

Chrysoula Iliopoulou, MSW, MEd

Psychologist, Sex Therapist

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EDUCATION

Widener University Dual Master's Degree (MSW/MEd) Majors: Social Work & Sex Therapy	Chester, PA, USA May 2020
Petroupolis Municipal Conservatory Classical Violin Degree	Athens, Greece June 2017
Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences Bachelor of Arts Major: Psychology	Athens, Greece July 2016 GPA: 3.41
Universita degli Studi Roma Tre Erasmus Studies Major: Political Sciences	Rome, Italy February - July 2014

EXPERIENCE

Adolescent Health Unit (AHU): Second Dpt of Pediatrics - University of Athens <i>Sex Educator</i>	Athens, Greece May 2021 - Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Co-create the “All about sex” podcast, answering adolescents’ questions on sexual and reproductive health to assure access to inclusive, sex positive, pleasure-and-consent-oriented information○ Participate in national and international conferences on adolescent health to present the Unit’s work at the intersections of adolescent sexual health	
Orlando LGBT+: Mental Health without Stigma <i>Sex Therapist</i>	Athens, Greece July 2020 - Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Design and facilitate 2-day training programs on BDSM sexuality and Open Relationships for mental health professionals○ Introduce core terminology and current academic literature on the topics of alternative sexuality to increase awareness, confidence, and comfort in mental health practice○ Introduced the model of <i>cultural humility</i> as a framework for practicing with minority populations○ Encourage self-reflection for professionals to identify personal biases around alternative forms of sexual expression	
Symplefsi <i>Psychoherapist, Sex Therapist</i>	Aegean remote islands, Greece October 2015 - Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Volunteer individual counseling services to remote islands’ residents to support them in coping with anxiety, loneliness, isolation, and mental health challenges○ Design and co-facilitate body awareness and consent workshops for elementary school children to encourage their emotional expression, empathy, and confidence	

- Create and implement 2-hour experiential workshops for high school students to empower them against sexual violence and harassment
- Provide systemic counseling to adolescents and family members on sexual orientation, gender identity and expression to facilitate efficient family communication

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Psychologist

Patra, Greece

April – November 2021

- Assessed the psychological and psychiatric health of 19 unaccompanied minors to diagnose and assist in coping with mental health challenges
- Provided psychological support and counselling to effectively respond on crises related to mental or psychological pressure, improving interpersonal relationships and cultivating skills and talents
- Collaborated with a multidisciplinary team of social workers, child psychiatrist, and caretakers to better meet the minors' needs
- Mapped existing humanitarian, educational, mental health and psychosocial services accessible to the site to organize and make appropriate referrals
- Secured project implementation according to IOM rules and regulations
- Completed trainings on immigration, HIV in the workplace, gender and sexuality, and data protection to ensure compliance with the IOM's rules and regulations

The Center for Growth, Inc

Sex Therapy Intern

Philadelphia, PA, USA

August 2019 - May 2020

- Provided psychotherapy to individuals, couples, and groups on depression, anxiety, sexual dysfunctions, low sexual desire, out of control sexual behavior, and couples' communication
- Attended weekly individual, group, and peer supervision sessions
- Participated in case presentations and consultations monthly
- Wrote *Self-Help Tips* to provide clients with behavioral interventions on sex, sexuality, mental health, body image, and sexual communication
- Practiced through a trauma-informed, systemic, narrative, feminist, and LGBTQ affirmative therapeutic lens
- Facilitated group sessions for women struggling with Low Sexual Desire and folks living with Herpes

Interdisciplinary Sexuality Research Collaborative, Widener University

Research Assistant

Chester, PA, USA

June 2019 - May 2020

- Designed the *Askable Adults* online training curriculum for the Philadelphia School District to enhance teachers' knowledge, skills, and attitudes around students' sexual development
- Co-facilitated noon conferences for Pediatric, OB/GYN, and Family Medicine residents to address bias and discomfort in providing comprehensive and trauma-informed sexual health treatment
- Delivered LGBTQ+ Safe Space trainings to college students and university staff to encourage and advocate for inclusion and competency around gender and sexuality on campus

Center for Human Sexuality Studies, Widener University

Graduate Assistant

Chester, PA, USA

December 2017 - May 2019

- Undertook administrative tasks relating to student support and consultation, graduation preparation, social media and website maintenance and updating, and interdepartmental communication
- Coordinated Graduate Admissions by communicating with prospective students, reviewing application materials, scheduling interviews, and organizing welcoming events for incoming students

Widener Community Connections, Widener University

Case Manager, Social Work Intern

Chester, PA, USA

August 2018 - May 2019

- Provided case management and resource navigation to clients of Widener’s clinics to introduce a holistic and systemic lens in care
- Designed and delivered trainings on mental health, sexuality, and minority issues to enhance the cultural competency of the clinics’ students and staff
- Co-facilitated monthly noon conferences to Crozer Pediatrics residents on sexual development to introduce age-appropriate and trauma-informed communication around sexuality in clinical settings

Gender and Sexuality Development Clinic, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Philadelphia, PA, USA
Summer Intern May - July 2018

- Designed online educational resources for transgender and gender non-conforming children, youth, and their families to provide affirmative support and guidance
- Coordinated the creation of visual content to assist CHOP’s staff and employees with integrating the hospital’s trans-inclusive policy for patients and visitors into their practice

Greek Academy of Aristotle in St. George Media, PA, USA
Greek Teacher October 2017 – June 2019

- Taught Greek as a Second Language to Greek-American kids ages 9 to 13 to enhance their writing, reading, speaking, and listening skills
- Assisted in organizing, preparing, and actualizing Greek Festivals and school celebrations for Greek national holidays

Office of Graduate Studies and Extended Learning, Widener University Chester, PA, USA
Student Worker September - December 2017

- Worked as a tour guide on campus for prospective students
- Coordinated meetings and appointments with faculty and staff on campus for prospective students to familiarize themselves with the programs
- Reviewed and finalized application materials
- Provided phone and in-person career consultation to prospective applicants

Colour Youth – Athens LGBTQ Youth Community Athens, Greece
Support Services Coordinator January 2016 - May 2018

- Contributed to writing *The Trans Youth Handbook* providing resources to empower and affirm gender variant youth’s identities
- Ensured funding to design and implement the first *Greek National School Climate Survey (GNCS)* recording the experiences of LGBTQ youth in the nation’s public schools
- Engaged in policy work with Greek stakeholders to raise awareness around the challenges of people with LGBTQ identities and advocate for legal rights and protections
- Participated in writing and implementing the strategic plan to ensure organizational sustainability
- Represented the organization in the media in various occasions (e.g. conferences, campaigns, media days, the press)

Psychologist

- Co-facilitated group sessions for LGBTQ youth to support, affirm, and empowerment their sexual orientation and gender identity
- Delivered workshops and training sessions to pre-school education students to deconstruct biases and stereotypes around children’s gender and sexuality

European Federation of Psychology Students’ Associations (EFPSA) Multiple Cities, Europe
Member Representative of Greece April 2015 - April 2016

- Adapted campaigns on mental stigma to the Greek cultural context (“Mind the Mind” campaign)

- Delivered oral presentations at Panteion University of Athens, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and University of Crete to promote EFPSA and familiarize Greek Psychology students with its mission and vision (EFPSA Days)
- Managed email correspondence, application review, and participant feedback for the organization's projects online
- Attended annual one-week working events (Congress, Joint Executive Board and Member Representatives' meeting) around Europe
- Enhanced English communication and multicultural collaboration skills as well as organizational and macro-management skills

Municipality of Vyronas

Athens, Greece

Assistant Psychologist

June 2016

- Assisted in designing educational curricula for over 20 children ages 10-12 to cultivate collaboration and teamwork
- Organized and delivered workshops on conflict management, dialogue facilitation, empathy, self-awareness, and deconstruction of gender stereotypes to increase children's communication skills

Third Municipal Kindergarten of Vyronas

Athens, Greece

Field Intern

February to May 2015

- Utilized a social learning and strengths-based approach to assist hyperactive kids reconnect with peers and engage in group activities
- Provided psychoeducation to teachers to address challenging student behaviors

RESEARCH

NGO Colour Youth: Athens LGBTQ Youth Community

Athens, Greece

Lead Researcher of the Greek National School Climate Survey

September 2016 - May 2018

- Conducted the first Greek national survey to gather data about the nation's LGBTQ students' perspectives and experiences in public schools
- Translated and adapted the study's questionnaire to record the students' experiences on diversity, respect, acceptance, inclusion, and safety at school
- Collaborated with the Psychology departments of the Panteion University and the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens to collect feedback on the study's methodology and statistical analysis
- Participated in online and in-person promotion efforts that resulted in the participation of more than 3,700 participants
- Co-authored and published the Official Results Report which constituted the first ever publication in the Greek literature about LGBTQ students' experiences in public school
- Contributed to the strengthening of the organization's efforts to advocate for much-needed changes in the education system towards the direction of inclusivity and incorporation of comprehensive sex education classes

Panteion University

Panteion University, Athens, Greece

Undergraduate Thesis

September 2014 - February 2016

- Explored the psycho-social identity of gay folks in Greece
- Conducted qualitative research regarding gay individuals' self-identification and the characteristics that they find of greater importance

- Examined the application of Gaertner’s Individual-Self Primacy Hypothesis (Gaertner et al., 2012)
- Researched homosexual individuals’ self-identification content by using Turner-Zwinkels’s method under authorization (Turner-Zwinkels et al., 2015)
- Statistically analyzed the qualitative data from 62 participants that showed more frequent prioritization of sex or sexuality related characteristics compared to straight folks

ACTIVITIES

Planned Parenthood

Philadelphia, PA

Volunteer

November 2017 - June 2018

- Attended an intensive weekend training on STI and pregnancy prevention and contraception
- Implemented Safe Sex educational workshop at the Juvenile Detention Center in West Chester, PA

5^o National Congress of Psychology Student Research

Athens, Greece

Volunteer

16 - 18 December 2016

- Provided administrative support for the congress
- Managed the congress’ emails to communicate, inform, and give feedback to participants
- Provided technical support and oversaw the participants’ presentations

Θετική Φωνή: Άθροποι + HIV

Athens, Greece

Volunteer

April - December 2015

- Participated in Stand Staffing and distribution of information materials on HIV/AIDS at universities, public squares, and night life bars and restaurants
- Participated in condom packing and distribution to folks with a higher risk of HIV/AIDS infection (intravenous drug users, sex workers etc.)
- Attended educational programs and experiential workshops regarding HIV/AIDS to raise awareness about the health and mental health consequences of living with stigma

COMMITTEES

Provost Search Committee, Widener University

Philadelphia and Chester, PA

Member

December 2018 - April 2019

- Appointed by the President of the University to serve as a representative for the campus’ graduate students
- Participated in the process of interviewing education leaders from across the US to hire the one most congruent with the University’s values, culture, and educational priorities

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member of the following professional organizations:

- Ελληνική Εταιρεία Σεξουαλικότητας και Διαφυλικών Σχέσεων (ΕΕΣΔΣ)
- World Association of Sexual Health (WAS)
- Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS)
- American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapists (AASECT)

PUBLICATIONS (in Greek)

Iliopoulou, C. (2020). BDSM and polyamory: A realistic introduction. In N. Papatathanasiou & E.O. Christidi (Eds), *Inclusivity and Resilience: Principles of Psychosocial Support of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Expression, and Characteristics* (pp. 149-168). Athens, Greece: Gutenberg.

(Ηλιοπούλου, Χ. (2020). *BDSM και Πολυσυντροφικότητα: Μια ρεαλιστική Εισαγωγή*. Στο Ν. Παπαθανασίου & Ε.Ο. Χρηστίδη (Επιμ.), *Συμπερίληψη κι Ανθεκτικότητα: Βασικές Αρχές Ψυχοκοινωνικής Στήριξης σε Θέματα Σεξουαλικού Προσανατολισμού, Ταυτότητας, Έκφρασης και Χαρακτηριστικών Φύλου* (σσ. 149-168). Αθήνα, Ελλάδα: Gutenberg.)

Iliopoulou, C., Nikolakakis, N., Diakoumakou, F., Grammenidis, K. (2018). First greek national school climate survey: Official results report. Athens, Greece: Colour Youth

(Ηλιοπούλου, Χ., Νικολακάκης, Ν., Διακουμάκου, Φ., Γραμμενίδης, Κ. (2018). *Πρώτη πανελλαδική έρευνα για το σχολικό κλίμα - Έκθεση αποτελεσμάτων: Οι εμπειρίες της ΛΟΑΤΚ μαθητικής κοινότητας στη δευτεροβάθμια εκπαίδευση*. Αθήνα, Ελλάδα: Colour Youth.)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Iliopoulou, C. (2021, October). *Sexual harassment: Answering teens' questions on the "All about sex" Podcast series from the youth-led platform we-knowhow.gr*. Oral presentation at the 14th State of the Art Panhellenic Conference on Adolescent Health and Medicine, Athens, Greece.

Iliopoulou, C., Moraiti, M., Thirios, Th. (2021, October). *"Protect yourself": A sexuality education intervention for teens in remote islands to empower them against violence and harassment*. Oral presentation at the 14th State of the Art Panhellenic Conference on Adolescent Health and Medicine, Athens, Greece.

Boviatsis, S., **Iliopoulou, C., Diakoumakou, F. (2021, April).** *Greek national school climate survey: The experiences of lgbtq youth in the greek secondary education system*. Oral presentation at the 65th Annual Conference of the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES), Virtual, USA.

Iliopoulou, C. (2019, October). *Foreign language (L2) and lgbtq identity empowerment: A theoretical model*. Poster session presented at the 24th Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health (WAS), Mexico City, Mexico.

Iliopoulou, C. (2019, June). *Foreign language (L2) and lgbtq identity empowerment: A theoretical model*. Poster session presented at the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapists (AASECT) 51st Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Iliopoulou, C. (2019, April). *Sexual minorities and the medical community: The historical traumas of a relationship*. Poster session presented at Widener University's annual Graduate Student Research Symposium, Chester, PA.

Iliopoulou, C. (2018, April). *Emersion of a foreign language (L2): A tool for the lgbtq identities' empowerment*. Poster session presented at Widener University's annual Graduate Student Research Symposium, Chester, PA.

Iliopoulou, C. (2016, December). *The psychosocial identity of gay individuals in Greece: A qualitative approach*. Undergraduate thesis and original research presented at the 5th National Congress of Psychology Student Research, Panteion University, Athens, Greece.