

## THE HISTORY OF TRAUMATIC NEUROSIS: FROM RAILWAY SPINE TO POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER<sup>1</sup>

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The seminar was organized by Allan Young, a Wiko Fellow. Three formal presentations were made, each followed by a discussion period. Speakers included Jose Brunner, Marc Sageman, and Allan Young.

Dr. Brunner is Senior Lecturer in the History and Philosophy of Science and Ideas at Tel Aviv University. For more than a decade, he has been working on the history of psychiatric trauma, concentrating on the period 1866 to 1918 and focused on Germany and Austria-Hungary. He is the author of important studies on this subject and is completing a monograph based on his most recent research. Marc Sageman is a practicing forensic psychiatrist and a lecturer in the Department of Psychology at the University of Pennsylvania and the University's Solomon Asch Center for the Study of Ethno-Political Conflict. He is a Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia and chair of the College's Medical History section. His research focuses on forensic issues in the history of posttraumatic disorders in France and North America. Dr. Sageman is completing a monograph on this subject, covering the period from 1866 to the present. Dr. Young is the author of the monograph, *The Harmony of Illusions: Inventing Posttraumatic Stress Disorder*, concerned with the history and clinical ethnography of the posttraumatic syndromes. His current research focuses on the epistemology of biological research on posttraumatic stress disorder.

Dr. Brunner's seminar paper was titled "Trauma and Social Relations: Emotional Injuries, Identification and Suspicion in the Twentieth Century"; Dr. Sageman's presentation was on "The Micro-Politics of Traumatic Neurosis"; and Dr. Young spoke about recent research on the neurophysiology of trauma.

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<sup>1</sup> Seminar held at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin on March 7, 2002.