

As an older candidate in the Pittsburgh Child Analysis Program I decided that I needed a learning experience beyond my own institute and my own children. With another candidate, Dr. Nancy Curry, who ran the best pre-K program in the city and taught at the University, we signed up and went for a weekend in Washington.

I expected the usual part time appearance of the great man-Stanley Greenspan, with the major segments taught by others or through videos of sessions.

Instead, he taught the whole weekend himself in a lucid, entertaining, energetic, earnest and meaningful way. He showed how "Floor Time" and interactions with teachers, parents and children could be used by all of us. The videos ranged from infant home pictures showing a failure to focus on faces to tactful guidance of fathers in modulating their voices during play with their five year old sons. I can recall my rapt attention and that of the audience to this day. I returned home with greater understanding and new hope for the effectiveness of thoughtful persistent interventions.

I now can connect that weekend to a very meaningful outcome; a handsome little boy who came to see me subsequently benefited from what Stanley Greenspan demonstrated that weekend. He will graduate from high school and go on to college, supported by a loving and empathic family.

Judith Schachter