



**For more information:**

Peggy Sax, Ph.D.

[www.reauthoringteaching.com](http://www.reauthoringteaching.com)

Alliant Continuing Education

[www.ce-psychology.com/narrativetherapy.html](http://www.ce-psychology.com/narrativetherapy.html)

*"I believe our common stories bring us together in ways that make us stronger people and more effective therapists. The rock may be small, but when it's tossed in the water it creates ripples just as a seemingly small idea or story can have dramatic effects. The small ripple created when the rock hits the water can be a wave by the time it reaches the shore. Our personal stories can be traced back to a few small ripples as well."*

Martha López-Hill,  
study group member from  
Barranquilla, Colombia, now  
living in Tulare, California

## Welcome to The Narrative Practice & Collaborative Inquiry (NPCI) Study Group

### Twelve steps that new members follow for getting started

- 1** The online forum also enables you to engage in conversation with an international group of mental health and human service practitioners, and with guest authors. Read "Start Here" for basic instructions, guidelines and agreements. For topics that interest you, click "notify" to sign up to get an email whenever there is a new post under that topic. Check out the bottom of the home page for a list of the most recent posts. Sign up for additional online courses for continuing education (CE) credit if this interests you.
- 2** Have a first look around to familiarize yourself with the study group forum structure and its main sections: \* Start here \* Global Connections \* Special Interests \* Linking Lives- Witnessing Projects \* Foundations for Narrative Practice and Collaborative Inquiry \* Ethical Considerations \* Maps of Narrative Practice \* Inspiration and provocation.
- 3** Introduce yourself under "Introductions: Members." Create a profile. If you have a digital camera, upload a profile photo and "View from my window."
- 4** Find global colleagues with shared interests such as working with children and families, mental health and psychiatry, independent practice, group work, consulting with communities and organizations, educational settings, "real-world" agencies, supervision and teaching. Here you'll also find opportunities for sharing discoveries and dilemmas, as well as reflections on replenishing the spirit of the work.
- 5** Join shared projects in global reflecting teamwork, letter-writing campaigns, "I need a witness" discoveries - and start envisioning sharing possibilities of your own.
- 6** Check out the "Help Desk" for commonly asked questions, tips and to ask your own questions. Technology instructions are also linked to "Help" in the main navigational bar, and "Help" in the media library. Don't hesitate to ask; we are a friendly, hospitable group.
- 7** Read the "Weekly Update" to see what's currently going on and find the most current conversation. Check out the "Conversational Lounge" for topics started by study group members. Join the Cross-contextual exchange to share ideas from other learning contexts. Check out the opportunities for cross-cultural exchange. If you speak Spanish, check out our Foro en Espanol.
- 8** Start your studies by getting re-acquainted with "What is narrative practice?" and "What is collaborative inquiry?" Feel free to add to any discussion even if it appears that we have moved on. There's always room for more reflections and questions.
- 9** Come find us and decide where to join in the discussion. Recent hot topics include, among others: \* Addiction and substance misuse \* Neurobiology, narrative and the body \* Starting new programs and creative ventures \* The absent but implicit \* "Magical realism" and narrative therapy \* In the aftermath of suicide \* Neighborly ways of being and communal practices \* Psychotic experience and discourse \* Relational ethics \* Responding to abuse within families and building ethical resistance.
- 10** Inspiration and Provocation: This section is for anything from YouTubes, favorite quotes, stories – to announcements and reflections on workshops. Have a look, and start thinking about what you might add.
- 11** Media library and copyright permission: The "media library" is a treasure trove of interesting readings, and will continue to grow. The links to these materials are within specific topics (just click on the link). Please honor any formal copyright agreements with publishers to restrict your use of these materials to study group purposes.
- 12** Pacing is everything. Find what works for you – you know your schedule best. Several members say it helps to create a weekly routine. Some people stay connected on a daily basis, while others move in and out. It's up to you. Together, we are creating a vibrant and supportive, international learning community– with added opportunities to take online courses to earn CE credits along the way.