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Research on wishes and defenses in parental relationships of 12 transvestite subjects, applying the DLA

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I. **Objectives:** to study the wishes, defenses and their state in the episodes narrated by male transvestite subjects.

II. **Sample:** From a total of 98 narrative sequences extracted from semi-structured interviews with 12 male transvestite subjects, aged between 20 and 38, that practiced street prostitution in two neighbourhoods of Buenos Aires, we selected 85 of them, which referred to one and other progenitors.

III. **Method:** Grids and instructions from the David Liberman algorithm (DLA) for the analysis of wishes and defenses (and their state) in narrations. The repertoire of wishes that it analyzes is composed by: Intrasomatic libido (IL), Primary oral (O1), secondary oral sadistic (O2), primary anal sadistic (A1), secondary anal sadistic (A2), urethral phallic (UPH) and genital phallic (GPH).

These wishes might be combined with certain central defenses, such as: Foreclosure of the affect, Foreclosure of reality and the ideal, Disavowal, Repression (pathological mechanisms), In accordance with the goal, Creativity, Sublimation (functional mechanisms).

The state of the defenses can be successful, failed or both. When the defense succeeds, the narration has an euphoric end, when it fails, the narration has a dysphoric end, and the anxiety emerges, and when the defense has a mixed carácter, neither the euphoria nor the anxiety prevails, but a dysthymic state. Regarding the narrations, they can be analyzed in terms of scenes representing wishes (Table I). There is also a sequence of steps that allows us to infer defenses, once the main wishes have been detected in the scenes.

Table I : Narrated episodes and wishes

Wishes	GPH	UPH	A2	A1	O2	O1	IL
<i>Scene</i>							
Initial state	Aesthetic harmony	Routine	Hierarchic order	Natural legal equilibrium	Paradise	Cognitive peace	Tension balance
First transformation = Awakening of desire	Desire for aesthetic completion	Ambitious desire	Desire to dominate an object in the frame 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 or gift	Finding the mark of the father deep inside the object	Discerning that the object is faithful to corrupt subjects	Revenge	Sin Reparation	Access to truths	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 and honored 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	Valley of tears Recovery of paradise	Bliss in revelation Loss of the essence	Balance of tensions with no energy loss Lasting tension or asthenia

It is possible to see that the Third transformation and the Final state have two versions, the euphoric and the dysphoric ones. Each sector of Table I summarizes a more extended group of specific narrations. Table II shows some of these options:

Table II: Types of narrations for each wish

Wishes	Referente to
IL	- The own or the others' body states and processes - Events related to economic situations
O1	- Abstract cognitive problems
O2	- Processes and states related to emotional dependence
A1	- Situations and experiences of consummated or suffered injustice
A2	- Situations of conflicts related to the maintenance of the order (moral, sexual, institutional) and the cleanliness
UPH	- Situations in which ambition or avoidance predominate
GPH	- Tendency to beautification and presentation of a gift

IV. Procedures: 1) Selection of the fragments corresponding to the subject's link with his progenitors, 2) Establishment of narrations and analysis of them, 3) consensus rating, 4) analysis of the results.

Regarding the interjudge agreements, we carried out certain steps: 1) the interviews were divided into two groups composed by two researchers each. 2) Each researcher constructed and analyzed the narrations that she considered appropriate, 3) then she exchanged with her team-mate looking forward to the consensus. 4) Finally, the results obtained from each subgroup were combined, in order to achieve the global consensus.

As regards the analysis of the results, we took into account a criterion based in the fact that when a defense is failed it is a better informant of the subject's psychic reality than when it succeeds.

V. Results

Table III: Narrations and their analysis

Narrations referred to the mother	Narrations referred to the father
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(N= 33 narrations)			(N= 52 narrations)		
Wish	Defense	State	Wish	Defense	State
UPH	Repression+characterologic traits	Mixed	O2	Disavowal	Successful
O1	Disavowal	Mixed	GPH	Repression+characterologic traits	Successful
A1	Disavowal	Successful	O1	Disavowal	Failed
O2	Disavowal	Successful	A2	Repression+characterologic traits	Mixed
O2	Disavowal	Successful	A1	Disavowal	Failed
A2	Repression+characterologic traits	Failed	IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed
A1	Disavowal	Successful	UPH	Repression	Failed
GPH	Repression+characterologic traits	Successful	UPH	Repression+characterologic traits	Mixed
A1	Disavowal	Failed	A1	Disavowal	Successful
A2	Repression	Failed	O1	Disavowal	Mixed
A2	Repression	Failed	IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed
IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed	O1	Disavowal	Failed
O2	Disavowal	Failed	IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed
O2	Disavowal	Successful	A1	Disavowal	Successful
IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed	IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Mixed
A1	Disavowal	Failed	O2	Disavowal	Successful
O2	Disavowal	Successful	A1	Disavowal	Failed
GPH	Repression+characterologic traits	Mixed	AI	Disavowal	Successful
GPH	Repression+characterologic traits	Successful	O2	Disavowal	Successful
A2	Repression+characterologic traits	Failed	A1	Disavowal	Failed
O2	Disavowal	Failed	UPH	Repression	Successful
IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed	IL	Foreclosure of the affect	F
O1	Disavowal	Successful	UPH	Repression	Successful
IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Successful	UPH	Repression	Successful
O1	Disavowal	Failed	A1	Disavowal	Successful
O2	Disavowal	Successful	IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Mixed
IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Successful	UPH	Repression+characterologic traits	Failed
O2	Disavowal	Mixed	O2	Disavowal	Successful
O2	In accordance with the goal	Successful	O2	Disavowal	Failed
O1	Disavowal	Failed	UPH	Repression+characterologic traits	Failed
O2	Disavowal	Failed	A1	Disavowal	Successful
IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed	O2	Disavowal	Successful
IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed	O2	Disavowal	Successful
			IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed
			O1	Disavowal	Failed
			IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed
			IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed
			IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed
			IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed
			IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed
			IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed
			O2	Disavowal	Successful

				O1	Disavowal	Mixed
				O2	Disavowal	Failed
				A1	Disavowal	Successful
				O2	Disavowal	Mixed
				IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Successful
				A1	In accordance with the goal	Successful
				A2	Repression	Failed
				A1	In accordance with the goal	Successful
				IL	Foreclosure of the affect	Failed
				A2	In accordance with the goal	Successful

Table IV: Dominant wishes and defenses in the link with the mother and with the father

	Link with the mother		Link with the father	
Wish and defense		%		%
IL and foreclosure of the affect	7	21.21	15	28.85
O2 and disavowal	9	27.27	10	19.23
A1 and disavowal	4	12.12	9	17.31
O1 and disavowal	4	12.12	5	9.61
A2, UPH, GPH and Repression+characterologic traits	6	18%	5	10%
Others (Neurotic components: in accordance with the goal and repression)	3	9%	8	16%
	33	100	52	100

Table V: States of the dominant defenses in the link with the mother and with the father

Defense	Link with the mother			Link with the father		
	State		%	State		%
Disavowal	Successful	8	47.06%	Successful	13	54%
	Failed	7	41.18%	Failed	8	33.33%
	Mixed	2	11.76%	Mixed	3	12.5%
		17	100		24	
Foreclosure of the affect	Successful	2	28.57%	Successful	1	6.67%
	Failed	5	71.43%	Failed	12	80%
	Mixed	0	0%	Mixed	2	13.33%

		7	100		15	100
Repression+characterologic traits	Successful	2	34%	Successful	1	20%
	Failed	2	33%	Failed	2	40%
	Mixed	2	33%	Mixed	2	40%
			100			100

Table VI: State of the disavowal according to the type of operating wish (O1-O2- A1)

Link with the mother				Link with the father			
State	Disvowal combined with			State	Disvowal combined with		
	O1	O2	A1		O1	O2	A1
Successful	25%	56%	50%	Successful	0%	70%	67%
Mixed	25%	11%	0%	Mixed	40%	10%	0%
Failed	50%	33%	50%	Failed	60%	20%	33%

VI. Discussion

Maternal and paternal links

A) Similitudes: 1) The disavowal is the dominant defense (Table IV). From the statistical point of view, it turns out to be successful. When combined with the O2 wish, disavowal appears more successful than when it is combined with the other wishes (O1, A1). When combined with O1 it presents a higher percentage of failure than when it is combined with the other wishes (O2, A1). Foreclosure of the affect is the defense with the highest percentage of failure in both links (Table V).

B) Differences: 1) From the statistical point of view, the O2 wish predominates in the mother, while IL becomes more relevant in the father (Table IV). 2) The success of disavowal combined with O2 is even higher in the link with the father than in the relationship with the mother, as long as the failure of the disavowal combined with O1 is more stressed in the link with the father (Table V). 3) The characterologic components have a major predominance and grade of success in the link with the mother than in the relationship with the father (Table V). 4) The neurotic components, when they appear, have more dominance in the link with the father (Table IV). 5)

Foreclosure of the affect has a major index of failure in the interaction with the father (Table V).

VII. Conclusions: The quantitative results obtained might be re-analyzed taking into account the criterion centered in the successful or failed state of the pathogenic defenses. The successful pathogenic defenses put in evidence the aspects corresponding to a facade, while the failed pathogenic defenses allow detecting the conflict points present in the subject.

In this sense, the results show that the combination between 1) IL and foreclosure of the affect and 2) O1 and disavowal constitutes the nuclear conflictive cluster in the psychic reality as much as in the binding pattern that the interviewees establish with their progenitors.