

Unstable World/s Today's Societal Issues Through a Group Relations Lens

September 7-9, 2017 | Tel Aviv/Jerusalem

OFEK CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

That our world is at a troublesome juncture is no news. We live in times of wars, massive migration, extreme social inequalities, religious extremism, rise of authoritarianism and terrorism - to name some of the most obvious. Some of us are closer to the heat of events, some farther away; we are all affected. The media brings these to our homes in color, in real-time, making it less possible to deny. Can we better understand this moment in order to, perhaps, learn to foresee and act, not only mourn in hindsight?

The Group Relations approach was developed in the 1950's at the Tavistock Institute of Human Relations in London as a method of learning through experience about the nature of group, organizational and social dynamics; the exercise of authority and power, the interplay between tradition, innovation and change and the relationship of organizations to their social, political, and economic environments.

It assumes that the inner world and external reality are always interconnected in conscious and unconscious ways, that an understanding of human behavior has to include exploration of emotional states on the individual and group level. This approach continues to evolve and develop.

OFEK (Organization Person Group) has grown out of this thinking and practice. In 1985, a small group of enthusiastic professional-cum-social activists initiated and founded OFEK, envisioning the development in Israel of an experiential learning methodology of group and organizational processes, both overt and covert, conscious and unconscious, and its dissemination for the benefit of Israeli society.

Thirty years later, OFEK is a lively and vibrant with dozens of members in Israel and abroad. It is a success story and a leading organization in the Group Relations international network.

We invite you to join us in celebrating this 30th anniversary in a unique weekend meeting that through combining lectures by global experts from various fields with experiential sessions, will aim to illuminate pertinent and controversial issues that affect us all, including questions such as: What are the hidden currents that show in our world today? What are the ways in which we can understand today's troubled and unstable world? Does Israel fulfill a special role in this troubled world? What might Israel (or the region) consciously and unconsciously represent for the world? And vice versa?

If you are preoccupied with today's world dynamics, if you are interested in Group Relations, if you are curious about Israel, if you care about OFEK - don't miss this event!

There will be two parts to the event.

Thursday 7th September 2017 we will meet at Talkhouse, in Tel Aviv for some lectures and discussions on the Unstable World/s from the global, Israeli and Group Relations perspectives.

The second part of the event, **Friday-Saturday 8-9th September 2017** will take place at the Three Arches Hotel (YMCA) in Jerusalem. It will combine experiential sessions, panels and a party.

A detailed timetable that includes lecturers, panelists and fees will be available soon.

Places are limited for both parts of the event and registration will be on a first come, first served basis.

Mira Erlich-Ginor
Event Director

Daphna Bahat
Chairwoman OFEK

