

Friday, April 24th, 11:00AM-12:30PM  
Master Lecture  
California Psychological Association CPA  
2015 Annual Conference, San Diego CA  
Paradise Point Hotel and Spa, San Diego, CA

*Seeing Ourselves on the Silver Screen...*

## **Therapists and Therapeutic Ethics as Viewed in the Movies:**

# **The Silver Screen**

Want to know how American society sees therapists? Go to the movies or watch a TV series. Projected on the screen have been, literally and figuratively, every fantasy about therapists—good and bad, ethical and unethical, comic and tragic—that lurk somewhere in the popular imagination.

Have you ever smiled, grimaced, cried or laughed out loud while pondering the ways in which therapists, therapy, or therapeutic ethics are represented in movies? If you have, prepare to do it again and, if you haven't, get ready for some fun! Please join us for a presentation on this subject as we watch and review film clips from popular movies.

We most often think about how a therapist can violate the boundaries of a client, but What about Bob? or Analyze This present shining examples of how clients can violate the boundaries of a therapist. Watching clips from Good Will Hunting, our hearts may fly open as we are moved to thinking about ethics, standard of care and the risk and benefit of physical touch, self-disclosure and, even, getting into a client's face. Deconstructing Harry will have us laughing at the true, and in this film, comically exaggerated, possible complications and self-disclosure perils of home office practice. Our collegial compassion may rise to the surface as we empathize with Meryl Streep in the movie Prime. Poor Meryl illustrates conflicts inherent in unintended dual relationship with a client. There are more movie clips and it should be fun. Meet us at the movies. BYO popcorn.



with Ofer Zur, Ph.D.

Ofer Zur is a Sebastopol, CA psychologist and has been in practice for over twenty-five years. He is a fellow of the American Psychological Association and the director of the Zur Institute which offers over 175 [online continuing education courses](#) for psychologists, MFTs, SWs, counselors, and other mental health practitioners. Dr. Zur has written four books and hundreds of articles and book-chapters, and has [lectured world-wide](#) on topics ranging from Boundaries in Psychotherapy & Effective Therapy, Internet Psychology, Internet Addiction, Digital Ethics, Cyber-Bullying, Psychology of Gender, and Psychology of Victims.



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