



# The Associates:

The Community Education Program of the Training Institute for Mental Health

New Address: 115 West 27 Street 4th Floor, New York NY 10001-6217 ♦ 212-627-8181 ♦ www.timh.org

Jay E. Korman, LCSW, President

Please Post

Friday, April 9, 2010 7:30 P.M.



## What Do Women with Stepchildren Want?

Presenter: Wednesday Martin, PhD



Half of all Americans will be in a stepfamily at some point in their lives, and nearly half of all women in the U.S. will live with or marry a man with children. Yet there is twice as much research on stepfather families as on stepmother families, and lay books on “stepmothering” are full of descriptions of what the children want and need in order to thrive. The point of view and emotional and social reality of women with stepchildren is relatively under-explored in spite of the virtual consensus among researchers that “stepmother” is a uniquely difficult role, with stepmothers especially prone to feelings of depletion, anxiety and even clinical depression. Viewing stepfamily formation and couple dynamics through the point of view of the woman with stepchildren—a stepmother-centric perspective—is overdue, and can help clinicians and researchers better support the entire stepfamily system. From the wicked stepmother stereotype to vacationing with the ex-wife, to deploying military spouses to women who have stepkids through cohabitation rather than marriage, this talk will explore current stepmother reality.

**Wednesday Martin, PhD** is the author of *Stepmonster: A New Look at Why Real Stepmothers Think, Feel, and Act the Way We Do* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt). She is a regular contributor to *Psychology Today* and blogs for the *Huffington Post* as well as her own blog ([www.wednesdaymartin.com](http://www.wednesdaymartin.com)). Wednesday has appeared as a stepparenting expert on NPR, the BBC Newshour and NBC Weekend Today, and her work has appeared in Salon.com and *The New York Times*. Wednesday, who earned her doctorate in Cultural Studies/Comparative Literature at Yale, has two young sons and has been a stepmother for a decade. Her stepdaughters are young adults.

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I would like to join/renew my membership. I will attend on 4/9/10. Members are admitted free to programs but must advise us **by mail if they wish to have their seats reserved** for particular program(s) until 7:20 P.M. Note: Membership runs from October '09 through May '10.

**Membership Fees:**  General Membership: \$70.00  Senior Membership: \$45.00 (Over 65 with ID)  Student Membership: \$45.00 (with ID)

I am not interested in joining but would like to attend on 4/9/10.

**Non-members per program:**  Regular: \$15.00  Senior: \$12.00 (Over 65 with ID)  Student: \$12.00 (with ID).

I am a Training Institute Student or Intern (no charge for attendance).

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to: **Associates of Training Institute.**

**Send to:** Associates of Training Institute, 115 West 27 St 4th Floor, New York NY 10001-6217

**Please note: Reserved seating** can only be made by prepaying in advance by mail. **Seats will be held until 7:20 P.M.** and then released to **walk-ins**. **No tickets will be sent;** names of registrants will be at door. Please, **no phone reservations**. No refunds will be given – your good intentions will become donations to the Institute. Continuing Education hours verification may be obtained when you check in at the program. Each program is 2 C.E.U.

What Do Women with Stepchildren Want?

4/9/10  
7:30 P.M.

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