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On the DLA (David Liberman algorithm) tools for analyzing non verbal manifestations and its psychoanalytic foundations

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I. Foundations of the tools

In order to understand the clinical manifestations from the Freudian perspective, we take into account two concepts: 1) libidinal fixations and 2) defenses.

Erotogenicities

IL Intrasomatic libido
 O1 Primary oral
 O2 Secondary oral sadistic
 A1 Primary anal sadistic
 A2 Secondary anal sadistic
 UPH Urethral phallic
 GPH Genital phallic

Defenses

Main defense	State		
	Successful	Failed	Both
According to the goal, creativity and sublimation			
Repression			
Disavowal			
Foreclosure of the reality and the ideal			
Foreclosure of the affect			

Using David Liberman algorithm (DLA), erotogenicities and defenses can be researched in the scenes displayed or narrated by the patient (and eventually also the therapist). Some DLA tools allow to detect libidinal fixations and defenses in narration and speech acts levels of the discourse. While narration level allows to detect extra-transferential conflicts, speech acts level permits to research the transferential ones. The basic scenes (narrated or displayed as speech acts) are:

Scenes and erotogenicities

<u>EROTICISM</u>	GENITAL PHALLIC	PHALLIC URETHRAL	SECONDARY ANAL SADISTIC	PRIMARY ANAL SADISTIC	SECONDARY ORAL SADISTIC	PRIMARY ORAL	INTRA-SOMATIC LIBIDO
SCENE							
Initial state	Aesthetic harmony	Routine	Hierarchical order	Natural legal equilibrium	Paradise	Cognitive peace	Equilibrium between tensions
First transformation = Awakening of desire	Desire for aesthetic completion	Ambitious desire	Desire to dominate an object in the framework of a public oath	Desire driven by thirst for justice	Temptation Expiation	Abstract cognitive desire	Speculative desire
Second transformation = Attempt to consummate desire	Reception of a Power-Gift	Finding the mark of the father deep in the object	Discerning that the object is faithful to corrupt subjects	Revenge	Sin Reparation	Access to a truth	Gain in pleasure through organic intrusion
Third transformation = Consequences of the attempt to consummate desire	Pregnancy Aesthetic disorganization	Challenge of adventure Challenge of routine	Virtue recognized Social condemnation and moral expulsion	Leadership formally recognized, honoured Being unable to move; being locked away and humiliated	Forgiveness and loving recognition Expulsion from Paradise	Recognition of genius Loss of lucidity; the other enjoys objective cognition	Organic euphoria Asthenia
Final state	Shared harmony Lasting feeling of disgust	Adventure Pessimistic routine	Moral peace Moral torment	Evocation of heroic past or Return to lasting peace Lasting resentment	Vale of tears Recovery of Paradise	Bliss in revelation Loss of the essence	Balance of tensions with no energy loss Lasting tension or asthenia

II. Tools for analyzing erotogenicities

The previous foundation is useful in the research of different kinds of non verbal manifestations: paraverbal components, visual images, movements, intersubjective distances.

II. 1. Tool for analyzing paraverbal manifestations

The acoustic components of the words exchanged during the session can be studied considering 1) tone, 2) timbre, 3) rhythm, 4) sounds. The corresponding grid allows to detect the scene displayed in this level of analysis. Like for the phrases, the grid of paraverbal components allows us to infer transferential conflicts.

Erotogenicities and sounds

LI	O1	O2	A1	A2	UPH	GPH
<u>Tone:</u> 1) apathetic	<u>Tone:</u> 1) metallic	<u>Tone:</u> 1) sardonic	<u>Tone:</u> 1) angry	<u>Tone:</u> 1) contemptuous depreciative	<u>Tone:</u> 1) anxious	<u>Tone:</u> 1) flattering
2) monotonous	2) languishing	2) depressive	2) upset and bored	2) ironic	2) distrustful	2) compliment
3) pleading	3) lack of affectivity	3) excited or manic	3) protest	3) rational	3) with excuses	3) promising
4) flattering	4) intellectual humor	4) desperate	4) suspicious	4) admonitory	4) whispering	4) inviting
5) sleepy	<u>Rhythm, timbre and sounds:</u> 1) lack of resonance	5) impatient	5) accusing	5) controlled	5) pessimistic	5) seductive
6) languishing	2) little difference in pitch	6) sarcastic	6) mockery	6) imperative	6) with proverbs	6) disgusting
7) bathroom humor	3) clucking sound of the tongue	7) reproaching	7) provocative	7) judgmental	7) pleasing	7) declamatory
8) lack of affectivity	4) "contained laughter" (with lips closed)	8) begging	8) insulting	8) critical	8) premonitory	8) infantile
9) infantile		9) compassionate	9) arrogant	9) clarifying	9) corrosive and poignant humor	9) laughably
<u>rhythm, timbre and sounds:</u> 1) nasal		10) litany	10) insinuating	10) explaining	<u>rhythm, timbre and sounds</u> 1) shrill sounds	<u>rhythm, timbre and sounds</u> 1) hoarse
2) scream		11) pleasing	11) imperative	11) indicative	2) hissing sounds	2) exclamation of joy
3) acceleration		12) guilty	12) resentful	12) sententious	3) whistling	3) exclamation of anger
4) agitation		13) laughing	13) spiteful	13) solemn	4) sudden drop in sound intensity	4) exclamation of disgust
5) cough		14) choleric	14) choleric	14) doubtful		5) exclamation of surprise
6) sneeze		15) sardonic humor	15) threatening	15) gallows humor		6) exclamation of admiration
7) sniff		16) gallows	16) defiant	<u>rhythm,</u>		7) onomatopoeia

		humor		<u>timbre and sounds</u> sustained		
8) hiccup		17) festive humor	17) provocative and hurtful humor			8) cough
9) bowel sounds		<u>rhythm, timbre and sounds</u> 1) whispering	<u>rhythm, timbre and sounds</u> 1) onomatopoeia			9) clearing the throat
10) clearing the throat		2) sobbing				
11) burp		3) painful (due to psychic pain)				
12) yawn		4) lament				
13) crying		5) laughing				
14) sobbing		6) acclamation				
15) pant		7) slowness				
16) slowness		8) shortening				
17) puffing						
18) complaint (about physical pain)						
19) litany						
20) onomatopoeia						
21) snuffling						
22) silly laugh						
23) quiet, muted						
24) grind						

II. 2. Tool for analyzing movements

Each movement of the patient can be understood including it into a program. To each erotogenicity corresponds a specific movement's program.

Erotogenicities and movements's program

Erotogenicity	IL	O1	O2	A1	A2	UPH	GPH
Movements	Tending to inner alteration (i.e., self-soothing procedures)	Tendency to the extraction of an essence (or liquid), or of an abstract clue (fingers, tongue, eyes)	Tending to express affects	Tending to vengeance on the other	Tending to grasp and dominate the object	Tending to penetrate	Tending to an aesthetic totality (i.e. waving movements)

Some movements express states and other ones (active or passive) correspond to actions. These last ones can be prepatatories, consumatives or complementaries. Other movements correspond to the efforts to dominate and coordinate specific apparatus (ocular coordination, walking, writing, etc.). The

analysis of movements allows us to research either transferential and extra-transferential levels.

III. 3. Tool for analyzing visual manifestations

Visual images can be studied considering iconic and/or plastic level. The tool for analyzing the narrated scenes previously exposed can be useful for studying iconic level. To study plastic level, DLA contains a description of the specific formalization of the perceptive world, each one expressing an erotogenicity. The analysis of visual images allows us to research both transferential and extra-transferential levels.

Erotogenicity and formalization of the perceptive world

Erotogenicity	IL	O1	O2	A1	A2	UPH	GPH
Formalization of perceptive world	Frequency	Punctiform	Perception of affective states	Discrete traits	Hierarchic order for observing totality and classifying details	Fascination with an enigmatic (incomplete) aspect in the nucleus of the object	Totalizing fascination

II. 4. Tool for analyzing the subjective distance

The analysis of movements and visual manifestations can be combined with the study of the distance, either between the characters in a design or between the person and the others. DLA contains a tool useful for this kind of analysis. The study of subjective distances allows us to research transferential and extra-transferential levels.

Erotogenicity	IL	O1	O2	A1	A2	UPH	GPH
Distance	Intracorporal	Public	Intimate	Intimate (in the moment of the vengeance) Public (in the moment of the consequences of the vindictive act)	Social	Personal (the distance of the extended arm)	Simultaneously intimate and public

III. Tools for analyzing defenses

The tools for the analysis of non verbal manifestations also allow to detect the defenses and their state. For this, a sequence of steps of analysis is available.

Steps for analyzing defenses

Problem	Procedure
1. To decide which defense prevails	Detecting which is the dominant language
2. To decide whether repression/disavowal/foreclosure or according to the goal /	Detecting whether the language contained in the scene harmonizes with the context

creativity / sublimation defenses prevail	
3. To decide whether the defense (repression, disavowal or foreclosure) is functional or pathological	Detecting whether one language dominates the others, or uses them and becomes hypertrophied
4. To decide whether the pathological defense is failed, successful or both	Detecting the position of the speaker and the prevalence of actions or states

IV. Comments

The application of each tool gives multivariate results on erotogenicities and defenses. This fact demands a decision of the researcher concerning the relative relevance of each erotogenicity and defense in each field (paraverbal components, movements, etc.). Besides, it's possible to combine the application of various of these tools. The researcher also can combine one or more of the tools for analyzing non verbal manifestations with other ones studying the discourse of one or more interlocutors.