



CULTURAL PSYCHIATRY 101  
WEBINAR SERIES  
EPISODE 5

# IDIOMS OF DISTRESS

FRIDAY  
June 14  
2019  
1-2:30 PM  
EDT



## **The Uses of Cultural Concepts of Distress in Research and Clinical Practice**

Roberto Lewis-Fernández, MD, Columbia University

Objectives: To review the subtypes of cultural concepts of distress (including idioms of distress), their relationship with psychiatric disorders, and their uses in mental health-related research and clinical practice.

## **Idioms of Distress: New Directions in Psychological Anthropology**

Bonnie Kaiser, PhD, MPH, University of California, San Diego

Objectives: To describe innovations in research on idioms of distress and their implications for mental health assessment and interventions.

**MODERATED BY** ANNA FISKIN, MD, MS  
**AND** KENNETH FUNG, MD, MSc

Register online at <https://psychiatryandculture.org/webinars>

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## PRESENTERS

**Roberto Lewis-Fernández, MD**, is Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at Columbia University, Director of the New York State Center of Excellence for Cultural Competence and the Hispanic Treatment Program, and Co-Director of the Anxiety Disorder Clinic, at New York State Psychiatric Institute. His research focuses on developing culturally valid interventions and instruments to enhance patient engagement, reduce misdiagnosis, and help overcome disparities in the care of underserved cultural groups. He is Immediate Past President of SSPC, President of the World Association of Cultural Psychiatry, chair of the DSM Review Committee for Internalizing Disorders, and co-chair of the ICD-11 Working Group on Culture-Related Issues.

**Bonnie Kaiser, PhD, MPH**, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology and Global Health Program at University of California San Diego. Her research focuses on elucidating cultural models of mental health and illness and exploring their connections to care-seeking; developing and adapting measurement tools for cross-cultural research and interventions; improving cultural adaptation of global mental health interventions; and critically exploring concepts of trauma, risk, and resilience.

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## MODERATORS

**Anna Fiskin, MD, MS**, is a psychiatrist who specializes in cultural psychiatry and global mental health. She is an Assistant Clinical Professor at UCSF and Staff Psychiatrist at Chinatown North Beach Mental Health Services in San Francisco, California, where she works with a diverse patient population from China, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam. She is the Cultural Psychiatry faculty lead for UCSF Psychiatry HEAL Fellowship in Global Mental Health and a co-chair of the Cultural Psychiatry Area of Distinction for UCSF Psychiatry residency program. She is also a board member of the Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture.

**Kenneth Fung, MD, MSc**, is Staff Psychiatrist and Clinical Director of the Asian Initiative in Mental Health Program, Toronto Western Hospital, University Health Network, and Associate Professor with Equity, Gender, and Populations Division, Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto. His research, teaching, and clinical interests include both cultural psychiatry and psychotherapy. He co-leads the Pillar 4 Dialogue of the Department of Psychiatry Strategic Plan, University of Toronto, which focuses on issues related to equity, social justice, and social responsibility, and is the Block Co-coordinator of the Cultural Psychiatry Core Seminars for psychiatry residents. He is involved in community-based research related to HIV, mental health stigma, and immigrant and refugee mental health. He is psychiatric consultant to Hong Fook Mental Health Association and Mon Sheong Scarborough Long-Term Care Centre. He is the President of the Society of the Study of Psychiatry and Culture and the Chair of the Transcultural Section, Canadian Psychiatric Association.

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## REGISTRATION

- The webinar is **FREE** for students, residents, and trainees; SSPC members; and residents of low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).
- Non-members: **\$5** until 6/1; **\$10** thereafter