



EINLADUNG ZUM ÖFFENTLICHEN VORTRAG  
21.OKTOBER 2016, 20.30 – 22.00, IM FZB, GERECHTIGKEITSGASSE 53, BERN

JED SEKOFF, ALBANY, CA

»STOLEN DREAMS AND SAVAGE MELANCHOLIA:  
THE SOCIOPSYCHICAL ROOTS OF THE ADOLESCENT EXTREME«

Starting from the story of Abraham and Isaac and utilizing diverse sources ranging from Tribal Head Hunting to Jihadist poetry to Renaissance painting, this presentation will explore the relation of mourning and melancholia to social violence. The argument will stand on such premises as: *Loss* and *Helplessness* are universal conditions that structure our lives. *Social Trauma* engenders loss and helplessness, interrupting both our individual and cultural capacities to metabolize these states. *Anxiety*, *Shame*, and *States of Extremity* follow in the wake of personal and cultural traumata. *Cultural Containment*, including what might be termed *Social Dreaming*, is essential to prevent, address and redress the effects of such breakdown. *Mourning* is at the heart of *cultural containment* and the *reparative social dream*. If mourning is obstructed, despair and destructiveness take its place, soon morphing into what I will identify as the spiral of *Savage Melancholia*.

Jed Sekoff, PhD, Training Analyst IPA, is on the faculties of the San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis, the Psychoanalytic Institute of Northern California, where he is a supervising and personal analyst, and the Wright Institute, Berkeley. His writing has appeared in Kohon, *The Dead Mother*; Richards, *The Crisis of the Self*; Sabbadini, *The Couch and the Silver Screen*; and Perelberg, *The Greening of Psychoanalysis*. He has been the resident commentator at two San Francisco theater companies, the Director of Psychological Medicine at the Department of Family Medicine, University of Miami, and presented on the intersection of clinical psychoanalysis with the arts, politics, and medicine.

**Eintritt: 20.-, Studierende 10.- (Der Vortrag wird in deutscher Übersetzung vorliegen)**