

ROJNIK BERNARD - DISCUSSION PAPER ON PERVERSIONS

During many years of clinical practice, I rarely met patients with such complaints seeking psychotherapeutic help. They I suppose mostly felt ashamed and did not bring their issues to the fore. Many of them did not know that are perverts mostly in the realm of object relatedness since they did not detect their abusive behaviors or what is the most is that they negate and repress their painful personality qualities.

It has to be said that the concept of sexuality is less a fact of nature and more the interpretation of it since there is a biological given which could be interpreted by different societies differently due to different stages of their development. The analyst in its consulting room picks up from patient's unconscious how he/she deals with his/her sexuality. Authors from the field try to make us understand that that concept is in the process of reworking during the process of development of psychoanalytic thinking and theorizing.

The concept was reworked from "developmental stage" (Abraham 1924, S. Freud 1905) to "position". (M. Klein).

There were developmental stages of Libido (oral, anal, phallic coming to the end point of genital maturity) discovered by psychoanalysis. (1905, 1924) M. Klein was not satisfied with such conceptualization and introduced the concept of Position. These two paradigms are incommensurable but anyway both fruitful and useful.

Klein concept is one of the most important advances in psychoanalysis since the "position" is a constellation of impulses, fantasies, anxieties, defenses and object relations and enables and remains present active or passive in person's internal world in lifelong span. The concept of "position" goes beyond the bounds of any theoretical orientation what enriched all psychoanalysts and analytic psychotherapists. Following that developmental shift, we can deal with maturity and sexuality evolving through all life span.

Sexuality is also the concept under development. From the beginning the sexual drive was in focus with its source, aim and an object. He soon stretched sexuality on the field of children because in order to study the childhood sexuality with describing how the component drives come together under primacy of genitality by quoting multiplicity of perversions. Perversions are important also to understand the nature of sexuality. Freud classifies perversions by aim and by object. He realized that the nature of the sexual object recedes into background.

He sees that the aim is the constant and defining factor while the object is subservient to the aim.

It is important to know that Freud was under the influence of Charles Darwin and his natural selection theory. Its counterpart was sexual selection with the aim of finding a mate. According to Darwin there were two independent instincts, self-preservation and sexual instinct. Both instincts take care for survival and reproduction to happen with the help of the object. Fairbairn contested the drive theory by saying that libido is essentially object-seeking and the aim and object were put on equal footing. The concept of drive appears in new light, and the concept of perversion enters the psychoanalytic scene namely Freud started to understand perversions differently.

Before he saw perversion as residue of pregenital component drives which were not sublimated or transformed in neurotic symptoms.

He started by beating fantasy as a defense against guilt feelings due to Oedipal complex. Perversions are defenses against castration anxiety connected with Oedipal wishes and against from superego of oedipal origin. Other perverse defenses are disavowal, splitting of the ego, aggression, regression, sadistic control of the object etc. and perversion as defense against psychotic breakdown since there were paranoid anxieties due to projection of person's aggressive impulses. There are also perversions as a defense against drive derivatives and last but not least there are perversions as defenses against object-relatedness.

Robert Stoller(1975) According to his investigations realized that the perversion was the wish to harm the object. He even insisted that whether is something perversion or not is determined by person's attitude toward the object of his excitement and he continues that he would accept as perversion an act in which there is hatred. The hostility toward the object should be primarily a vengeful response for harm experienced as subject in infancy converting childhood trauma into adult triumph. At the same time was also an attempt to dehumanize the other so as to avoid the risk of intimacy.

There in another case presented by Glasser where he tried to make distinction between aggression and sadism. He outlined the need to defend against an object which was experienced as engulfing and threatening with annihilation.

But he aptly defend against aggression and showed sadism and masochism where intimacy and union were never present, describing a firm grip keeping object at arm's length.

McDougall described as Glasser did that the significant relationship determined the status of perversion and not some symptoms.

On the other side she realized that non-procreative sexuality is used and served and promote object-relatedness or to impede or obliterate it.

The same opinion holds Lichtenstein who realized that sexuality is not essentially linked with procreation. It can function as helping to mediate someone sense of personal as well as sexual identity which helps making reciprocal object relatedness.

Glasser realized that if someone is not capable in mutuality then perversion as defense helps to defend against it.

Some perversions serve to defend against his/her otherness by merging while some avoid personhood of the other by depersonalizing the object turning it into thing.

CASE no. 1/A Cross-dresser alias transvestite

He is 42 y.o. of academic profession with responsible and highly demanding work connected with finances with which he is strongly confirming his masculinity. He is engaged in a quite risky sport in which he also competes. He has a son and wife working as a High school teacher. He also try to engage his son in the same sport where he competes too as an adolescent.

Complaint was made by his wife for herself. She felt in troubles because her husband is not satisfied with his marriage. She also knew about his cross-dressing perversion and she didn't know if she could be helped. She also wanted to get closer to a more intimate relationship what he at first rejected. They were alienated in partnership. His wife showed some interest to get closer including by buying a sexy female underwear for him. This didn't bring some closeness, but he came for the therapy or better for consultation.

In interview he told me that he completely cross-dresses himself into the woman. And he goes out to the town for a walk and maybe somewhere else too. He was not explicit in this sense. We did a therapeutic agreement for coming once a week with intention how to improve their marriage.

After 15 sessions he dropped out since the partnership at home collapsed and his wife more and more stayed away from home. He has some other women with whom he met from his job and he find some sort of amusement with them and at last but not least he lost motivation for therapy and proposed its end afterwards.

CASE no.2 /The case of satyriasis

The patient was looking for psychotherapy after his former girlfriend left him. He was licensed for working on the field of counselling for firms how to become

more financially effective. He works in groups and individually. One of his friends suggested him to meet me for consultation. Now, he is in therapy for second year 2 times per week.

He reacted with manic defense collecting different lovers via Tinder app. As he travelled a lot he arranged for at least one and a half year, meetings mostly with sexual affairs. The last half a year he found steady woman who moved to his place with prospect to be serious bond for potential marriage.

His anamnesis shows that he was neglected child with mostly absent parents with good professional careers. The 8 years old brother looked after him. In the transition from primary school to high school he got an autoimmune disease and he had to stay in the hospital for $\frac{3}{4}$ of year. He nearly died there what was really traumatic for him.

LITERATURE

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