Saturday 11th May 2013

BOARDING SCHOOL SYNDROME:
BROKEN ATTACHMENTS A HIDDEN TRAUMA
Joy Schaverien

In two recently published papers (2011), I identified a cluster of symptoms and behaviours, which I propose be classified as ‘Boarding School Syndrome’. Children sent to boarding school at an early age suffer the sudden and irrevocable loss of their primary attachments; for many this constitutes a significant trauma. Bullying and sexual abuse may follow, rendering new attachment figures unsafe. To adapt to the system, a defensive and protective encapsulation of the self may be acquired; the true identity of the person then remains hidden. This pattern may continue into adult life, distorting intimate relationships. In psychotherapy the transference dynamics may replay the hidden childhood trauma of repeated losses. This calls for a particular psychotherapeutic approach.

Professor Joy Schaverien is a Professional Member of the Society of Analytical Psychology, in private practice in the East Midlands. She is a Training Analyst and Supervisor for the British Association of Psychotherapists, Visiting Professor for the Northern Programme for Art Psychotherapy and a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Analytical Psychology. Her books include: The Dying Patient in Psychotherapy and Gender, Countertransference and the Erotic Transference. Her book on the psychological impact of boarding school is to be published by Routledge in 2014.

Saturday 8th June 2013

IF I DON’T ‘KNOW’ THEN HOW CAN I KNOW WHO I AM?
THE CONFLICT BETWEEN MEMORY, UNCERTAINTY AND IDENTITY
Basia Gasiorek

The narrator in Julian Barnes’ recent, prizewinning novel The Sense of an Ending asks: “How often do we tell our life story? How often do we adjust, embellish, and make sly cuts? And the longer life goes on, the fewer are those around to challenge our accounts, to remind us that our life is not our life, merely the story we have told about our life. Told to others, but - mainly- to ourselves.” Memory has always been a central issue in analytic work. Our understanding of its significance has shifted from the need to uncover repressed memories, to an understanding of the way in which memories are distorted, inaccurate and irrecoverable.

This paper aims to explore the tension between current thinking about the complexity of memory, with its ever-shifting uncertainties, and our need to know who we are so that we can have a relatively fixed and stable sense of identity. I will be using my work with two patients who experience very different struggles with traumatic memories from their past that are central to their sense of self. When looked at together, they highlight the specific issues and challenges that this paradox presents for our work and for the individuation process.

Basia Gasiorek initially trained as a clinical psychologist obtaining a doctorate in Experimental Clinical Psychology at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. She worked for a number of years in the NHS before completing her training as a Jungian Analytical Psychotherapist at the West Midlands Institute of Psychotherapy. She is currently a member of the Jungian Training Committee and is in full time private practice in Birmingham.
The deadliness of rivals
Ian Williamson

Sibling relationships are generally acknowledged to play a major role in our personal histories and in the work place. In some instances they define who we come to be. However psychoanalysis cannot find a place for these significant relationships in its theoretical framework, why is this? Juliet Mitchell suggests it is because we cannot acknowledge our own murderous feelings. However the reasons for their absence are more complex. I will attempt to trace this absence starting with Freud’s own history. Despite making mention of their significance to him personally, he makes no reference to them in any of his writings or case histories.

With the use of case histories I will try to illuminate how our current psychoanalytic thinking has ended up colluding with Freud’s view.

Ian Williamson trained at the Society of Analytical Psychology and has been a Child and Adolescent Analyst for the last 25 Years. He has worked in a number of NHS settings and now works exclusively in private practice. He has taught and supervised in the Child Training and was chair of the Child Analytic Training committee for 8 years. He has taught abroad and is co-author of a book Winning at all Costs, Sporting God and their Demons.

Winning at all Costs, Sporting God and their Demons

I never became human ... I missed it
Holding and Interpretation 1989:96
Lesley Caldwell

This remark to Donald Winnicott, and his response in the next session, ‘All the time you are saying that you have no hope whatever of being loved’ occurs in Holding and Interpretation, Fragment of an Analysis, a detailed account of the final six months of an analysis. Through a discussion of this invaluable record of Winnicott, the clinician, my paper explores what analysis provides and what for some patients it cannot provide.

Lesley Caldwell is a psychoanalyst of the BPA in private practice in London. She is Honorary Reader in the Psychoanalysis Unit at UCL, an editor for the Winnicott Trust and the current Chair of Trustees.

Regard and interpretation: The virtues of discrimination

Dr. Farhad Dalal is a clinical supervisor and training group analyst for the Institute of Group Analysis, (London). Until recently he was an Associate Fellow at the University of Hertfordshire’s Business School in the Complexity and Organisational Change unit where he was a faculty member on a Doctoral programme. He works with organizations and also has a private practice in South Devon. In his first book Taking the Group Seriously (1998) he argued against individualism and for the relational nature of human life. In Race, Colour and the Processes of Racialization (2002) he developed a psycho-social understanding of some of the causes of the hatred of others in general and of racism in particular. His current book Thought Paralysis: The Virtues of Discrimination, is a constructive critique of the Equality movements.

Application details for January – June 2013

The lectures from January to June 2013 inclusive will be held at The Priory Rooms, Quaker Meeting House, 40 Bull Street, Birmingham B4 6AF (www.theprioryrooms.co.uk). Timings for January, March and June are arrival and registration from 10am, with the lecture starting promptly at 10.15am until 12.45pm, and for May, arrival and registration from 10am with the lecture starting promptly at 10.15am until 1pm.

The cost for each lecture is £40.00 for WMIP members and £48.00 for non-WMIP members. Bookings should be made at least a fortnight before the lecture to be attended. Cheques should be made payable to the Jungian Training Committee. For further details contact: Sue Harford, Administrator to the Jungian Training Committee, Unit 1A, West Stockwith Park, Stockwith Road, Misterton, Nottinghamshire DN10 4ES. Telephone: 08444 631 341, Facsimile: 08444 631 346, Email: ltc@wmip.org, Website: www.thejungiantraining.org.uk

Application Details for November 2012

This event is held at Staff House, University of Birmingham. Arrival and registration is from 10am, with the event starting promptly at 10.15am until 2.45pm (lunch is included). The cost for the lecture (incl. lunch) is £75.00 (WMIP members) and £90.00 (Non-WMIP members).

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Common dream sessions
Laurie Slade

Common dream sessions for the past 11 years in a variety of settings, both in the UK and abroad.

Social dreaming is a way of working with dreams in a communal setting, developed by Gordon Lawrence and others at the Tavistock Institute in the 1980s. In a matrix, we meet with a specific task, to share dreams and our associations to them, making links where possible. The focus is not on what dreams mean for the dreamer, but on our responses to the dreams we share – a process which enables us to pool our creative resources in an imaginative way. A period of reflection, after the matrix has closed, enables us to identify emerging themes, and to relate these to the subject-matter of the day.

Laurie Slade is a UKCP Registered Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist, a member of the Guild of Psychotherapists, the Confederation for Analytical Psychology, and the International Neuro-Psychoanalytic Society. He has hosted social dreaming sessions for the past 11 years, in a variety of settings, both in the UK and abroad.

The struggle to live and let live
THE PSYCHOLOGY, ETHICS AND POLITICS OF TOLERANCE
Farhad Dalal

In the main we think intolerance to be a bad thing – an unpleasant characteristic associated with fundamentalists, racists and imperialists. We tend to presume that the antidote to intolerance is its opposite, tolerance, which we take to be a virtue and intrinsic to the liberal ethic of ‘live and let live’.

Whilst this is mostly true, a simplistic rendition of tolerance has also allowed it to be perverted into a tyranny, which has generated two unhelpful cultures in public life: tokenism and fear/paralysis.

In this paper I will inquire into the workings and complexities of tolerance, and ask: What is taking place within us when we are actively tolerating something? What is the psychology of tolerance and how is it informed by the political context? Is tolerance necessarily a good thing? Are there occasions when intolerance is the ethical requirement?

Amongst other things, I will deconstruct the generic ideals of ‘respecting difference’, ‘inclusivity’, and so on. I will argue that these activities are not simply ethical but always deeply politicised. In sum, I will argue for the virtues of discrimination over those of tolerance.

Farhad Dalal is a clinical supervisor and training group analyst for the Institute of Group Analysis, (London). Until recently he was an Associate Fellow at the University of Hertfordshire’s Business School in the Complexity and Organisational Change unit where he was a faculty member on a Doctoral programme. He works with organizations and also has a private practice in South Devon. In his first book Taking the Group Seriously (1998) he argued against individualism and for the relational nature of human life. In Race, Colour and the Processes of Racialization (2002) he developed a psycho-social understanding of some of the causes of the hatred of others in general and of racism in particular. His current book Thought Paralysis: The Virtues of Discrimination, is a constructive critique of the Equality movements.

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