

# Psychiatry Grand Rounds

## WCM Department of Psychiatry

### Psychology CE Announcement



**Weill Cornell  
Medicine**  
Psychiatry

#### THE BODY AS SEEN, THE BODY AS FELT: ATTACHMENT AND BODY REPRESENTATIONS

**MIRIAM STEELE, PH.D**

ALFRED J. AND MONETTE C. MARROW PROFESSOR IN PSYCHOLOGY  
THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH

**Hybrid:** Uris Auditorium

**Zoom:**

<https://weillcornell.zoom.us/j/92812036154>

Meeting ID: 928 1203 6154

Password: 12345

1 CE credit available to WCM Department of Psychiatry full time and voluntary faculty Psychologists, Social Workers and LMHCs, who sign in with their full name, attend the majority of the lecture and complete a survey which will be emailed following the completion of the lecture. Note the survey must be completed within 30 days of the lecture. Please contact [wcmpsychiatryce@med.cornell.edu](mailto:wcmpsychiatryce@med.cornell.edu) for additional CE information



March 25, 2026



11 AM - 12 PM



Live Online, Live In-Person

## ABSTRACT

Miriam Steele will focus on Attachment, trauma and the body- a central area of clinically informed research at the New School's Center for Attachment Research. A series of studies involving the innovative 'Mirror Interview' (Kernberg, Normadin, & Buh-Nielsen, 2006) explores aspects of body representations including body esteem, levels of coherence and reflective functioning, verbal and nonverbal expressions of affect. The presentation will focus on the exploration of intergenerational transmission of body representations from mothers to daughters, to adolescents with personality disorders, and individuals with physical disabilities This presentation will introduce the Mirror Interview and describe the clinical implications of charting the intersection between body and attachment representations.

## SPEAKER

**Dr. Miriam Steele** bridges the world of psychoanalytic thinking and clinical practice with contemporary research in child development. She trained as a child analyst at the Anna Freud Centre London and received her Ph.D. from University College London. Her research began with the study of "Intergenerational Patterns of Attachment" which embodied one of the first prospective longitudinal studies incorporating the Adult Attachment Interview and Strange Situation protocols. This work was important in initiating the concept of reflective functioning and providing empirical data to demonstrate the importance of parental states of mind in the social and emotional development of their children with a longitudinal focus on their development into adulthood. Her current projects include studies exploring the influence of cell phone use on parent-child attachment, attachment and body representations across a range of individuals including mother-child dyads and individuals with physical disabilities, studies of children in foster care and adoption and child and adolescent global mental health.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the structure and clinical applications of the Mirror Interview as an empirical assessment of body representations across diverse clinical contexts.
2. Explain the clinical implications of assessing the intersection between body representations and attachment representations.
3. Identify the value of incorporating empirically validated measures to inform and enhance clinical interventions.

## REFERENCES

1. APA PsycNet. (n.d.). <https://psycnet.apa.org/record/2007-00911-000>
2. Buhl-Nielsen, B., Steele, H., & Steele, M. (2024). Attachment and body representations in adolescents with personality disorder. *Journal of Clinical Psychology, 80*(9), 1981-1997. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jclp.23705>
3. McBirney-Goc, E. (2016, August 15). *Utilization of the Mirror interview to explore the influences of parents and objectification on the body and disordered eating behaviors.* <https://www.nspb.net/index.php/nspb/article/view/274>

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