectures given in 2 university hospitals in Paris and several centers (France)
- ★ Specific seminar on family maltreatment and therapy at the ICIM
- ★ Several guest therapists or theoreticians from Europe & the USA each year
- ★ 2 research programs (maltreating families resistances, mandatory therapies)

CONTACT US , YOU ARE WELCOME !

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