

## Opening Ceremony

Kim Gabriel Hansen<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Chair of the Local Organizing Committee of the ISR Congress 2024

Opening Ceremony, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 9:00 AM – 9:25 AM

Welcome to the ISR XXIV' Congress in Copenhagen. Kim Gabriel Hansen, President of the organizing committee and president of the Danish Rorschach Society

## Opening Ceremony

Fernando M. Silberstein

<sup>1</sup>President of ISR and University Of Buenos Aires

Opening Ceremony, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 9:25 AM – 9:45 AM

Welcome from Fernando Silberstein, president of the International Society of the Rorschach and Projective Methods

## Tributes

Tributes, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

- Tribute to Philip Erdberg by Philip Keddy (in English)
- Tribute to Montserrat Ros by Consuelo Liberal-Gorriz (in Spanish)
- Tribute to Pedro Pérez-García by Antonio Martín, read by Consuelo Liberal
- Gorriz (in Spanish) -Tribute to Reiko Baba, by Hiroshi Kuroda (in Japanese)

# Why is the Rorschach test so fascinating? A deep dive into Hermann's ideas and their implications for contemporary psychologists.

Prof. Anne Andronikof<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University Paris Nanterre, Enencourt Leage, France

Keynote 1: Anne Andronikof, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Today, the Rorschach 'inkblots' have achieved the status of art objects, stimulating the imagination of artists of all kinds (painters, filmmakers, decorators, writers, event organisers), and intriguing us with their power to fascinate. Hermann Rorschach would no doubt be astonished today to see the century-old destiny of his creation. For the clinical psychologist, the extraordinary power of these inkblots used as a test remains partly a mystery, a subject of amazement and wonder. What is their secret? How does this test differ from all other tests, and why is it so effective in probing the deep structure and dynamics of a personality? By going back to the origins of this truly work of genius, we were able to analyse the intentions of its creator and reconstruct the underlying theory. We here shall endeavour to develop this theme and show its link with contemporary science.

# Introversion and Extraversion in the Works of H. Rorschach and C.G. Jung

PhD Philip J. Keddy<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Wright Institute, Berkeley, United States

Session A1, Symposium: Rorschach History Research Group (RHRG): New Developments in Rorschach Historiography, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

The recent new translation of Rorschach's Psychodiagnostics including new archival research provides an opportunity to reexamine core aspects of Rorschach's unique contribution to the understanding of personality. This presentation will compare Rorschach's concept of introversion/extraversion with Jung's concept of introversion/extraversion. Rorschach asserted his application of I-E concepts in the development of the Erlebnistypus. I will propose that Rorschach was mistaken in thinking his concepts were substantially different from Jung. Rorschach claimed that differences between his notions and Jung's and went so far as to require different terminology (introversion and extraversion). Rorschach relies heavily on Jung's libido theory (theory of psychic energy) as applied to introversion and extraversion. The view that their concepts were not comparable has been dominant in the Rorschach literature, despite exceptions such as an article by K.W. Bash published in 1955. This paper will provide a review of the concepts and terminology and a fresh, contemporary review of the issue.

RHRG: New Developments in Rorschach Historiography

# Bruno Klopfer: A German-Jewish Refugee in Jung's Circle

Dr. Angela Graf-Nold<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Marvin W. Acklin<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Swiss Lic. Psychotherapist, Zurich, Switzerland, <sup>2</sup>John A. Burns School of Medicine, Honolulu, United States

Session A1, Symposium: Rorschach History Research Group (RHRG): New Developments in Rorschach Historiography, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Bruno Klopfer is recognized as one of the foundational schools for the Rorschach Test in the United States developing a unique approach to understand test processes administration, and interpretation. Bruno Klopfer's biography has been described in American psychology literature based on accounts provided by his students and family. This presentation extends investigation of Bruno Klopfer's biography derived from original sources at the Jung and ETH Archives in Zurich, Switzerland. The information provides a substantially broader picture of Klopfer's journey focused on his sojourn in Zurich (1933-1934), and subsequent career in the United States of America. New archival research provides further insight into Klopfer's work at the Psychotechnik Institute where he learned the Rorschach Test from Alice Garbarsky, his association with C. G. Jung and the Zurich Jungians, and his later career in the United States, including his relocation to Los Angeles, California. Consideration of this information focused on his sojourn in Zurich and his associations informed his unique collaborative method of taking, experiencing, and developing the Rorschach Test.

RHRG: New Developments in Rorschach Historiography

# Movement in Rorschach's work

Dr. Fernando Silberstein<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Session A1, Symposium: Rorschach History Research Group (RHRG): New Developments in Rorschach Historiography, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

In his dissertation (Rorschach, 2022), Rorschach studies the kinesthetic sensations present in reflex hallucinations. These kinesthetic sensations are based on a sensorimotor mnemonic system. They are kinesthetic memories experienced parallel to all the perceptual registers as well as registered in all the movements exercised and suffered. These kinesthetic memories alone or associated with other sensory perceptions can be transformed in the unconscious and in the oneiric elaboration by displacement, condensation and relocation on other contents that can be evoked by unconscious drives (Trieb). They can also be "objectified" (Rorschach, 1965) on other subjects or images. The perception of forms is also based on acquired experiences of movement (Rorschach, 2021). The movement determinant alludes to the evocation of this sensation, stored from lived memories. RHRG: New Developments in Rorschach Historiography

## RHRG: New Developments in Rorschach Historiography

Dr. Marvin W. Acklin<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Reneau Kennedy<sup>2</sup>, Dr. Patrick McElfresh<sup>4</sup>, Dr. Angela Graf-Nold<sup>5</sup>, PhD Philip J. Keddy<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Fernando Silberstein<sup>6</sup>

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Session A1, Symposium: Rorschach History Research Group (RHRG): New Developments in Rorschach Historiography, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

The 5th Rorschach History Symposium extends the historical research following the debut at SPA in 2015 in Brooklyn and recent presentations at ISR in 2022 and SPA in 2023. The aim of the symposium is to showcase on-going research developments by the Rorschach Historiography Research Group on the origins, milieu, influences, and successors of Rorschach's inkblot test utilizing original, previously untranslated documents. The symposium includes papers on the new work on Rorschach biography, Rorschach and C. G. Jung on introversion-extraversion, the Behn-Eschenburg dissertation and Behn-Rorschach Parallel Series, Bruno Klopfer's sojourn in Zurich where he learned the Rorschach before coming to the United States in 1934, and the two decades of developments in Switzerland following Rorschach's untimely death. The new work broadens the scope and depth of the history group investigations and exposes new lines of inquiry including opportunities for networking and collaboration with history workers in the United States and internationally. These are 20-minute presentations presenting the evolving work of the RHRG. There will be time for Q & A and Discussion.

RHRG: New Developments in Rorschach Historiography

# Inkblot use in America prior to Rorschach

Dr. Reneau Kennedy

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Session A1, Symposium: Rorschach History Research Group (RHRG): New Developments in Rorschach Historiography, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

This presentation surveys American inkblot use in psychological research, beginning in the 1890's. In 1896, at the Harvard Psychological Laboratory, Delabarre implemented Binet's suggestion that inkblot interpretation could be used as a "projective test" while his colleague, George Dearborn, M.D. (1898) refined inkblot use to investigate perception, memory, and imagination. Before 1910 several perception researchers used inkblots (see Sharp, Kirkpatrick, and Seashore). For example, Jastrow (1907) published "Fact and Fable in Psychology" which suggested inkblot use to elicit unconscious thoughts and feelings. Whipple and Pyle advanced inkblot use, calling their experiment the Ink-Blot Test. By 1912 inkblots were used at Ellis Island for screening immigrants. The presentation will close by addressing the transition of the test to the United States through the pathway created by Emil Oberholzer, David Levy, and Samuel Beck leading to Beck's doctoral dissertation and Introduction to the Rorschach (1937).

RHRG: New Developments in Rorschach Historiography

# Understanding Male-to-Female cross-dressing behavior with Rorschach

Prof François-David Camps<sup>1</sup>, Professor Anne-Valérie Mazoyer<sup>2</sup>, MCF-HDR Barbara Smaniotto<sup>1</sup>

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Session A2, Symposium: How Rorschach test contributes to understand gender and sexuality current questions, Session Room: Christiansborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## Introduction.

In recent years, Western societies have undergone considerable changes in the areas of sexual behavior and gender. The categories of gender, sex and sexual orientation no longer seem so clearly identifiable or opposable, under the influence of contestations and demands from feminist movements, sexual or intersex minorities and gender studies. However, one practice remains little known and little studied: the practice of cross-dressing as a woman by men. It therefore seems particularly interesting to explore this issue, which intersects with questions of gender and sexual identification. A marginal phenomenon, cross-dressing raises a series of questions. Who cross-dresses? Why do people cross-dress? In what ways? Because it is based on the misappropriation of the gendered appearance of the feminine, cross-dressing is a fascinating object of study, placing the (re)definition of gender difference and the transgression of norms at the heart of reflection. The apprehension of cross-dressing behaviors can thus be an avenue of study for the understanding of the construction of feminine and masculine identifications as well as the impasses of this construction.

**Methodology.** Based on the study of three Rorschach protocols of men who regularly cross-dress as women, encountered as part of a university research project, we will attempt to understand the unconscious motivations underlying this behavior.

## Conclusion.

The ambiguity of the Rorschach forms will raise questions about psychic bisexuality and identification choices that are particularly fruitful for understanding cross-dressing behavior.

How Rorschach test contributes to understand gender and sexuality current questions



# How Rorschach test contributes to understand gender and sexuality current questions

Associate Professor Jean-Baptiste MARCHAND<sup>1</sup>

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Session A2, Symposium: How Rorschach test contributes to understand gender and sexuality current questions, Session Room: Christiansborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

This symposium will examine various facets of gender dysphoria and sexuality questions through five distinct presentations:

- 1-"Cross-Dressing: Gender Exploration": This presentation investigates men who cross-dress as women, a sparsely studied practice intersecting with gender and sexual identification. Through the analysis of Rorschach protocols, it explores the unconscious motivations behind cross-dressing, delving into gender difference redefinition and norm transgressions.
- 2-"Journey Through Gender Dysphoria": A case study of an individual assigned male at birth (AMAB) experiencing gender dysphoria. The Rorschach findings before and after acknowledgment of gender dysphoria highlight psychological complexities and identity reconstruction challenges.
- 3-"Psychological Characteristics in Gender Dysphoria": A comprehensive study utilizing Rorschach tests to identify distinctive psychological traits in individuals with gender dysphoria. Insights into coping mechanisms, thought patterns, and interpersonal relationships inform tailored support strategies.
- 4-"Rorschach's Insight into Gendered Identifications": Exploring gendered identifications using the Rorschach test among cisgender individuals and Male-to-Female Gender Identity Dysphoria (GID). Comparative analysis aims to reveal convergence and divergence in gendered identification responses, illuminating the intricate nature of gender identity.
- 5-"Feminine Identifications and Maternal Object in Gender Dysphoria": Analyzing Rorschach and Thematic Apperception Test responses of 16-year-old male adolescents diagnosed with Gender Dysphoria. This study investigates feminine identifications and their relation to the maternal object. These presentations offer comprehensive insights into gender dysphoria and sexuality questions, employing Rorschach tests to explore unconscious motivations, psychological traits, and identity reconstruction strategies among diverse gender experiences. This symposium aims to provide nuanced perspectives on the complexities of gender identity and dysphoria, and sexuality within contemporary society.

How Rorschach test contributes to understand gender and sexuality current questions

# Personality Changes in The Rorschach before and after Revealing Gender Dysphoria

Associate Professor Tomoko MURAMATSU<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Hanazono University, Kyoto, Japan

Session A2, Symposium: How Rorschach test contributes to understand gender and sexuality current questions, Session Room: Christiansborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

This case report examines gender dysphoria in an assigned male at birth (AMAB) individual. During childhood, the client felt more comfortable playing with girls. At the age of 20 years, the client became certain of their gender dysphoria; however, they continued living as a man. In his late 30s, he experienced severe depression and received treatment for 5 years, requiring repeated hospitalization. The depression went into remission but relapsed 5 years later.

When the client was hospitalized again, the client came out about their sexuality in their 50s and was diagnosed with gender dysphoria.

The Rorschach was conducted before and after coming out of gender dysphoria. The Rorschach was performed on the Comprehensive System.

The test result indicated that the client was a high lambda style in the first test but no longer a high lambda style in the re-test. Additionally, blends increased from one to three after coming out.

Moreover, all three blends were color-shading blends. Furthermore, WSum6 decreased from 35 to 14, but M- increased from 2 to 7.

These results suggest that the post-coming-out period is more psychologically complex and confusing. Further, this should be considered when providing support.

In this report, I would like to discuss how we can support the client in reconstructing their identity based on the result of the Rorschach.

The purpose of this presentation was explained to the client, who subsequently agreed with its content and intent.

How Rorschach test contributes to understand gender and sexuality current questions

# Rorschach study on gender dysphoria in Japan

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Session A2, Symposium: How Rorschach test contributes to understand gender and sexuality current questions, Session Room: Christiansborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

People with gender dysphoria (GD) use their own defenses to cope with difficulties in life caused by the expectations about gender in society. This presentation will examine the psychological characteristics of GD using the Comprehensive system Rorschach tests (CS).

Our research conducted on 82 GD patients show that X+%, Afr, ego, COP, Dd>3, p>a+1, Mp>Ma, (GD < NP) are significantly different and deviated from expectation, compared with the results of CS on 160 non-patient Japanese adults (Sato et al., 1998). Between assigned male at birth (AMAB) and assigned female at birth (AFAB), Zf, m and Wsum6 are higher in AMAB and L, EA, Afr and COP are lower in AFAB.

First, we find no thought disorder but idiosyncratic thinking and reduced reality consideration in GD. Second, poor coping with interpersonal relationships is noticeable, with a tendency to avoid ambiguous and complex emotional stimuli, suggesting a negative self-image working in the background. Third, a positive attitude toward problem-solving in uncomfortable situations is analyzed. In addition, AMABs are more sensitive to stimuli and prone to stress, while AFABs are in high Lambda, maintaining stability by avoiding interaction with others, but a reduction in mental qualities is shown.

These results, together with the results of the Wechsler Intelligence Test and other tests, are used to provide support.

Comparison between before and after treatment on four GDs shows common improvement in S-Con and D, though in others the results are different in each case.

How Rorschach test contributes to understand gender and sexuality current questions

# Comparison between a Rorschach protocol with GID MtoF, and two protocols without GID (male/female), according to the psychodynamic approach

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Session A2, Symposium: How Rorschach test contributes to understand gender and sexuality current questions, Session Room: Christiansborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

In recent years, gender dysphoria has evolved significantly, transitioning from a relatively discreet and rare phenomenon to a topic of substantial societal debate across healthcare, public discourse, and politics. This shift has prompted inquiries into its origins and treatment approaches.

The psychodynamic approach suggests that the Rorschach test allows for a detailed examination of a subject's gendered identifications. So, in order to provide a detailed examination of gendered identifications, our research adopts this approach, contributing to a deeper understanding of gender dysphoria's complexities.

Thus, our study explores gendered identifications using the Rorschach test within a sample of three young adults: two cisgender individuals (one male and one female) and one individual experiencing Male-to-Female Gender Identity Dysphoria (GID). By analyzing the Rorschach protocols, we aim to compare and contrast their gendered identification responses, seeking potential points of convergence and divergence.

The comparative analysis of these individuals' responses offers insights into the multifaceted nature of gender identity and its manifestations.

How Rorschach test contributes to understand gender and sexuality current questions

# Primary Identification With the Maternal Object in Trans-male Adolescents – A Projective Study from Türkiye

Ph.D Student Ayşe Sena Sari<sup>1</sup>, Tevfika İkiz<sup>1</sup>, Professor Bengi DÜŞGÖR<sup>1</sup>, İrem Erdem Atak<sup>1</sup>

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Session A2, Symposium: How Rorschach test contributes to understand gender and sexuality current questions, Session Room: Christiansborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

The concept of gender identity refers to the gender with which a person identifies and wishes to be identified. In some people, the difference between the physical gender and the perceived gender is handled under the definition of "Gender Dysphoria" according to DSM-V, and these people express themselves with words such as trans or non-binary. The increase in the number of adolescents applying to clinics with gender dysphoria is attributable to the psychological difficulties in the processes of sexualization and re-establishment of identities brought about by the process of adolescence. However, gender identity also takes its place in the theory as a process that precedes the child's discovery of sexual difference. Stoller (1976), who holds this view, proposes a state of femininity, which he calls "protofemininity", which is traced back to the child's primary identification with his/her mother and which is antecedent in both sexes. She ascribes primary femininity to the earliest stage of life and sees it as an integral part of identity that emerges in both biological sexes. In other words, the boy has to overcome identification with the mother and achieve identification with the father in order to establish masculinity. In this study, the responses to the Rorschach and Thematic Apperception Test of three 16-year-old male adolescents who were followed up in a university hospital with the diagnosis of "Gender Dysphoria" will be analyzed in terms of the nature of feminine identifications and relations with the maternal object.

How Rorschach test contributes to understand gender and sexuality current questions

# PSYCHOPATHOLOGY OF THE PRESENT: ON THE DIFFICULTY > OF IDENTITY AND SEXUAL DEFINITION

Dr. Tiziana Sola

Session A3, Symposium: CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RORSCHACH AND OTHER PROJECTIVE TECHNIQUES TO THE PSYCHOANALYTIC CLINIC, Session Room: Kronborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## PSYCHOPATHOLOGY OF THE PRESENT: ON THE DIFFICULTY OF IDENTITY AND SEXUAL DEFINITION

We know that sexual maturation is one of the most change in adolescence. If the dynamics of this change have always been at the basis of more or less serious psychic disorders, which show the difficulty of integrating a dimension linked to the drive/object investment and the temporality of life, today this step appears even more problematic due to changes which, moreover, put us in front of new ways of expressing psychic distress.

A society without solid reference points, as well as educational styles based on emotional discontinuity and an overabundance of technological means, which often replace the contribution of affections, seem to forge contemporary beings exposed to an excess of stimuli that leaves no room for the elaboration of emotional experiences.

These aspects are reflected, above all, in the way in which young people build their own subjectivity, calling into question the role and complex directions of sexuality, exposed, it seems, to a sort of identity fluidity.

Projective methods, are particularly suitable to show these aspects and are particularly enlightening for the choice of the type of therapeutic treatment. The author presents the projective productions of two young people aged 15 and 18, who show, one taking refuge in the infantile world, the other acting out persecutory defences, the signs of difficulty in accessing the sexual dimension and the implicit risks in this fundamental step.

Keywords: Process of change - Adolescence - Identity/sexual maturation - Projective methods

## CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RORSCHACH AND OTHER PROJECTIVE TECHNIQUES TO THE PSYCHOANALYTIC CLINIC

# DEFENSE MECHANISMS IN THE RORSCHACH AND TAT AS > GUIDELINE TO TREATMENT PLANNING

Dr. & Associate Professor Ety Berant

Session A3, Symposium: CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RORSCHACH AND OTHER PROYECTIVE TECHNIQUES TO THE PSYCHOANALYTIC CLINIC, Session Room: Kronborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## DEFENSE MECHANISMS IN THE RORSCHACH AND TAT AS GUIDELINE TO TREATMENT PLANNING

Several psychoanalytical scholars pointed the relevance of the concept of defense mechanism to intrapsychic and object- relational contexts (Freud, Kernberg, Lerner). Kernberg (1975) proposed a hierarchical organization of personality linked to the types of defensive functioning and developmental level of internalized object relations. The internalized object relations are based and organized around specific defensive structures. The more primitive defenses are based on splitting and the more developed ones are based on repression.

Identifying our clients' main defenses allows us to understand our clients' level of character's pathology, that is, those with borderline personality organization reveal a defensive structure significantly different than that of neurotic and normal personality structure.

The open nature of the Rorschach and TAT allows us to observe the defenses "in action". We can observe the person's struggle against painful feelings and forbidden drives, such as aggression, damaged self-esteem, or morbid preoccupation of being hurt thus pointing to trauma. The way the person is coping with these distressing contents in the tests reveals their defenses, thus helping us to hypothesize on their conduct while being confronted with it. Will they display more primitive defenses such as splitting or low level idealization, projection or denial, or will they display more mature defenses based on repression such as undoing, intellectualization. This understanding has important implications for treatment planning. In this presentation I will demonstrate the use of defenses in treatment planning.

Key words: defense mechanisms, psychotherapy, Rorschach, TAT

CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RORSCHACH AND OTHER PROYECTIVE TECHNIQUES TO THE PSYCHOANALYTIC CLINIC

# SEXUALITY AND TRANSFORMATION:THE ART > GOLDEN REPAIR (KINTSGI)

Lic. Maria Teresa Herrera

Session A3, Symposium: CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RORSCHACH AND OTHER PROYECTIVE TECHNIQUES TO THE PSYCHOANALYTIC CLINIC, Session Room: Kronborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

SEXUALITY AND TRANSFORMATION: The ART OF GOLDEN REPAIR (KINTSUGI).

The objective of this work is to analyze the vicissitudes of the psychosexual development of a 34-year-old patient, who presents a borderline personality structure and borderline functioning. The patient we are going to present suffered traumatic situations of a sexual nature from her family of origin, since early childhood. This affected the integration and organization of her psyche, influencing the development of her psychosexuality.

The instrument used was the Rorschach Psychodiagnosis following the guidelines of the Argentine Rorschach School. During the therapeutic process that began approximately four years ago, the Rorschach Psychodiagnosis was administered three times, within a private clinical context, in person and individually. On this occasion we decided to focus on the quantitative-qualitative analysis of plates VI, VII and IX due to their proximity to the proposed objective. That is, investigate and delve into aspects of the patient's sexual identity and femininity. The analysis of the results obtained were integrated with the clinical and Psychoanalytic Theory.

We believe that the confusing and traumatic events of her childhood disrupted her identification processes with her parents, leaving her with partial and conflicting identifications that affected her identity and her sexual role. The ghosts of her childhood influenced the loss of personal boundaries, disturbing the boundaries of her identity. Agreeing with Joice Mc Dougall we think that "the path from childhood to adult femininity is tortuous and full of traps."

Keywords: Borderline, Femininity, Psychosexual Development, Rorschach.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RORSCHACH AND OTHER PROYECTIVE TECHNIQUES TO THE PSYCHOANALYTIC CLINIC



# ON THE BORDER OF CAN BE SYMMBOLIZED

Dr Hilda Leonor Alonso<sup>1</sup>

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Session A3, Symposium: CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RORSCHACH AND OTHER PROYECTIVE TECHNIQUES TO THE PSYCHOANALYTIC CLINIC, Session Room: Kronborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## ON THE BORDER OF THE SYMBOLIZABLE

Within the general framework of the Symposium, I will focus my work on the possibility they offer to differentiate between symbolizing capacity and symbolic processing capacity.

When what reaches figurability [the first condition of symbolization] is thinly veiled, too close to a traumatic experience, the possibility of psychic processing is blocked, preventing its metabolization. Projective techniques, especially the Rorschach, as well as the game in children, offer us the possibility of knowing not only when something in the experience becomes traumatic for a subject, but also its effects on the psychic apparatus. That is to say, to show us something that, although it can reach a certain type of figuration, alters in a selective or generalized way the symbolizing function, not allowing the figurative to be processed.

I will present part of the material of two patients, a 32 year old young woman and a 5 year old girl, whose Rorschach productions allow to know, in the first one, the incidence of a previous traumatic event never processed, and in the girl, that of a current traumatic situation that alters her possibilities of psychic development. In both cases it is the projective material that allows us to know the existence and extent of the psychic damage: while one shows the tearing of the symbolic/symbolizing fabric, the other reveals [in situ] the difficulty to become part of this fabric.

Key words: Figurability - Trauma - Symbolizing work - Rorschach

## CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RORSCHACH AND OTHER PROYECTIVE TECHNIQUES TO THE PSYCHOANALYTIC CLINIC

# CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RORSCHACH AND OTHER PROYECTIVE TECHNIQUES TO THE PSYCHOANALYTIC CLINIC

Dr Hilda Leonor Alonso, Dr. & Associate Professor Ety Berant, Lic. Maria Teresa Herrera, Dr. Tiziana Sola

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Session A3, Symposium: CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RORSCHACH AND OTHER PROYECTIVE TECHNIQUES TO THE PSYCHOANALYTIC CLINIC, Session Room: Kronborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## SYMPOSIUM: CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RORSCHACH AND OTHER PROYECTIVE TECHNIQUES TO THE PSYCHOANALYTIC CLINIC

As in the previous International Congress, we gather colleagues from different countries and different Systems around a common interest: to deepen the exploration possibilities offered by Projective Techniques in general and the Rorschach in particular to the psychoanalytic clinic. We propose to reflect on the psychic processes mobilized in the analytical experience, as well as to put to work theoretical concepts that, instead of their simple application, require a constant comparison in parallel to the manifestations of the clinic, the only possibility of sustaining the confrontation between theory and psychoanalytic practice.

## CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RORSCHACH AND OTHER PROYECTIVE TECHNIQUES TO THE PSYCHOANALYTIC CLINIC

# CHANGES IN CHILDREN'S MENTAL REPRESENTATIONS AS NOTED IN THEIR TAT STORIES DURING COLLABORATIVE/THERAPEUTIC ASSESSMENTS

Ms. Catherine Gosselin-Leclerc<sup>1</sup>, Prof. J. Éric Dubé<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Raphaële Noël<sup>1</sup>

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Session A4, Oral Presentation, Therapy/adolescents, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Introduction:** While several studies have documented positive changes linked to collaborative/therapeutic assessments of children (C/TA-C), they essentially rely on behavioural measurements provided by a third party. Our study breaks new ground in focusing on changes to the child's mental representations based on their own ratings. **Methods:** Two girls and one boy aged between 8 and 11 who displayed affective problems were seen with their parents for a C/TA-C conducted by two co-assessors, one assigned to each child and the other to their parents who observed their child's testing. The parents had consented to participating in a study on C/TA-C conducted in parallel with the clinical process. The children were asked to imagine stories for eight preselected TAT cards at three points in the process: following the intake session with the child (T1); following their feedback session based on a fable created by the assessors (T2); and after a follow-up session about six weeks post-assessment (T3). Their TAT stories were rated with the SCORS-G by two independent judges. **Results:** With a few minor exceptions, medium to large effect sizes (Cohen's ds) show that scores for the three SCORS-G factors (cognitive, affective, and self) increased from T1 to T3 in the three children. Some shifts from a "primitive" to an "average" category of representations were also observed. **Conclusion:** The discussion will focus on adaptive shifts bolstered by C/TA-C, and on the notable observation that several representational improvements in the children appear to have continued post-assessment.

# UN UNUSUAL PSYCHOTIC FUNCTIONING : LANGAGE TO ANCHOR IDENTITY

Professor Emeritus Catherine Myriam Azoulay<sup>1</sup>, Prof Emeritus Marie-Christine Pheulpin<sup>2</sup>

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Session A4, Oral Presentation, Therapy/adolescents, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM -  
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The aim of this paper is to present an unusual case of psychotic functioning. It concerns the case of a young man who decompensated from schizophrenia at the age of 17-18, without any psychiatric treatment, and who went on to study while experiencing great psychological and social difficulties. A few years after his decompensation, one of us met him in her private practice for a projective assessment (Rorschach and TAT) at the request of a psychoanalyst to whom he had turned with the wish to undertake psychoanalysis. He was offered a retest a year later. The methodology involved taking two projective tests, Rorschach and TAT, one year apart, analysed and interpreted with reference to the Paris School. The results of the first assessment underline the extreme distress of this young man faced with the fragmentation of his thinking and deeply painful depressive affects. At the same time, over and above the usual defences of abstraction, rationalisation and perseveration, they revealed a specific defensive investment in language to anchor his identity. The retest is more restrained, and language proves capable of conveying preliminary representations, sensations, and even some affects, particularly rage. We will therefore consider the question of language, which is so specific to these two testings, in order to understand the solution found by this patient to survive his psychological shipwreck.

## (A)normality: a refusal to grow or an inability to become?

Doutora Isabel Duarte, Dra Ana Silva, Dra Sabrina Gomes

<sup>1</sup>Estudos e Psicologia, Mem Martins, Portugal

Session A4, Oral Presentation, Therapy/adolescents, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM -  
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In this study, the authors propose to think about two Rorschach protocols: Peter and Wendy, both 5 years and 6 months old. Peter comes to the consultation with suspicions of motor restlessness, but to his parents astonishment he manages to remain seated for the entire duration of the consultation, showing that his external restlessness hides an internal anguish of depressive nature, causing him to become agitated so as not to think and feel. Wendy comes to the consultation accompanied by her mother following her parents divorce, presenting great difficulty in separating individuation and autonomy, with bizarre behaviors that clash and contrast with her sweetness.

Psychological assessment is a space of knowledge of the Other, in which the Rorschach used as a methodology to access individual psychic functioning played a fundamental role in better understanding the emotional characteristics of each child. Reading it through a comprehensive method of accessing the subject's internal world allowed us to access what we call a "Never Land", a place in which new normalities can emerge, where the universality of unconscious can be shared, translating a refusal to grow, an imprisonment in fantasy, a protection against the harshness of reality.

The use of Rorschach allowed the elaboration of a therapeutic plan more adjusted to the needs of each child, at the same time as it enabled an advance in psychic development and an adequate implementation of good practices in terms of mental health prevention.

# Object relations among adolescents addicted to screens:

## Contribution of the Rorschach test

Professeure Antissar Sahraoui<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Université Abderrahmane-mira De Bejaïa, Bejaia, Algeria

Session A4, Oral Presentation, Therapy/adolescents, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Currently, overexposure of children and adolescents to screens has caused various disorders of development and human behavior, with problematic consequences, such as: weight gain, lack of concentration and attention, sleep disorders, language delays, learning disabilities, lack of physical activity, passivity, myopia, socialization and integration problems, risky behavior (violence, games with firearms), etc.

Similarly, teachers experience the negative impact of screens on their students on a daily basis. Also, health professionals note the increasingly frequent arrival of children with relational disorders (avoidance, sensory stereotypies and language delay) linked to massive and early exposure to screens. They observe the reduction in disorders at the start of treatment and with the cessation of this overexposure.

Indeed, the specialists' objective must above all be to understand the adolescent himself who is struggling with his psychological suffering and whose expected effect concerns as much the appeasement of this as the pursuit of harmonious development. In this sense, we will focus on the object relationship among adolescents addicted to screens through the Rorschach test, this interest is to understand the particularity of their relationships and to be able to make them benefit from therapeutic approaches, the most adapted to his symptoms, especially his internal resources and his potential for change and those of his family, in particular new forms of help for parents.

This presentation is located in the field of virtual addiction and it will likely lead to new theoretical and practical developments.

# THE USEFULNESS OF THE RORSCHACH FOR NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

Dr. Trevor Paul Hjertaas<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>private practice, Windsor, Canada

Session A5, Oral Presentation, Multimethod, Session Room: Børsen, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Title: THE USEFULNESS OF THE RORSCHACH FOR NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

Abstract: In the process approach to neuropsychological assessment, scores are important but not more important than the way the individual approaches the task. It is a process analysis which really allows one to make a neuropsychological diagnosis. In the realm of personality assessment, compared to self-report instruments, the Rorschach is very similar in that it allows a deeper understanding of the individual who is being assessed in this way. The Rorschach also provides a great deal of important information for a neuropsychological assessment, enriching the findings in ways that most neuropsychologists are completely unaware of. Some examples include the effects of trauma; the negative impact of damage or loss of function (such as a brain injury) on emotional functioning; and when exploring aspects of social cognition. It is also true that sometimes interesting overlaps will occur between Rorschach responses and neurocognitive testing, such as with perseveration, or the impact of limited mental energy (sometimes seen in high lambda), or in Piotrowski's signs. This presentation will explore these aspects of the Rorschach within a neuropsychological assessment. It is through providing further information helping to counter the lack of awareness that the vast majority of contemporary neuropsychologists have of the power of the Rorschach for the assessment of overall neurocognitive functioning (including of the psychodynamics of the person afflicted with neurological dysfunction of some kind) which is the "novel" or "new" aspect that I will attempt to convey in this talk.

# PINK FLOYD - THE WALL: USING THE RORSCHACH (R-PAS) AND THE WARTEGG (CWS) IN ASSESSING A SUSPECTED PSYCHOTIC DISORDER

Dr. Emiliano Muzio<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Muzio Psychological Services Ltd., Helsinki, Finland

Session A5, Oral Presentation, Multimethod, Session Room: Børsen, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

In the field of mental health, performance-based assessment methods are often crucial for questions of differential diagnosis, treatment planning, and prognosis, particularly in complex cases. These methods complement the information obtained through interviews, historical narratives, and broad self-report personality inventories. Specifically, evidence-based tools like the Rorschach Performance Assessment System (R-PAS) and the Crisi Wartegg System (CWS) provide invaluable insights into a patient's personality structure and dynamics. When used together, these methods enable clinicians to gain an even deeper and more accurate understanding of patients, especially those with severe psychopathology or a history of multiple psychiatric diagnoses, including psychotic and trauma-related disorders.

To demonstrate the effectiveness of these methods, the case of a man with a 12-year history of multiple psychiatric diagnoses is presented. He has an estimated Full-Scale IQ of 140 and has been diagnosed with schizoaffective disorder, non-organic psychotic disorder, unspecified personality disorder, borderline and obsessive-compulsive personality disorders, somatization disorder, and major depression. He has also reported long-term burn-out and various somatic symptoms. Despite being prescribed various psychotropic medications, he experienced poor outcomes and eventually discontinued their use. He has consistently encountered difficulties with the mental healthcare system, feeling misunderstood and inadequately assessed and supported. He believes that his symptoms are most accurately described as complex PTSD and dissociation. Results are discussed in terms of how the R-PAS and the CWS contributed to case formulation, informed treatment planning, and helped predict prognosis. Patient reactions to the assessment and the summary/discussion session are also described.



# BACK TO THE BEGINNING, AGAIN: RAPAPORT, GILL, AND SCHAFER'S UNKNOWN CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE RORSCHACH AND NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

Dr. Jed Yalof<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Austen Riggs Center, Stockbridge, United States, <sup>2</sup>Private Practice, Haverford, United States

Session A5, Oral Presentation, Multimethod, Session Room: Børsen, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

BACK TO THE BEGINNING, AGAIN: RAPAPORT, GILL, AND SCHAFER'S UNKNOWN CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE RORSCHACH AND NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

Oral Presentation

Jed Yalof, PsyD, ABPP, ABSNP, APAP, ABP  
Austen Riggs Center, Stockbridge, MA, USA  
Private Practice, Haverford, PA, USA

Rapaport, Gill, and Schafer (1968) outlined a test battery that had many of the components of a neuropsychological evaluation. The battery included measures of intelligence, word fluency, nonverbal face recognition as an aspect of social cognition, concept sorting, and memory. These tests were integrated with the TAT and Rorschach and interpreted cognitively and as projective measures within an ego psychological framework. In many ways, the art of blending neuropsychological testing with a psychoanalytic way of reasoning has been lost; most reports that I read (and sometimes write), are data based, sensible, and reach solid conclusions but the sense of the person is often obscured in ways that overlook such considerations as enactments that emerge during the evaluation, the projective aspects of memory blocks, social cognitive dynamics, and when administered, conflicts impacted by neuropsychological limitations but thematically and/or symbolically embedded in TAT and Rorschach (R-PAS) content. To illustrate these points, I provide several brief clinical illustrations that use an ego psychology model to understand neuropsychological problems with memory, attention, executive functioning, and eye teaming that integrate neuropsychological measures with more traditional projective measures. I highlight subtle content-based symbolic representations on the Rorschach and TAT of what could be viewed as unconscious meanings associated with neuropsychological deficit.

# Rorschach & Wartegg. A Perfect Pairing: Clinical Example

Mr. James Herman Kleiger<sup>1</sup>, Ms. Malin Holm

<sup>1</sup>James Kleiger PC, Olney, United States

Session A5, Oral Presentation, Multimethod, Session Room: Børsen, July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## Rorschach & Wartegg. A Perfect Pairing: Clinical Example

The Rorschach is well-known to assessment psychologists. Unfortunately, most psychologists are less familiar with the Wartegg Drawing Completion Test (WDCT). This is more the case in the US than in Europe, where enclaves of psychologists have included the WDCT in routine clinical assessments for many decades. Although experienced Wartegg clinicians often use the Rorschach and Wartegg together, less has been written or presented about their complementarity in assessment work. Over the last seven years, we have collaborated on assessment cases, looking at how the Rorschach contributes to understanding the patients and how the Wartegg may provide insight into aspects of experience and functioning beyond what we can discern from using the inkblots by themselves. We focus our discussion on an evaluation of “Lana,” a nonbinary 12-year-old with severe mood dysregulation and self-destructive behavior and present linkages between the Rorschach and WDCT, as well as describe novel insights provided by the Wartegg. We argue that as performance-based projective tasks, the Rorschach and Wartegg are a perfect pairing and, when used together, provide deeper insights into our patients’ behavior and internal worlds.

# The Young Generatio Speaks About the Future of the Rorschach and Projective Methods - Algeria

M. Anas Bahmed<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Algiers 2 University, Algiers, Algeria

Session B1, Symposium, Young Generation, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

The ISR is committed to giving voice to young colleagues who use Rorschach and projective methods in clinical practice and research work. After the wonderful experience during the Congress held in Geneva, 5 young colleagues will this year share their vision and ideas about the projective methods and their future usage, as well as the challenges and issues faced by their generation in relation to the tests, based on their own experiences in their respective countries.

- What motivates them to continue to use and/or develop skills about the Rorschach and projective methods?
- Based on their own experience (professional career, culture), what may they identify as opportunities for the upcoming years about projective methods?
- Based on their own experience (professional career, culture), what may they identify as issues and difficulties for the upcoming years about projective methods?
- What is done in their country to promote the Rorschach and projective methods (in practice, courses)?
- What should be done in their country to promote Rorschach and projective methods (in practice, courses)?

The Young Generation Speaks About the Future of the Rorschach and Projective Methods

# The Young Generation Speaks About the Future of the Rorschach and Projective Methods - Czech Republic

Mars. Jana Warren<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Departement of Psychology, Faculty of Arts, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

Session B1, Symposium, Young Generation, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

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The Young Generation Speaks About the Future of the Rorschach and Projective Methods

# The Young Generation Speaks About the Future of the Rorschach and Projective Methods - Spain

M. Alberto Ruiz Comeras<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Universidad Pontificia Comillas, Madrid, Spain

Session B1, Symposium, Young Generation, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

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The Young Generation Speaks About the Future of the Rorschach and Projective Methods

# The Young Generation Speaks About the Future of the Rorschach and Projective Methods - Peru

Mrs. Lupe Jara<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, , Peru

Session B1, Symposium, Young Generation, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

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The Young Generation Speaks About the Future of the Rorschach and Projective Methods

# The Young Generation Speaks About the Future of the Rorschach and Projective Methods

Dr. Noriko Nakamura<sup>1</sup>, Pr. Irem Atak<sup>2</sup>, Pr. Benoit Verdon<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Nakamura Psychotherapy Institute, Tokyo, Japan, <sup>2</sup>Istanbul University Psychology Department, Istanbul, Turkey, <sup>3</sup>Université Paris Cité, Paris, France

Session B1, Symposium, Young Generation, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

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The Young Generation Speaks About the Future of the Rorschach and Projective Methods

# The Young Generation Speaks About the Future of the Rorschach and Projective Methods - India

Mrs. Sukanya Ray<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Human Ecology, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India

Session B1, Symposium, Young Generation, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

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The Young Generation Speaks About the Future of the Rorschach and Projective Methods



# How the Collaborative Use of Performance-based Personality Tests Engenders Hope

Dr. Stephen E. Finn<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Hilde De Saeger, Mitsugu Murakami, Dr. Serena Messina, Dr. Melinda Glass, Dr. Barbara Mercer

<sup>1</sup>Center For Therapeutic Assessment, Austin, United States

Session B2, Symposium: How the Collaborative Use of Performance-based Personality Tests Engenders Hope, Session Room: Christiansborg, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Because of their ability to “get below the surface” and yield insights that are sometimes surprising, performance-based personality tests can reveal strengths or empathic insights that bring greatly needed hope to clients and the professionals working with them. This positive result is especially likely when such tests are used collaboratively with clients, with the goal of fostering their self-efficacy and self-compassion. In this symposium Dr. Finn will give a brief introduction to the topic. Then 5 clinicians from around the world will present brief (10-minute) clinical vignettes of one time that their collaborative use of one or more performance-based personality tests engendered hope in a client and/or in treating professionals. The tests represented include the Rorschach, Crisi Wartegg System (CWS), Adult Attachment Projective Picture System (AAP), and Early Memory Procedure (EMP). Dr. Finn will conclude by discussing the specific ways in which the collaborative use of performance-based tests can increase hope.

How the Collaborative Use of Performance-based Personality Tests Engenders Hope

## New developments in the validity of the Pfister test

Dr. Anna Elisa Villemor-Amaral<sup>1</sup>, Ana Cristina Resende<sup>2</sup>, Rodrigo Perissionotto<sup>3</sup>, Lucila Moraes Cardoso<sup>4</sup>, Ana Carolina Oliveira Nascimento de Alencar<sup>2</sup>, Polliane Rodrigues Pompeo<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of São Francisco, São Paulo, Brazil, <sup>2</sup>Pontifical Catholic University of Goiás, Goiania, Brazil,

<sup>3</sup>University Center of Mineiros - UNIFIMES, Mineiros, Brazil, <sup>4</sup>State University of Ceará, Fortaleza,

Brazil, <sup>5</sup>Universidad del Aconcagua, Mendoza, Argentina

Session B3, Symposium: NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE VALIDITY OF THE PFISTER TEST, Session Room:  
Kronborg, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

### NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE VALIDITY OF THE PFISTER TEST

Ana Cristina Resende, Rodrigo Perissionotto, Anna Elisa Villemor-Amaral, Lucila Moraes Cardoso, Ana Carolina Oliveira Nascimento de Alencar, Polliane Rodrigues Pompeo, Silvia V. Pugliese, Camila Grillo

This panel presents four papers that aim to expand the evidence on the psychometric qualities of the Pfister Colored Pyramids test. The first and second papers are studies investigating the validity of the computerized way of applying the Pfister, the first one being an equivalence study of the traditional way of administration and the computerized way, and the second study is a validity study comparing clinical and non-clinical groups of university students participants, both studies had shown positive results. The third paper is a correlation study between the Pfister Test and the Rorschach applied to the same individuals in an Argentinian sample, which achieved significant results for some of the variables highlighted in the study. The last paper demonstrates the usefulness of Pfister in the clinical context of a therapeutic assessment of a child and their family, contributing to a more empathetic view of the child on the part of the parents..

New developments in the validity of the Pfister test

# Equivalence Between Pencil-Paper and Computerized Versions of the Pfister Color Pyramids Test

Dr Ana Cristina Resende<sup>2</sup>, Rodrigo Perissionoto<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Anna Elisa Villemor-Amaral<sup>1</sup>, Lucila Moraes Cardoso<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University Of São Francisco, São Paulo, Brazil, <sup>2</sup>Pontifical Catholic University of Goiás, Goiania, Brazil,

<sup>3</sup>University Center of Mineiros, Mineiros, Brazil, <sup>4</sup>State University of Ceará, Fortaleza, Brazil

Session B3, Symposium: NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE VALIDITY OF THE PFISTER TEST, Session Room:  
Kronborg, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

This study aims to investigate the equivalence between the pencil-paper and computerized versions of the Pfister Test. A non-probabilistic sample of 766 Brazilian adults participated, with an average age of 29 years. The average educational attainment was 12 years. Participants were subdivided into two groups: those using the traditional application and those using the computerized version. Sociodemographic Questionnaire and the Pfister Test in its traditional (TPC) and computerized (TPCi) versions were used. Participants of the computerized version were instructed to use the TPC-i with both individual and group collections. During data analysis, normality was tested and not found, leading to the use of non-parametric statistics. Inferential tests were conducted using the Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney test with a Null Hypothesis Significance Test (NHST) and an equivalence test through Two One-Sided Tests (TOST). The Z-test was used for categorical variables and equivalence was evaluated through the proposed TOST of two proportions. Equivalence limits were defined to assess significant changes in behaviors and psychological characteristics. Results showed that, although there were statistically significant differences between groups across various variables, these differences had relatively low effects within the stipulated equivalence limit, indicating that such effects would not represent alterations from the normal patterns of psychological functioning. These findings support the equivalence of the computerized version of the Pfister Test (TPC-i) suggesting it as a reliable alternative to the traditional pencil-paper version (TPC).

New developments in the validity of the Pfister test

## NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE VALIDITY OF THE PFISTER TEST

Dr. Anna Elisa Villemor-Amaral<sup>1</sup>, Dr Ana Cristina Resende<sup>2</sup>, Rodrigo Perissinotto<sup>3</sup>, Lucila Moraes Cardoso<sup>4</sup>, Ana Carolina Oliveira Nascimento Alencar<sup>2</sup>, Polliane Rodrigues Pompeo<sup>3</sup>, Dra. Silvia V. Pugliese<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University Of São Francisco, São Paulo, Brazil, <sup>2</sup>Pontifical Catholic University of Goiás, Goiania, Brazil,

<sup>3</sup>University Center of Mineiros, Mineiros, Brazil, <sup>4</sup>State University of Ceará, Fortaleza, Brazil,

<sup>5</sup>University of Aconcagua, San Juan, Argentina

Session B3, Symposium: NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE VALIDITY OF THE PFISTER TEST, Session Room:  
Kronborg, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

This symposium presents three studies that aim to expand the evidence on the psychometric qualities of the Pfister Colored Pyramids test (TPC). The first and second papers are studies investigating the validity of the computerized form of the Pfister (TPC-i), the first being an equivalence study between the traditional form of administration (paper and pencil) and the computerized form, and the second is a validity study comparing clinical and non-clinical groups of university students submitted to the TPC-i. Both studies showed positive results, providing new evidence of the validity of the TPC-i. The third article is a correlation study between the Pfister Test in its traditional form of administration and the Rorschach test applied to the same individuals in an Argentinian sample. This study also obtained significant results for some of the variables highlighted in the research, such as Conflict Experience, Conflict Resolution Capacity, and Intellectual Capacity, which provides additional evidence of the validity of the TPC.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE VALIDITY OF THE PFISTER TEST

# ARGENTINE ATTEMPT OF CORRELATION BETWEEN THE RORSCHACH TEST AND THE PFISTER COLOUR PYRAMID TEST.

Silvia V Pugliesi<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Universidad Aconcagua, San Juan, Argentina

Session B3, Symposium: NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE VALIDITY OF THE PFISTER TEST, Session Room:  
Kronborg, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

The present work aims to investigate the possible correlation between the Rorschach Test and Pfister's Colour Pyramid Test, given that the latter provides benefits in terms of its easy application and time saving, for the knowledge of psychic functioning.

The Rorschach Test and Pfister's Colour Pyramid Test were administered to 10 female university student volunteers. From the analysis and interpretation of the protocols, the following items were compared: Rigidity, Distress Capacity, Conflict Experience, Conflict Resolution Capacity, Productivity Level, Sublimation and Creativity and Intellectual Capacity.

High correlation was obtained in Conflict Experience, Conflict Resolution Capacity and Intellectual Capacity.

High correlation is observed in those categories where the estimation is in general terms and it is concluded that the Pfister Color Pyramid Test is useful for a preliminary screening that allows to verify which subjects require a deeper study of personality.

New developments in the validity of the Pfister test

# Evidence of Validity for the Computerized Pfister Test in University Students With and Without Psychopathological Diagnoses

Dr Ana Cristina Resende<sup>1</sup>, Rodrigo Perissinotto<sup>2</sup>, Ana Carolina Oliveira Nascimento Alencar<sup>1</sup>, Pollianne Rodrigues Pompeo<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Pontifical Catholic University of Goiás, Goiania, Brazil, <sup>2</sup>University Center of Mineiros, Mineiros, Brazil

Session B3, Symposium: NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE VALIDITY OF THE PFISTER TEST, Session Room: Kronborg, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

The purpose of this study was to investigate the validity of the computerized version of the Pfister Color Pyramids Test (TPC-i), applied to Brazilian university students (N=334), with and without psychopathological diagnoses. This non-probabilistic sample had an average age of 25 years, with a majority being female. The first group consisted of 236 students, and the second included 98 self-declared with some psychopathological diagnosis. A Sociodemographic Questionnaire, the TPC-i, and the DSM-5 Personality Inventory (PID-5) were used. Correlation analyses were conducted between the TPC-i variables, which assess cognitive and affective aspects, and various psychopathological traits of the PID-5. As expected, all correlations between the two instruments were very low in the group without a psychopathological diagnosis (maximum  $r=0.2$ ). On the other hand, the group with psychopathological diagnoses showed moderate correlations (between 0.31 and 0.40;  $p<=0.003$ ). It was observed that the greater the emotional immaturity in TPC-i, the greater the tendency towards traits of antagonism, insensitivity, disinhibition, irresponsibility, and greater exposure to risks. More unstable attitudes in the TPC-i indicated a predisposition to hostility and rigid perfectionism in the PID-5. Greater emotional stability in TPC-i was associated with less dishonesty and less exposure to risk in the PID-5. Projective and self-report tests usually show correlations ranging from low to moderate. This was observed in the current study, and the moderate correlations between PID-5 psychopathological traits and cognitive and emotional immaturity in the TPC-i suggest indicators of validity for the computerized version of the test.

New developments in the validity of the Pfister test

# A measurement model for the Rorschach. The case of M.

Cand. Psych., Ph.d. Jan Ivanouw<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Copenhagen, København Ø, Denmark

Session B4, Oral Presentation, Psychometrical aspects, Session Room: Børsen, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM -  
5:00 PM

A measurement model specifies the relation between measures and the measured concept.

It is known that the individual Rorschach cards functions differentially as stimuli, Thus, Exner, Weiner, Gacono and Meloy and others have described different card pulls. However, this has only led to alerts for interpretation, but has not been developed into an explicit measurement model. Instead, the sum scores across the cards for each scoring category has been considered the relevant Rorschach measures.

A structural equation model can be developed for each Rorschach scoring category. The number of scorings for the category to each of the 10 cards is considered as indicators for a latent variable (the concept to be measured). The best model uses Poisson distributions to describe the responses to each card, and the number of responses,  $R$ , is included in the model. The model is exemplified with the human movement, M, category.

Each indicator (card) enter the model with a unique loading (how relevant is this card for this measure) and a unique intercept (how strong information about the concept arises from this card).

Using such a model results in more precise measures with less measurement error, and integrates information about respondents' use of 'easy' versus 'difficult' cards (card pull).

As of now, these models are intended for use in research. Calculation of individual measures from the models for clinical use is mathematically complicated, and the elaborated R-PAS method of converting raw scores to (complexity adjusted) standard scores is probably the best for clinical use.

# NARCISSISM, GRANDIOSITY, AND REACTIONS TO A SELF-ESTEEM INSULT: AN EXPERIMENTAL STUDY USING PREDICTIONS FROM SELF-REPORT AND THE RORSCHACH TASK

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Session B4, Oral Presentation, Psychometrical aspects, Session Room: Børsen, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

We used self-reported narcissistic grandiosity and vulnerability, and a component derived from 11 potential grandiosity and narcissism variables (GNVs) coded from Rorschach behavior to predict fluctuations in self-esteem and their links to anger and defensive reactions. We assessed state mood, state self-esteem, and performance attributions in 105 college students in the U.S. (mean age: 20 years, SD = 4.48; 65% female) who underwent a self-esteem manipulation involving success followed by failure on cognitive testing. Data were analyzed by means of Principal Component Analyses, correlations, and regressions. Self-reported grandiosity predicted the disavowal of effortful ability as a factor in failure, but we did not replicate other previously reported findings for this variable. Self-reported vulnerability predicted oscillations in self-reported mood and self-esteem. The GNV scale predicted spontaneously expressed hostility and externalization following the self-esteem insult, and attributions mediated its relationship with anger expressed after failure. We discuss implications of these results and recommend additional replication research.



# ASSESSING NARCISSISM AND GRANDIOSITY USING RORSCHACH-BASED IMAGERY AND BEHAVIOR VALIDATED BY CLINICIAN-REPORTS: STUDIES WITH ADULT PATIENTS AND NONPATIENTS

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Session B4, Oral Presentation, Psychometrical aspects, Session Room: Børsen, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

We evaluate 11 Rorschach variables with potential for assessing grandiosity and narcissism. Seven of these variables were drawn from previous literature: Omnipotence, Idealization, Reflection, Personal Knowledge Justification, Exhibitionism, Magic, and Elevated Mood States; four were developed for this research: Expanded Personal Reference, Narcissistic Devaluation, Narcissistic Deflation, and Narcissistic Denial. Using Rorschach protocols from 145 nonclinical adults in the U.S. (mean age: 39 years, SD = 15, 52% female) and 100 Italian adult outpatients (mean age: 34.7 years, SD = 12.2, 62% female), the dimensional structure of these variables was evaluated by principal components analysis, and validity was tested by correlations with clinician ratings of narcissism on two scales from the SWAP-200 that were made after at least five sessions with the primary clinician. A cohesive dimension was found in both data sets defined by Expanded Personal Reference, Personal Knowledge Justification, Omnipotence, and Idealization, and it was meaningfully correlated with the clinician ratings of narcissism ( $M r = .41$ ). Findings are discussed also in light of preliminary studies in other populations (e.g., forensic; developmental age samples). Implications of the findings include the applicability of these variables in clinical practice and research for assessing narcissistic personality dynamics.

# Rethinking the Interpretation of Cognitive Codes: Sharpening Our Understanding of What We Are Measuring

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Session B4, Oral Presentation, Psychometrical aspects, Session Room: Børsen, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

None of us would doubt the Rorschach's unique role in assessing implicit aspects of personality functioning that the individual cannot tell us about directly. Mihura and her colleagues' landmark meta-analyses identified the most robust variables for interpretation and cemented R-PAS's role as the leading system for using the Rorschach in a broad range of clinical, forensic, and research situations. Chief among the variables receiving the most research support were those relating to thinking and perception. But elevated scores on variables in the Perception and Thinking Problems Domain are often too quickly linked to, and, I would argue, conflated with, psychosis or psychosis proneness without understanding the nature of these codes, the phenomenon of psychosis, or the clinical diagnosis of psychotic disorders. The essential question is not whether these codes are critically important but what exactly they tell us and how they are used. Do the Cognitive Codes mean that the respondent is psychotic, could become psychotic, has a latent psychosis, or something else? I believe the codes tell us about the vicissitudes of thinking and perception when individuals find themselves in real-life situations that mimic the Rorschach. This may seem obvious, but clinicians need to be able to talk about these variables without prematurely smuggling in the concept of psychosis and understanding phenomenological issues, diagnostic criteria, and base rates.

# MEN WHO KILL WOMEN: THE RORSCHACH TEST IN 21 MALE INMATES FEMINICIDES

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Session B5, Oral Presentation, Forensic/Severe Crime, Session Room: Børsen, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Murder of a woman by a man ('femicide'), almost always their intimate partner, seems to be increasingly frequent in Italy. The present study retrospectively examined three groups, each of 21 males, of Rorschach administered according to the metodo italiano Scuola Romana Rorschach (SRR). Two groups were extracted from the murderer database of the IRF (Istituto Rorschach Forense), including almost one hundred inmates, tested during the trial in order to assess competence to stand trial, mental state at the time of offense and current dangerousness. The first group ('femicide') included everyone who killed a woman ('femicide'). The second group ('homicide'), sex and age matched, was randomly extracted from male murderers who killed a man. A third group ('normal controls'), sex and age matched, was randomly extracted from the IRF normal subjects database. All the 63 subject satisfied the following inclusion criteria: no abuse of alcohol or substances, no psychiatric history, no psychopharmacological treatment, no psychiatric symptom or disease according to DSM-5-TR. All the 63 protocols, originally administered and scored by different experts, were independently and concordantly blindly re-scored by two authors (C.R. and C.T.) by means of a specific software. The results were statistically analyzed by means of SPSS (mean, SD, two square t; frequencies and chi square). Femicides, show lower R (< 0.05), R+ (< 0.01), F (< 0.05), F+ (< 0.02), M (<0.05), H (< 0.02), V (p<0.005), O (p<0.05) and O+ (<0.01), than normal controls, but show few and little differences from homicides. The results are extensively discussed.

# DISSOCIATIVE IDENTITY DISORDER AND PROJECTIVE METHODS: A LITERATURE REVIEW AND A PROPOSED STUDY DESIGN

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) is a complex and often controversial condition that is frequently overlooked or misdiagnosed as a personality or psychotic disorder. This poster aims to present the current literature on DID and projective methods, and to propose a research design for a future study. The objective of this study will be to examine the personality structure, as per the Bergeret model of structural psychopathology, and personality facets using the dimensional model of personality in 30 individuals diagnosed with DID. The proposed research design employs a multimethod approach, utilizing qualitative data from the Rorschach Inkblot Test and the Thematic Apperception Test (TAT) analyzed with the psychodynamic analysis of speech from the Lausanne School. This will be combined with quantitative data from the Personality Inventory for DSM-5 (PID-5) and the Self and Interpersonal Functioning Scale. The study will also investigate the relevant and frequently occurring markers found in the Rorschach and TAT protocols using the 6-column grid employed in the psychodynamic analysis of speech method. The discussion will seek to elucidate whether Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) should primarily be viewed as a trauma-based disorder or as a manifestation of structural personality functioning (and to specify which subtype or subtypes). Incorporating the personality facets from the dimensional model into this multidimensional research approach could provide a more exhaustive understanding of DID and deepen the exploration of its complexity, offering valuable insights for future research and clinical practice.

# THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PTI AND EII VALUES AND SYMPTOMS IN FIRST EPISODE SCHIZOPHRENIA

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

## Introduction

Several studies have demonstrated that PTI (The Perceptual Thinking Index) and EII (The Ego Impairment Index) values are higher in schizophrenia and psychotic populations compared to other clinically as well as healthy populations. However, the relationship between PTI and EII values and the specific schizophrenia symptoms such as delusions, hallucinations and affect flattening is less well described.

## Methodology and statistics

At baseline all participants underwent Rorschach testing, in accordance with the principles of The Comprehensive System, as well as PANSS (Positive and Negative Syndrome Scale) assessment. In the present context PANSS-6 items and global scores were used. Testing and assessment were repeated after approximately 2 and 5 years. All testing and assessments were carried out by two independent professionals. Initially descriptive statistical analyzes of background variables, PTI, EII and other selected Rorschach variables and PANSS-6 scores will be done. Subsequently regression analyzes and other relevant statistical analyzes will be performed.

## Participants and consent

The participants were 200 first episode schizophrenia patients (127 males, 70 females, mean age: 25,54 years) who were a sample of from a group of 269 participants in a RCT study of psychodynamic interventions. Respectively 98 and 93 patients participated in the two follow-up testing/assessments. Written informed consent were obtained from all patients.

## Results and conclusion

The results are expected to shed light on whether PTI and EII values are linked to specific as well as global symptoms of schizophrenia or reflect other aspects of the disorder.

# THE STEPWISE PROCEDURE FOR COLLABORATIVE ASSESSMENT USING THE HAND TEST

Dr. Hiroko Sasaki<sup>1</sup>

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

The purpose of this pilot study is to verify the practical usefulness of the concise stepwise procedure of collaborative assessment using the Hand Test (HT; Wagner, 1962), which consists of ten cards of drawings of hands. The test is developed to comprehend the client's prototypal action tendencies, assumed to reflect their roles of life and the world they live in, for example how they build relationships with others and work on their everyday activities. Four medical students (two males and two females) participated in two assessment sessions. The first session includes two steps: 1) figuring out assessment questions relevant to presenting concerns associated with the scoring categories of the HT; and 2) administering the test via standardized procedure over 15 minutes. The second also has two procedures: 3) reviewing the answers to assessment questions and discussing ways for more comfortable relationships or achievements; then 4) simulating examples of the new role of relationships or alternative way of life, by changing one response of the HT. We also devised worksheets which help clients to clarify self-understandings and are intended to make each step more formulated. Evaluations and reflections of the four participants about this trial assessment sessions were examined. It indicated that the HT is suitable for collaborative assessments that require the client to take the initiative. Since it focuses on the actions represented by the client's daily experiences, it may be a tool that can directly address new approaches available for clients.

# CHANGES IN THE INTERNAL ENERGY REPRESENTED IN THE TREE DRAWING TEST: FOCUSING ON TREE SIZE AND WRITING PRESSURE

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Understanding the energy level of participants based on changes in their drawings is a useful tool for determining the course of therapy. However, it is not possible to understand the specific features in clinical cases without clarifying the normal changes in energy levels among healthy participants. This study aimed to clarify how internal energy changes by focusing on changes in tree size and brush pressure (which are closely related to energy levels) by using Castilla's Tree Drawing Test (CTDT). CTDT was administered individually to 39 healthy Japanese university students. The first and second tree were the instruction of the 'one tree'. The third tree was the 'Tree of Dreams'. The height of the trees was measured with a measuring tape and classified into 'medium', 'large', and 'small'. Writing pressure was graded on three levels: 'strong', 'moderate', and 'weak'. The mean heights of the first, second, and third trees were 22 cm, 20.6 cm, and 20.1 cm, respectively. Nineteen of the three pieces showed a change in size. Weak writing pressure decreased from 40.7% in the first tree to 29.6% in the third tree. In contrast, strong pressure increased from 15.7% for the first tree to 21.6% for the third tree. These results indicate that energy levels of the three pictures changed even in healthy participant.

# Analysis of Characteristics Among Japanese Inmates Using Wartegg Test according to CWS (Crisi Wartegg System)

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

## Introduction:

The Wartegg Test, a drawing projective technique introduced over 80 years ago, is widely utilized in personality assessment. Comprising eight squares with graphical stimuli, this test elicits evocative and projective responses. The Crisi Wartegg System (CWS), developed by Alessandro Crisi in 2007, has significantly contributed to the test's expanded application, supported by extensive empirical studies. Since its introduction to Japan's training programs in 2022, the Wartegg test, specifically the CWS, has gained increased prominence in diverse settings, including medical and forensic psychology. Despite this, there remains a scarcity of studies examining CWS within incarcerated populations, both nationally and internationally. Consequently, this research aims to comprehensively document, depict, and analyze responses and characteristics elicited by CWS in Japanese prisoners.

## Methods:

This study employed CWS data from 150 Japanese standard samples and 100 prison inmates. A homogeneity of variance test guided the selection between a t-test (homoscedasticity) and a nonparametric test (nonhomoscedasticity). Items with low frequency were excluded from the statistical analysis.

## Results:

Significant differences emerged between the two groups, particularly in the domains of aggressive energy and social relationship dynamics.

## Conclusions:

This research sheds light on distinctive characteristics unveiled through CWS in Japanese prisoners. Notably, the observed variations, especially in aggressive energy and social interactions, provide valuable insights for understanding the dynamics within the inmate population.



# The Bellak Apperception TEST: A new colored narrative assessment

Dr. Vincent Quartier<sup>1</sup>

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

## Introduction

The Bellak Apperception Test (BAT) is a new thematic projective assessment with a multicultural perspective. Comprising 5 cards, each available both black and white and multi-color versions. The inclusion of color is intended to enhance emotional content within the narratives. No study has been published to date on this new material and the latent content (or themes) of the cards remains to be investigated.

## Methodology

This study aims to identify themes discussed by 40 typical young adults aged 18 to 25 and to investigate the specific influence of color on narrative production. Stories analysis methods include the Abrams Checklist of emotion words, the Social cognition and Object Relations Scale (SCORS-G), and discourse process analysis following the French school of projective methods.

## Conclusion

The results will clarify the impact of color on emotional expressiveness, representations of relationships and understanding of social causality, and the narrative and defensive processes involved in story production. This new projective tool, tailored to multiculturalism, may provide an alternative means of exploring internal representations through the generation of narratives.

# CAN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE(A.I.) IDENTIFY THE DIFFERENCE IN THE RESPONSES AND IMAGINE THE RORSCHACH CARD?

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

## [Introduction]

The aims of this study are to explore the usefulness of A.I. in differential diagnosis by the Rorschach. Based on the protocol data, we considered how A.I. identifies the characteristics of classifying the two clinical groups and guesses the card image patients looked at.

## [Methods]

Protocol data on the card 1 comprising 20 schizophrenics(mean age = 36.05, SD = 10.84) and 20 personality disorder(PD) patients(mean age = 29.30, SD = 9.03), were used. They had consented to undergo the Rorschach out of clinical necessity and the permission for this study was obtained from our hospital.

For the data of each group, respectively, ChatGPT4.0 was instructed to identify any presumed psychopathological characteristics of 2 clinical groups(including data obtained during the inquiry) and then to infer and visually represent the original card image based on the response phase, omitting the word "Rorschach."

## [Results & Discussion]

The analysis for PDs reflected well the characteristics of PDs, especially emotional aspect, whereas the analysis of schizophrenics did not capture most of the characteristics of schizophrenic psychopathology. However, each generated card image was completely different and reflected some psychopathology of each group. The reasons for these differences are discussed in terms of why the A.I. excluded bizarre linguistic expressions from the analysis.

## [Conclusion]

Partially, we conclude that A.I. can aid clinical practice. However, it is important to give well-suited instructions to A.I. Furthermore, we need to explore the reason for the difference in A.I.'s psychopathological judgement between the linguistic expressions and the generated images.

# Pioneers of Rorschach test use in the USSR: from pedology to forensic psychiatry (1921-1936)

Кандидат наук George Rupchev<sup>1</sup>, Evgenia Nikonova<sup>1</sup>

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

**Objective.** In the literature, the first studies on the use of the Rorschach test in the USSR are described mainly from the late 60s, but there are earlier works using the test.

**Methods.** Articles and books describing the use of the Rorschach test from 1921-1936 were searched in the central libraries - the Russian State Library, the Russian National Library and the State Archive of the Russian Federation.

**Results.** The first article with a translation of the Rorschach test was published in 1923 by psychologist I.N. Dyakov (1891-1937) - he recommended using the test in pedology. Since 1923, psychologist A.E. Petrova (1880-?) used it to study "primitive" psyche in children and adults, in normals, among those who committed crimes, as well as in patients with schizophrenia and epilepsy. The Rorschach test was used in psychiatric expertise and was part of a battery of methods for studying the personality of the criminal, used in the Cabinet for the Study of the Personality of the Criminal and Crime, in the V.P. Serbsky Research Institute of Forensic Psychiatry.

Soviet psychologists interpreted the test according to H. Rorschach's "Psychodiagnostik". The test was regarded as a method of studying imagination.

In 1936, after the publication of the resolution of the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party on the pedological perversions in the system of the People's Commissariats for Education, the usage of the test was discontinued.

**Conclusion.** Studies showing the widespread use of the test in psychological practice since 1923 have been described.

# Neural activities in Necker-cube reversals and Rorschach Indices: an ERP Study

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Multistable perception, an intriguing phenomenon wherein a single ambiguous physical stimulus elicits multiple subjective perceptions that spontaneously change among themselves, may exhibit commonalities with the Rorschach inkblot method (RIM). It includes binocular rivalry and bistable figures well-known as the Necker cube. This study attempts to explore shared cognitive processes between bistable perception and the RIM by comparing neural activity (ERPs; event-related potentials) and RIM indices during a perceptual reversal task.

In this study, a comprehensive system (Exner, 2003) was employed for scoring RIM. Following the paradigm established by Pitts et al. (2008, 2009), university students participated in two experiments after providing informed consent, approved by the ethical review boards of Nara Women's University and Ritsumeikan University. The experimental design centered on perceptual reversals and deliberate efforts at reversals. Specifically, the Necker lattice (Experiment 1: n=28) and the Necker cube turning sidelong (Experiment 2: n=30) were intermittently presented, requiring participants to report their perception through button presses.

Three distinct ERP components, namely, "reversal negativity," "front reversal positivity," and the "late positive component", were said to be enhanced by perceptual switches and their voluntary control (Pitts et al., 2008, 2009). Moreover, participants in Experiment 2 were asked to maintain intentional approaches, distinguishing between intensive reversal condition and passive observing condition.

The results presented correlations between neural activities associated with perceptual reversals and some RIM indices. The implications of these findings are discussed concerning individual differences in cognitive variables that may be shared between bistable perceptual tasks and the RIM.

# PSYCHOSOMATIC REACTIONS TO SIBLING TRAUMA. A CASE STUDY WITH PROJECTIVE METHODS

Professor Dorianna Dipaola<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Doctor Luca Dell'Oca<sup>1,4</sup>, Dr Federica Burzio, Professor Gabriella Gandino<sup>1,2</sup>

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

**Introduction:** The paper deals with the discussion of projective material of a 10-year-old child consultation in private practice with psychoanalytic approach. The patient is the younger brother of a child with secondary disabilities due to an illness. Significant somatoform symptoms and phobic aspects are identified during the counseling sessions. Psychoanalytic research in sibling complexes shows that healthy siblings of disabled individuals may suppress vital aspects for emotional balance, revealing alienating identifications in relationships.

**Methodology:** During the counseling sessions various graphic and projective tests are used, including the Rorschach test, the CAT and the Dixit cards, which are used for narrative purposes. The discussion focuses primarily on the qualitative comparison of the material from projective and graphic tests with the themes and content found in the narratives from the Dixit cards, which seem to evoke themes that are consistent with other projective methods. Results align with physical trauma victims: aggression, sadism, persecution, guilt experiences.

**Conclusions:** With reference to these results, the hypothesis of vicarious traumatic experience is discussed. Graphic stimuli data show an identification with the sibling who has directly been affected by the physical trauma, an inhibition of aggressive impulses and a tendency to develop reactive behavior. Inferences from reactive and projective material, as well as narratives from Dixit cards, indicate possible connections with identification with the traumatic sibling experience and the suppression of vital aspects, leading to psychosomatic consequences.

# OBJECT RELATIONS TECHNIQUE (O.R.T.): BEYOND PSYCHOANALYTIC INTERPRETATION

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

**Introduction.** The ORT was created in 1955 at the Tavistock clinic by Herbert Phillipson, based on M. Klein and R. Fairbairn's Theory of Object Relations to analyse defence mechanisms, conflicts and anxieties, the transferential bond, and the evolution of bonds. This technique provides perceptive elements that can be interpreted beyond projection and psychoanalysis. **Objective.** To analyse the degree of perceptual adjustment to the stimuli presented by the plates in a Spanish non-clinical population to establish preliminary normative data. **Methodology.** Ex post facto design with 210 college students were asked for their verbal consent and informed of the confidentiality protocol. The discourse of the stories was examined and categorised into three areas: human content, reality content, and reality context. **Results.** The protocols were contrasted with the results appearing in the original manual. Almost all conformed to the stimulus perception proposed in the manual, both in personification and content and context of reality. The most significant disparity corresponds to plate C1, in which 70% of our sample did not perceive any figure. On the other hand, the manifest relations and the symbolic descriptive ones of the reality context are mentioned infrequently. **Conclusions.** The results showed the importance of obtaining normative perception data in the ORT in the non-clinical population since they will guide the interpretation of the histories.

## Impulsivity in a group at high risk of psychosis: a correlational study

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

The concept of The Ultra-High-Risk for psychosis has been actively developed (Omelchenko, 2020), aimed at detection and early intervention to delay the manifestation or mitigate the course of the schizophrenia in the future. A significant proportion of individuals in the UHR group are assessed by specialists as impulsive (Lee, 2013).

To investigate impulsivity in a group of patients at risk of developing psychosis.

The Barratt Impulsivity Scale (Patton et al. 1995) and the Rorschach test (CS; Exner, 1991) were used in the study. The sample consisted of 26 women with depressive disorders (20,1±3,5 years) and 27 women from UHR group (18,2±1,5 years) who were hospitalized during the study.

The study found significant differences in the level of impulsivity between «affective disorders» group and «UHR» group ( $U = 216$ ,  $p = 0,016$ ). The structure of impulsivity was shown to be different between the groups: in patients with depressive disorders, it was associated more with emotional Rorschach variables ( $W_{SumC}$ :  $\rho = -0,439$ ,  $p = 0,025$ ;  $S$ :  $\rho = -0,399$ ,  $p = 0,043$ ;  $X+\%$ :  $\rho = -0,453$ ,  $p = 0,002$ ;  $FC:CF+C$ :  $\rho = -0,436$ ,  $p = 0,026$ ), whereas among patients with attenuated psychotic symptoms, it was associated predominantly with the cognitive cluster ( $M$ :  $\rho = 0,539$ ;  $DQ+$ :  $\rho = 0,575$ ,  $p = 0,002$ ;  $WDA\%$ :  $\rho = -0,408$ ,  $p = 0,035$ ), coping resources ( $CDI$ :  $\rho = -0,384$ ,  $p = 0,048$ ;  $EA$ :  $\rho = 0,488$ ,  $p = 0,01$ ), and control variables ( $AdjD$ :  $\rho = 0,895$ ,  $p = 0,04$ ;  $DScore$ :  $\rho = 0,382$ ,  $p = 0,049$ ).

# Hyper-vigilant narcissism and dependency traits in stalkers: a qualitative pilot study with the Rorschach test

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

**Introduction:** Stalking is a distressing phenomenon characterized by persistent pursuit, surveillance, and harassment of another individual. The Rorschach test, known for tapping into unconscious thoughts and emotions, provides valuable insights into the underlying psychological dynamics of stalkers.

**Methodology:** The methodology of administration, the coding system and the interpretation of the Rorschach tests refer to the French school. In order to assess the commonalities between 5 stalkers in the clinical setting, a qualitative approach was used to interpret and understand the stalkers' responses.

**Hypotheses:** We hypothesized that we would find commonalities between the stalkers by examining the emotional, symbolic and perceptual aspects of the responses, which provide valuable information about the stalkers' personality and state of mind.

**Recruitment modalities & consent:** The sample of stalkers was recruited as part of a clinical forensic examination. Informed consent and data processing were carried out in accordance with the applicable ethical regulations.

**Description of the group of participants:** The sample consists of 5 male subjects aged between 40 and 46 years (M=42.25, SD=2.63), diagnosed with stalking behavior.

**Results:** Rorschach coding shows that all protocols contain characteristic responses that indicate some personality traits associated with hyper-vigilant narcissism and dependency traits that may contribute to the compulsive and intrusive behavior of stalkers.

**Conclusion:** By using the Rorschach test in stalker cases, mental health professionals can gain a deeper understanding of the underlying psychological factors that contribute to stalking behavior. This knowledge can assist in the development of effective intervention strategies and risk assessment protocols.



# Psychological Test Feedback of an Elementary School Boy to a Homeroom Teacher and Parent

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Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

In this case study, a psychological test (WISC-V, HTPP) was administered to a 6-year-old first-grade boy at a public elementary school in Japan. The psychologist used the psychology test results for feedback to the homeroom teacher (a female in her 30s) and the mother. The test results showed that the WISC-V had an FSIQ of 80 (indexes ranged from 70 to 100 in each domain), and the HTPP showed some difficulty in getting on with the presentation. In addition, the images were shown to be unrealistic and those of others were not concrete. In the feedback to the teacher, “can-do” or “can't-do” viewpoint was discussed. The clumsiness of the child's hands, the difficulty in expressing his thoughts, and the richness of his imagination were unique to the child. However, in the feedback to the mother, the expressions in the drawings that the mother thought he was not good at expressing his own personality provided an opportunity to reconfirm the goodness of the mother. Thus, the feedback of the HTPP results was effective in reinforcing the WISC-V results in approaching the “personality” and “internal world of the individual” that cannot be expressed numerically, and in promoting collaborative feedback, such as by facilitating the discussion of the individual's daily situation. The presentation of this case study was approved by the ethics review of the institution to which the subject belongs, and the consent of the subject has been obtained.

# Adolescent Conflicts In Maintaining Psychological Distance In Close Friendships: Examining The Dismissive Avoidant Style Through Image Cards

Ms. Yume Kato<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan

Poster Session A (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 9, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

In psychotherapy with clients exhibiting Dismissive Avoidant Style (DAS), therapists often feel helpless. This study explored conflicts in relationships with close friends among university students, concentrating on DAS, to gain better insight into such clients.

Initially, questionnaires were distributed to Japanese university students through a crowdsourcing service. The responses from 307 participants (125 females, 182 males,  $M = 20.78$  years old,  $SD = 1.75$ ) indicated that individuals with DAS did not necessarily feel more distant from close friends compared to those with a fearful avoidant attachment style, who are also characterized by intimacy avoidance. (The data above was presented at the JSRPM congress 2022.)

Next, the Rorschach method was conducted, using the Nagoya University technique, with a subset of 28 participants (including 13 with DAS) who agreed to participate. They were asked to describe Image Cards representing their close friends. The Image Cards were analyzed focusing on the Affective Symbolism, a unique scoring system of the Nagoya University technique, and four indicators regarded to be related to attachment (Texture response, Human Movement response, Human response, and Food response). As a result, two distinct groups emerged within DAS, those who showed conflicts with close friends, and those who did not. These groups were further divided into five and two subgroups, respectively. Despite the common belief that DAS is associated with a lack of conflict, the application of the Rorschach method revealed that individuals with DAS also experienced various conflicts at a deeper, subconscious level.

# RORSCHACH TEST IN MURDERERS: REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE, INDICATIONS FOR THE FORENSIC USE AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

Dr. Salvatore Zizolfi<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Ignazio Grattagliano, Dr. Daniele Zizolfi, Dr. Stefania Zecca, Dr. Pasqua Loconsole, Prof. Roberto Catanesi

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Session B5, Oral Presentation, Forensic/Severe Crime, Session Room: Børsen, July 9, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

The assessment of murderers with the Rorschach is very relevant in the forensic practice, in order to address issues of competence to stand trial, mental state at the time of offense and current dangerousness. A systematic comprehensive review of 1926-2021 Rorschach literature found 91 studies on murderers, written in English (62), French (13), Italian (12), other languages (N = 4), independently and concordantly searched by two Authors from main databases (PubMed, Medline Complete, Embase, PsycINFO, Psyc-NET, PEPWeb, Cochrane, Gallica, Perseus), researcher networks (academia.edu, researchgate.net), other sources (Google scholar; books and journals; Rorschach bibliographies; Buros MMY), and the list of references of each article. Five types of studies were identified: Literature reviews (4); Single case studies (31); Descriptive studies on murderer samples without controls (20) or compared with normative data (2); Case-Control group comparative studies (28); Miscellanea (6). Almost all the studies concern tests administered after a variable time from the murder: Rorschach may never be considered 'predictive' of homicide. The review recommend: a detailed description of setting, characteristics of cases, features of murder and victim; multi-method/multi-sources evaluations including interviews, Rorschach, self-rating questionnaires, malingering test; well standardized and psychometrically reliable and valid Rorschach methods (SRR, CS, CS-R, R-PAS). In selected samples, the "Cognitive Quartet of Rorschach scores", and the 70.0% threshold of R +% and F +%, appeared very useful in discriminating between imputable and non-imputable subjects. Preliminary results in legally sane murderers evidenced strong correlations ( $p < 0.001$ ) between CS and SRR variables related to cognitive mediation and interpersonal perception.

# Two murders, two personality profiles

Prof. Anne Andronikof<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University Paris Nanterre, Enencourt Leage, France

Session C1, Symposium: MURDERS: CONTRIBUTION OF THE RORSCHACH TEST TO UNDERSTANDING  
EXTREME ACTS, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

In this presentation, we will show how the Rorschach test (CS-R) clearly outlines two completely different personality structures and functioning underlying an extreme criminal act, i.e. a murder. This analysis will lead us to describe different mechanisms, or sequence successions, rendering a killing possible, and sometimes unavoidable.

**MURDERS: CONTRIBUTION OF THE RORSCHACH TEST TO UNDERSTANDING EXTREME ACTS**

# Assessing risk factors for extreme violence with R-PAS

Prof. Corine de Ruiter<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Maastricht University, Maastricht , Netherlands

Session C1, Symposium: MURDERS: CONTRIBUTION OF THE RORSCHACH TEST TO UNDERSTANDING EXTREME ACTS, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

A recent review of the research on the Rorschach and violent crime (de Ruiter, 2021) showed there is not a one-on-one relationship between certain Rorschach variables and risk factors for violence, such as psychopathy or impulsivity. Still, the Rorschach can provide useful information in answering psychological questions before the court, such as those related to criminal responsibility and risk of future violence.

R-PAS was used to code the Rorschach protocols of 16-yr old Grido and 24-yr old Yoti. Although both young men are suspects of homicide, their personality dynamics may turn out to be very different. We will examine the R-PAS findings in view of empirically derived risk factors for violence, such as impaired reality testing, psychotic thinking, poor quality of object relations, egocentrism, traumatic experiences, and impaired stress coping. Tabulating and comparing the two cases will provide us with insight into their respective 'risk profiles' and leads to treatment recommendations. We will also review R-PAS findings in search of strengths or assets that may be helpful during offender rehabilitation.

MURDERS: CONTRIBUTION OF THE RORSCHACH TEST TO UNDERSTANDING EXTREME ACTS

# The Rorschach beyond what appears: two murderers compared

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Session C1, Symposium: MURDERS: CONTRIBUTION OF THE RORSCHACH TEST TO UNDERSTANDING EXTREME ACTS, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

The comparison between the two tests is interesting in relation to the different genesis and dynamics of the two criminal acts and their contribution in the forensic discussion regarding the capacity to understand clearly and decisively.

The Yoti test shows clear signs of a serious disorder capable of invalidating the reality testing, therefore compromising the ability to understand and make decisions. The sudden and apparently unmotivated genesis of the criminal act (although under the influence of alcohol and drugs), resemble an impulsive reaction and do not seem like behaviours that would be, scenographic, ritualistic, sadistic and similar. The difference between the responses and the inquiry is very interesting, signalling a fragile defensive screen against external stress and internal destructive pressures. This outlines one of the most dangerous criminal typologies because, at least in the initial relational contact, they can appear more censored and congruous (the Italian method in these cases suggests developing two psychograms, one as usually happens, the second integrating what is newly reported to the inquiry to evaluate the differences).

Instead, the Grido test shows much more adequate functioning, in strong contrast with the apparent bizarre and scenographic organization of the criminal setting, on which the Rorschach allows us to raise serious doubts with respect to the hypothesis of a possible underlying delirium: in fact, there is no confirmation of thought disorders or signs of splitting, dissociation or pathological projection which could suggest a condition of inability to understand and make decisions at the time of the crime.

Murders: contribution of the Rorschach test to understanding extreme acts

# MURDERS: CONTRIBUTION OF THE RORSCHACH TEST TO UNDERSTANDING EXTREME ACTS

Prof. Anne Andronikof<sup>1</sup>

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Session C1, Symposium: MURDERS: CONTRIBUTION OF THE RORSCHACH TEST TO UNDERSTANDING EXTREME ACTS, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

The aim of this symposium is to reflect on the psychological mechanisms leading to extreme criminal acts. The Rorschach protocols of two young men, 16- and 24-year-old, who each committed a murder in very different circumstances, are analysed by four forensic psychologists using four different schools of interpretation. Jean-Yves Chagnon (Parisian school), Anne Andronikof (Comprehensive System-Revised), Corine de Ruitter (R-PAS), and Tommaso Caravelli (Italian Rizzo System). Brief histories of the cases and results of other tests (if any) are known to all. Presentations will be followed by a debate among the panel and with the attendees.

# Narcissistic-identification suffering and murderous acts. Contributions and limitations of the Rorschach.

Prof. Jean-Yves Chagnon<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>USPN University, Paris, France

Session C1, Symposium: MURDERS: CONTRIBUTION OF THE RORSCHACH TEST TO UNDERSTANDING EXTREME ACTS, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

The Rorschach protocols of two murderers will be interpreted using the psychoanalytic interpretation method of the so-called "French" or "Paris" school (Chabert et al., 2020). They provide information on certain aspects of their psychological functioning: anxieties, defence mechanisms, problems (identity, identifications), object relations versus self-image. The Rorschach does not explain all acts of aggression, but the aforementioned dimensions to which it gives access enable us to hypothesise about certain processes involved. The passive-active and powerlessness-all-powerful reversal probably came into play at some point, in a certain destabilising context, to counter the disorganising pressure of narcissistic identity-related suffering, organised differently in each person. The opposition proposed by C. Balier (2005) between acting out (a shift from heroic fantasies to realisation: Grido) and acting out (an act without conscious representation: Yoti) seems relevant here. The presumed role of sadism (and so-called perverse developments) will be reassessed.

MURDERS: CONTRIBUTION OF THE RORSCHACH TEST TO UNDERSTANDING EXTREME ACTS



# Multi-method Collaborative Assessment of a Client with Severe Shame

Dr. Stephen E. Finn<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Yutaka Sato, Dr. Noriko Nakamura, Dr. Julie Cradock O'Leary, Dr. Filippo Aschieri

<sup>1</sup>Center For Therapeutic Assessment, Austin, United States

Session C2, Symposium: Multi-method Collaborative Assessment of a Client with Severe Shame,  
Session Room: Christiansborg, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

This symposium focuses on the multi-method collaborative assessment of a Japanese client with severe shame. The goal is to show how different psychological tests, including self-report and performance-based personality tests, converge to help us understand the client's shame and underlying dilemma of change. The assessment was conducted in 2023 by Dr. Yutaka Sato and was previously presented in a workshop sponsored by the Asian-Pacific Center for Therapeutic Assessment. Dr. Sato conducted all the assessment sessions and collected questions the client wished to have addressed by the assessment. Various tests were administered, and in this symposium three of them will be discussed by experts in the field: the MMPI by Dr. Stephen Finn, the Rorschach (CS) by Dr. Noriko Nakamura, and the Thurston Cradock Test of Shame (TCTS) by Dr. Julie Cradock O'Leary. Dr. Sato will introduce the case and also discuss, at the end, how the assessment affected his and the client's therapeutic work together. Following this, Dr. Filippo Aschieri will discuss the presentation and highlight important lessons illustrated by this case.

Multimethod Collaborative Assessment of a Client with Severe Shame

# Which sexuality in the "a-sexuality" ?

## Clinical and projective hypotheses

MCF-HDR Barbara Smaniotto, Psychologue Clinicien Guillaume Vincent, Psychologue Clinicienne Margaux Welter, Etudiante M2 Pauline David

Session C3, Oral Presentation, Psychosomatics, Session Room: Kronborg, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

"Asexuality" is defined as the absence of sexual attraction or desire for another person.

But, does this absence of sexuality and sexual desire translate into a radical avoidance of all sexual motions, even at the intrapsychic level?

Exploring asexuality through a research methodology (interviews and projective tests - Rorschach and TAT carried out with young adults) reveals the complexity and nuances of the psychic configurations underlying this common identity qualification.

If, in the expression of their discourse, the three subjects we met experience themselves as asexual, without and/or outside sexuality and all sexual desire, our initial observations invite us to question the destinies of the sexuality as they are organized in their psychic functioning.

Analysis of the Rorschach and TAT protocols leads us to interpret these fates in terms of disconnections: between the somatic "body" and the erotic "body"; between infantile sexuality and genital sexuality; between libidinal impulses and aggressive impulses.

Thus, the asexual problematic would be marked less by deprivation, as the privative "a" prefix suggests, but by a lack of connection. Hence our choice, in the title of this communication, to inscribe this "a" with a hyphen meaning both separation and attempt at bonding.

# Acute Myocardial Infarction in Women: Indicators of the Zulliger Test (Paris School)

Ms. Aline Cristina Antonechen<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Rose-Angélique Belot<sup>2</sup>, Prof. Sonia Regina Pasion<sup>1</sup>

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Session C3, Oral Presentation, Psychosomatics, Session Room: Kronborg, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

The severity of Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI) is universally recognized, with a high risk of fatality in women. It is known that psychological variables are involved in the clinical context, motivating this study aimed at characterizing indicators of the psychological functioning of women hospitalized after an AMI. So far, 15 women have been evaluated (average age = 50 years, education level compatible with high school), recruited from a cardiac emergency department in Brazil, assessed through a battery of instruments, including the Zulliger Test (Paris School). Data were organized according to the technical manual, comparing the results to Brazilian norms. The results include a small number of responses (average of five interpretations, below the expected norm of 7 to 15 responses), with a higher incidence of Color-Form (CF, average of four responses) compared to Form-Color (FC, average of three interpretations) determinants, and a predominance of the coartative/coercive Type of Intimate Resonance (14 cases), in addition to presenting distorted human content [(H), Hd, (Hd)] in many responses (proportion equal to the complete human content H), which does not correspond to what is found in the reference group. These indicators suggest emotional instability, opposing affective/productive restrictions and blocks with signs of strong emotional demands, characterizing psychic conflict and a lesser use of rationalization as a defensive strategy and internal organization. Although preliminary, empirical evidence strengthens the hypothesis of psychological components, particularly related to emotional regulation and interpersonal contacts, in cases of cardiac conditions in women.

# Acute Coronary Syndrome in Adults: What about the affections?

Ms. Aline Cristina Antonechen<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Rose-Angélique Belot<sup>2</sup>, Prof. Sonia Regina Pasian<sup>1</sup>

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Session C3, Oral Presentation, Psychosomatics, Session Room: Kronborg, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Acute Coronary Syndromes (ACS) are serious pathologies, the development of which is associated with genetic and behavioral components, involving affective experiences and their regulation. This study aims to examine indicators of affective and cognitive functioning in patients hospitalized after ACS compared to non-patient adults. One hundred volunteers were individually assessed using the Pfister Color Pyramid Test (TPC), divided into a Clinical Group (G1, n=50 patients hospitalized after ACS; 74% men; mean age: 48.94±7.51 years; mean education: 9.70±4.46 years) and a Comparison Group (G2, n=50 adults without cardiopathy; 68% men; mean age: 44.92±9.38 years; mean education: 10.0±2.46 years). The results were analyzed descriptively and comparatively between G1-G2 (Student's t-test,  $p \leq 0.05$ ). G1 showed an elevation in brown (G1=10.44±14.65; G2=4.31±5.77) and gray (G1=4.48±5.04; G2=2.26±5.48) colors and a decrease in blue (G1=15.73±10.29; G2=19.82±9.81) as well as normal (G1=46.46±17.06; G2=53.10±14.36) and cold (G1=42.00±16.37; G2=48.09±12.92) chromatic syndromes compared to G2. Although specific, these results suggest lower affective regulation in G1, with the possibility of psychosomatic channeling of impulses. There is a tendency toward defensive withdrawal and opposition in G1, suggesting social inhibition and experiences of anger/hostility. Adults with ACS presented indicators suggesting difficulties in emotional regulation and balance compared to non-patients, indicating guidelines for psychological care related to this clinical picture, especially during hospitalization, to promote their overall health.

# Indicators of psychic life in 50 hospitalized adult patients presenting with Acute Myocardial Infarction using a projective Desiderative Questionnaire.

Ms. Aline Cristina Antonechen<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Rose-Angélique Belot<sup>2</sup>, MSc. Gisele Patrícia De Oliveira Carniel<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Sonia Regina Pasian<sup>1</sup>

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Session C3, Oral Presentation, Psychosomatics, Session Room: Kronborg, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Acute Coronary Syndromes (ACS) require immediate care and have specific psychological and emotional repercussions. Fifty hospitalized adult patients (37 men, 13 women) with ACS (G1, N=50) were compared to a control group (G2, N=50, 34 men, 16 women) of the same age with equivalent education levels, and without cardiac pathologies. A socio-demographic questionnaire and the Desiderative Questionnaire (capable of assessing the subject's level of adaptation to external reality and defensive mechanisms) were administered to both groups, aged 30-59 years, all residing in São Paulo, Brazil. Intergroup data were then analyzed descriptively and comparatively (Student's t-tests, Chi-square tests,  $p \leq 0.05$ ). The analysis shows intergroup similarities in terms of positive adaptation to reality and preserved logical functioning. However, group G1 exhibits a greater degree of rigidity in terms of defensive mechanisms, more significant expressions of negative affects, lower self-esteem, and affective dissociation mechanisms compared to group G2. Emotional instability appears more frequently in G1, as subjects provide negative responses when prompted about their ideals and an increase in non-typical responses, indicating specific projection phenomena related to the intensity of their internal experiences. All these results can be understood as signs of emotional overload and psychological peculiarities to consider in the management of patients suffering from acute cardiac pathologies.

# INTRAFAMILY SEXUAL ABUSE IN CHILDHOOD THROUGH PROJECTIVE TECHNIQUES

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Session C4, Oral Presentation, Trauma 2, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

## OBJECTIVES

This work aims to focus on the psychological evaluation of intrafamilial sexual abuse with projective techniques that allow providing evidentiary material to those who must provide protection to the victims.

## METHODOLOGY

Cases of victims of intrafamilial sexual abuse will be examined in court, where they will be evaluated with playful projective techniques (DIAGNOSTIC PLAY TECHNIQUES), Thematic Apperception TEST (CAT-A) and graphic techniques (HTP). It will be illustrated with vignettes and clinical clippings, and will focus on test indicators that refer to experiences of trauma, abuse and feelings of subjective helplessness.

## RESULTS

Through the analysis and interpretation of the material obtained, it is possible to evaluate the dynamics that the abuser establishes with the abused. Domestic sexual abuse unleashes a conflict of legalities and leaves the victim totally unprotected, with traumatic experiences that cannot be integrated or metabolized and that can be inferred from the material provided by projective techniques.

## CONCLUSIONS

Sexual abuse is a traumatic experience that interferes with the proper development of the child who suffers from it, leaving effects on the psychological system and which can be detected through projective techniques.

Keywords: Childhood sexual abuse, Diagnostic Playtime, HTP – CAT (A)

# A CHILD'S TRAUMA ANALYSED USING THE OBJECT RELATIONS TEST (ORT)

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Session C4, Oral Presentation, Trauma 2, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Trauma is an experience of such impact and intensity that a person's psyche is unable to process. Children are especially susceptible because their ability to fight or escape in the face of a threat is lower than that of an adult. As a result, they will resort to dissociation more frequently, which has a high psychological cost and implies serious mental health problems.

Diego (10 years, 4th year of Elementary School) lives with his parents and three siblings.

The father consults stating, "We had an episode last year . . . We lost a little baby (5th month of pregnancy). When he heard of her little brother's death, he stared out of the car window. [...] We lost 2 children at the same time."

Diego is not able to give an account of the traumatic situation. He says: "last year I was very anxious, I was stressed"

In order to explore how he had experienced this event, the psychologist administered the ORT. The stories were analyzed based on Siquier de Ocampo et al method. All narratives begin with idealization, a defense that can't be sustained, leading to destructiveness. Events happen in unpredictable ways and the outcome is usually harm or death. There are no possibilities to repair.

The ORT is an appropriate test to explore traumatic experiences and their consequences. On the other hand, the results presented could suggest the presence of traumatic experiences not reported in the anamnesis. Since this is a unique case, the findings are not generalizable.

A CHILD'S TRAUMA ANALYSED USING THE OBJECT RELATIONS TEST (ORT)

# Bullying in adults. Evolution of psychotherapy in a young person with the Rorschach test-retest

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Session C4, Oral Presentation, Trauma 2, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Article title

“Young people who suffered from bullying and their results in Rorschach test”

Abstract

Since Olweus published in 1973 his work about school abuse, it has been lots of articles and programs to help face it. However, it has barely been studied the affectation of being a bully victim in the adult population.

Last 2023 we published an article about four adult cases who suffer bullying during childhood; we used Rorschach test to compare in all of them how this adverse situation affected on three main aspects: self-image, the image on how other people perceive them and interpersonal relationships. In this current study we take one of the four studied cases to pass a retest in his evolution in order to measure how is the patient feeling nowadays after some years of weekly psychotherapy. The result is that the patient has improved in their adaption to the conventional ruling society, to the contact with reality, with less strict defenses which have been reduced in order to show less fear, less aggressiveness, more hope and more solidarity; however, they keep the low self-esteem and they're more isolated from their surroundings.

Consuelo Liberal and Begoña Gonzalez



# THE ROLE OF RORSCHACH EXPERIENCE TYPE IN MODERATING THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN MEASURES OF PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS IN THE RORSCHACH AND SELF-REPORT

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Session C4, Oral Presentation, Trauma 2, Session Room: Rosenberg, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Discrepancies between explicit self-report attributions and implicit measures of psychological traits and states have been extensively reported in Rorschach research. This has led researchers to suggest possible explanations for the weak correlations found between the two assessment methods and to explore factors that might moderate this relationship.

The present study examines the correlation between Rorschach variables and self-report measures associated with psychological distress by using the General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-12, Goldberg, 1978), a self-report questionnaire designed to evaluate an individual's current distress in a large French community sample.

Participants were 292 adults, recruited from several areas in France as part of a large French-language normative project. The Rorschach was administered and analyzed by the Comprehensive System (Exner, 2003).

In accordance with the existing literature, the correlations of distress measures between the Rorschach and the GHQ-12 were generally low, with only two Rorschach variables among the twelve selected significantly correlated with the GHQ-12 total score. Nevertheless, when considering the person's EB style, this picture has changed. It was found that among introversive subjects seven out of the 12 selected Rorschach variables were significantly correlated with the GHQ-12 score and their correlations were significantly stronger in comparison to non-introversive participants.

These findings highlight the potential moderating role of the Rorschach Experience Type. In view of the meaning of an introversive coping style and human movement responses, we suggest that subjects with an introversive coping style might have a better ability to report on their psychological states.

# An Investigation of the Mothers of Infants with Milk Allergy According to the Psychoanalytic Psychosomatic Theory Through Projective Tests

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Session C5, Oral Presentation, Mothers, Session Room: Børsen, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

The resemblance between Spitz's baby with eczema and P. Marty's adult with allergic object relations is evident. Eczema, triggered by food allergies and progressing to allergic rhinitis and asthma, is termed atopic march. This study aims to assess the psychological well-being of mothers with babies diagnosed with milk allergy, focusing on Pierre Marty's concept of allergic object relations, using the Rorschach Test and Thematic Apperception Test (TAT). The sample will comprise 10 women aged 25-35, selected through snowball sampling. Inclusion criteria encompass having a baby diagnosed with milk allergy aged 0-18 months, a first pregnancy with no history of miscarriage or abortion, natural conception (excluding methods like in vitro fertilization), and no prenatal diagnosis of psychiatric disorders. Initially, psychoanalytic semi-structured interviews are conducted, followed by the administration of the Rorschach Test and TAT. Projective test results will be coded, analyzed, and interpreted based on the French School. The study is in the data collection phase, and anticipated findings according to the projective tests suggest that mothers of allergic babies may exhibit sensitivity to senses, a need for support, a tendency to avoid conflict, narcissistic fragility in object relations, and manifestations of object relations along the pregenital problematic axis.

# HOW PROJECTIVE METHODS HELP US UNDERSTAND UNIQUE PSYCHOLOGICAL FUNCTIONING DURING PREGNANCY: AN EXPLORATION OF 'BIZARRE' EXPERIENCES AND PSYCHIC TRANSPARENCY

Dr. Özgün TAKTAKOĞLU YERLİOĞLU<sup>1</sup>, Associate Professor İrem Erdem Atak<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Istanbul University, İstanbul, Turkey

Session C5, Oral Presentation, Mothers, Session Room: Børsen, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

## HOW PROJECTIVE METHODS HELP US UNDERSTAND UNIQUE PSYCHOLOGICAL FUNCTIONING DURING PREGNANCY: AN EXPLORATION OF 'BIZARRE' EXPERIENCES AND PSYCHIC TRANSPARENCY

Previous research shows that pregnancy can cause affective, cognitive, and behavioral changes in a woman's psychological functioning. It is a "bizarre experience," as pregnant women call it. The aim of this study is to investigate the underlying psychodynamics of this "bizarre experience" and to compare the psychological functioning of pregnant women with that of non-pregnant women using the Rorschach test and clinical interviews.

The main hypothesis of the study is that pregnancy alters psychological functioning in a unique way, referred to as "psychic transparency" (Bydlowski, 1991). It is a mental state characterized by lowering of the usual defenses against the repressed unconscious and regression to a more primitive psychic functioning.

We administered the Rorschach test and clinical interviews to 17 first-time mothers from Turkey during the first and third trimesters of pregnancy after obtaining their informed consent. The projective tests were analyzed using the French School psychoanalytic approach. The results were then compared with a sample of 17 non-pregnant women who had similar socio-demographic characteristics. The test results also underwent content analysis.

The findings suggest that pregnant women's psychological functioning differs from that of non-pregnant women in terms of thought processes, reality testing, quality of representations, anxiety, defensive attitudes, and balance between narcissistic and objectal investments. We will discuss these differences separately for the first and third trimesters and evaluate them based on the concept of psychic transparency.

# A Trans Man Giving Birth to a Child – Motherhood or Fatherhood? A Case Study with Projective Tests

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Session C5, Oral Presentation, Mothers, Session Room: Børsen, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Studies on transgender people have been increasing in the psychoanalytic field in recent years. Considering that psychoanalytic theory was the first theory to address the impact of gender differences on the psyche (Person&Ovesey, 1983), these studies can also be considering as a form of retrieval. While children and adolescents constitute the majority of the applicants to clinics with gender dysphoria, in many countries, the person is expected to be 18 years of age before the process of transition to the other gender begins. We encountered individuals who were in adulthood and has almost completed many developmental processes of their lives, has been married before and had children. Although being physically female makes them conceptually “mothers”, they had difficulties in integrating this concept into their psyche. The concept of motherhood is a developmental process as a matter of identification with mother in the psychoanalytic process (Blum,1976). It is surprising that a “woman” who is thought to be settled in femininity and motherhood suddenly renounces this with a sudden manœuvre, without any mourning and without turning the aggression back to herself. In this study, the processes of a case will be discussed. In this study, the responses of a trans man in his 30s, who is in the process of transitioning to male gender after giving birth to a child as a physical woman, to projective test will be examined from various dimensions such as the quality of maternal and paternal images, ego - functioning and the capacity to cope with depressive affect.

# BETWEEN THE ULTRASOUND IMAGE AND THE INKBLOT.

## TWO EXPERIENCES WITH PERINATAL LOSS

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Session C5, Oral Presentation, Mothers, Session Room: Børsen, July 10, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

**Introduction** - Losses in the perinatal period are events with strong traumatic effects in the life cycle of the person, the couple and the family. In the literature, various experiences are summarised under the term 'perinatal grief': induced abortions, miscarriages, late-term abortions, stillbirths and neonatal deaths. People may develop complicated grief or psychopathology after these events, such as PTSD, anxiety or depression. Consequently, psychological-clinical interventions can be activated with the aim of intercepting traumatic incidence and working on grief. There is virtually no literature on the integration of projective methods in these specific clinical scenarios.

**Methodology** - In this study, two Common Rorschach tests are compared: one administered to a couple who faced a stillbirth, the other with a couple who faced a late-term abortion due to a foetal anomaly, in the context of two psychoanalytic couple counselling sessions in a private setting.

Protocols were administered scored and interpreted according to the method of the French school. The aim is to deepen the useful functions of the test in observing couple dynamics, prevailing defence mechanisms and existing relationship resources, and to identify common themes and differences between the two loss experiences.

**Conclusions** - The use of the Rorschach test with both couples was important as it allowed the members to engage in a common task after the loss. The qualitative comparison between the two protocols revealed common experiences and differences, particularly in relation to the theme of empowerment.

# Brief Introduction on "Studies on Rorschach Tests of Nuremberg Nazi Leaders: State of the Art"

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Session D1, Symposium: STUDIES ON RORSCHACH TESTS OF NUREMBERG NAZI LEADERS: STATE OF THE ART, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

The Rorschach administered to 19 Nazi Leaders during the first Nuremberg trial (1945-1946), are perhaps the most studied in the history of the test: over 22 scientific papers have been dedicated to this topic up to-day. The symposium aims to recount this thriller, to give new life to this group of old Rorschach tests, badly administered, disputed, dispersed, forgotten, recovered at the last minute before being destroyed, and source of endless discussions. Six phases are identifiable: 1) 30 years of silence (1946-1975), when Kelley and Gilbert, collecting the records, inhibited each other's publications; 2) the book 'Nuremberg Mind' (Miale and Selzer, 1975), hypothesizing the existence of a 'Nazi Personality' on the basis of common features of the 16 Rorschach collected by Gilbert; 3) 20 years (1975-1995), when many papers examined the same 16 tests, and evidenced methodological pitfalls and flaws; 4) the book of Zillmer et al. (1995) ('The Quest for the Nazi Personality'), who first examined six other records administered by Kelley, fortuitously recovered by Reneau Kennedy; they suggested that the sample of 19 Nuremberg Rorschach is too small and too heterogeneous to allow a search for a common 'Nazi personality', given and not granted that such a personality really exists; only 'single case' studies are possible; 5) the book 'Rorschach a Norimberga' (Nielsen and Zizolfi, 2005), which inaugurates the application of psychoanalytic suggestions in single case studies; 6) current single case studies integrating a sequential psychoanalytic analysis of Rorschach responses with psychometrically valid Rorschach methods (SRR, CS-R, R-PAS).

STUDIES ON RORSCHACH TESTS OF NUREMBERG NAZI LEADERS: STATE OF THE ART

# METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES OF RORSCHACH RESEARCH ON. NUREMBERG NAZI LEADERS

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Session D1, Symposium: STUDIES ON RORSCHACH TESTS OF NUREMBERG NAZI LEADERS: STATE OF THE ART, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

All the studies on the 22 Rorschach administered by Kelley (6) and Gilbert (16) to 19 out of 22 Nazi Leaders undergoing the first Nuremberg trial, suffer from different sources of limitations:

A. Statistical Limitations: the group is too small and heterogeneous, to allow a search for a 'Nazi Personality', given and not granted that such a personality really exists; no adequate control group is available;

B. Documental Limitations: the original manuscripts of the tests have never been found; the Authors of typewriter and (few) manuscript transcriptions, are unknown;

C. Psychodiagnostic Limitations: testing don't satisfy criteria of standardized administration and scoring methods; the formula introducing the test is unknown; Kelley himself did not speak German, and often used a translator (John Dolibois); Kelley did not register latency time; the transcription is always summarized, and never verbatim; the inquiry is often lacking or very brief, so that localization and scoring of several response is questionable and/or putative;

D. Psychoanalytic Limitations: test setting is quite different from psychoanalytic's one; psychoanalytic interpretations cannot be rooted in transfert-controtransfert dynamics; Some indications are recommended for future research:

1. A re-scoring and evaluation of single Rorschach record according SRR, CS-R, R-PAS;
2. A sequential analysis of responses, verbalizations, and behaviors, card by card and response by response, focusing both on formal aspects of the perceptual experience and on symbolic and dynamic interpretation of the contents, in the light of the knowledge of the distinctive stimulus value of each card, of biographical informations and of psychoanalytical indications.

STUDIES ON RORSCHACH TESTS OF NUREMBERG NAZI LEADERS: STATE OF THE ART

# THE RORSCHACH RECORD OF KARL DOENITZ

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Session D1, Symposium: STUDIES ON RORSCHACH TESTS OF NUREMBERG NAZI LEADERS: STATE OF THE ART, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Karl Doenitz, briefly succeeding Hitler as head-of-state in 1945, Supreme Commander of the German Navy during WWII, was the architect of the U-boat war efforts, including a revolutionary torpedo design, the wolfpack tactics, and the controversial 'Laconia order', namely that no attempt shall be made by U-boats to rescue members of ships sunk. What kind of person was Doenitz? Did he have a conscience that registered the enormous tolls of war, or was he a career officer engaged in a form of military chess using U-boats as his pawns and the Atlantic as the chessboard? How should history judge him? The Rorschach record administered to him by Kelley during the first Nuremberg trial is not only of historical significance, but also sheds light on Doenitz's leadership style and decision-making processes, as well as insights into the complex human manifestation of engaging in all-out warfare. The historical record and personal biography of Doenitz, as well as his Rorschach test, reveal an organizationally complex, emotionally cold and calculating man, extremely bright in developing submarine war tactics. Within the context of WWI, Third Reich and WWII, Doenitz became an exceedingly dangerous man, not only to his enemies, the Allied forces, but also to the sailors of his own homeland. He succeeded Hitler as his designee, which speaks to his ability to ascend in high-stakes political circles like a chameleon, but his military record is one of the worst historically as he terrorized all shipping in the battle of the Atlantic and beyond.

STUDIES ON RORSCHACH TESTS OF NUREMBERG NAZI LEADERS: STATE OF THE ART



# INEFFECTIVENESS OF EMOTIONAL REGULATION MECHANISMS IN THE RORSCHACH PROTOCOL OF THE NAZI HIERARCH DOENITZ

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Session D1, Symposium: STUDIES ON RORSCHACH TESTS OF NUREMBERG NAZI LEADERS: STATE OF THE ART, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

The paper proposes an interpretation of the protocol of Doenitz through the Revised Comprehensive System Structural Summary, integrated by the analysis of the RFS-S about dissociation, the configurational analysis of Peebles-Kleiger, the extended coding of aggressive responses (Gacono, Meloy), the MOA scale (Urist, Holaday and Sparks) for interpersonal relations, the 'skin' responses (Anzieu, Cleveland) and the stimulus analysis according to Rausch de Traubenberg. The different analyses converge in highlighting the ineffectiveness of emotional regulation mechanisms at different levels when faced with different levels of stimulus structure in the Colored Cards.

Doenitz ineffectively tries to cope with highly primitive aggressive and oral emotions, intellectualizing and distancing mechanisms and employing various 'skin' or 'barrier' type responses.

He, when confronted with the emotionally soliciting but relatively structured stimulus, expresses explicit aggressive or implicit sexual relations, with medium effectiveness both in the reality test and in the structure of human responses, whereas, where the stimulus is emotionally more intense and much less structured, as in pastel cards, he falls apart, fails to deal with fragmentation anxiety, evokes more direct and primitive oral aggression and shows severe adaptive failure with a sharp drop in formal adequacy and linearity of reasoning and with a content/container inversion. The subject reverts to a crude aggressiveness and goes so far as to dehumanize the other one, reduced to devastated anatomical pieces. Actually, in the last Cards, we observe a significant regression and fragmentation of the self, in dissociative and perverse terms rather than psychotic.

STUDIES ON RORSCHACH TESTS OF NUREMBERG NAZI LEADERS: STATE OF THE ART

# A PSYCHOANALYTIC READING OF THE RORSCHACH TEST OF KARL DOENITZ

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Session D1, Symposium: STUDIES ON RORSCHACH TESTS OF NUREMBERG NAZI LEADERS: STATE OF THE ART, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Karl Doenitz (16.09.1881-24.12.1980), commanding UB-68 in 1918, commander of the Kriegsmarine's U-Boat arm in 1939, Grand Admiral Commander in Chief of the Navy in 1943, Reichpresident during few days (30.04.1945-23.05.1945) after the suicide of Adolf Hitler and in accordance with Fuhrer's testament, was one of the prominent Nazi leaders imprisoned in Nuremberg in 1945-1946, undergoing the first (20.11.1945-01.10.1946) of 13 Nuremberg trials, who was administered the Rorschach by Douglas McGlashan Kelley. For the present study, his protocol was re-scored according to SRR (Scuola Romana Rorschach), CS-R (Comprehensive System, Revised), and R-PAS (Rorschach Performance Assessment System). In addition, a sequential analysis was performed of responses verbalizations and behaviors, card by card and response by response, combining attention to formal aspects of the perceptual experience with symbolic and dynamic interpretation of the apparent and hidden content of the responses, in the light of the knowledge of the distinctive stimulus value of each card, of biographical informations and of psychoanalytical indications. The sequential analysis of Doenitz's Rorschach responses, inspired by the suggestions on perversions of Chasseguet-Smirgel (1983, 1990, 1999), a leading figure of French psychoanalysis, allows to identify recurring contents, evocative of an almighty mother, of the exclusion of the father, and of a radical dehumanization. These aspects are typical of a perverse personality, and finally allow and legitimize the unleashing of an extreme aggressivity: by these ways, the perverse subject can destroyed reality, thereby creating a new one, and becoming a new God without a Father, the creator of a dehumanized world.

STUDIES OF RORSCHACH TESTS OF NUREMBERG NAZI LEADERS: STATE OF THE ART

# Evaluation of change processes during psychoanalytic psychotherapy of adolescents and young adults: main results of an institutional research

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Session D2, Symposium: Differentiation and change processes in adolescence, Session Room:  
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This paper is part of a research project conducted at a Centre de Psychanalyse in partnership with the University of Paris. The aim of this research is to identify the processes of change that occur during psychoanalytic psychotherapy offered to adolescents and young adults aged between 15 and 25. The evaluation was carried out using the Rorschach and TAT projective methods, through a longitudinal device with an initial evaluation of patients at the time of requesting psychotherapy and then a second after 18-24 months of psychotherapy, but also based on interviews conducted with their psychotherapists. Here, the authors will present the main findings of this research, supported by clinical illustrations. The results highlight major processes of change for a majority of patients, with a complementary tuning of the data observed in the patient's assessment by the psychologist and by the psychoanalyst. In a few cases, the results are more tenuous, and reflect heterogeneous change processes, reflecting the complexity and heterogeneity of the psychic organization of the patients concerned. Finally, in one case, the results are contrasted between these data sources, enabling us to make a posteriori hypotheses about the underlying psychopathological processes.

Key words :

clinical assessment; change process; adolescence; projective methods

Differentiation and change processes in adolescence

# Becoming oneself: the process of differentiation in the transition to adulthood

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Session D2, Symposium: Differentiation and change processes in adolescence, Session Room:  
Christiansborg, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

This communication aims to explore the complexity of the transition from adolescence to adulthood, with a particular emphasis on the differentiation process. The author emphasizes that the mere resolution of conflicts during adolescence is not sufficient to define the normal adult. The results of a clinical study among young adults reveal significant differences in their ability to envision an adult future, linked to their access to spaces for psychological development. The importance of the differentiation process is highlighted, without considering it as an absolute condition for reaching adulthood. The process of mourning and the desensualization of the connection to parental figures are also explored. Two cases of young adults with different levels of appropriation of their adult project will be discussed to highlight psychic processes primarily involved in accessing a differentiated and meaningful adult project. In conclusion, the importance of internal differentiation work, regardless of external factors, will be emphasized, and a reflection on the dynamic nature of the late adolescence process will be proposed.

Keywords: becoming an adult, Rorschach, differentiation, the double limit, regression

Differentiation and change processes in adolescence

# Differentiation and change processes in adolescence

Dr Simruy Ikiz, Sarah Vibert, Dr Maïa Guinard

Session D2, Symposium: Differentiation and change processes in adolescence, Session Room:  
Christiansborg, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

The processes of change inherent in adolescence, involving both physical and psychological reconfigurations, constitute a central focus of inquiry. The work of separation and the conquest of adult identity, two tasks that the adolescent must accomplish, constitute a test of the psychic functioning disrupting pre-existing equilibrium. These tasks presuppose a differentiation process that should enable the adolescent to break free from alienating bonds and gain access to identificatory markers committing them to future trajectories. Such changes are imperative for supporting life aspirations and navigating potential setbacks and disillusionments. The reactivation of ancient vulnerabilities, at times, may lead to symptomatic disorganizations of varying severity and duration, unveiling, under the seal of resistance and repetition, the impasses inherent in the adolescent process. However these vulnerabilities are also likely to be taken up again, sometimes with through clinical intervention, within a process of reorganization leading to the reinforcement of the Ego, the softening of defenses, the access to symbolic work and the subjectivation process. Within this context, projective tests such as the Rorschach and TAT emerge as valuable tools for assessing the resources and vulnerabilities of psychic functioning during this period of life, but also for grasping the potential for change. This symposium aims to explore these processes of change, using projective methodology and research in a variety of clinical fields : the decisive role of differentiation in becoming an adult, the evolution of psychic functioning during psychoanalytic psychotherapy; the impact of singing on the subjectivation process; the challenges of separation and differentiation in homozygotic twins;

# Change processes assessment of middle school students taking part in an innovative pedagogical project involving mind-body practices and choir singing

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Session D2, Symposium: Differentiation and change processes in adolescence, Session Room:  
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As part of its educational mission, the Philharmonie de Paris has implemented an innovative pedagogical project (Exister avec la Voix Ensemble) based on a mind-body and collective practice of choral singing in aim to support the psychological development, group cohesion and transversal learning skills of middle-school students. A number of scientific studies have already demonstrated the benefits of choral singing in psychiatric and ordinary settings, particularly in schools. Our study, using a quantitative and qualitative methodology over a longitudinal period of data collection, aims to gain a better understanding of the effects of choral singing practices on oral skills and self-esteem (H1), the psychophysical integration of pubertal transformations (H2) and the quality of change processes inherent to adolescent subjectivation (H3). This presentation focuses mainly on Hypothesis 3, which is operationalized with the French school method by administering the Rorschach and the TAT at a one-year test-retest interval to 12 middle school students whose written consent had been obtained. We will present our evaluation grid for change processes, focusing on liking capacities, sensory integration and investment in psychic envelopes. In addition to the usual focus on the perceptual-projective dimension, special and original attention will be paid to the study of sound dimensions and vocal investments observable in the protocols of these adolescents. Finally, we will discuss the value of using projective methods in the context of pedagogical innovation in ordinary environments.

Differentiation and change processes in adolescence

# Homozygous twinhood in late adolescence: the work of differentiation and the “unicity complex”

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This inter-university research explores the psychic functioning of two pairs of young adult homozygotic twin sisters without psychopathological conditions. We hypothesize that in situations of homozygotic twinning, the elaboration of loss issues specific to late adolescence is more problematic than for adolescents from ordinary siblings. We therefore expect to find acute conflictuality linked to inter-sibling separation issues, involving painful mourning of the object - fraternal rather than parental - thus specific to the twin bond.

We present here the most salient aspects of the analysis of the clinical research material collected using a dual methodology: a research interview and the use of two projective tests, the Rorschach and the TAT.

Our exploration focuses on the conflict between the regressive desire for undifferentiation and subjectivating differentiation, the issues of distancing between the twins during adolescence, and how university studies contribute to the process of separation.

Our hypothesis finds support in the analysis of clinical interviews and projective tests, indicating the recurrence of differentiation conflicts driven by the struggle against the temptation to merge. The archaic issues that emerge in these protocols represent a set of elements integrating what we propose to call the "unicity complex", which seems to us to be specific to homozygous twinship: each must distinguish herself from the other to assert her sense of existence, at the risk of otherwise remaining fixed to a mutual ideality.

Key words: Gemellity, Late adolescence, Differentiation, unicity complex

Differentiation and change processes in adolescence

# PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESMENT IN THE DIGITAL AGE

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Session D3, Symposium: THE SCENO-TEST: INCLUDING CULTURAL EXPERIENCES IN THE PLAY PROCESSES, Session Room: Kronborg, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Introduction:** Digital psychological assessment, deserves to be studied in order to highlight more precisely its limitations, but also its potential richness according to the specific clinical situations in which it is deployed.

**Objectives:** We propose a clinical presentation of a single case to highlight the specific features of virtual reality drawing.

**Methodology:** Description of the person being assessed and the assessment context: The clinical case presented is an adolescent, hospitalized in a closed psychiatric unit for severe school phobia.

**Assessment instruments used:** We proposed to the adolescent a full psychological assessment, comprising a Rorschach test, a TAT, a Sceno-test, a free drawing and, in addition, the creation of a free drawing in virtual reality.

**Results:** Thanks to this case, we have demonstrated the potential for integrating a virtual reality drawing evaluation into a complete projective evaluation. Immersed in virtual reality, the subject is less conformist, less confined by societal norms and less inhibited by normative superego pressures.

**Wider importance of case studies:** This gives clinicians access to an aspect that may not be as apparent in other assessments. We have explored the first avenues of complementarity with traditional assessments and hope to open up new fields of research to improve patient care.

**Conclusion:** The specific features of a virtual reality drawing test offer serious avenues for therapeutic mediation.

THE SCENO-TEST: INCLUDING CULTURAL EXPERIENCES IN THE PLAY PROCESSES



# THE RELEVANCE OF THE SCENO-TEST IN DEPLOYING THE TRANSITIONAL AREA FOR ELDERLY PERSONS EXPERIENCING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

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Session D3, Symposium: THE SCENO-TEST: INCLUDING CULTURAL EXPERIENCES IN THE PLAY PROCESSES, Session Room: Kronborg, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Introduction:** The play processes, as the Sceno-test engages the body and sensorial experiences, allow for a different expression of the internal world through non-verbal symbolization. The various support modalities he suggests (reactivation of sensoriality and initial perceptual memory traces, support for differentiation and symbolization processes, and reinforcement of boundaries), combined with transference and countertransference movements in an in-between area, overall enable identification of both the weaknesses and the psychic resources of elderly persons suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

**Methodology:** The proposition of the Sceno-Test to elderly individuals, especially those suffering from Alzheimer's disease, proves to be exploratory. During a longitudinal study, proposed to a group of 12 elderly subjects suffering from Alzheimer's disease for 6 of them, an analysis grid for interpreting the play processes was specifically developed in reference to the psychoanalytic theory of the functioning of the psychic apparatus, allowing for correlations with the analysis method of the French School of Rorschach and TAT tests.

**Results:** In a manner different but complementary to the more traditional projective methods of the Rorschach and TAT, the Sceno-Test enables the identification of fragile yet invaluable symbolization clues in a clinic whose access to inner experiences may be compromised by the dissociative effects of the disease.

**Conclusion :** Through the quality of its materials and instructions, it establishes conditions conducive to the unfolding of a transitionality that supports the three pillars of symbolization processes: affect, sensoriality, and object.

THE SCENO-TEST: INCLUDING CULTURAL EXPERIENCES IN THE PLAY PROCESSES

# THE SCENO-TEST: THE INCLUSION OF POTENTIAL SPACE IN THE AUTISTIC PLAYING

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Session D3, Symposium: THE SCENO-TEST: INCLUDING CULTURAL EXPERIENCES IN THE PLAY PROCESSES, Session Room: Kronborg, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Introduction:** The Scenotest reveals the qualities of the integration of the feeling of continuity and the intensity of experiences of loss or even amputation of bodily areas in autistic functioning. The inscription of the intermediate space in the child presupposes the construction of a potential space, a possible gap between the child and the object which allows the progressive introjection of his own objects of creation. The analysis of the Scénotest of autistic children and adolescents based on several studies shows how much narcissistic support is sought by the children in order to subsequently invest in the game the potential space (Winnicott) as a place of expression of creativity and cultural expression.

**Methodology:** From a population of around twenty children and around ten autistic adolescents, the Scénotests are analyzed using the gaming process analysis grid of Suarez Labat (2015), this with a view to revising the grid to refine and specify different protection and defense mechanisms.

**Results:** Among those benefiting from a retest, the evolution of associativity and symbolization capacities shows an enrichment of cultural expression resulting from the investment of this internal play area.

**Conclusion:** From protection mechanisms to defense mechanisms, how are divisions symbolized by autistic children and adolescents in the Scénotest? How do they allow a preservation but also a limitation of thought processes? In the Scénotest, the analysis of modes of expression through play in autistic children and adolescents attests to different types of investments of narcissistic supports to access relationships with the object.

THE SCENO-TEST: INCLUDING CULTURAL EXPERIENCES IN THE PLAY PROCESSES

# DIAGNOSTIC INVESTIGATION: EXPRESSING CREATIVENESS IN THE IMAGINARY VILLAGE TEST AND THE SCENOTEST

Mcf Michael Chocron<sup>1</sup>, PhD Léonor Seijas<sup>2</sup>, Psychologue clinicienne Patricia Luthin<sup>2</sup>

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Session D3, Symposium: THE SCENO-TEST: INCLUDING CULTURAL EXPERIENCES IN THE PLAY PROCESSES, Session Room: Kronborg, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Introduction:** This keynote shows that if the practice of the psychological assessment is always changing, it is anchored with in the usage of more classical testing equipment.

The Imaginary Village Test has been historically updated many time (Arthus, 1939, Mabile, 1951, Monod, 1969, Mucchielli, 1990), hence it is a test that is still relevant. It is asked to the subject to build his imaginary village. In comparison, Scenotest offers a freer kind of play since no specific construction is required.

**Methodology:** Based on the psychological assessment of a teenager, we'll introduce the articulation of theoretical and clinical point of view of the supplemental use of both the Imaginary Village Test and the Scenotest. Both helps to express affect and fantasy using the sensory-motor apparatus et allows to comprehend the unconscious body image.

Furthermore, both using Scenotest and Imaginary Village Test allows to explore transitional through both the Play (unruled type of playing) and the Game (Playing with rules) in reference to Winnicott's work (1971).

**Results:** The complementary nature of these two tests enabled a more in-depth diagnostic investigation. Apprehension of the Scenotest and the Play proved more complex than that of the Village, where the Game solicited by the instructions made creative expression possible.

**Conclusion:** Both those tests, like the Rorschach test and the TAT, are nodal element of our practice of the psychological assessment. Those tests allow to understand what is at stake when the subject plays, using the transitional area of his mind.

THE SCENO-TEST: INCLUDING CULTURAL EXPERIENCES IN THE PLAY PROCESSES

# THE SCENO-TEST: INCLUDING CULTURAL EXPERIENCES IN THE PLAY PROCESSES

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Session D3, Symposium: THE SCENO-TEST: INCLUDING CULTURAL EXPERIENCES IN THE PLAY PROCESSES, Session Room: Kronborg, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Introduction:** The Scéno-Test is a projective test which leads the person to put to work the traces of the experience of omnipotence combined with that of the links maintained with the parents' bodies. The back and forth between the movements of projection and introjection which establish the inscription of the potential space where play can take place. Cultural experience, considered by Winnicott as the third playing area, is the source of transitional phenomena and creativity.

**Methodology:** The symposium aims to present different Scéno-Test clinics -either by the type of population or by the particularity of the administration-. A comparison with the analysis of game processes at Imaginary Village is presented. All of the communications aim to question how gaming processes allow the exploration of traces of the construction of self-representations and relationships with others and, moreover, how cultural experience is translated into these narcissistic and object constructions.

**Results:** Potential space is used according to different vectors at different ages of life, nevertheless all the research presented shows a psychic, motor and bodily inscription which establishes the location of cultural experience.

**Conclusion:** Questioning the nature of the play processes at work in this research perspective opens up new reflections concerning the analysis of the traces of its inscriptions in the construction of limits and the individual and collective superego. The study of their destinies in children but also in adolescents and older adults will be a source of exchanges and discussions during this symposium.

THE SCENO-TEST: INCLUDING CULTURAL EXPERIENCES IN THE PLAY PROCESSES

# Malingering and the Rorschach: Preliminary data on Rorschach-protocols of psychopaths attempting to malingering psychosis in a forensic setting

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Session D4, Oral Presentation, Forensic/malingering, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM  
- 3:00 PM

The focus for this preliminary study is the presence of malingering of psychosis among psychopathic offenders undergoing mental examination for the ability to stand trial. An examination of a group of offenders is made, characterized by a high degree of psychopathy (PCL-R scores of 27 or higher), who simultaneously stand out on a minimum of two relevant SVT-or EVT measures of malingering psychiatric problems (such as SIMS and MMPI-2), whilst orally presenting clinical symptoms of psychosis viewed with scepticism or uncertainty by the clinical staff. A comparison is made between the protocols of the malingerers, with the expected data for offenders with psychopathy on the Rorschach, as well as data for patients with psychosis. The hypothesis was that offenders that presented themselves as psychotic in interviews, questionnaires and in part behaviorally, would not necessarily know how to present themselves as psychotic on the Rorschach, as it offers no clues as to how psychosis may look like. As a result, an index for malingering of psychosis on the Rorschach may be long in the making, and earlier and future attempts of creating indexes based on dramatization or similar distortions may not be applicable, due to the offenders' inherent uncertainty on what to do, and the resulting diversity in the reactions of would-be malingerers, when confronted with a psychological test with low face-validity. This presentation will feature preliminary results and a discussion for the implications for mental examinations

## Session E4, Oral Presentation, Mentalizing

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Session D4, Oral Presentation, Forensic/malingering, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM  
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Feigning psychopathology to obtain or prolong admission is a common occurrence in acute mental health units. This has relevant impact on costs but it also present risks for both patients and staff. However, dismissing potentially manipulative symptomatology as merely 'fake' can expose clinicians and patients to the risk of missing important details. In some cases, malingering and psychopathology overlap adding a further layer of complexity in both diagnosis and management.

We will present a case of a 32 year old man admitted and discharged three times from an acute mental health unit in a short period of time: initially diagnosed as 'antisocial and malingering', the patient presented with an unusual psychopathology. We will discuss the use of psychometric testing (PAI and Rorschach Test) as invaluable tools in order to clarify diagnosis and inform management plan.

# THE USE OF RORSCHACH TEST IN ASSESSING THE CAPACITY TO TESTIFY IN A CASE OF ALLEGED SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Dr. Daniela Apollonia Milonia<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Vito Rocco Genzano<sup>1</sup>

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Session D4, Oral Presentation, Forensic/malingering, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM  
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The work presents a Rorschach Test, administered with Scuola Romana Rorschach Method, in juridical context in a blind way, without the possibility of knowing the context of evaluation and conducting in-depth anamnestic or clinical interviews, inhibited by the judicial authority as per procedural code, to a teenage girl for a personality assessment.

The case and the Rorschach diagnosis delivered will be re-read in the light of the evidence of the interviews and other psychodiagnostic tests administered to the girl, received by the administrator only after the filing of the documents by the consultant requesting the Rorschach administration. The purpose of the presentation is to highlight how the Test by itself was able to provide evidences which was then well combined with the reading of the elements that emerged from the testimonies, from interviews and other psychodiagnostic tests in assessing the ability to testify of an alleged victim of sexual violence.

# Examination Of Olympic Games Participated Or Prepared Rowing Athletes' Psychosomatic Coping: Turkey Sample

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Session D5, Oral Presentation, Special Topics 2, Session Room: Børsen, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

This study delves into the intersection of sports psychology and psychoanalysis, intertwining the mythical origins of the Olympic Games with foundational psychoanalytic principles. Drawing inspiration from Heracles' triumph over maternal challenges and reunion with his father, as well as the complex narrative of Oedipus, the study explores the shared triad of mother, father, and child inherent in both disciplines.

Through the integration of the Athlete Perception Test with the Rorschach and Thematic Apperception Tests, the research reveals low mentalization capacities and coping mechanisms among rowing athletes. Guided by insights from Gerard Szwec's "Les Galériens volontaires," the study emphasizes how athletes navigate unresolved Oedipal conflicts through repetitive actions.

In summary, the study demonstrates that, despite thematic parallels, sports psychology and psychoanalysis have traditionally existed in distinct realms. The primary objective is to pioneer a connection between these disciplines, emphasizing the role of psychosomatics and projective methods. The findings underscore that in sporting scenarios, participants exhibit the ability to mentalize and nurture inclusive object designs, indicating the regulatory impact of sports on the psyche.



# Exploring R-PAS Applicability in the Elderly: A Normative and Administrative Analysis

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Session D5, Oral Presentation, Special Topics 2, Session Room: Børsen, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

This research focuses on examining normative data for the Rorschach Performance Assessment System (R-PAS) in the elderly, addressing the scarcity of literature on its interpretability and administration in individuals aged 60 and above. With an estimated sample size of 160 cases, our preliminary subset includes 60 elderly participants, categorized into two age groups: 60 to 70 years old and over 70 years old, ensuring sociodemographic diversity.

Our study employs a dual approach to administration standards, utilizing both in-person sessions with tangible cards and remote sessions with digital images. Statistical analyses will compare normative values for R-PAS pages 1 and 2 variables between older and younger adults, drawing from an existing dataset. Additionally, we will assess differences in values obtained from in-person/tangible card administration compared to remote/digital card administration.

Hypotheses anticipate minimal or no disparities in normative values between older and younger adults, as well as negligible differences between in-person/tangible and remote/digital administration modalities. The discussion will unravel normative and administrative implications of R-PAS in the elderly, emphasizing the importance of focused research on its application and interpretability in this population.

In conclusion, this research contributes to the understanding of R-PAS in elderly populations, shedding light on potential differences in administration methods and reinforcing the need for nuanced interpretations within this demographic.

# Psychopathology in the Rorschach: Hamlet and the Tormented Mind

Dr Ana Cristina Resende, Dr Latife Yazigi, Dr Anna Elisa Villermor-Amaral

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Session D5, Oral Presentation, Special Topics 2, Session Room: Børsen, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

This presentation combines literature and psychology to analyse a hypothetical Rorschach test protocol of the thought-provoking character Hamlet, a perplexed and vengeful prince of Denmark in William Shakespeare's tragic plot. Investigating the psychology of literary characters in relation to themes such as indecision, revenge and madness enriches the field of psychology and literature. In academia, discussing the psychology of characters helps students develop empathy and critical analysis skills, while in therapy, literary characters can help patients understand and express their own experiences and emotions. Hamlet serves as an example of how the Rorschach test can express and illustrate human complexity. Procedures: The research involved reading and discussing the play Hamlet, focusing on the character's personality traits. Key lines from Hamlet were identified that reveal his psychological complexity. The answers to the Rorschach test were constructed based on the character's psychology as portrayed in the play. Data analysis: the analysis was based on the R-PAS proposal for coding the responses and interpreting the data, integrating idiographic analyses. Verbalisations indicating Hamlet's perception of the world, himself and others were taken into account, based on psychoanalytic theory. Results: The results highlighted the deep layers of Hamlet's psychology and how his psychological complexity could be revealed through the Rorschach test, illustrating the sensitivity of this instrument in unravelling the complexity of the mind.

# Exploring an uncharted territory: Rorschach normative data for Ultra-Orthodox Jewish women with a special focus on internalized Object Relations

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Session D5, Oral Presentation, Special Topics 2, Session Room: Børsen, July 10, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

The Ultra-Orthodox Jewish community in Israel, constituting approximately 13% of the population (Cahaner & Malach, 2021), is a highly segregated society living in enclosed neighborhoods with very limited exposure to the internet and mainstream media. This distinctive community is unique not only in its strict adherence to religious practices, traditions and rituals but also in its strong collectivist orientation dominated by strict social values, ties, and group cohesion.

Despite its significance and uniqueness, the Ultra-Orthodox community remains an uncharted territory in various research domains, including Rorschach based studies. Indeed, to the best of our knowledge, there are no studies reporting Rorschach normative reference data for this population. The following study wishes to bridge this gap by presenting Rorschach Comprehensive System (CS; Exner, 1974, 2003) data for a sample of 60 adult nonpatient Ultra-Orthodox Jewish Israeli women. Specifically, the study focuses on Rorschach measures of internalized Object Relations, in light of the inherent tension between communal values and self development that characterizes this population. Our findings underscore the importance of establishing normative data for this unique community and advocate for a broader consideration of cultural factors in the interpretation of psychological assessment data.

# Psychological trauma and dissociation: A Rorschach case study

Professor (ret.) F. Barton Evans<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Shana Grover<sup>2</sup>

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Session E1, Symposium: The Rorschach in Clinical & Forensic Assessment: Case Studies, Session Room:

Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

This presentation examines the link between trauma and affect, with a special focus on how the Rorschach test can be used to assess symptoms of dissociation. The presentation will be based on a case study of an inpatient woman with total dissociative amnesia and no past psychiatric history before admission to a psychiatric hospital in New York City. The aim of this presentation is to provide a deeper understanding of the relationship between trauma and affect and how it can be diagnosed and treated using the Rorschach test.

The Rorschach in Clinical & Forensic Assessment: Case Studies

# Psychological trauma and psychosis: A Rorschach case study

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Session E1, Symposium: The Rorschach in Clinical & Forensic Assessment: Case Studies, Session Room:  
Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

In this paper, the intricate link between trauma and psychosis is analyzed. It explains how the Rorschach test can be efficiently used to evaluate psychosis in cases where there is a background of trauma and related symptoms. The presentation will be guided by an outpatient case with a history of significant trauma and disordered thinking.

The Rorschach in Clinical & Forensic Assessment: Case Studies

# Child Molesters and Trauma in Greenland: A Vicious Cycle?

Professor (ret.) F. Barton Evans<sup>1</sup>, Michael Schiøth<sup>2,3</sup>

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Session E1, Symposium: The Rorschach in Clinical & Forensic Assessment: Case Studies, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

When working with sex offenders who have committed sexual crimes against children (from here called child molesters), it is a known risk factor in regards to future recidivism if the perpetrators themselves have been exposed to sexual abuse in the childhood (SVR-20) and especially if they themselves suffer problems due to that abuse (RSVP).

It is roughly estimated that 50% of child molesters worldwide have been sexually abused during childhood. However, in Greenland, where statistics show that up to 1/3 of the adult population have been sexually molested as children (data from official population survey by the Government of Greenland, 2018, N = 1.686), the prevalence of childhood sexual abuse in child molesters is likely 80%, possibly higher. Despite its extremely high prevalence, sexual abuse of children – as well as sex in general – continues to present a massive taboo in Greenland.

Working with assessment of child molesters in Nuuk Correctional facility (the capital of Greenland), Rorschach protocols were obtained from child molesters, who at the time of the Rorschach testing were serving a prison sentence for sexual offences against children. This presentation will feature information on trauma history as well as results from the individual Rorschach protocols with the primary focus on Trauma Content Index (TCI). A case example will be presented as well as a discussion of the possible relation between trauma in the form of sexual abuse in childhood and later child molesting in Greenland.

The Rorschach in Clinical & Forensic Assessment: Case Studies

# The Rorschach in Clinical & Forensic Assessment: Case Studies

Professor (ret.) F. Barton Evans

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Session E1, Symposium: The Rorschach in Clinical & Forensic Assessment: Case Studies, Session Room:  
Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Psychological trauma has many faces and many presentations that are never captured fully in DSM and ICD diagnosis. These common diagnostic schema do not capture the richness and complexity of the individual's response to overwhelming and horrific life events. Often the trauma response "hides" in other common clinical presentations. Yet, understanding the specificity of individual's trauma response is key to good assessment and psychotherapeutic treatment. This symposium is a series of case presentations illustrating how the Rorschach and other projective methods can richly elaborate the inner and interpersonal world of the trauma survivor. The four papers in this symposium will elaborate on four distinct presentations of the psychological trauma that could easily be misread without the Rorschach. The four papers will be followed by a discussion drawing on the commonality of the psychological trauma response.

The Rorschach in Clinical & Forensic Assessment: Case Studies

# Seeds of Trauma

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Session E1, Symposium: The Rorschach in Clinical & Forensic Assessment: Case Studies, Session Room:  
Grand Ball Room, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

According to the DSM-5 (American Psychiatric Association, 2013), some of the conditions that may lead a person to develop PTS (Post Traumatic Symptoms) include (a) being exposed to actual or threatened death, or serious injury in various forms; (b) experiencing directly the traumatic event. The DSM definition points to the connection between encountering directly or indirectly death scenes and post-trauma. In the current presentation I demonstrate and discuss the coping of individuals with the threat of death, during the October 7th war. More specifically - coping mechanism and defence mechanisms of individuals encountering death risk. I will show Rorschach and TAT responses of three young people, whose administration took place during the war, and they were reporting on death-fears. In their Rorschach and TAT for example: one can witness the fluctuations between grandiosity, idealization to devaluation, helplessness, and somatic concern, flooding versus constriction. I discuss the meaning of these responses as expressing the emotional experience of being in life threat and how individuals cope with it.

Key words: death, trauma, defense mechanisms

The Rorschach in Clinical & Forensic Assessment: Case Studies



# BETWEEN THE CONSTRAINT OF REPETITION AND WORKING THROUGH TRAUMA DURING THE ELABORATION OF MOURNING

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Session E2, Symposium: THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES,  
Session Room: Christiansborg, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

## INTRODUCTION

The repetition compulsion is an attempt to process traumas. It is most often observed in masochistic symptoms, destructive attitudes and recurring dreams (nightmares). Compulsion unconsciously places the subject in a distressing situation, repeating the traumatic experience directly or through displacement and projection. When the repetition compulsion achieves genuine perlaboration, we can assume that the traumatic impact of any given event has been overcome.

## METHODOLOGY

We have analysed the repetition compulsion in the Rorschach and CAT/TAT protocols of 12 patients who experienced mourning complicated by the traumatic loss. In this paper we consider the tests of a sister and a brother (9 and 15 y.o.) one year after the death of their mother due to a violent accident, to analyse the level of elaboration of the trauma and the current effects thereof on psychological functioning.

## CONCLUSIONS

Concerning the sister, the constraint of repetition emerges through various direct (non-displaced) situations connected with the loss. The girl's ego attempts to elaborate the trauma with an over-investment in the internalised object, without disrupting the sense of identity and psychic integrity, and with better adapted psychic defences and modalities.

In the brother we can see repetition compulsion among massive representations projected onto historical or natural disasters, which seem to re-actualise the trauma. There is some doubt whether this is a case of resistance on behalf of masochism and death drive. The results have shown the presence of major persecutory and depressive anxieties that innervate the pain and signal a more severe traumatic intrusion.

## THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES

# THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES

Dr Luca Bruno<sup>1</sup>

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Session E2, Symposium: THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES,  
Session Room: Christiansborg, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Freudian studies about traumatic neurosis have highlighted the consequences of a breach in the protective barrier and the pain featured within such breaches is due to a large quantity of unrelated stimuli that flood into the psychic system.

Psychoneuroses add some complexity to trauma theory, by taking into consideration two scenes, the second of which usually reawakens an internal stimulus linked to the first, childhood scene, the traumatic value of which can only be assessed after the event.

Within the theory of anxiety, the value of the notion of traumas enhanced: by triggering the anxiety signal, the ego seeks to avoid being overwhelmed by the surge of anxiety which defines any given traumatic situation.

We therefore propose a Symposium about the different psychic functions and the inner workings of psychic elaboration within different trauma-linked conditions (such as absence, loss, sexual seduction, serious illnesses, natural disasters, individual or collective violence and wars). How can trauma be analysed through projective tests?

Various questions arise in relation to such psychological work: how is pain usually expressed? With its destructive violence, could it destroy anyone's psychic organisation? How can we analyse the effects of traumatic conditions that may awaken so terrible a pain that it prevents the persons it affects from surviving psychologically or- on the contrary- that it may longer be felt as such? What are the main defensive arrangements in such cases?

THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES

# THE TRANSGENERATIONAL TRANSMISSION OF THE PSYCHIC TRAUMA OF THE TURKISH INVASION OF 1974 IN CYPRUS -A CASE STUDY.

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Session E2, Symposium: THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES,  
Session Room: Christiansborg, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

This thesis research aims to study the psychic consequences of the trauma caused by the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974 on both the generation that experienced it and their descendants. It is based on the hypothesis of family therapists that suggests the second generation will carry traces of what their ancestors did not process. Thus, it is assumed that the more the traumatic traces are present in the projective test protocols and narratives of the first generation, the more these same elements will be found in the second generation, and vice versa. To investigate the transgenerational transmission of trauma, 30 subjects were recruited: 15 from the first generation (originating from the occupied region, aged 55 to 65) and 15 from the second (their children, born in the non-occupied area after the war, aged 25 to 35). All participants signed a free and informed consent form. As our research is ongoing, we will be able to present a parent-child case study during this presentation to discuss the initial findings of comparative analysis. The methodology relies on the study of projective tests (TAT and Rorschach analyzed and interpreted according to the French School using a grid of indices of traumatic traces) and a semi-directive interview concerning the subject's narrative of the relevant period. Through the use of projective methods, we were able to explore the projective expressions of trauma and its transgenerational transmission, the defenses mobilized, as well as the psychological resources of the subjects.

THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES

# PSYCHODYNAMICS OF WOMEN WHO HAVE SUFFERED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: TRAUMA ASSESSMENT BASED ON THE RORSCHACH AND TRAUMA

Prof Valeria Barbieri, Dr Ana Paula Medeiros, Dr Fernanda Kimie Tavares Mishima, Dr Leila Salomao de La Plata Cury Tardivo

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Session E2, Symposium: THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES,  
Session Room: Christiansborg, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Domestic violence is a form of violence committed against a woman by her partner with whom she has or had an intimate relationship of affection. This form of violence can cause a variety of problems for women's development, which need to be investigated in order to find effective intervention strategies for this group. The aim of this study was to identify the psychological impact of the trauma and the personality characteristics of three women who had suffered domestic violence. To do this, an interview, the Rorschach method and the Traumaq instrument were used. The data shows that the women evaluated had suffered several episodes of physical, psychological and property violence. The assessment indicated that the three women had experienced trauma in different intensities, medium, severe and very severe. The evaluation using the Rorschach method indicated that the participants had difficulties in their personal relationships and that the identity process occurred in a particular way for each of them. No similarities were found with regard to the organization of the participants' personalities. Although there is no structural similarity in terms of the women's personalities, there is greater similarity in the way they establish relationships, which is also influenced by the impact of the trauma. This data is important for defining intervention strategies and understanding the impact on women's development in the various spheres of their lives.

THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES

# THE APPLICATION OF THE RORSCHACH TEST IN A CASE OF COMPLICATED GRIEF

Prof Carmela Mento, Dr Clara Lombardo

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Session E2, Symposium: THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES,  
Session Room: Christiansborg, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

**Introduction:** The issue of complicated grief and traumatic aspects still remains complex today as it is evocative of relationships, abandonment and symbolic and real losses of the self. The aim is to analyse the traumatic aspects of complicated grief in a patient undergoing analytical treatment by means of the H. Rorschach projective. Applications of the Rorschach methodology pave the way for the most appropriate therapeutic options, while providing scientific evidence of clinical and therapeutic advances.

**Methodology:** A single clinical case with a diagnosis of complicated bereavement undergoing psychodiagnostic assessment pre-post psychotherapeutic treatment, using the Rorschach projective, will be illustrated. The complex responses will be analysed to access the activities of thought, the emotional sphere and object relations, through an accurate assessment of the representation of one's internal world and self.

**Conclusions:** The Complicated grief remains an important clinical category that requires early treatment and correct differential diagnosis, including through the use of projective tests such as the Rorschach that are useful in understanding aspects of the patient's self-concept, affective regulation, clinical symptoms, bereavement reactions and the traumatic aspects of processing loss. The applications of Rorschach methodology allow a clear reflection on the complexity of aspects of grief and trauma. the projective approach to clinical diagnosis is particularly useful in tracking down those indicators useful for monitoring psychotherapy, especially in complex cases such as complicated grief.

THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES

# FUNCTIONAL NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS AND TRAUMATIC TREATMENT IN PROJECTIVE METHODS

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Session E2, Symposium: THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES,  
Session Room: Christiansborg, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Functional Neurological Disorders (FND) are somatic motor, sensory, or sensorial manifestations without any organic origin. Although the link between a traumatic event and the onset of symptoms has been regularly studied, particularly through the concept of conversion, the symptom is often considered as an outcome rather than as a trophic means of treating or elaborating on the trauma. Objective: Our goal is to explore the function of FND in trauma treatment and identify potential factors for chronicization in psychic functioning, using projective tests that reveal the transient dimension or, conversely, the entrenchment in the symptom.

Method: We will compare the Rorschach and TAT protocols of two women suffering from FND, one of whom has chronic symptoms. Both experienced sexual violence. They were encountered as part of our doctoral research conducted at the Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital in the neurology department.

Conclusions: These two patients are paradigmatic cases of two groups we have observed in our research. In some cases, the symptom contributes to the treatment of trauma by providing narcissistic protection, but it carries the risk of becoming entrenched in an endless repetition, by reliving traumatic experiences through the symptom and its symbolism. In others, the symptom seems to carry trophic potential, acting as a translator of the unthinkable through the concrete thing-presentation in the body. The quality of depression treatment appears to be a pivotal point in the chronicization of disorders.

THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES

# PARTICULARITIES OF CUMULATIVE TRAUMA ON PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING: THE EXAMPLE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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Session E2, Symposium: THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES,

Session Room: Christiansborg, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

## Introduction

In France, in 2022, there will be 118 feminicides, 139,200 complaints by women of physical violence by their partner in 2022 and 244,000 in 2023. Repeated domestic violence has a traumatic impact on the psychological functioning of victims. They act as cumulative traumas, which in the long run alter the personalities of the women they affect.

Our aim is to shed light on the traumatic impact suffered by women who have experienced repeated violence. We will present the results of a qualitative study of 10 women, aged between 30 and 65, who were victims of domestic violence. We studied the particularities of cumulative traumas and their effects on the psyche as perceived by the Rorschach.

Methodology. The ten Rorschach protocols of these women were scored and analyzed using the French School method. The women volunteered to take part in the research, and were interviewed by associations for women in violent situations in France.

## Results

Repeated domestic violence attacks not only self-esteem but, for some women, their very sense of identity. We show how the personality has been reorganized around the trauma.

## Conclusion

The traumatic dimension of cumulative experiences of violence must be taken into account immediately when caring for these women. This study should enable us to formulate support proposals that take into account the singular psychic needs of the subject, of the women grappling with these situations.

THE EVALUATION OF PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING DURING TRAUMATIC STATES

## Session E3, Oral Presentations, Trauma/mourning

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Session E3, Oral Presentations, Trauma/mourning, Session Room: Kronborg, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

**Introduction:** The purpose of this study is to characterize the Rorschach of traumatized children and to differentiate between complex trauma and single trauma. Rorschach literature provides rich findings and discussion regarding the Rorschach of traumatized adults but not for children. In addition, Rorschach studies had not compared complex trauma to single trauma. This study provides an opportunity to better understand the contribution of the Rorschach to the assessment of trauma and of post traumatic symptoms.

**Method:** We used ANOVA tests to compare the Rorschach data of three clinical groups of children (aged 8-12): complex trauma, single trauma, and non-traumatized patients, and between each group to RPAS norms. All participants had their parents' consent.

**Results:** The complex trauma group showed significantly more symptomatology than the other groups. The complex trauma group showed more symptoms of intrusion, arousal, dissociation, emotion dysregulation, poor self-perception, and poor interpersonal relations. Single PTSD showed more symptoms of avoidance and constriction. Traumatized children showed more symptoms of intrusions and traumatic mentalization than non-traumatized patients and from Rorschach norms.

**Conclusion:** We discuss the question of whether the Rorschach can serve as a measure of complex and single trauma in children and illustrate its contribution to the assessment of post traumatic symptoms, especially in the case of complex trauma. Further research is still needed to validate Rorschach variables as reflecting specific symptoms.



# APPLICABILITY OF TRAUMA CONTENT INDEX ON JAPANESE CHILDREN EXPERIENCING SEXUAL ABUSE

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Session E3, Oral Presentations, Trauma/mourning, Session Room: Kronborg, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

**Introduction:** Researches involving the Trauma Content Index (TCI) in Rorschach comprehensive system (CS) have not been widely conducted in Japan. This study aims to investigate future research paths by focusing on TCI scores of children identified as victims of sexual abuse.

**Methodology:** Among children confirmed receiving sexual abuse from family members, ten girls aged 12–16 years who underwent CS test and Trauma Symptom Checklist for Children (TSCC) at Childcare Guidance Center were investigated. Due to the limited case volume, Spearman's rank correlation coefficient was employed to grasp the general situations.

**Results:** A strong correlation was observed between the T scores of PTS and ANX in TCI/TCSS ( $r=0.97$ ,  $r=0.89$ ). Although two participants with TCI=0 exhibited an avoidance tendency (TSCC: UND↑, CS: L↑↑, Iso↓), their Afr scored over 0.8, indicating they could not avoid emotional stimuli. Four participants with TCI=0.08–0.15 used fantasy avoidance (CS: FM↓, Mp↑), exhibiting positive scores in D and AdjD. Nevertheless, they checked multiple risk items in TSCC, including "wish to commit suicide." SC-D of four participants exhibiting TCI=0.12–0.28 was in the clinical range, indicating their sexual confusion. In contrast, a girl with a TCI=0.35 showed that her SC was within the normal range, indicating that despite her severe trauma, she detached sexual matters from her consciousness by avoiding relevant information. (CS: W↓, DQ+↓, Zf↓).

**Conclusion:** The results demonstrated that TCI scores can be an effective index for Japanese children who have experienced sexual abuse. Differences in avoidance methods suggest a direction for future studies.

# THE ROLE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT IN THE DIAGNOSTIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR TRAUMA SURVIVORS

Dr. Dina Viglin<sup>1, 2</sup>, Mrs Elena Babich<sup>3</sup>

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Session E3, Oral Presentations, Trauma/mourning, Session Room: Kronborg, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

## Aims of the presentation

This case has the potential to shed light on the subject of diagnostic complexity, including differential diagnosis, in clients with a known history of trauma, presenting with psychotic features.

Considerations regarding structural and phenomenological diagnoses are discussed.

## Description of person assessed and Assessment Context

35 year old female, married +2. The assessment was carried out in an outpatients' clinic. The client's history emphasized a traumatic early environment involving sexual abuse, poor school performance, superficial interpersonal relationships and feelings of inadequacy throughout the years. Mental health deterioration ensued after the birth of her second child, and she has chosen to seek psychological help.

## Assessment Instruments

Rorschach; TAT and more.

## Outcome of the Assessment

The assessment resulted in a more elaborated understanding of the client's mental distress - validating its traumatic origins - as well as of her resilience and psychological resources. The specific profile of lability in her psychological functioning helped to increase diagnostic precision: positioning the client's personality organization in the low borderline level and promoting differential diagnosis decision (ICD11) while stressing the importance of traumatic life events. The "Therapeutic Assessment" stance allowed the client to experience a positive initial contact with the mental health system.

## Broader Significance

This case study presents the broadening of anchor points for when constructing an integrative case formulation and refining diagnostic decisions, based on a psychodiagnostic assessment process. The specific impact of trauma on the results has to be a focus of clinical attention and promote the goal of psychotherapeutic attunement.

# RORSCHACH TEST AND THE MOURNING

Dr. Tommaso CARAVELLI<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Roberto CIONI<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Daniele Zizolfi<sup>2</sup>, Dr. Salvatore Zizolfi<sup>2</sup>, Dr. Valentina DELLA VECCHIA<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Maria Laura GAMBUZZA<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Silvia RONDI<sup>1</sup>

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Session E3, Oral Presentations, Trauma/mourning, Session Room: Kronborg, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

The death of a close family member due to sudden traumatic events is often a reason for the psychodiagnostic assessment in the forensic arena. 37 Rorschach protocols, administered for forensic purposes according to the metodo italiano Scuola Romana Rorschach (SRR), in 9 males and 28 females mourning the death of a close family member, were retrospectively extracted from the database of the IRF (Istituto Rorschach Forense), satisfying the following inclusion criteria: no abuse of alcohol or substances, no psychiatric history, no psychopharmacological treatment, no psychiatric symptom or disease according to DSM-5-TR. Four subgroups were identified: widowed women (N = 8), mothers grieving for child (N = 11), fathers grieving for child (N = 7), others (N = 11). 37 normal control subjects, age and sex matched, satisfying the same inclusion criteria, were randomly selected from the same database. All the 74 protocols, originally administered and scored by different experts, were independently and concordantly blindly re-scored by two authors (C.R. and C.T.) by means of a specific software. The results were statistically analyzed by means of SPSS (mean, SD, two square t; frequencies and chi square). Bereavement subjects, when compared with normal controls, show lower G (< 0.001) and V (< 0.05), higher D (< 0.02), Dd (< 0.02), Ad (<0.05) and Hd (< 0.05). Mourning fathers, show higher Ad (<0.05) and Hd (<0.05) than mourning mothers. Mothers grieving for child, show lower R (< 0.05), D (<0.02) and H (<0.05), than widowed women. The results are extensively discussed.

## Session E4, Oral Presentation, Mentalizing

Dr. Anna Maria Rosso<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Chiara Oliveri<sup>2</sup>

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Session E4, Oral Presentation, Mentalizing, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Mentalizing encompasses a predominantly preconscious form of imaginative mental activity, enabling the comprehension and interpretation of human behavior in terms of mental states, needs, desires, emotions, beliefs, goals, intentions, and motivations (Allen, Fonagy & Bateman, 2008). It involves an 'imaginative leap' as relationships necessitate hypothesizing and anticipating the thoughts and actions of others, without ever attaining certainty regarding the actual thoughts of the other person.

To date, limited research has been conducted to investigate which Rorschach variables are indicative of mentalization ability and its deficits. This study aims to explore this hitherto underexplored area. The Reflective Functioning Questionnaire (RFQ, Fonagy et al., 2016) and the Rorschach (administered and coded according to both the Comprehensive System-Revised [CS-R] and Comprehensive Rorschach Defense Scale [CRDS]) were administered to 162 subjects aged 18 to 83 years (M=30.85, SD=13.75), 56.8% females, recruited from the community, who provided written informed consent to participate.

Based on the RFQ scores, three groups were formed (hypermentalizers, normomentalizers, and hypomentalizers) and compared for the Rorschach variables of interest (i.e., variables included in the interpersonal and self-perception clusters and in the CRDS) using multivariate analysis with R as a covariate for normally distributed variables and the non-parametric Kruskal-Wallis test for non-normally distributed variables.

Results indicated that hypermentalizing subjects produced the highest number of M, M minus, H, AG, PHR responses, and primitive defenses with effect sizes ranging from medium to large.

The results will be discussed in light of recent literature.

# Playing with Inkblots: Prementalizing Modes of Experience and the Rorschach Test

Mr. Joonas Sakari Suominen<sup>1</sup>

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Session E4, Oral Presentation, Mentalizing, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

The author argues that psychopathology of thought and perception as shown in the Rorschach test can be understood as a consequence of functioning in one of the prementalizing modes, namely psychic equivalence or pretend mode. In psychic equivalence, psychic reality is equated with the outer reality and there is no separation between real and fantasy. This is most evident with psychotic patients where the responses seem too real and the testee is sure about the answer. In the pretend mode psychic reality and outer reality are kept defensively apart. In the Rorschach test, this could be seen as disregarding the constraints of the inkblot's visual characteristics. Pretend mode can be seen in responses where there is little concern about the form characteristics or the logic of the answer.

Prementalizing modes of psychic experience offer a new perspective on interpreting the Rorschach test and can provide insight into protocols showing high levels of issues not seemingly aligned with the clinical presentation. Moreover, the Rorschach method can serve as a valuable tool to inform the testee's use of prementalizing modes. Furthermore, the clinical implications of the prementalizing modes and similarities with concepts such as Distance from the blot and Potential Space will also be explored.

# LOOSING 90 KILOS: AN ERUPTING VOLCANO IN THE RORSCHACH

Prof. Andrés Eduardo Aguirre Antúnez<sup>2</sup>, Psychologist Fernanda de Paola<sup>4</sup>, Dr. Jacqueline Santoantonio<sup>3</sup>, Moema Barbosa Soares<sup>4</sup>, Prof. Thaís Cristina Marques-Reis

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Session E5, Oral Presentation, Psychosomatics, Session Room: Børsen, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

We will present the case of John, 42 years old, married, high school graduate, religious, who began multi-professional weight-loss treatment at the Centro Terapêutico Máximo Ravenna, Brazil, without using bariatric surgery or medication. He weighed 170 kg and, after one year of dietary reeducation, lost 90 kg. Life history data (LH), the R-PAS, and free drawings were collected before (T0) and after one year of treatment (T1). LH: metalworker and alcoholic father; housewife and religious mother. John was bullied at school and smoked cigarettes for nineteen years. He worked as a metalworker and then as a taxi driver, when he developed compulsive eating. T1: R-PAS showed high CT, M and M/MC, m and PHR, and low F%; there were severe problems with perception and thinking. He had four ODL. In his drawing, he said that color doesn't matter, and made a church with poor perspective, incongruous dimensions, and distorted perception. T2: R-PAS showed high CT, PHR, and M-; there was a slight reduction in perception and thinking problems and one ODL. Qualitatively, responses of erupting volcano and rifted rock were increased, which could indicate impulsiveness and openness to experiences. His drawing had colored circles made with a compass; an unfinished line was associated with openness to the future, without demanding to fill in all the spaces. His treatment facilitated innovation with less fear of criticism, greater flexibility, and contact with a more elaborate aesthetic experience. Greater appropriation of emotional resources that allow contact with more integrated aspects was demonstrated.

# Pacientes pos-infarto: la entrevista psicológica inicial como investigación psicosomática.

Profesor Adjunto Oscar Melillo

<sup>1</sup>Oscar Roberto Melillo, Haedo, Argentina

Session E5, Oral Presentation, Psychosomatics, Session Room: Børsen, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Introducción: En esta presentación se inscribe dentro del trabajo de tesis doctoral en la Universidad Nacional de la Plata (UNLP): “Los factores de riesgo en pacientes cardíacos post-infarto, la calidad del procesamiento de mentalización”.

En el contexto de la evaluación psicológica, la entrevista psicológica es considerada el instrumento de exploración en el campo clínico por excelencia, ya que su objetivo es conocer la singularidad del sujeto considerando los aspectos vitales del presente, pasado y futuro.

En esta ocasión presentaremos la entrevista psicológica inicial como una entrevista de investigación psicosomática (Escuela Francesa) con el fin de evaluar los movimientos somato-psíquicos de la economía psicosomática. Para ello nos apoyaremos en su diseño para poder estimar las capacidades elaborativas del aparato psíquico, es decir, en la evaluación de las relaciones de las representaciones del Preconsciente entre sí de una manera permanente. Punto centro de la economía psicosomática, por tanto, cuanto mayor sea la cantidad y calidad de representaciones en el Preconsciente, más probable será que la eventual patología se ubique en el plano mental. Cuanto menor sea la cantidad y calidad de las relaciones y permanencia de las representaciones existentes, mayor será el riesgo de que la enfermedad se ubique en el plano somático.

Metodología: Diseño de Investigación psicosomática.

Conclusión: Se presentará el diseño de la entrevista con un formato semi-dirigido que permita el encuentro entre el evaluado y el clínico, captando irrepetible, original y exclusivo, para recabar los datos que permitan inferir los movimientos somato-psíquicos en ellos

Pacientes post-infarto: la entrevista psicológica inicial como una investigación psicosomática.

# INVESTIGATION OF TYPES OF SUSTENANCE IN FIBROMYALGIA SYNDROME WITH PROJECTIVE TESTS

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Session E5, Oral Presentation, Psychosomatics, Session Room: Børsen, July 10, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Fibromyalgia syndrome is a disease with primary chronic widespread musculoskeletal pain and fatigue symptoms, the causes of which are unknown and closely related to psychological factors. In fibromyalgia syndrome, the causes of which are not clear in the medical plan, it is aimed to investigate fatigue and types of sustenance in the psychic world of the patients through projective tests and patient discourses in clinical interviews. The findings were analyzed from a psychoanalytic perspective using the Rorschach and Thematic Apperception Tests (TAT). This research is based on clinical observation of fibromyalgia patients in a pain outpatient clinic. Twenty-two adult patients, ages 26 to 55, who had been diagnosed with fibromyalgia, participated in face-to-face semi-structured clinical interviews and projective tests. The French School content analysis method was used to evaluate the test protocols, and psychoanalytic theory was used to interpret the results. Therefore, in these patients, a decrease in muscle tone can frequently be a sign of depression, which arises when manic defenses are insufficient. In the 3BM card of the TAT Test, it is thought that patients receive support from perception based on their body postures and responses, such as "leaning.". Fatigue and the verbs used are aimed at getting support from others and not being able to dissociate from the object. Thus, on Card 5 of the Rorschach Test, in addition to being accompanied by manic movements, painful symptoms and fatigue were expected to be accompanied by responses about an inability to heal.

INVESTIGATION OF TYPES OF SUSTENANCE IN FIBROMYALGIA SYNDROME WITH PROJECTIVE TESTS



# THE UNPREDICTABLE PATHS OF CREATIVITY. A WRITER DEALING WITH PROJECTIVES.

Dr. Tiziana Sola

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Session F1, Symposium: Rorschach Test in Artists, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Where does that strange being that is the poet get his inspiration? Freud wondered (1907). His answer was that a writer behaves like a child playing, that is, he creates his own personal world. Every creative activity involves an enigmatic dimension that escapes our understanding” wrote McDougall (2008). Anzieu, for his part, attempted to explore the psychic processes underlying creative work by drawing a parallel with dream work and that of mourning and considering these phenomena as phases of transformative crises, which imply "a regression to unused resources" and "the reconstitution of a new equilibrium". These are just some of the major interpretations of the processes inherent to creative activity, to which are added the no less important studies of other authors such as Segal (1991), Chasseguet-Smirgel (1971) who have undertaken to explore, through the tools of psychoanalysis, the essence of the creative function and the psyche of the artist. Projective methods, due to their properties inherent to the subjective experience of spatiality (Rorschach) and temporality (TAT), seem particularly suitable to investigate the dynamics highlighted by the aforementioned authors. In this study the author attempts to identify the psychic organization of a writer at the height of her activity as a novelist, trying to shed light, through projectives, on the movements of that enigma that characterizes creative activity, aware of not to be able to completely reveal the mystery. This with particular reference to the processes underlying literary creation.

Rorschach in Artists.

# Perceptual activity in visual artists: a phenomenological and psychoanalytical approach

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Session F1, Symposium: Rorschach Test in Artists, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

## Perceptual activity in visual artists: a phenomenological and psychoanalytical approach

**Abstract :** The Rorschach offers a fine-tuned apprehension of perceptual characteristics in all their complexity and singularity. The protocols of visual artists are renowned for highlighting these particularities, due to their emphasis on the visual image.

To explore these perceptual specificities, we are interested in a sample of artists driven by the need to create, and whose artistic activity plays a significant role in their daily lives. Based on a group of 12 participants (6 men, 6 women), we take a closer look at the clinic of Béatrice and Axel, chosen for their clinical representativeness.

The analysis of these protocols first considers a phenomenological approach to highlight the perceptual characteristics of this population's responses, according to the approach of H. Rorschach and his successors. Secondly, we articulate these data with the psychoanalytic interpretive model derived from the French School, to derive an understanding of the unconscious dynamics mobilized by the material.

This approach sheds light on the "original" character, beyond the plausible, of the responses that artists propose in the articulation between the activity of perception and the test of reality. It also highlights the richness, creativity and complexity involved in the perceptual activity of visual artists. In conclusion, this analysis helps to define perceptual phenomena and to highlight the singular variegation of psychic functioning.

**Key-words :** Visual artists - Rorschach - Perception - Phenomenology – Psychoanalysis  
Rorschach test in Artists

# Analysing the Rorschach protocol of a writer

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Session F1, Symposium: Rorschach Test in Artists, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

## Analysing the Rorschach protocol of a writer

A very prolific and well-known French writer was generous enough to consent to being given a Rorschach test. This protocol will be presented and commented. The protocol is extremely rich and questions the boundaries between normality and pathology.

Rorschach Test in Artists

## Rorschach in artists

### Rorschach test in fiction writers and poets.

Phd. Fernando M. Silberstein<sup>1</sup>

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Session F1, Symposium: Rorschach Test in Artists, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

### Rorschach test in fiction writers and poets.

In a group of twenty protocols of fiction writers and poets specially contacted for a research project, we studied the organization of various types of responses. In this sense we distinguish, a) a particular type of combination responses of details in depths and heights with movement; b) the relative presence of incongruent combination responses observed in a previous work with painters (Sorribas & Silberstein, 2011); c) the occurrence of responses of remarkable visual Prägnanz; d) several special coding such as Gurdham's EQ and impressions (Bohm, 1972); e) elaboration of M; f) M responses associated with achromatic color.

Some of these responses, usually studied as an effect of the relationships between primary and secondary processes, are analyzed with respect to features of the literary production of two of the protocols studied.

### Rorschach Test in Artists.

# Rorschach Test in Artists

Phd. Fernando M. Silberstein<sup>1</sup>

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Session F1, Symposium: Rorschach Test in Artists, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Among others, Rorschach used a sample of artists, which he includes in the comparison tables. In several sections of his work, he remarks on the types of responses of artists. In setting out the results of the test, he includes sections on talent and imagination in which he relates characteristics of artist protocols to the Erlebnistypus predominances at different stages of life. Rorschach uses the example of artists to think about the reactivity of color and especially the ability to think of new ideas which he associates with the predominance of M. Possibly it was Behn-Eschenburg, in the Be-Ro, Zulliger and then Bohm who first observed distinctive features in the protocols of artists, in particular the predominance of combinations in the protocols of subjects with "creative imagination". Earlier, Rorschach established the distinction between original creative subjects and reproducers. Subsequently, numerous authors (Schafer (1949), Klopfer (1956); Minkowska (1949); Schachtel (1967); Dudek (1967); Campo, V. (1966, 2015), Slullitel & Sorribas (1967); Rawls & Boone (1967); Rawls & Slack (1968); Aronow & Reznicoff (1976); Dudek & Marchand (1983); Barthélemy, J-M. (1987); Sorribas & Silberstein (1990, 2011); Kleiger (1999), (Peruchon, M.(1989; 2002), Villemor-Amaral (2002); (Silberstein 2009); Alonso, H. (2019) among others) studied these protocols, in some cases establishing relationships with psychopathological processes (Yazigi, L., 2003). In this symposium we present four research on protocols of relevant writers and painters, showing the particularities presented by these groups and the relationships with the sublimation process and the artistic production.

Rorschach Test in artists

# FINDING THE VOICE IN THE SHADOWS: WHAT PLATE IX REVEALS REGARDING THE MARKS OF THE CHAOTIC IN THE STRUCTURE

Licenciada María Teresa Herrera<sup>1</sup>

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Session F2, Symposium: Relation between the Rorschach and the organization of the Psyche, Session  
Room: Christiansborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

The objective of our work is the articulation of plate IX of the Rorschach Test with the concepts of construction of the psyche, the primary relationship and their importance in the diagnosis and direction of the treatment. We will approach it from psychoanalytic theory and the insights of Rorschach's Argentine School of Psychodiagnosis.

Although Hermann Rorschach did not provide specific interpretations for each plate, other authors considered that Plate IX could give rise to the interpretation of symbolic manifestations of silenced unconscious conflicts. Some interpretations lead to associating plate IX with the beginning, the and the creation.

We will try to relate it to the concept of chaos as a foundation from different worldviews: theology, Jung's "shadow of the individual," Freud's "the uncanny," among others. We will think about these concepts based on clinical vignettes and the correlation with their respective Rorschach protocols. Based on our previous investigations, "Traces of a frozen love" and "the Smothered Scream", we were able to notice the importance of the aspects revealed in this plate.

This contribution seems to us to be of great importance for the differential diagnosis and the direction of the cure. Since we can also link it with stress management, given that in the early stages, the bases are formed for what will later be played in different stages of life. In this way it would be possible to develop strategies respecting the uniqueness in coping with traumatic or stressful situations.

Keywords: Rorschach Plate IX, Chaos, Primary Process, Supporting Functions

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE RORSCHACH AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE PSYCHE

# NEUROSCIENCES AND THE RORSCHACH TEST: AN INVESTIGACIÓN OF THE BRAIN AREAS THAT ARE ACTIVATED WHEN THE RORSCHACH TEST SPOTS ARE PRESENTED AS A STIMULUS IN THE APPLICATION OF A FUNCTIONAL MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING

Doctorado Jorge Morillo

Session F2, Symposium: Relation between the Rorschach and the organization of the Psyche, Session  
Room: Christiansborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Talking about Neurosciences and the Rorschach test can become complex because of the way in which both analyze the subject. While the former standardizes the subject to create common criteria and parameters, the latter singles him out, personalizes him. In our research we intend to build a bridge between both areas of knowledge.

Using Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) equipment, where we can analyze the activity of the brain in vivo, the subject is shown a series of organized stimuli, based on the functioning of the equipment, which is called a paradigm.

With 25 male and female university students as volunteers, who are informed of the scope of the study and invited to sign an informed consent form. At the Centro de Diagnóstico Medicina Avanzada y Telemedicina (CEDIMAT) in the Dominican Republic, fMRI will be applied to each of the volunteers where they will be presented with a paradigm made up of the images of the Rorschach test sheets. Subsequently, the team, through software, will show us which areas of the brain were activated when the dye stains were presented and with the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) we will obtain metrics that will allow us to group and sectorize the activated areas of the brain of the group of volunteers.

Keywords: Functional magnetic resonance imaging, Paradigm and Rorschach test  
RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE RORSCHACH AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE PSYCHE

# Relation between the Rorschach and the organization of the Psyche

Magister Eve Marie Apfelbeck<sup>1</sup>

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Session F2, Symposium: Relation between the Rorschach and the organization of the Psyche, Session

Room: Christiansborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

In this symposium, several professionals from different countries and schools in Latin America gather with the aim of shedding light on certain concepts that we consider fundamental for diagnosis and treatment in psychoanalytic clinical practice. We will delve into the relationship between the Rorschach and Neuroscience, as well as the importance of the early stages of primary relationships and support functions in the emotional development of the child and the structuring of the psyche. We review the theories of some authors such as Sigmund Freud, Donald Winnicott, and André Green, exploring concepts like attachment, dead mother, support functions, primary process, narcissism, among others, to connect them with the Rorschach plates

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE RORSCHACH AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE PSYCHE



# THE DEAD MOTHER AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE PSYCHE

Magister Ariel Reyes Montes<sup>1</sup>

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Session F2, Symposium: Relation between the Rorschach and the organization of the Psyche, Session  
Room: Christiansborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

The dead mother represents a mental image created by the child when his mother, who once cared for him and served as a source of holding and regulation, emotionally withdraws from him. This entails the loss of maternal affection and emotional connection, implying trauma in the construction of the psyche.

The mother, who is not actually dead, becomes a distant and lifeless figure. The loss of investment is associated with sadness and a decrease in maternal interest, generating a sense of loss of meaning in the child.

This leads the child to develop defensive processes, including the disinvestment of the maternal representation and an unconscious identification with the dead mother. The disinvestment of the maternal object creates a void in the bond with the mother, which, although it does not prevent other investments, does not replace it. Additionally, an unconscious identification occurs, where the child involuntarily becomes the dead mother. Meaning is lost, and the construction of the breast collapses without reason. There is also the establishment of autoerotic excitement and early dissociation between body and psyche, affecting the ability to love and relate. This triggers the early development of imaginative and thought processes focused on externalizing internal experience. This theoretical proposition can be highly useful in analyzing the Rorschach Test, providing valuable insights into the construction and organization of the psyche.

Keywords: Dead mother, Construction of the psyche, Defensive processes.

SYMPOSIUM: RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE RORSCHACH AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE PSYCHE

# DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS FOR NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASE THROUGH RORSCHACH TEST

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Session F3, Symposium: The contribution of Projective Methods to the Understanding of Psychic Process Mobilized by the Experience of Aging and Old Age, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

**Introduction:** The Rorschach response and its characteristics in organic syndromes were described in the projective methods literature (Muzio et al., 1999; 2001; Smith et al., 2007; Schott et al., 2014; Kimoto et al., 2017; Piotrowski 2018; Mento et al., 2020). In details, the paper will focus on describe the differential diagnostics in phenomenal clinical frame i.e. Alzheimer's-type Dementia, Normotensive Hydrocephalus, Parkinson's and Schizophrenia.

**Methodology:** Cognitive specificities and perceptual response patterns at the Rorschach test will be discussed in clinical protocols for pathology compared with objective cognitive tests. The author will highlight the diagnostic trait features evident to the Rorschach in the perceptual and visuo-spatial skills and thinking style useful for differential diagnostics between organic clinical frame.

**Conclusion:** Is important to pay attention to this neuropsychological approach to Rorschach, in differential clinical diagnosis, in particular for patients with organic pathology. Moreover, according to previous studies, that highlighted how the Rorschach method is still a powerful tool with neuropsychological implications to early clinical stage of differential diagnosis.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF PROJECTIVE METHODS TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF PSYCHIC PROCESSES MOBILIZED BY THE EXPERIENCE OF AGING AND OLD AGE

# THE EXPERIENCE OF DEPENDENCY IN OLDER PEOPLE: CLINICAL AND PSYCHOPATHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

Dr. Céline Racin<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>CRPPC, Université Lumière, Lyon, France

Session F3, Symposium: The contribution of Projective Methods to the Understanding of Psychic Process Mobilized by the Experience of Aging and Old Age, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

**Introduction:** This presentation aims to show the interest of the Rorschach and the Thematic Apperception Test in specifying the clinical forms and psychopathological specificities, more or less suffering, of situations of dependency in older people.

**Methodology:** Based on a longitudinal study with 25 people aged between 77 and 97, hospitalized in a geriatric ward and involved in a long-term care project (at home or in a nursing home), we proposed research interviews, projective tests, a depression assessment and an assessment of the quality of cognitive processes at both stages of the research (during hospitalization and 4 months after discharge).

**Conclusion:** We would point out the great diversity of psychopathological profiles encountered and the way in which the projective tests highlight the importance of the problem of loss in singular ways within each organization, even though a large number of these patients do not present any characteristic depressive symptomatology in the psychiatric sense. This gap can be explained by the massive mobilization of defence mechanisms aimed at combating depressive collapse in this crisis situation. It supports the need to take into account the plurality of unconscious logics of the mourning process, to which projective tests, as a complement to interviews, provide access. The significance of these results is not only clinical, but also ethical: when these difficulties, which are sources of proven psychological suffering, go undetected, they give rise to silent withdrawal or opposition, the depressive dimension of which is likely to escape the healthcare professionals who support them.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF PROJECTIVE METHODS TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF PSYCHIC PROCESSES MOBILIZED BY THE EXPERIENCE OF AGING AND OLD AGE

# CONSENTING TO AGING? THE CHALLENGES OF PASSIVITY IN PSYCHIC FUNCTIONING FACING THE ADVANCEMENT OF AGE

Pr. Benoit Verdon<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>PCPP, Université Paris Cité, Paris, Frankrig

Session F3, Symposium: The contribution of Projective Methods to the Understanding of Psychic Process Mobilized by the Experience of Aging and Old Age, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

**Introduction:** Both women and men undergo the process of aging influenced by psychic bisexuality and gender differences. Among the psychological challenges faced, passivity, the ability to let things happen, plays a crucial role.

**Methodology:** The study is based on consultations for cognitive complaints from 100 aging individuals (50 women, 50 men; aged 50-85) who worried about potential Alzheimer's disease diagnosis. However, the neuropsychological assessment does not confirm the existence of cerebral dysfunction. The Rorschach test, proposed, analyzed, and interpreted according to the French School approach, allows capturing the intensity, polysemy, and uncertainties of the passivity issue involved in the psychic experience of bodily changes or shifts in societal and familial roles. For some patients, passivity supports the possibility of consenting to being, ultimately, incomplete, letting go of the demands for autonomy, conquest, and rivalry as the sole sources of pleasure and security. For others, it arouses anxious fantasies of submission or deficiency. For another group, it is heavily counter-invested, with a claim to be powerful, unaltered, and master of one's destiny.

**Conclusion:** Discerning the subtleties of identificatory positions at play in the aging experience refines the understanding of the psychic vulnerability of individuals fearing experiencing negative outcomes associated with aging, losing their minds, or losing autonomy. Simultaneously, it helps identify mobilizable psychic resources and defenses that may be too rigid. This contributes to strengthening the reflection on the proposal of a therapeutic project.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF PROJECTIVE METHODS TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF PSYCHIC PROCESSES MOBILIZED BY THE EXPERIENCE OF AGING AND OLD AGE

# GOOD NEWS ABOUT THE ELDERLY

Dr. Noriko Nakamura<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Nakamura Psychotherapy Institute, Tokyo, Japan

Session F3, Symposium: The contribution of Projective Methods to the Understanding of Psychic Process Mobilized by the Experience of Aging and Old Age, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024,  
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Introduction: Japan is the most rapidly aging nation in the world, with almost 30% aged over 65, and 10% aged over 80. However, significant psychological differences can be found at different stages of the aging process.

Methodology: This study tested 180 elderly aged 65-90 using the Rorschach Comprehensive System. The results were divided into three age groups: 65-74, 75-84, and 85+.

Conclusion: Research on elderly in Japan showed that those in the 65-74 age group were in a time of denial and adjustment. They then undergo a crisis between 75-84, due to shutting down psychologically. However, those who survive to 85 and over are the healthiest psychologically, not only among the elderly, but also compared to data on Japanese teens and adults.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF PROJECTIVE METHODS TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF PSYCHIC PROCESSES  
MOBILIZED BY THE EXPERIENCE OF AGING AND OLD AGE

# THE CONTRIBUTION OF PROJECTIVE METHODS TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF PSYCHIC PROCESSES MOBILIZED BY THE EXPERIENCE OF AGING AND OLD AGE

Dr. Noriko Nakamura<sup>1</sup>, Pr. Benoit Verdon<sup>2</sup>

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Session F3, Symposium: The contribution of Projective Methods to the Understanding of Psychic Process Mobilized by the Experience of Aging and Old Age, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

The questions raised by the extension of life years are of crucial relevance. How can we identify the vulnerabilities and resources that either support or hinder the psychic work engaged in the experience of bodily and cognitive changes, as well as modifications in family and social landmarks, the approach of dependency and death, while nonetheless ensuring a minimum level of well-being? We will particularly explore the contribution of the Rorschach test to assist in a differential diagnosis when confronted with the contributions of neuropsychological assessment in the early stages of neurodegenerative diseases.

Furthermore, the Rorschach test can be utilized with these vulnerable patients, with subtle adjustments aimed at understanding both vulnerabilities and psychic resources that can be mobilized to support narcissistic and objectal cathexis.

A longitudinal study demonstrates how projective methods contribute to specifying the clinical and psychopathological forms, varying degrees of suffering, in situations of dependency among older individuals living at home or in nursing homes.

An extensive study investigates differences in well-being across age groups. Contrary to preconceived notions, the older individuals do not necessarily exhibit the most acute states of crisis or defense against crises.

Lastly, a research project explores the issues of identificatory dynamics triggered by changes and dispossession, focusing on the study of passivity and renunciation as modes of psychic functioning. Enriched by this diversity, the symposium aims to be a platform for promoting the originality of projective methods in clinical, neuropsychological and psychopathological reflection, as well as ethical considerations related to aging issues.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF PROJECTIVE METHODS TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF PSYCHIC PROCESSES MOBILIZED BY THE EXPERIENCE OF AGING AND OLD AGE

# METHODOLOGICAL ADJUSTMENTS OF THE PROJECTIVE SITUATION WITH ELDERLY PEOPLE SUFFERING FROM ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Dr. Catherine Fourques<sup>1</sup>

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Session F3, Symposium: The contribution of Projective Methods to the Understanding of Psychic Process Mobilized by the Experience of Aging and Old Age, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

**Introduction:** This presentation focuses on the methodological dimension of the projective situation, a key aspect of psychological assessments that lends it scientific relevance while supporting the deployment of the clinical dimension. The specificity of vulnerable clinics such as those for the elderly and neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's sometimes prompts clinicians to make certain methodological adjustments, both in the administration of projective tools (presentation of material, enunciation of instructions, clinician positioning, etc.) and in the method of analysis. The goal is to respect the significant physical, psychological, and cognitive vulnerability of very elderly subjects also experiencing Alzheimer's disease.

**Methodology:** These reflections stem from a longitudinal study conducted with 12 elderly subjects residing in geriatric institutions, some presenting cognitive disorders in the context of Alzheimer's disease. Three projective tests were administered: the Rorschach test, the TAT, and the Sceno-test. The highly engaged projective setting allows subjects to mobilize their psychic life in a current situation often overshadowed by the corporeal, illness, death, and collective experiences.

**Conclusion:** Through the complementarity of the three tests (however distinct in their modes of expressing internal life and what they mobilize), the projective setting provides an opportunity to express both fragilities and resources while respecting the symbolization capacities of each individual. It offers the dual benefit of contributing to the understanding of the psychological functioning modalities of elderly individuals affected by illness and highlighting the extraordinary adaptive quality of the psyche.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF PROJECTIVE METHODS TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF PSYCHIC PROCESSES MOBILIZED BY THE EXPERIENCE OF AGING AND OLD AGE

# ATTILA EST-IL UN PSYCHOPATHE ? TAT ET RORSCHACH (CS-R) D'UN HOMME CONDAMNE POUR HOMICIDES ET VIOLS SUR MAJEURS.

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Session F4, Oral Presentation, Forensic 1, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Attila est connu de la justice pour divers faits de vols avec violence, de faux et d'usage de faux commis durant son adolescence. Âgé de 19 ans, il est condamné à une peine de 10 ans de réclusion pour des faits de coups et blessures, de viol sur majeure et d'usage de drogues ayant entraîné la mort. Quelques mois après sa libération conditionnelle (alors âgé de 29 ans), au cours d'une folle équipée de quatre jours, il commet, avec deux complices, divers vols et braquages, trois meurtres et deux viols sur majeures. Il est condamné à la réclusion à perpétuité. Après 14 ans d'emprisonnement, accessible à la libération conditionnelle, il est examiné par un collège d'experts psychologues et psychiatres.

Pour certains, les crimes commis par Attila et la récurrence de ses comportements délinquants parlent d'eux-mêmes : le diagnostic de psychopathie s'impose simplement. Pourtant, les singularités observées lors de l'évaluation clinique et l'analyse des protocoles de Thematic Apperception Test et de Psychodiagnostik de Rorschach (CS-R) qu'Attila produit permettent de nuancer ce tableau et apportent des éléments pour comprendre comment Attila rompt avec sa tendance à la passivité, son impuissance, sa dépendance, etc. alors que les processus de mentalisation et les représentations font défaut et que les somatisations prennent le pas.



# INCIDENT OF MENTAL INSANITY AND CONDITION OF CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY: A CASE STUDY WITH RORSCHACH (R-PAS)

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Session F4, Oral Presentation, Forensic 1, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

The Brazilian criminal law adopts the biopsychological criterion, which requires a causal relationship between a mental disorder and the criminal act in question to assess an individual's culpability. According to this criterion, the evaluation of mental insanity seeks to determine whether, at the time of the crime, the individual had the capacity to understand the illicit nature of the act or to determine himself according to that understanding. The current case study refers to a man accused of the crime of theft, where the Defense requested the conduct of a mental insanity incident, claiming that he has diagnoses with the presence of psychotic symptoms, among them, schizophrenia. The procedures adopted were: clinical-forensic interview, Rorschach Test (R-PAS), Intelligence Test – BETA-III, study of the procedural documents, and analysis of the criminogenesis and criminodynamics of the case. In this context, the R-PAS becomes relevant for being less susceptible to manipulation by the examinee. Scientific evidence is significant regarding the validity of this system in detecting psychotic indicators. The results of the R-PAS served to refute the diagnosis of schizophrenia previously presented by the defense, as all variables in the Perception and Thinking Problems domain remained within or below average. Furthermore, in this case, the practice of theft implies intentional and deliberate behavior, and the way the crime occurred does not correspond to signs of psychotic disturbances. Thus, it can be inferred that the evaluated individual demonstrates conditions to understand the illicit nature of his conduct and determine himself according to that understanding.

# The offenders of online child pornography

## Hypotheses of psychic functioning with projective methods

MCF-HDR Barbara Smaniotto<sup>1</sup>, PhD Cédric Le Bodic<sup>1</sup>, MCF-HDR Elise Pelladeau<sup>2</sup>, Pr Magali Ravit<sup>1</sup>, Pr Marjorie Roques<sup>3</sup>, Pr François-David Camps<sup>1</sup>

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Session F4, Oral Presentation, Forensic 1, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

### Introduction

In France, the problem of online child pornography offences has not been the subject of a systematic study, unlike in other countries (United States, Canada, etc.) where this issue has been studied since the 1990s. To fill this gap, a multidisciplinary research project (psychology, sociology, law) is currently underway. One of its aims is to gain a better understanding of the life history, personality and psychic functioning of subjects with online child pornography practices.

Based on two study cases, this presentation presents the first hypotheses resulting from the analysis of projective tests.

### Methodology

The qualitative research protocol includes two clinical interviews (one focusing on the "life story"; the other on practices) and the Rorschach and TAT - scored and analyzed according to the "French School" method.

This protocol will be submitted to 30 voluntary participants (free and informed consent), convicted of offences related to online child pornography (viewing, downloading, production...). They were met in health and care centers, at the start of their treatment.

The two cases presented have the particularity of being exclusively consumers of online child pornography content (no sexual assault with contact).

### Results

The protocols show difficulties in mentalizing sexuality. Overall, fantasies are not accessible. Finally, an intense struggle against depressive affects was observed.

### Conclusion

These initial hypotheses offer stimulating ideas about these subjects' relationship to their environment and to perception, and about the meaning of using online child pornography.

# JEAN, L'IMPOSTEUR : THEMATIC APPERCEPTION TEST, PSYCHODIAGNOSTIK DE RORSCHACH (CS-R), ESCROQUERIE ET DELINQUANCE SEXUELLE.

Master In Clinical Psychology Séverine Anne Catherine Louwette<sup>1</sup>, Ph D Psychology Christian Mormont

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Session F4, Oral Presentation, Forensic 1, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Condamné à plusieurs reprises dès ses 30 ans pour de multiples faits d'escroquerie et d'extorsion, Jean est ensuite poursuivi pour des faits de viols de mineures de moins de 12 ans et est condamné aux travaux forcés à perpétuité à l'âge de 46 ans.

Les récits qu'il dresse de sa propre histoire sont des plus surprenants, approchant le légendaire et le fabuleux ; ils fluctuent au gré du temps et des rencontres, mais l'étonnement qu'ils suscitent n'entache que peu la crédibilité de Jean comme l'attestent ses nombreuses duperies.

Évalué à sa propre demande à deux reprises après sa dernière condamnation, l'interprétation des protocoles de Thematic Apperception Test et de Psychodiagnostik de Rorschach (CS-R) produits par Jean apportent un éclairage intéressant à la compréhension de sa dynamique psychique : son narcissisme singulier, son conformisme moral, sa crainte de perdre les liens d'attachement, etc. révèlent la scène intérieure d'un imposteur.

## Between Law and Mental Health: a woman charged of murder assessed by the R-PAS

Mestrado Ignez Charbel Stephanini<sup>1</sup>, Philippe Gomes Vieira Vieira<sup>2</sup>

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Session F4, Oral Presentation, Forensic 1, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

To assess the criminal responsibility of an individual, Brazilian law adopts the biopsychological criterion, requiring a causal link between the mental disorder and the committed crime. According to this criterion, it is necessary to evaluate, at the time of the act, the person's capacity to understand the unlawful nature of the crime and/or to act in accordance with that understanding. In this study, the evaluated individual maintained a casual relationship with the victim, murdered them by inflicting multiple stab wounds, and then dismembered the body with the help of her son and took it to be burned at another location. The Defense requested the performance of a mental insanity incident to verify her criminal responsibility. The adopted procedures were clinical forensic interview; Rorschach Test (R-PAS); Non Verbal Test of General Intelligence BETA III; Beck Depression Inventory BDI II; study of the procedural documents, criminogenesis, and criminodynamics of the case. The R-PAS results showed that the Ego Impairment Index Form 3 and Perception and Thinking Problems domain remained within or below average, corroborating those present in the other procedures performed. Considering all the data obtained, it was concluded that, at the time of the action, the evaluated individual did not present any mental disorder with a causal link to the crime committed, which would remove her capacity to understand and determine her actions.

# Use of Rorschach CS and PAI-A as Part of Transgender Assessment for Adolescents.

Mr. Heikki Toivakka, Päivi Ervast

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Session F5, Oral Presentation, Gender, Session Room: Børsen, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

**Introduction:** The number of adolescents referred for transgender assessment has increased during the last decade. A significant proportion of this group have severe mental health and identity problems that are not necessarily related to their experience of gender dysphoria. Two broadband indices of psychopathology, Rorschach Ego Impairment index (EII-2) and PAI Global Psychopathology Index (GPI) were used as part of the psychological assessment of adolescents referred to transgender assessment in order to select appropriate treatment options. **Methodology:** Archival data from 40 adolescents referred to transgender assessment were used (30 % MtoF). Distribution of diagnoses (ICD-10): Transsexualism (F64.0) N = 25, Gender identity disorder; unspecified (F64.9) N = 15. Age range 12-19 years (M = 16.5, SD = 1.41). The data set consists of clients, who were assessed with Rorschach CS and PAI-A in the Department of Adolescent Psychiatry, Tampere University Hospital. The Rorschach CS was administered and scored by CS-trained psychologists. EII-2 and GPI were calculated from the test protocols.

**Analyses:** Correlations, t-tests and scatterplots.

**Results:** No correlation was found between EII-2 and GPI. There was no difference in EII-2 and GPI between biological sexes. GPI did not differ between diagnostic groups, but the F64.9 group had significantly higher EII-2 than the F64.0 group,  $p = 0.046$ . **Conclusion:** The use of performance-based methods (e.g. Rorschach) is recommended because self-report (PAI-A) did not differ between groups, thus increasing the risk of misdiagnosis. **Limitations:** Archival data did not provide comprehensive information on various background variables and comorbidity.

# MEN'S GENDER IDENTITY: COMPARISON OF THE RORSCHACH INDICES OF THE YEARS 1930-40 WITH THOSE OF THE YEARS 2000

Dr. Vito Rocco Genzano<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Daniela Fioretti<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Scuola Romana Rorschach, Rome, Italy

Session F5, Oral Presentation, Gender, Session Room: Børsen, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Gender identity today represents, once the old roles have fallen, a territory that appears confused, with uncertain limits and a thousand shades. Since gender identity is largely the product of the culture of the moment, its change inevitably changes the models and roles referring to the male and female. This research work aimed to evaluate the evolution of male gender identity by analyzing the indices of the Rorschach test. The work is part of a broader research project, carried out by the "Scuola Romana Rorschach" Institute, which contains an archive, made up of more than 27,000 Rorschach Protocols (starting from the year 1932) which allows to retrace a century of Italian history. The research through compares two test samples each consisting of 50 Rorschach protocols of Italian males between 20 and 30 years: the first administered between 1932 and 1943, the second administered from 2000 to 2010 and intends to "photograph" and describe the two prototypes of Italian male. The hypothesis confirmed by the research work is that the Rorschach indices, in particular those referring to sexuality, are in line with the male gender identity of the two different eras. In fact, the significant increase in Passive Human Movement Responses referred to the male gender, with the simultaneous increase in Active Human Movement Responses referred to the female gender and the less good responses to sexual content in the 2000s sample, suggest an identity less stereotypically marked as in the past.

# REFLECTIONS OF GENDER ISSUES IN RORSCHACH & OTHER PROJECTIVE METHODS

Ms. Efrat Gins Finmesser<sup>1</sup>, Yana Krasik<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Private Practice, Givataim, Israel

Session F5, Oral Presentation, Gender, Session Room: Børsen, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

In recent years there is rise in the prevalence of teenagers identifying themselves as transgenders. At the same time more of them seek psychological evaluation due to various emotional & behavioral difficulties. Therefore, it is of great importance to recognize the unique features of gender identity as it reflects in tests materials in order to discriminate transgender identity (that is not considered pathological according to DSM ) from other disorders.

We will overview three subjects test materials, age range 14-17. They were referred for psychological testing due to various difficulties in adjustment, including complex family relationships, academic difficulties, suicidal thoughts as well as self-mutilation behaviors, anxiety & depression. All of them identify themselves in the opposite sex they were assigned at birth, including matching name and pronoun. We administered full test batteries including cognitive and projective tests: Rorschach, TAT ,WISC, HTP, bender II, as well as a clinical interview. We used RPAS coding system for Rorschach. We recognize some features that characterize subjects with transgender identity that resonate with complex body image & high bodily preoccupation, vagueness & unconventionality in perception, and tendency for incongruent combinations. It should be noted that we did not find significant inclination for distorted perception, hence they all have a reasonably sound reality testing.

# Rethinking T.A.T. : A Contemporary Lens on Gender Issues

Dr Simruy Ikiz<sup>1</sup>, Professor Tefrika IKIZ, Dr Bengi Pirim Dusgor, PhD Hdr Barbara Smaniotto, Professor François-David Camps, Valentine Feugas, Kristin Segikoglu, Ayse Sena Sari, Alix de La Forest Divonne, Yigit Aras, Antoine Beziat, Associate Professor Jean-Baptiste MARCHAND

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Session F5, Oral Presentation, Gender, Session Room: Børsen, July 11, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

The societal norms surrounding sexualities have evolved since the advent of psychoanalysis. The administration and analysis of the Thematic Apperception Test can currently be interpreted as heteronormative. Taking into account the psychic bisexuality of the individual in our analysis of projective tests, we inquire about the dissociation of phantasmatic contents based on the subject's gender (GF and BG cards). These inquiries lead us to examine homosexual and heterosexual representations within the T.A.T. Our presentation aims to introduce our international research on the T.A.T. conducted between France and Turkey. This ongoing study seeks to reevaluate the T.A.T. protocol in light of anthropological changes observed in Western societies over the past twenty years. We have adopted a projective methodology, where participants undergo an assessment consisting of both a Rorschach test and the T.A.T. For the administration of the T.A.T., we have chosen to present the entire set of gendered cards to both women and men. Our sample consists of 40 subjects (20 Turkish and 20 French participants). Although our research is not yet complete, we have already obtained some preliminary results. On the one hand, we observed that the cards typically presented to the opposite gender could reactivate specific fantasies in the subjects. On the other hand, we have discerned that the presence of homosexual couples in narratives does not inherently signify a denial of alterity but assumes a specific interpretation in each case. Furthermore, the manifestation of these responses may indicate that the young adult is capable of establishing an investment in object relations.



# EMBODIED MENTALIZATION: THE CASE OF HUMAN MOVEMENT IN THE RORSCHACH

Prof. Piero Porcelli<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Chieti, Chieti, Italy

Keynote 3: Piero Porcelli, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

From conceptual and empirical perspectives, M responses to the Rorschach have been consistently associated with various higher psychological functions and processes (e.g., field independence, effective interpersonal relations and behaviors, ego strength, introversion, ability to cognitively process emotions, creativity, intelligence, post-treatment symptom improvement, etc.). Underlying mechanisms have been traditionally considered within the theoretical frames of phenomenology (Einfühlung) and psychoanalysis (projective identification). M responses may be related therefore to the wider construct of “implicit mentalization”, including embodied cognition (in affective neuroscience), embodied simulation (in the mirror neuron system), mentalized affectivity (or the capacity to connect with the meaning of one’s emotions), and embodied mentalization (as the dyadic development of mentalizing functioning in early relationships, or “parental embodied mentalization”). Overall, embodied mentalization postulates that body states are mapped in interoceptive neural maps, experienced cognitively as emotions, and involved in implicit level interpersonal communication of shared emotional experiences. Based on recent findings on M and mirroring, on one side, and M and therapeutic alliance, on the other side, M can be suggested as a proxy indicator of mentalization, or the individual ability to make and use symbolic representations of one’s own and the other’s mental and somatic states. Given the importance of these constructs in clinical practice and psychological treatment, M responses may shed new light on Rorschach clinical interpretation.

# High Stakes of Misdiagnosis: Stigma and termination of parental rights

Dr James Kleiger

<sup>1</sup>Institute Of Projective Psychology, Montreal, Canada

Session G1, Symposium: Stories and Theory of Misdiagnosis, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11,  
2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

High stakes of misdiagnosis: stigma and termination of parental rights:

Dr. Kleiger will discuss the misdiagnosis of a 39-year-old man in the context of a domestic dispute and divorce. As part of the custody litigation to assist in determining the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities, Mr. T was evaluated by a psychologist who diagnosed "Paranoid Schizophrenia with a Schizoid Personality Disorder and an Alcohol Use Disorder." As a result of the psychologist's court-ordered evaluation, the patient's parental rights were terminated, and parenting visits were required to be supervised. Mr. T was seeing a therapist experienced in working with the chronically mentally ill, who questioned the diagnoses and conclusions and recommended a second opinion. Dr. Kleiger presents findings and diagnostic conclusions from his re-evaluation and reviews test results inconsistent with key symptom dimensions of psychosis, the original diagnosis, and the recommendations that followed.

Stories and Theory of Misdiagnosis

# The cost of diagnostic meandering: the case of Marcos

M.Ps Mariette Lepage<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute Of Projective Psychology, Montreal, Canada

Session G1, Symposium: Stories and Theory of Misdiagnosis, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

The literature on mood disorders regularly reports that the diagnosis of bipolar disorder takes ten to fifteen years to be established. Indeed, this psychopathological entity is often confused with diagnoses as varied as attention deficit disorder, borderline personality disorder or major depression. We will present the case of Marcos who has been in consultation since the age of eight, who is evaluated for the first time with projective tests at the age of thirteen and then, for a second time, at the age of twenty. Between these two evaluations, he was cared for in child psychiatry, overseen by multiple diagnoses and medications, but Marcos deteriorated: he no longer functioned, neither in an academic nor in a professional environment. Marcos' parents, desperate in the face of his growing disorganization, sought help for the umpteenth time, fearing that their son would be prosecuted. We are fortunate to have access to both protocols of this young person: we will look at the stability of his personality and see how the conclusions of the first examination were not considered. Seven years later, the second evaluation by Mariette Lepage will lead to appropriate treatment planning.

Stories and Theory of Misdiagnosis

# Too Little, Too Early: Current dilemmas in mental disorder diagnosis

Professor (ret.) F. Barton Evans

<sup>1</sup>Institute Of Projective Psychology, Montreal, Canada

Session G1, Symposium: Stories and Theory of Misdiagnosis, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

An important aspect of modern mental disorder diagnosis is the significant overlap of symptoms within common diagnostic categories. As such, seemingly straightforward diagnostic decisions are frequently fraught with unexamined complexity. Inaccurate diagnosis is all-too-common and can lead to misguided and failed treatment. Add to this the current cultural forces for mental health and medical providers to arrive at quick diagnoses and simplified treatment approaches. Such a confluence of complexity and uncertainty with pressure for rapid decisions increase errors in clinical decision-making. Rapid mental health evaluation is prone to widespread biases due to use of short-cut mental strategies that cognitive psychologists Kahneman & Tversky called heuristics. While heuristics allow for faster processing of information than more careful analytic methods, they can lead to errors in complex decisions because of insufficient data and premature closure of multiple possibilities. As the previous case presentations have so splendidly illustrated, differential mental disorder diagnosis is all too vulnerable to inaccurate mental health decision-making heuristics. Indeed, some diagnoses have considerable popularity, while others are less so. For example, PTSD is frequently diagnosed in the absence of a required stressor, while literature shows bipolar disorder type II is dramatically underdiagnosed and untreated. As such the value of multimethod psychological assessment, which by necessity must include performance-based tests like the Rorschach, offers a way to examine and integrate large amounts of information. Multimethod psychological assessment provides a critical correction to common clinical decision-making errors and opens the door for better long-term treatment outcome.

Stories and Theory of Misdiagnosis

# Revealing depressive fragility beneath manic defenses through projective methods

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Session G1, Symposium: Stories and Theory of Misdiagnosis, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Benoît Verdon will talk about a 54-year-old female patient in diagnostic limbo who has repeatedly sought help in neuropsychology for memory issues and in cosmetic surgery to erase any signs of aging. Because of her consistently positive results in neuropsychological assessments and the complaisance of surgeons willing to meet her repeated requests for facelifts to the point that she was undergoing her sixth, she has never been informed about her potential underlying psychological suffering. Asking for another neuropsychological assessment in the hospital clinical service where Benoît Verdon is working, the latter takes the time for a clinical interview before the neuropsychological assessment and notes the recurrence of previous consultations. Nevertheless, he proposes conducting a new neuropsychological assessment (the last one was a year ago), as well as the Rorschach and the TAT. Consequently, the feedback could incorporate consideration of the various tests: behind the undoubtedly strong mobilization of cognitive processes, it was finally possible to address the depth of her suffering and the richness inherent in her psychological functioning. This involved a hypomanic defense against acute narcissistic and depressive vulnerability. The opportunity for psychotherapeutic intervention was thus presented to this woman who had been wandering in search of answers, guidance, and a listening ear.

Stories and Theory of Misdiagnosis

# Stories and Theory of Misdiagnosis

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Session G1, Symposium: Stories and Theory of Misdiagnosis, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11,  
2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

This symposium is born out of numerous case studies where misdiagnosis led to years of sickness and distress, with marked dysfunctionality. In some cases, only an expert psychological assessment finally brought light to the situation and enabled the correction of an unfortunate trajectory.

In the first part of our symposium, three such stories will be presented.

Dr James Kleiger will discuss the misdiagnosis of a man in the context of a child custody evaluation, whose original evaluation and diagnosis resulted in the termination of his parental rights.

Prof. Benoît Verdon will talk about a female patient who has repeatedly asked for neuropsychological assessment and cosmetic surgery, but whose hypomanic defense against acute narcissistic and depressive vulnerability has never been heard.

Mariette Lepage and Dr Odile Husain will narrate the story of Marcos who wandered in the labyrinth of the health system for ten years, with multiple diagnoses and medications, including that of autism, and became unmanageable.

In the second part of our symposium, Dr Barton Evans will fulfill the role of discussant and share some of the literature surrounding the issue of misdiagnosis, a topic that is rarely discussed within mental health circles.

This symposium is of special interest for professionals concerned with differential diagnosis and the unique contribution of personality assessment.

Stories and Theory of Misdiagnosis

# THREE RORSCACH SYSTEMS IN JAPAN: WHY DO THEY SURVIVE?

Prof. Toshiki Ogawa, Ph.D. Yoshitsugu Takase, Prof. Masahiro Ishibashi, Ph.D. Chie Hatagaki, Ph.D. Hiroko Sasaki<sup>1</sup>

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Session G2, Symposium: THREE RORSCACH SYSTEMS IN JAPAN: WHY DO THEY SURVIVE?, Session  
Room: Christiansborg, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

The Rorschach has a long past and history in Japan. In Japan, there were 5 domestic Rorschach systems in 1950s. However, two systems of them died out, and other three systems are alive. Therefore, there are three domestic systems, that is the Kataguchi System(KS), the Osaka University Rorschach System(OURS), the Nagoya University Style Rorschach Method(NUSRM), and two international systems, that is Comprehensive System(CS), Rorschach-Performance Assessment(R-PAS) at present in Japan. While such a cohabitation is rare in the field of natural science, it enables us to understand a testee holistically in the field of Rorschach science. The whole image could emerge from the different colored spotlights, that is to say, each of the domestic systems has own color. At this symposium, we introduce the colors of three domestic systems, KS, OURS and NUSRM.

Presentations and its presenters are the followings: Presentation A is “The Introductory remarks on the Rorschach systems in Japan” by Prof. Ogawa. Presentation B is “On the Kataguchi System” by Prof. Takase. Presentation C is “On the Osaka University Rorschach System” by Prof. Ishibashi. Presentation D is “On the Nagoya University Style Rorschach Method” by Prof. Hatagaki. After these presentations, a discussant makes a comment about them.

THREE RORSCACH SYSTEMS IN JAPAN: WHY DO THEY SURVIVE?

# (UN)EXPECTED FATES OF SO-CALLED PSYCHOTIC SYMPTOMATOLOGY IN CHILDHOOD

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Session G3, Symposium: AUTISM AND PSYCHOSIS: UNDERSTANDING EFFECTS OF PSYCHIC VARIATION DURING LIFE AGES, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Introduction:** What happened to children who were considered as psychotic in early childhood after years of psychiatric and psychoanalytical treatment? This is the question concerning not only the status of diagnosis but especially that of prognosis in psychiatry.

**Methodology:** This question also was the starting point for our research based on a clinical case study which aims to explore the evolution of five children followed for psychotic symptomatology and who benefited from psychoanalytic therapy.

Organized in three stages (research interview, projective assessment and study of “child” and “adult” medical files), our research protocol allows us to follow both the care pathway of patients as well as the lives they live in today in the most concrete aspects (studies, work, autonomy) but also their current modes of psychological functioning, linking them with the diagnostic hypotheses that were made by the psychiatrists who met them in childhood.

**Results :** Through an in-depth study of five protocols of the Rorschach test and the TAT, our presentation aims to account for the variation of the psychological functioning of the patients, paying particular attention to the way that they treat the sensory aspect of projective material, notably the particularities linked to language and their relationship to others and the presence of a melancholic component which marks their projective protocols.

**Conclusion:** The study shows the different possibilities of evolution from early childhood psychosis to adulthood.

AUTISM AND PSYCHOSIS: UNDERSTANDING EFFECTS OF PSYCHIC VARIATION DURING LIFE AGES



# AUTISM AND PSYCHOSIS: UNDERSTANDING EFFECTS OF PSYCHIC VARIATION DURING LIFE AGES

Mcf Michael Chocron<sup>1</sup>, Professeure associée Hélène Suarez Labat<sup>2</sup>

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Session G3, Symposium: AUTISM AND PSYCHOSIS: UNDERSTANDING EFFECTS OF PSYCHIC VARIATION DURING LIFE AGES, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Introduction : Modern research in psychoanalysis tend to approach autisms in term of process of psychic functioning, stepping away from a vision of autism as a defect. Adaptive care toward these persons as kids, help stabilizing anguishes and facilitate the resuming of development. Thoses persons grow up and their psychic functioning becomes more complex. Psychotic functioning appears in some autistic persons. This brings us to reassess some of the theories in order to refine them and investigate the specificities of an psychotic evolution happening to someone already diagnosed with autism, which is different from a more classical psychotic breakdown.

Methodology: This symposium asks the question of what becomes of psychic functioning of persons with autism when they become adolescents and adults. Using the comparison between protocols of a variety of persons or comparing protocols, done years apart, from the same person, both modifications and stabilization can be pinpointed: Softening in autistic functioning of mechanisms which processes anguishes and of sensory processes that stabilize the whole functioning. Some opening appears concerning the object relations which bring some autistics persons to modify their understanding of the object functioning, notably the two-dimensional object evolving toward three-dimensionality mixed with impressions of being persecuted.

Conclusion : Projective methods allows to see and understand in details psychic motions and opens reflections about the effects of variations between autistic functioning and other type of psychic functioning, especially psychotic functioning.

AUTISM AND PSYCHOSIS: UNDERSTANDING EFFECTS OF PSYCHIC VARIATION DURING LIFE AGES

# THE INVESTMENT OF PSYCHIC TEMPORALITY IN PSYCHOSES

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Session G3, Symposium: AUTISM AND PSYCHOSIS: UNDERSTANDING EFFECTS OF PSYCHIC VARIATION DURING LIFE AGES, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Introduction : Studies in the field of autism emphasize that the circular time of severe autism is inscribed in a two-dimensional space characterized by adhesive identification. The setting up of psychic envelopes engages access to projective identification and access to a three-dimensional space. In psychoses, a three-dimensional space may have been formed, but the impasse of the adolescent process makes it impossible to maintain a link between external time, which can be shared, and internal, impulse time. The literature in psychoanalytic psychopathology concerning psychoses emphasizes temporal freezing in inhibited subjects or spatio-temporal confusion in disorganized subjects. However, these modalities may mask other concomitant investment modalities, in connection with the variegated psychic functioning.

Methodology: We will present the case of an adult patient diagnosed with psychosis hospitalized in psychiatry from a doctoral research under the supervision of Prof. C. Azoulay. The analysis of projective test protocols (Rorschach and TAT) is proposed based on an evaluation grid of the investment of psychic temporality in psychoses. This grid takes into account the external dimension of temporality, chronometric, as well as its internal, instinctual and sensory investment.

Results: In the case studied, the presence of depressive affects related to temporal markers and the mobilization of sensory kinesthesias reflect an ability to invest in the present. These elements testify to a psychic continuity, an ability to take into account loss and a relationship in a sensory register that indicate the potentialities of a psychotic subject to invest in a project.

AUTISM AND PSYCHOSIS: UNDERSTANDING EFFECTS OF PSYCHIC VARIATION DURING LIFE AGES

# AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDERS:

## HISTORIES OF AUTISM-PSYCHOSIS DIFFERENTIATIONS

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Session G3, Symposium: AUTISM AND PSYCHOSIS: UNDERSTANDING EFFECTS OF PSYCHIC  
VARIEGATION DURING LIFE AGES, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Introduction:** The need to analyze psychopathological variations within people with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) has become essential to adjust therapeutic treatments and their systems. Indeed, the risk of a confusion between autistic functioning and psychotic functioning even if mixed states are recognized leads to a prejudicial lack of differentiation both for the autistic person and for the psychotic person and their families. The history of the theoretical and clinical concepts of autism and that of projective clinical practice will clarify the starting points and their current extensions.

**Methodology:** Based on the work of autism and psychosis clinicians, the authors will propose a synthesis of their previous research in projective clinical autism, as well as their current extensions around the elements of autism-psychosis differentiation using the Rorschach and verbal and non-verbal thematic tests.

**Results:** These axes of differentiation relate to the construction of the bodily ego and primary and secondary identifications (non-integration versus disintegration) and the nature of the anxieties linked to it - fragmentation versus fragmentation, as well as to protection mechanisms versus mechanisms of defenses and the particularities of the split: passive splitting/dismantling or active splitting/exacerbated sadism.

**Conclusion:** All of these psychic mechanisms must be identified and analyzed in detail in the projective clinic to refine the understanding of these psychic functionings, translate their regressions and their evolutions in order to construct appropriate therapeutic devices.

AUTISM AND PSYCHOSIS: UNDERSTANDING EFFECTS OF PSYCHIC VARIEGATION DURING LIFE AGES

# APPEARANCE OF AUTISTIC VARIATION IN ADOLESCENCE: THE CONTRIBUTION OF PROJECTIVE METHODS

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Session G3, Symposium: AUTISM AND PSYCHOSIS: UNDERSTANDING EFFECTS OF PSYCHIC VARIATION DURING LIFE AGES, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Introduction :** Long-term care in autism clinics supports changes in many levels of psychic functioning, especially related to body unconscious representation, less invaded by archaic anguish, which makes possible interpersonal relations.

**Methodology:** Authors will use a mixed methodology, a part will be longitudinal, the other comparative. We will introduce two cases patients for which projective assessment were made. The first case had two assessments 10 years apart, which allows to consider the trajectory of his adolescent process. The second case infantile autism knew a different development, which will provide a different understanding of psychic motley forms in adolescence.

**Results:** Two types of development seem to exist. They are not exclusives; they seem more to coexist. First, there is a softening of autistic functioning. The imprint of the sensory continues to play a part in stabilizing unconscious body representation. This opens the question of what the dismantling becomes.

**Conclusion:** Then, the relation to the object is also modified by the adolescent process. It supports opening toward three-dimensionality for one or many objects. The way the subject think what others are thinking is reorganized and brings some persons with autism to reassess agonistic solitude that has been experienced. This reactivation can lead to integration of new functioning, that can be psychotic-like, which adds up to existing functioning which comes to a sort of variations in psychological functioning. This brings the matter of masochism as an operator of those developments.

AUTISM AND PSYCHOSIS: UNDERSTANDING EFFECTS OF PSYCHIC VARIATION DURING LIFE AGES

# THE DEFENSIVE MECHANISMS USED BY THREE PRIESTS ACCUSED OF SEXUAL ABUSE BASED ON PHILLIPSON'S OBJECT RELATIONS TEST (ORT)

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Session G4, Oral Presentation, Different topics, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

In recent decades, multiple cases of sexual abuse of minors in the ecclesiastical world, especially involving children and adolescents, have been made public. These condemnable acts constitute a perversion (Castro, 2007, Pérez García et al, 1991). The ORT can be considered a valuable tool for assessing the primary defenses used by sexual offenders, considering that these constitute a significant task of the Self in personality organization.

It is hypothesized that these three former religious individuals exhibit a specific defensive configuration. The goal is to describe and analyze the defenses used by these subjects in the ORT. The ORT was administered individually as part of a battery of tests. Drawing on the proposals of Siquier de Ocampo and colleagues (2003) and Veccia and Calzada (2002), defense mechanisms appearing in the stories of the three former priests were identified, and the frequency of each was established. When analyzing these results, it was possible to organize these defenses into four major categories, listed in order from highest to lowest:

- In service of concealment (professional content, absence of conflicts, perseveration).
- Manic-narcissistic defenses (omnipotence, idealization, devaluation).
- Defenses around perversion (disavowal, relativization, mockery, seduction).
- Negation (of bond and aggression).

Understanding this defensive configuration would facilitate the early detection of potential perverse functioning and guide any subsequent psychotherapy. It is important to note that the results of this study are not generalizable.

Keywords: Psychodiagnosis, ORT (Object Relations Test), Child Sexual Abuse, Ecclesiastics, Perversion

THE DEFENSIVE MECHANISMS USED BY THREE PRIESTS ACCUSED OF SEXUAL ABUSE BASED ON PHILLIPSON'S OBJECT RELATIONS TEST (ORT)

# The Becoming of the Adolescent Self in Pandemic

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Session G4, Oral Presentation, Different topics, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Adolescence is a time of transitions and multiple changes that restructure the image that the individual has of himself. To do this, adolescents look at themselves and others, while collecting the perception that others have about them. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Peru kept schools closed during 2020 and 2021, leading adolescents to confinement and isolation from their peers and their environment at a crucial stage in their lives. In this sense, in addition to the challenges of adolescence, those generated by the pandemic are added. Therefore, this study seeks to describe the characteristics of self-perception in a group of Peruvian adolescents. To this objective, the Rorschach Psychodiagnosis has been interviewed and applied, virtually, to 100 Lima adolescents of average socioeconomic level, between 12 and 16 years old, homogeneously distributed by sex and age. In this regard, the results indicate that adolescent girls have a higher Egocentrism Index (Ego) compared to their male peers. At the same time, the participants appear less reflective (FD with Me=0) and with concerns about their bodily well-being (An with Me=1) and pessimistic thoughts (MOR with Me=1). In turn, they tend to be perceived subjectively ( $H: (H) + Hd + (Hd)$ ), about all men. All of which seems to have completed the construction of who they are. These findings are discussed from evolutionary, cultural and psychometric perspectives, in the context of the pandemic.

# SEXUALITY CHARACTERISTICS OF THREE ECCLESIASTICS ACCUSED OF SEXUAL ABUSE BASED ON PLATE VI OF THE RORSCHACH TEST

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Session G4, Oral Presentation, Different topics, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

International research on sexual abuse in the ecclesiastical context has been on the rise since the 2000s (Böhm et al., 2014). In Chile, it has also become a relevant issue, indicating a serious problem that has primarily affected minors (Centro UC Derecho y Religión, 2022). Ecclesiastical sexual abuse involves a type of institutional abuse that makes it particularly controversial, as it compromises the spiritual aspect (as cited in Pinto-Cortez, Suárez-Soto & Guerra, 2022). These types of abuses often stem from perversions, where there is an intention to harm the subject and pervert them (Durand, 2020).

The Rorschach Test is a widely used personality assessment tool (Sendín, 2021). Plate VI evaluates various aspects of subjects' sexuality (Weigle & Bendito, 2015). Therefore, this test is valuable for assessing areas of sexuality in individuals accused of sexual abuse.

The objective of this work is to describe the psychodynamics and qualitatively (Meltzer, 1974; Grassano, 1984; Passalacqua & Gravenhorst, 2010; Weigle & Bendito, 2015) the sexuality of three ecclesiastics accused of sexual abuse based on their responses to Plate VI of the Rorschach Test. The findings show a common element: the presence of egosyntonic aggression in the service of libido, associated with the perverse dynamics of the individuals. Additionally, boundary transgressions are observed, specifically associated with zone confusion. Finally, narcissistic aspects with omnipotent elements in the sexual functioning of the ecclesiastics are highlighted.

SEXUALITY CHARACTERISTICS OF THREE ECCLESIASTICS ACCUSED OF SEXUAL ABUSE BASED ON PLATE VI OF THE RORSCHACH TEST

# APPLICATION OF THE RORSCHACH TEST TO UNDERSTAND THE BEHAVIOUR OF YOUNG BRAZILIANS WITH A GAMBLING DISORDER

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Session G4, Oral Presentation, Different topics, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Gambling Disorder (GD) is described as a non-adaptive and persistent behaviour related to gambling which has consequences for the individual's life. With the increasing offer of betting through digital platforms, there has been a rise in the number of young people affected by GD in Brazil and worldwide. Considering that youth is a delicate stage of transition to adulthood, studies are needed to understand the relationship between this public and gambling. In this way, this study is a master's dissertation's product which is currently under development by the Postgraduate Studies Programme in Clinical Psychology at PUC-SP and presents partial results. The aim of the study is to investigate the behaviour of young Brazilians with gambling disorder using the Rorschach Method (CS-R). Regarding the objectives, this is an exploratory study with a mixed method, with the participation of five volunteer collaborators until now. The qualitative analysis was conducted using Content Analysis, supported by the jungian technique of symbolic amplification. Descriptive statistics were applied for the quantitative analysis. The results established relationships between both sources of information (qualitative and quantitative) to increase understanding about young Brazilian gamblers through the Rorschach.



# RORSCHACH-ASSESSED PSYCHOLOGICAL RESOURCES AS PREDICTORS OF PSYCHOTHERAPY OUTCOME IN SHORT- AND LONG-TERM PSYCHOTHERAPY OVER A 5-YEAR FOLLOW-UP

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Session G5, Oral Presentation, Psychotherapy/adolescents, Session Room: Børsen, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Background: Literature indicates that the better the psychological resources are for psychotherapy, the faster the gain is in short-term therapies. The Rorschach provides a performance-based approach for evaluating personality characteristics potentially beneficial for psychotherapy process and outcome. We hypothesized higher values in selected Rorschach (CS) variables reflecting psychological resources (EA, DQ+, GHR, Mo+Mu) to predict faster gain in short-term as compared to long-term psychotherapy. Subjects: The sample included 326 outpatients, recruited from various outpatient psychiatric services, all of whom were suffering from depressive or anxiety disorders and gave informed consent. The patients were randomized into solution-focused (n = 97), short-term psychodynamic (n = 101) or long-term psychodynamic psychotherapy (n = 128). Methods and materials: A cohort study design with repeated measurements was used. The predictive ability of the Rorschach variables on psychotherapy outcome was evaluated at the baseline and after 3-, 7-, 12-, 24-, 36-, 48-, and 60-months' time points. Psychotherapy outcome assessments covered psychiatric symptoms (SCL-90-GSI, SCL-90-Anx, BDI, HDRS and HARS) and global functioning (GAF). Analyses: Model-adjusted differences in outcomes between patients with "low" and "high" psychological resources at different measurement points were calculated and the confidence intervals were computed. Results: The results comparing predictive ability of the selected CS variables in two short-term therapies and one long-term psychotherapy will be presented. Conclusions: The results provide information of the potential utility of selected Rorschach variables in identifying patients with good capacity to benefit from brief treatment and thus, potential help selecting optimal type or length of psychotherapeutic treatment.

# CENTRALITY OF THE RORSCHACH TEST IN THE ASSESSMENT FOR THE THERAPEUTIC REFERRAL OF ADOLESCENTS CHARACTERIZED BY SOCIAL AND RELATIONAL WITHDRAWAL

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Session G5, Oral Presentation, Psychotherapy/adolescents, Session Room: Børsen, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

The emergency situation resulting from the Covid 19 pandemic has favored an increase in psychotherapeutic demand in Italy for some segments of the population such as adolescents. The measures taken by the Italian government, "psychological bonus" and others, have facilitated the demand and supply of mental care and the diffusion of a very broad concept of "depression" relating to the experiences of the Italian adolescent population and their need for access the mental sciences. Sometimes the therapeutic framework, however, rather than having to deal with cases of depression or anxieties reactive to the difficulties that emerged during the pandemic emergency, clashed with adolescents already characterized by forms of social, relational and emotional withdrawal, which pandemic crisis had only accentuated and made it clear.

The present work will address two evaluations also carried out with the Rorschach Test, collected according to the Method of the Scuola Romana Rorschach, on as many adolescents sent for evaluation by therapists and psychiatrists, in the doubt of the presence of any psychotic nuclei such as to require the prescription of therapies psychopharmacological and which instead highlighted how the level of anxiety, depression and relational difficulties were treatable in psychotherapy and at the same time activating socialization projects, to facilitate the opening and learning of relational dynamics and abandon those attitudes that the pandemic closure had accentuated.

The two cases were the key to the creation of a psychodiagnostic service aimed at the adolescent population created by the Scuola Romana Rorschach in 2024

# Dreaming of the Future: The Role of the Capacity for Reverie in the Transition to Adulthood

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Session G5, Oral Presentation, Psychotherapy/adolescents, Session Room: Børsen, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

A contemporary social category of young adults has emerged, comprising people from around 18 to 25 years old. Various terms in psychoanalytic literature, such as "post-adolescence," "adulthood," and "emerging adults," arise from a lack of consensus about the end of adolescence and adulthood, making it challenging to establish a unified metapsychology. We postulate that the end of the adolescent process is identifiable through the subjective appropriation of an "adult project" developed through a capacity for reverie. The adult project is introduced here as an intermediate concept situated at the crossroads of internal and external reality, taking into account the importance of societal and environmental factors and the choices made by young adults in their late adolescence. By way of an exploratory study, we adopt a qualitative and projective methodology with a psychoanalytical frame of reference, applying a semi-structured interview and two projective tests (the Rorschach and the Thematic Apperception Test [TAT]) to a small group of non-clinical participants recruited through social media and within the city. The results highlight a difficulty for all subjects in accessing object relations invested in the genital dimension with the other as well as instabilities in gendered identity. We have observed that as the subject gains greater access to their regression capabilities and transitional phenomena, the more they can mobilize the capacity for reverie. Consequently, they are better equipped to invest in their future as a potential source of satisfaction through a subjectively appropriate adult project that aligns with their unconscious desires.

# UPDATES IN THE DIGITAL PSYCHOTHERAPY DEVICE BASED ON THE RORSCHACH TEST.

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Session G5, Oral Presentation, Psychotherapy/adolescents, Session Room: Børsen, July 11, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

The Digital Psychotherapy Device Based on Rorschach is a brief psychotherapy technique which involves in the first phase a diagnosis in which the test is applied, and psychotherapy in the second phase consisting of analogy drawing sessions and digital drawing of the answers provided by the stains.

The technique's aim is to produce subjective transformations that enable the patient to elaborate underlying psychological conflicts by means of strategic and dosed feedback of the elements that the Rorschach and the drawings provide.

The technique was first introduced in 2005 in the XV International Congress de Rorschach in Barcelona and finally in the XXIII Internacional Congress in Geneva upholding from the early stages the combination of analogue and digital drawing.

There are important updates exposed in this work: replacement of the mouse for the digital pencil and replacement of Adobe Photoshop program for Procreate, which allows a higher fluidity in children and teenagers within the possibilities of expression.

The exhibition corresponds to the students of Escuela Técnica de Rivera, who were assigned to Casa del Desarrollo de la Niñez of the Administración de Servicios de Salud del Estado (Rivera - República Oriental del Uruguay.)

# Healing the Brokenness: A Two Years Therapeutic Process

Dr. Noriko Nakamura<sup>2</sup>

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Session H1, Symposium: The Broken Glass Syndrome and its Recovery: Preliminary Findings from the Rorschach and Self Reports, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

This presentation will describe the case of a young woman who made habitual suicidal attempts while in a dissociated state and explain the process through which she changed from 'broken' to 'repaired' over a period of two years and 55 sessions of psychotherapy. Repeated losses that she experienced between the ages of 13 and 15 had a profound and negative effect on her life. After six years of psychotherapy and psychiatric treatment, at age 21, she was referred from a rural hospital as a Borderline patient, having been hospitalized eight times for suicide attempts in the year before therapy started. Immediate psychological assessment was made focusing on the evaluation of the suicide risk and how to manage it. The Rorschach (Comprehensive System), WAIS, POMS (Profile of Mood State), and Uchida-Kraepelin Performance Test were administered. The Rorschach results revealed the extent of her inner conflict and the damage underlying her over-valued self-image, which we call here. One year later and 30 therapy sessions without readmission, she still presented with the "Broken Glass Syndrome". It was only after a further year of therapy that her second retest showed significant, positive changes, including  $Fr+rF = 0$ , and  $S-CON = 3$ . The POMS data taken four times and WAIS twice, in addition to the Rorschach data, clearly illustrated how she had moved from 'broken' to 'repaired' over the 2-year therapy period.

The Broken Glass Syndrome and its Recovery: Preliminary Findings from the Rorschach and Self Reports

# The search for the recomposition of a destroyed face

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Session H1, Symposium: The Broken Glass Syndrome and its Recovery: Preliminary Findings from the Rorschach and Self Reports, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

This is the case of a 17-year-old young man who asks for a psychological assessment because he is enrolled in the penultimate year of an aeronautical technical institute that requires a psychological profile for him to obtain his aviation pilot's license. He is the second son; his parents get along well and have a small business. The young man presents himself as well-groomed, adequate, and cooperative. He reports good family agreement and the absence of psychopathological disorders. We administered the Rorschach CS test, the MMPI-A questionnaire, and the WAIS IV. The WAIS-IV, although indicating a good cognitive level (QIT =103), is very heterogeneous. The validity scales of the MMPI-A indicate a marked defensiveness. The Rorschach CS test reveals a very complex picture: valid and interpretable and quite rich (R=17, L=0.21, EB=1:6) it presents important criticalities (S-CON=7, Ego I= 1.06, Fr+rF=5, MOR=3, V=1, FD=2, DQ+=11, a:p=2:4). The protocol configures a condition of conflict between high expectations, with a highly narcissized self-image, and a feeling of unworthiness and deterioration. The protocol also presents interesting peculiarities, 4 space responses of which 3 are late, 3 face responses, and one bizarre section response, which will be commented.

The Broken Glass Syndrome and its Recovery: Preliminary Findings from the Rorschach and Self Reports

# CS-R Indicators of Identity, Self-Image, and the Broken Glass Syndrome in an Adolescent Inpatient Sample

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Session H1, Symposium: The Broken Glass Syndrome and its Recovery: Preliminary Findings from the Rorschach and Self Reports, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

This study explored the correlates of Rorschach indicators of self-image and unstable identity in a sample of 1,275 inpatient adolescents (50.2% Female; Mean Age = 15.03) who had provided valid Rorschach and self-report (MMPI-A, PAI-A, MACI) measures as part of a comprehensive battery. There were 9.8% who demonstrated “broken glass syndrome” (Fr with MOR), and 4.2% who demonstrated an unstable identity (Fr with Vista), with 2.7% of the adolescents demonstrating both. There were no gender differences or significant changes across this age span (13-18) for either variable. Adolescents who demonstrated “broken glass syndrome” demonstrated more complex Rorschach records as characterized by lower scores on the CS-R Constriction index, and, in spite of having greater coping resources, were more overwhelmed by stress, demonstrated significantly higher levels of impairment on the Ego Impairment Index (EII-3), and had lower capacities for control. They scored higher on the intellectualization and isolation indices. Contrary to expectations, the presence of the broken glass syndrome was not strongly related to psychometric indications of over-reporting, although the presence of MOR responses was associated with lower scores on the MMPI K scale and PAI-A NIM scale. The presence of the broken glass syndrome was positively correlated with PAI-A subscales assessing the presence of somatic conversion symptoms, paranoid hypervigilance and anxiety related to trauma, as well as with scales assessing manic irritability and physiological indicators of depression, though not associated scales assessing cognitive-attributitional features. The paper will focus on the meaning of CS-R Self-Image features in adolescent disorders.

The Broken Glass Syndrome and its Recovery: Preliminary Findings from the Rorschach and Self Reports

# The Broken Glass Syndrome and its Recovery: Preliminary Findings from the Rorschach and Self Reports

Dr. Patrick Fontan<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>International Rorschach Institute, Arcueil, France

Session H1, Symposium: The Broken Glass Syndrome and its Recovery: Preliminary Findings from the Rorschach and Self Reports, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

This symposium is dedicated to the emerging concept of "The Broken Glass Syndrome" with a subtle nod to the literary work of Lewis Carroll. This condition is identified by the joint presence of reflection and morbid responses in the Rorschach. It does not match exactly with existing descriptions of narcissistic/borderline functioning, and it posed both a challenge and an enigma within the International Rorschach Institute. The symposium serves as a scholarly forum for the exploration of this intriguing phenomenon, featuring some research findings from the Rorschach and self-report measures and four clinical illustrations.

Preliminary research outcomes drawn from a population of N=1,275 U.S. adolescent inpatients (aged 13 to 18 years) with the Rorschach and self-report measures will be presented, shedding light on the correlates of "The Broken Glass Syndrome." Additionally, four case studies will be presented as illustrations: (1) A Belgian homosexual being accused and convicted of exhibitionism on a minor person while maintaining public support and approbation from his community ; (2) An English non-binary individual raised in a religious cult, suffering from abuse and complex trauma ; (3) A 17-year-old well-adjusted Italian applying for an aviation pilot's license, revealing unexpected results ; (4) A 21-year-old suicidal Japanese young woman who ultimately experienced recovery following two years of therapy.

"The Broken Glass Syndrome" represents a novel area of inquiry with significant implications for identity, self-image, and trauma. In this symposium, our primary objective is to define, conceptualize, and establish a foundational understanding of this condition.

The Broken Glass Syndrome and its Recovery: Preliminary Findings from the Rorschach and Self Reports



# Homosexuality, Legal Conviction & Public Approbation: The Complex Case of Arsène

Ph D Psychology Christian Mormont<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Liege University, , Belgium

Session H1, Symposium: The Broken Glass Syndrome and its Recovery: Preliminary Findings from the Rorschach and Self Reports, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Arsène is a brilliant man who holds an important place in his community since his early twenties. He has successfully completed his university studies while remaining involved in his social life. He's very active, efficient, and outgoing. His assumed homosexuality seems to do him no harm. Although he has a stable partner, his sex life is hectic: he accumulates brief encounters with strangers in toilets. He feels neither shame nor guilt. He was accused of exposing himself to a minor. He always denies this but is convicted. He will, however, continue to perform his public duties with the support of his fellow citizens. In addition to the Rorschach, the MMPI-2, the Beck Depression Inventory, the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (Spielberger), the Symptom checklist-90 (Derogatis) and the Multiphasic Sex Inventory (in which no sexual disorders or pedophilic attractions were identified) were administered. All the scores obtained on the various inventories are within the norms, with 2 exceptions (MMPI, Pd=66 and Mf=70). The Rorschach is rich (R=34, L=0.48, EA=10.5) with a certain tendency to intellectualize (Intel =4). Yet Arsène is surprisingly intolerant of stress (Adj D=-2). This sign of vulnerability may be related to the coexistence of reflection responses (Fr=3) with MOR=4, V=1, FD=1. The discomfort of the contradiction between these data may be exacerbated by the privileged recourse to the imaginary (Ma:Mp=0:4), which relieves tension but does not usefully modify the sources of the problems. A detailed analysis of the reflective responses might provide a more detailed understanding of this internal conflict.

The Broken Glass Syndrome and its Recovery: Preliminary Findings from the Rorschach and Self Reports

# Developmental trajectories of Broken Glass syndrome in adolescence. The case of Anne

Kari Carstairs<sup>2</sup>, Daniela Nicodemo<sup>3</sup>

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Session H1, Symposium: The Broken Glass Syndrome and its Recovery: Preliminary Findings from the Rorschach and Self Reports, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

In adolescence, the theme of identity takes on a central significance and it is in this season of life that one 'comes to terms' with the failures of primary attachments and mirroring, sometimes in a powerful and explosive way. The paper explores the case of Anne, an adolescent inpatient in a neuropsychiatric community who received several diagnoses in her developmental years (from eating disorder to depressive disorder to the hypothesis of psychotic disorder), in the context of dysfunctional family relationships with traumatic valence. Her Rorschach test, which 'photographs' Anne at the moment of her developmental 'breakdown,' allows us to observe how identity conflict is central to her personality organization and how disturbed primary attachment undermines her internal proper resolution.

The Broken Glass Syndrome and its Recovery: Preliminary Findings from the Rorschach and Self Reports

# AN INTRODUCTION TO THE THURSTON CRADOCK TEST OF SHAME (TCTS)

Dr. Julie Cradock O'Leary<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Private Practice, Anchorage, United States, <sup>2</sup>Thurston Cradock Test of Shame, Anchorage, United States

Session H2, Symposium: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE THURSTON CRADOCK TEST OF SHAME (TCTS),  
Session Room: Christiansborg, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Shame has been called "the sleeper in psychopathology" (Lewis, 1987) and "the bedrock of much psychopathology" (Miller, 1996). It is increasingly linked with clinical presentations, including trauma (Beneau, 2022; DeYoung, 2015; Herman, 2011), addiction (Fossum, 1986; Potter-Efron, 2011), body image (Gilbert & Miles, 2002; Santfner & Tantillo, 2011), personality disorders (Rizvi, et al., 2011; Tracy, et al., 2011), and attachment difficulties (Ayers, 2003; Cundy, 2018), depression (Lewis, 1995). Dearing and Tangney (2011) noted, "shame is ubiquitous in clinical settings" (p. 376). While shame lies at the core of many of our client's difficulties, clinicians often miss it (Dearing & Tangney; Goldberg, 1991), making treatment less effective (Retzinger, 1998). What complicates the evaluation of shame is the tendency for humans to hide it (Retzinger, 1991). Simply put, clients rarely express feelings of shame directly. Assessors must consider shame during evaluations, lest they risk missing a driving force behind symptoms and interpersonal difficulties. Finally, improving an assessor's understanding of shame and related defenses will reduce the chance that the assessment process itself will trigger a client's shame (Finn, 2011).

This symposium is an introduction to the Thurston Cradock Test of Shame (TCTS), a performance-based storytelling measure deeply rooted in shame theory and designed to access the internal, interpersonal and behavioral aspects of shame. Actual TCTS protocols will be used to provide a brief primer on shame, and to illustrate shame dynamics, defenses, and varying abilities to resolve shame situations. Attendees will learn the fundamentals of administering, scoring and interpreting the TCTS.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE THURSTON CRADOCK TEST OF SHAME (TCTS)

# THE THURSTON CRADOCK TEST OF SHAME (TCTS): A BRIEF PRIMER

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Session H2, Symposium: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE THURSTON CRADOCK TEST OF SHAME (TCTS),  
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Julie Cradock O'Leary, co-author of the TCTS, will provide a brief review of the test. Through the use of actual TCTS protocols, symposium attendees will learn the basics of administration, scoring and interpretation. A question and answer period will follow the main presentation.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE THURSTON CRADOCK TEST OF SHAME (TCTS)

# SHAME AS “THE SLEEPER IN PSYCHOPATHOLOGY”: WHAT EVALUATORS AND CLINICIANS NEED TO KNOW

Dr. Julie Cradock O'Leary<sup>1,2</sup>

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Session H2, Symposium: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE THURSTON CRADOCK TEST OF SHAME (TCTS),  
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Shame is a profound sense of inadequacy and a belief that your core self is fundamentally flawed. It underlies and exacerbates many of the symptoms and relational difficulties of our clients. Shame defenses are often misunderstood as presentations of depression, aggression, interpersonal conflict, and other phenomena. Understanding the presence and dynamics of shame in our clients facilitates a richer and more accurate clinical picture. This presentation will provide the basics of shame theory with clinical examples to illustrate how shame dynamics can present in clients.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE THURSTON CRADOCK TEST OF SHAME (TCTS)

# BRAIN DIFFERENCE OR SEX DIFFERENCE?

Professeure Émérite en Psychologie Clinique et Psychopathologie Catherine Weismann Arcache<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>CRFDP (E.A. 7475) Université De Rouen, Thiverval, France

Session H3, Symposium: Brain Difference or Sex Difference, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024,  
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This symposium examines the impact of societal upheavals on Rorschach and T.A.T. projective expressions in children and adolescents identified as high intellectual potential (HIP) and/or with a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

In the age of artificial intelligence and the augmented human, new clinical expressions and categorizations are emerging, in line with neuroscientific research. These include neuro-atypical, high intellectual potential and Asperger's (ASD). It seems to us that structuring gender and generational differences are being replaced by neuronal and cognitive differences. Are these societal mutations leading to profound changes in our psychic organizations? Can we detect a change in projective expressions on the Rorschach and TAT?

Methodology: we use the psychoanalytic approach for the Rorschach and the T.A.T.. We will study our protocols using a grid for self-representation and the treatment of castration anxiety, which focuses on content. We'll be looking at the factors that enable identifications to be apprehended: human movements, details responses, manner of approach including the integration of white responses. We'll be selecting certain Rorschach and T.A.T. cards that refer to gender and generational differences. This cross-disciplinary methodology will be used to read 4 case studies, including one longitudinal study.

Projective tests explore the treatment of differences and its new modalities, perhaps more identity-related than sexual identification. The figures of the Oedipus, the masculine and feminine, and difference are reshaped. The significance of certain Rorschach factors is modified in quantity and quality.

BRAIN DIFFERENCE OR SEX DIFFERENCE?

# HIGH INTELLECTUAL POTENTIAL, FROM CHILDHOOD TO ADOLESCENCE, LONGITUDINAL CASE STUDY

Professeure Émérite en Psychologie Clinique et Psychopathologie Catherine Weismann Arcache<sup>1</sup>

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Session H3, Symposium: Brain Difference or Sex Difference, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024,  
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This longitudinal case study examines the impact of high intellectual potential (HPI) on development, from childhood to adolescence. And conversely, how does adolescence impact the adolescent process?

We met Olivia, a girl with high intellectual potential, at the age of 7 and again at the age of 13. Olivia is the youngest of three girls, her two older sisters having been identified as HPI. The mother's presence is very strong, in a context of parental misunderstanding.

We'll be taking a particular interest in sexual identifications, and the treatment of the feminine and masculine in adolescence. How do we get through the crisis of adolescence and the renunciation of childhood omnipotence reinforced by HPI?

We will compare the Rorschach and T.A.T. protocols, from childhood and adolescence, using the psychoanalytical method. What were the predictors of adolescent collapse? Is HPI a protective or vulnerable factor?

HPI identification can sometimes prevent the construction of an identity, in a family that over-invests in the intellect. Projective tests show how intellectualization and cognitive brilliance can defeat sexual identifications in adolescence.

BRAIN DIFFERENCE OR SEX DIFFERENCE?

# INTELLECTUAL OVERINVESTMENT AND FANTASMATIC EXTINCTION. WHAT IS THE MEANING?

MME KRINIO BENFREDJ-COUDOUNARI

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Session H3, Symposium: Brain Difference or Sex Difference, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024,  
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## INTELLECTUAL OVERINVESTMENT AND FANTASMATIC EXTINCTION. WHAT IS THE MEANING?

Intellectual performance is increasingly valued, even revered, socially, often disregarding the psychological dimension of the person within which it should take on meaning. Is the frantic search for knowledge always accompanied by pleasure and curiosity? Does the epistemophilic drive always originate in the sexual? This is what we intend to explore in a young adolescent of around 13 years old based on his complete psychological examination. Recently in private psychoanalytic psychotherapy, he leaves his therapist perplexed about his investment in this dual relationship. She believes that a psychological examination is essential in order to provide in-depth insight into his psychological functioning and an understanding of his difficulties.

The psychological examination takes place in the office. The Wechsler scale (WISC V), beyond obtaining quantitative data, is analyzed qualitatively from a clinical point of view. The analysis of the Rorschach, the TAT and the CAT is carried out in line with l'Ecole de Paris, with reference to the psychological functioning of the subject. The Rey Complex Figure Test closes the evaluation. What is highlighted is the importance of external but imposed intellectual contributions as well stumbling blocks to individuation that compromise access to diversity and objectality.

## BRAIN DIFFERENCE OR SEX DIFFERENCE?



# PORTRAIT OF A PERFECT YOUNG LADY, THROUGH PROJECTIVES.

DOCTEURE CHRISTINE PEIFFER, MAITRE DE CONFERENCES XANTHIE VACOPOULOU

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Session H3, Symposium: Brain Difference or Sex Difference, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024,  
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This paper presents the case study of a 19-year-old girl. A student at a prestigious business school, she is interested in a projective assessment for herself. This could help her to find the job she wants. Feminine and up to date, seemingly at ease in her own body, Julie provides projective protocols as smooth as her pretty young lady appearance. She tries to avoid difficulties as much as conflicts. Is this a portrait of a modern student? Everything seems so perfectly mastered that her creativity suffers and can hardly be expressive. The talk will discuss her protocols and investigate what might lie behind this calm assurance and ideal beauty. It will show the interest of projective tools and the importance of the restitution interview, in the presence of the girl's mother.

BRAIN DIFFERENCE OR SEX DIFFERENCE?

# THE HIGH INTELLECTUAL POTENTIAL SPECTRUM: FROM HIGH INTELLECTUAL POTENTIAL (HIP) TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD).

Professeure Émérite en Psychologie Clinique et Psychopathologie Catherine Weismann Arcache<sup>1</sup>

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Session H3, Symposium: Brain Difference or Sex Difference, Session Room: Kronborg, July 11, 2024,  
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As a transnosographic entity, high intellectual potential concerns both the normal and pathological fields. The "high intellectual potential spectrum" thus encompasses different profiles, which are often disharmonious, and is associated with Asperger's syndrome in some subjects. Asperger's syndrome itself has disappeared from the DSM-5, to be merged into this new category of "autism spectrum disorders".

We will compare the Rorschach protocols of three boys examined as part of university research: the first is identified as a child with high intellectual potential (HIP); the second is diagnosed with both autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and high intellectual potential (HIP); the third is diagnosed with ASD, without HIP. We will use the psychoanalytic method and focus on the relationship to reality, the quality of relationships and gendered identifications.

The aim of this research was to determine whether HPI was a protective or vulnerability factor. We will see that HIP may be a protective factor for certain developmental domains, but that it does not modify the severity of certain maladjustments.

BRAIN DIFFERENCE OR SEX DIFFERENCE?

# Psychopathy VS Intellectual Disability: Comparative assessment of two offenders

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Session H4, Oral Presentation, Forensic/aggressivity, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM  
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## Background:

This study aims to investigate the differences that emerged from analyzing the results obtained in the assessment of two offenders (one psychopathic and one with intellectual disability).

## Materials and Methods:

The two cases included presented different IQ profiles:

- Case 1#: An offender affected by paranoid schizophrenia with an IQ of 92, measured using WAIS-IV. The assessment routine administered also included CS-RIM (Rorschach), MMPI-2, and PCL-R (Psychopathy Checklist-Revised).
- Case 2#: Also an offender affected by Intellectual Disability with an IQ of 41, also measured using WAIS-IV. In this case, the administration routine was similar to RIM, MMPI, and PCL-R, with the addition of the Gudjonsson Suggestibility Scale (GSS), Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE), and ENB-2 (Brief Neuropsychological Examination Version 2; Italian Edition).

## Results:

Findings suggest that the clinical use of MMPI-II alone does not prominently detect pathological elements in the psychopathic subject under assessment. However, in association with the Rorschach Test, MMPI-2 provides a more comprehensive picture of the functioning, revealing thought disturbances and other relevant indicators. Also, the use of both MMPI-2 and Rorschach in subjects like the one analyzed in Case 2# could potentially present multiple biased pieces of information despite one or both test validity features appearing to be statistically satisfied. Neuropsychological tests can play a key role in interpreting these results.

In conclusion, the results emphasize the need to integrate different assessment methodologies to achieve a more accurate understanding of psychopathic disorders.

# Aggressives indicators: a Systematic Review

Sra. Juliana De Almeida Araujo<sup>1</sup>, Mrs Anna Elisa Villemor-Amaral<sup>1</sup>, Mrs Mayara Salgado de Moraes<sup>1</sup>, Mrs Scarlett Borges Fernandes<sup>1</sup>, Sra. Camila Grillo Santos<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Universidade São Francisco, Campinas, Brazil

Session H4, Oral Presentation, Forensic/aggressivity, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM

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Predicting aggressive behaviour using the Rorschach is a question that remains challenging. Violence, defined as the extreme use of aggression, is today one of the biggest public health problems in the world. Psychological assessment plays an important role in the forensic field and in this context the Rorschach test usually plays a prominent role. This study is part of a doctoral thesis that aims to expand and integrate new contributions from the Rorschach test in the assessment of aggression. The first step was to identify, by a systematic literature review, all aggressiveness indicators already used in the Rorschach evaluation, without a definition of time and covering all systems that study the test. As it is a broad field of study, some descriptors were used to make it possible to reach as much data as possible, in the PsycInfo and Pubmed databases. 584 texts were found, organized and managed in Mendeley to begin the pre-selection phase. This phase consisted of independent judges reading the titles and summaries of the texts when 293 texts were selected for the complete reading phase. As preliminary results, it is possible to highlight that other indicators, in addition to AG, AGC and AGM, are also used to assess aggressiveness, which increases the need for studies that delve deeper into this topic. At this moment this research is in the final phase of complete readings and it is expected that by the time of this event it will be possible to have all the complete results.

Aggressives indicators: a Systematic Review

# THE RORSCHACH PROFILE OF THE MALE PERPETRATOR OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS

Dr. Vito Rocco Genzano<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Salvatore Zizolfi, Dr. Maria Elisabetta Ricci<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Simona Galasso<sup>1</sup>

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Session H4, Oral Presentation, Forensic/aggressivity, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM  
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Male violence against women in close relationships is a major problem of public health. In 2014, the "Violence in close relationships" working group of the Order of Psychologists of Lazio, Italy, initiated a study aiming to describe the psychological profile of male perpetrators of various types of crimes against female intimate partners (ranging from stalking to maltreatment, rape and murder). Until 2023, 104 male inmates were recruited from different prisons in Italy, and entered the study. All of them were administered a clinical interview, the Hare Psychopathy Checklist, Revised (PCL-R), and the Rorschach test, according to the method of the Scuola Romana Rorschach (SRR). Two subgroups were identified, based on the total scores at PCL-R: psychopaths (N = 55; PCL-R  $\geq$  25) and non-psychopaths (N = 49; PCL-R  $\leq$  25). SRR Rorschach data were statistically analyzed by means of SPSS. Psychopaths, when compared to non-psychopaths (two squares student t test) show lower R (mean: 17.73 vs 22.08; SD: 6.58 vs 10.06;  $p < 0.01$ ), lower M (mean: 1.13 vs 1.92; SD: 1.09 vs 1.59;  $p < 0.005$ ), lower H% (mean: 15.40 vs 22.61; SD: 10.29 vs 11.31;  $p < 0.001$ ), lower I.A. (Affectivity index), (mean: 0.28 vs 0.32; SD: ;  $p < 0.05$ ), higher I.I. (Impulsivity Index) (mean: 1.10 vs 0.75; SD: 0.81 vs 0.41;  $p < 0.01$ ). The results are extensively discussed.

# COMPARISON OF PERSONALITY ASSESSMENT INVENTORY AND RORSCHACH AGGRESSIVE SCORES IN ASSESSMENT OF DIFFERENCES IN POTENTIAL FOR VIOLENCE IN FORENSIC PATIENTS

Anica Prosnik Domjan<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University Medical Centre, Maribor, Slovenia

Session H4, Oral Presentation, Forensic/aggressivity, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM

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Two clinical retrospective studies that involved investigating differences in potential for violent criminal behavior in hospitalized forensic patients have been compared. First study examined the association between four Rorschach variables (Aggressive Movement, Aggressive Content, Aggressive Potential and Aggressive Past) and history of violent behavior in a sample of 95 patients hospitalized at the forensic psychiatric ward. Rorschach was applied using CS, then additional aggressive scores were scored. Principal component analysis revealed three factors accounting for 63% of the total variance. Logistic regression confirmed factor 2 (AgC/AgPot) as a significant predictor of violent criminal behavior, while factor 1 (AgPast, age) and 3 (AG) failed to predict violent behavior. A significant difference between frequency of AG scores was found between hospitalized violent offenders and normative sample by non-parametrical method.

Second study examined 60 subjects hospitalized at the forensic unit of psychiatric department using PAI and 60 subjects from general psychiatric wards. Beside descriptive statistical methods univariate and multivariate analysis of variance was performed to test hypothesis of significant differences in PAI aggression scale (AGG) and antisocial clinical scale (ANT) and subscales (AGG-A, AGG-V, AGG-P, ANT-E, ANT-A, ANT-S) and VPI index between groups. Higher scores on the ANT scale were found in the group of forensic in-patients compared to patients from general psychiatric wards.

Comparison of results of both studies showed Rorschach aggressive scores AGC and AgPOT are significant predictor of violent criminal behavior, while AGG (PAI) cannot differentiate between criminal offenders from forensic ward and patients without violent behavior.

# THE PFISTER TEST IN A THERAPEUTIC ASSESSMENT WITH CHILDREN

Sra. Camila Grillo Santos<sup>1,2</sup>, Sra. Anna Elisa Villemor-Amaral<sup>1</sup>, Sra Camila Paixão Câmara Juntolli<sup>2</sup>, Sra Juliana De Almeida Araujo<sup>1</sup>, Sra. Mayara Salgado de Moraes<sup>1</sup>, Mrs Scarlett Borges Fernandes<sup>1</sup>

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Session H5, Oral Presentation, Psychotherapy/TA, Session Room: Børsen, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00

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Therapeutic Assessment (TA) is a semi-structured collaborative psychological assessment modality developed by Finn and collaborators. Its focus is to seek answers through joint work between the client and the psychologist. The basic structure consists of six steps: initial sessions, standardized testing sessions, intervention sessions, summary and discussion sessions, written feedback and follow-up sessions. Standardized tests are used in TA as magnifying glasses as they enable a greater understanding of the person. The objective of the study was to verify the contributions of the Pfister Colored Pyramids test on the TA of an 11-year-old boy. The case was referred by a neurologist with the hypothesis of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and treated at a Teaching Clinic at a private University in Brazil. In the initial sessions, the consent form was presented and signed by the child's mother. The questions asked by the mother were: "if the child really has ADHD, how does his mind work?"; "What's the best way to deal with him?" The Pfister was used to find out about the child's affective dynamics and cognitive resources. The data indicated that he has difficulty channeling and expressing emotions, which can be evidenced by his very restrained behavior, high anxiety and greater instability than expected for his age. This information provided the mother with a better understanding, helping her with a different approach that encouraged the child to show his affection. Pfister contributed to the development of a more empathetic and coherent approach between mother and her child.

# EVALUATION OF PERSONALITY FUNCTIONING OF PARENTS UNDERGOING PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION THERAPY

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Session H5, Oral Presentation, Psychotherapy/TA, Session Room: Børsen, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

**Background:** Parent-child interaction therapy (PCIT) is an evidence-based treatment program designed for caregivers and their preschool-aged children experiencing behavioral and emotional difficulties. While interacting with their children through play, parents learn special skills for managing child behavior with live coaching from the therapist. Since the goal of PCIT is not merely to reduce children's disruptive behaviors, but to help parents develop the skills to manage these behaviors, it is also important to assess parental personality and tailor coaching accordingly. This study aimed to examine the characteristics of the personality functioning of parents who receive PCIT. **Method:** The R-PAS was administered to parents undergoing PCIT to assess personality functioning before treatment, in addition to a diagnostic questionnaire and structured interview. **Results:** To date, six parents have undergone pretreatment assessment. All parents were mothers, with a mean age of 39. Most of the mothers showed low scores on Complexity and Sy, suggesting that they were poor at multitasking. The high CFC Proportion suggested that they had poor emotional control. The high EII-3 value and the high PHR Proportion suggested they had severely distorted self and interpersonal perceptions. Furthermore, all six mothers had COP = 0, suggesting that they lacked a cooperative interpersonal image. The R-PAS results allowed the therapist to assist parents who have difficulty multitasking to focus on mastering one skill or to pay attention to re-parenting in the therapist-parent relationship. **Conclusion:** Assessing parental personality functioning with the R-PAS prior to treatment is useful for tailor-made coaching in PCIT.



# Basic Research on Collapsed Type in Children Admitted to Child Welfare Facilities

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Session H5, Oral Presentation, Psychotherapy/TA, Session Room: Børsen, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

In recent years, the collapsed (Nakamura,2014) has been the focus of attention in the Rorschach CS(CS). Until now, few studies have dealt with abused children in CS.

The purpose of this study is to examine whether there is a relationship between the variables of CS and the living conditions of the children prior to their admission to the facility where they were abused.

The subjects were children enrolled in Residential Treatment Institutes for Emotionally disturbed Children (RTIEDC) A from 1995 to 2020, and the Rorschach test was administered multiple times until approximately one year after admission. The analysis is based on CS. There were 47 people in the no-recovers(NR) who did not notice any changes, and 23 people in the change group who gained Erlebnistypus.

A two-factor analysis of variance and t-test were conducted using 8 items of pre-admission living conditions and retest data.

In the change group, M, WSumC, and FM increased significantly. Looking at the relationship with living conditions before admission, FM was affected by the experience of admission to an institution, and H was affected by the type of abuse and the presence of siblings. The NR showed a significant increase in M, but FM and WSumC remained the same. However, 26 EA increased over the course of the year, 5 of whom had EA=3.5. In order to clarify the reality of the collapsed type, we will collect and examine more data in the future.

# ANALYSIS OF THE IMPACT OF THE RORSCHACH AND THE EXTENDED INQUIRY TECHNIQUE IN A THERAPEUTIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS WITH ADOLESCENTS

PhD student Scarlett Fernandes<sup>1</sup>, PhD Anna Elisa Villemor-Amaral<sup>1</sup>, PhD Student Juliana Araújo<sup>1</sup>, PhD Student Mayara de Moraes<sup>1</sup>, PhD Student Camila Santos<sup>1</sup>

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Session H5, Oral Presentation, Psychotherapy/TA, Session Room: Børsen, July 11, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

**Introduction:** In Therapeutic Assessment with adolescents (TA-A), psychological instruments play a fundamental role, not only helping to answer the assessment questions, but also being seen as empathy enhancers, recommending the use of self-report and projective instruments, followed by the extended inquiry. The aim of this study is to explore, through the presentation of a clinical case in the AT-A model, the importance of using the Rorschach and the extended inquiry technique to understand the case and to increase empathy on the part of the assessor. **Methodology:** The case involves a 15-year-old adolescent complaining of anxiety and excessive concern about weight and body image. Comprising 12 sessions, alternating between the adolescent's exclusive presence and moments shared with her parents, each session lasted an average of 1 hour and 30 minutes. The procedures used were: observation, interview, Personality Factor Battery, Child and Adolescent Self-Concept Scale, H-T-P, Family Support Perception Inventory and Rorschach (R-PAS). **Results and conclusion:** The use of multi-methods, in particular the Rorschach, enabled the adolescent to reveal information about herself that was dissociated from consciousness and related to the source of the suffering that motivated her to seek help. In addition, the extended inquiry was a crucial strategy in exploring the results of the test, revealing content associations that were previously unclear to the adolescent and enabling the evaluator to see the extent of the suffering she was experiencing, which had an impact on the construction of her identity.

# IDENTIFICATION OF RORSCHACH DETERMINANTS THAT CORRELATE WITH SHAME DYNAMICS ON THE THURSTON CRADOCK TEST OF SHAME (TCTS)

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Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

**INTRODUCTION:** A 2022 ISR Congress symposium (Cradock O'Leary, 2022) addressed how data from the Rorschach and the Thurston Cradock Test of Shame (TCTS) work together to clarify a client's diagnostic picture, defenses, and interpersonal dynamics. As the symposium noted, it would be helpful to better understand how specific Rorschach determinants might indicate shame and shame defenses. Except for Yalof and Rosenstein's (2014) reference about authors using case studies to examine the link between Vista (Comprehensive System) to guilt, shame and humiliation, the literature is sparse. **METHODOLOGY:** Using de-identified archival assessment data from 21 evaluations with R-PAS and TCTS protocols, the current study empirically examined correlations between specific summed TCTS scores and Rorschach Performance Assessment System (R-PAS) determinants. **HYPOTHESES:** Positive correlations were expected between (1) TCTS Direct Shame and R-PAS MOR and V, (2) TCTS Indirect shame and R-PAS Y, (3) TCTS Deflation and R-PAS Y, C', MOR, and ODL and (4) TCTS Inflation/Contempt and R-PAS AGC, AGM, and SR. **RESULTS:** Analyses found moderate positive correlations between TCTS Indirect Shame and R-PAS Diffuse Shading (.41) and between TCTS Inflation/Contempt and R-PAS Aggressive Movement (.54). **CONCLUSION:** Results suggest that R-PAS Y may tap into shame-related anxiety and concerns coded as TCTS Indirect shame. Similarly, AGM appears to mirror the Inflation/Contempt shame defense, as aggression can regulate shame affect. Given the small sample size, moderate correlations merit further statistical exploration via a larger study. Such information can guide clinical interpretation of these tests and better inform the impact of convergent or divergent data.

IDENTIFICATION OF RORSCHACH DETERMINANTS THAT CORRELATE WITH SHAME DYNAMICS ON THE THURSTON CRADOCK TEST OF SHAME (TCTS)

# THE RORSCHACH METHOD. FOUR STEPS TO BUILD A RICHER, MORE FUNCTIONAL AND RELIABLE PSYCHOGRAM

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Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

In the Rorschach Method, as we formulate it, four languages (of the patient, of Rorschach, of the diagnostician, of the clinician who requires the test administration) are considered. The translation from one language into the other is carried out word by word and respecting grammar and semantics of each language, whose logical coherence increases the validity of the test.

In a constructivist view it is necessary to explain the theoretical horizon of one's own psychopathological model: epistemological (atomistic, constructivist/structural), anthropological and psychopathological (psychiatric, cognitive/behavioral, psychoanalytical, phenomenological) position.

## STEP 1

### The Language of the Patient

When the patient says he sees "a flying bat", he is using his own language, with specific words and a correct grammar.

## STEP 2

### The Language of Rorschach

When the diagnostician translates the answer of the patient into the "words" G, F, A, M, +, V, he is using Rorschach's language.

## STEP 3

### The Language of the Diagnostician

The codes acquire a meaning in relation to the elements of the personality theory the diagnostician refers to. We must establish how to translate the primary elements of the Rorschach into the primary elements of the personality theory the diagnostician refers to.

## Step 4

### The Language of the Clinician who requires the test administration

Each clinician requiring the test administration refers to an anthropological and psychopathological model; the diagnostician must translate the psychogram into the model the clinician refers to.

## Conclusions

Considering these 4 steps allows us to better understand each other and to avoid misunderstandings.

# The use of R-PAS in assessing aggression in students with symptoms of Borderline Personality Disorder

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Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

The understanding of aggression in specific manifestations of Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD), including the potential for suicide and self-harm, is a relevant area for investigations. We would like to discuss data about aggressive content in patients with self-mutilation and impulsive behaviors. The aim of this presentation is to analyze aggressive manifestations on the Rorschach Performance Assessment System (R-PAS) in nine patients with BPD related symptomatology. Our hypothesis is that we would find increased codings related to aggression, morbidity and suicidal ideation (AGM, AGC, MOR, and SC-Comp). To do that, we analyzed the R-PAS interpretative profiles pages from nine university students of both genders (mean age = 28) reporting symptoms related to BPD. Besides R-PAS, we used the Dimensional Clinical Personality Inventory - 2 (IDCP-2) and the Diagnostic Interview for Personality Disorders (E-Trap) to investigate BPD criteria and traits, and the Epidemic - Pandemic Impacts Inventory (EPII) was used to assess how much the pandemic affected the participants. As results, we notice that the scoring were inside the normative range for all R-PAS key variables related to aggression and suicide, but the quality of responses showed aggressive imagery. We wonder about a possible process of censorship that could mask the normative results and could suggest other verbalizations still not comprise on the AGC and AGM content. We also rely on discussing the need for further investigations about the variables related to aggression in the R-PAS correlated with external criteria of aggressive imagery as opposed to aggressive behavior.

Psychometric testing and diagnostic clarification.

An audit on tests administration in Acute Mental Health Unit in Dunedin (New Zealand).

Dr Samuele Manfrinati<sup>1</sup>

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Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

An invaluable tool for clinical information, psychometric testing can help addressing diagnostic dilemmas and, consequently, inform treatment and interventions.

Psychometric testing is extensively used worldwide in both clinical and forensic settings.

Unfortunately, this is not routinely accessible in New Zealand, possibly due to resources constraint.

We present the results of a small audit (7 patients and 22 tests in total) of patients tested in an Acute Mental Health Unit in Dunedin (New Zealand). The aim of the audit was to investigate whether psychometric testing was, in fact, affecting the diagnostic process and eventually leading to a change in the initial diagnosis and therapeutic management plans.

# THE INTERNAL HUMAN REPRESENTATIONS OF CHILDREN WHO RECEIVE PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION THERAPY

Prof. Naomi Inoue<sup>1</sup>, Tomoko Kato<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Hirosaki University, Hirosaki, Japan, <sup>2</sup>Kato Mental Clinic, Hakodate, Japan

Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Background: No studies have measured the internal representations of children undergoing PCIT due to methodological issues. Method: The R-PAS was administered to children (6 years and older) before receiving PCIT as part of a baseline multi-method assessment to examine their internal human representations. Results: To date, a total of four children have been enrolled in the study, with an average age of six years and four months. All four children were diagnosed with ASD (including suspected ASD), one had anxiety disorder and one had adjustment disorder as comorbidity. In contrast to the parent R-PAS results (cf. first author's oral presentation), COP responses appeared in two protocols, one of which also included MAH. The more severe the physical violence from the parents, the more severe the cognitive distortion. The responses "two people are pounding rice cake together" (Card III) and "two girls are playing on a seesaw" (Card VII) suggest that their interactions with other children and teachers in kindergarten and preschool may have had a positive influence on the formation of healthy internal representations for them. Conclusions: The R-PAS revealed differences in children's individualized interpersonal representations. Future research is needed to determine whether early intervention with PCIT promotes the healthy development of internal human representations as well as the reduction of external problem behaviors in children.

# Rorschach test assessment of cognitive dysfunction in young female patients with depression and depression with attenuated symptoms

Кандидат наук George Rupchev<sup>1</sup>, Evgeniy Kafarov<sup>2</sup>, Darya Shulgina<sup>1</sup>, Anna Baranova<sup>1</sup>, Anna Beresneva<sup>2</sup>, Anastasia Skrobova<sup>1</sup>, Evgenia Nikonova<sup>1</sup>, Polina Nemoytina<sup>1</sup>, Tatiana Tszyszkowskaya<sup>2</sup>, Igor Oleichik<sup>2</sup>

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Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

**Introduction.** Studying patients before manifestation is an urgent task, since it is at this stage that preventive treatment of schizophrenia is possible (Kaleda et al., 2013; Omelchenko et al., 2021). Ultra-high risk is commonly assessed by the presence of attenuated psychotic symptoms (APS) (Sheffield et al., 2018).

**Hypothesis.** The severity of cognitive dysfunction in young depressed female patients may serve as a predictor for the possible development of psychosis.

**Methods.** In the study, the Rorschach test (CS; Exner, 1991), Brief Assessment of Cognition in Schizophrenia (BACS) (Sarkisyan et al., 2010), and the Global Assessment of Functioning Scale (GAF) (APA, 1987) were used.

The sample 43 girls ( $19.5 \pm 3.4$  years) diagnosed with depression, 45 girls ( $18.2 \pm 1.9$  years) with APS. Patients were examined at the time of hospitalization, for the majority it was the first hospitalization. Comparable pharmacotherapy was prescribed in the groups.

Statistical processing was performed in IBM SPSS Statistics 24 and included correlation analysis using the Mann-Whitney criterion.

**Results.** Statistically significant differences were found between groups in Rorschach Zf test ( $U=0.023$ ,  $p<0.05$ ), DQ+ ( $U=0.029$ ,  $p<0.05$ ), DQv/+ ( $U=0.040$ ,  $p<0.05$ ), BACS T-ball ( $U=0.025$ ,  $p<0.05$ ). The group of patients with APS with the same general functioning already at the stage of the first hospitalization shows the presence of medium-level cognitive dysfunction, which may be a factor in the development of future psychosis.

**Conclusion.** Additional monitoring of cognitive dysfunction in the presence of attenuated symptoms in depression is needed.



# Characteristics of Wartegg Test Japanese Standard Samples Based on CWS(Crisi Wartegg System)

Mr. Mitsugu Murakami<sup>1</sup>, Ph.D Mizuho Namekawa, Junichi Suzuki, Takumi Sato

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Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

## Introduction:

The Wartegg Test, introduced over 80 years ago as a drawing projective technique, is widely applied in personality assessment around the world. The Crisi Wartegg System (CWS), developed by Alessandro Crisi in 2007, has significantly expanded the test's utilization, gaining prominence in diverse settings since its introduction to Japan's training programs in 2022. The ongoing standard sample collection aims for more effective adaptation to Japan.

## Method:

This study, a working in progress, focuses on the characteristics of Japanese non patient samples by comparing them with samples from Italy and the United States. Data from 150 adult Japanese samples were aggregated, adhering to criteria and methods with Italian and U.S. standards. Scorers, mostly certified clinicians of CWS, ensured inter-rater reliability through discussions.

## Results:

In most aspects, the Japanese data did not significantly differ from published Italian and U.S. data. However, a notable discrepancy appeared in the frequency of Fd responses when depicting foods or beverages as a content of the drawing.

## Conclusion:

The study's results suggest no significant deviation from the average range for most evaluation criteria (Crisi, Palm, 2018). This finding is an interesting result as a projective test as well, given the similarity of data in the international comparison of adult data on the Rorschach test using the comprehensive system (Meyer, et al, 2007). Nevertheless, the pronounced frequency of Fd responses may indicate "amae", the potential presence of distinctive cultural traits in Japan (Doi, 1955/2005).

# Teaching the Rorschach in Undergraduate Psychology: A Case Study at the Universidade de Brasilia

MSc Clarice Alves de Almeida Beckmann<sup>1</sup>, Ludmyla Alencar Ferreira Galdino<sup>1</sup>, Vinícius José Caixeta Tavares<sup>1</sup>, Dr Sérgio Eduardo Silva Oliveira<sup>1</sup>

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Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Although complex, teaching the Rorschach is essential for new psychologists to be able to master this skill. In this context, the present study aims to highlight the potential advantages and disadvantages of teaching Rorschach in the Rorschach Performance Assessment System (R-PAS) during students' undergraduate years, contrasting with teaching approaches adopted in other countries, in which Rorschach is often approached as a specialization after graduation. In this case study we will present an experience teaching Rorschach to undergraduate students at the University of Brasilia, Brazil. In the first semester, 16 students completed a 60-hour training program with lectures, roleplays, videos, exercises and carried out an administration. In the two subsequent semesters, 4 of these students deepened their study, observing a protocol administration carried out by an expert, coding protocols and discussing doubts. In the fourth semester, these students performed administrations and codings successfully, with a good intraclass correlation.

Besides, evaluation criteria also included the final number of students who completed the course, their attendance, students' performance in exams and academic activities throughout the course, in addition to qualitative supplementary data. It can be concluded that teaching Rorschach to undergraduate students is possible, bringing satisfactory results.

# Understanding the tester-client relationship for feedback session

Ms. KANAKO HIRAYAMA<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Sophia University, , Japan

Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Bram & Peebles (2014) propose that effectively incorporating qualitative data into the interpretation of the Comprehensive System (CS) could enhance its clinical utility. This case study aims to explore ways to make better use of qualitative data in planning feedback session, with a focus on the understanding the therapist-client relationship. The client was a male college student, hospitalized with a diagnosis of ASD and depressive symptoms. During administering the Rorschach(CS), he remained generally calm in Response phase, but he often showed nervous chuckle and interjection of the phrase 'You often see...' during the Inquiry phase. The test data indicated a presence of many demanding stimulus experiences (es), including ruminative self-criticism (MOR ,V, FD). He seemed to cope with them through intellectualization (W dominance, Intellectualization index). Although his interpersonal perceptions were relatively positive(COP,T), qualitative data suggested the presence of conflicts related to dependence (Texture is accompanied by MOR, "ripped from the stomach"). In feedback session, it was considered important not to threaten his intellectualization. Additionally, qualitative data suggested that showing excessive empathy could increase that disturbance. Therefore, the description of the emotions behind the intellectualization was kept broad and, if necessary, we asked him to revise the wording for a more comfortable fit. This approach seemed to be safe for him and helped guide our subsequent sessions. This case study suggest that cueing the discrepancy between what is suggested by the interpersonal perception clusters and the quality of the interactions in the testing situation may be useful in integrating these data.

# THE USE OF THE RORSCHACH TO UNDERSTAND IMPULSE CONTROL DISORDERS: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW.

Mr. Gabriel Tudda Saraiva<sup>1</sup>, Laura Helena Grosso Silva<sup>1</sup>, Liliana Liviano Wahba<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Pontifícia Universidade Católica De São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil

Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Impulse Control Disorders (ICD) are characterised by a person's inability to resist an impulse, in such a way that this behaviour causes damage to the individual's life. With the advance of technology, these disorder's prevalence has increased in the world population, such as gambling disorder, compulsive shopping, internet addiction, and many others. As a result, the development of studies and instruments that aim to improve understanding of these phenomenon has become relevant. Considering the Rorschach as a powerful tool to investigate human personality, this study intended to conduct a systematic review of studies that used the Rorschach method as a tool to investigate ICDs between 1999 and 2024.

# EXAMINATION ON REORGANIZATION OF NAGOYA UNIVERSITY STYLE RORSCHACH METHOD

Prof.Dr. Noboru Takahashi<sup>1</sup>, Hiroko Tsuboi<sup>2</sup>, Yasue Takahashi<sup>3</sup>, Miyako Morita<sup>4</sup>

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Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

The Nagoya University Edition has its own unique Nagoya University Style Rorschach Method . This category was established by Uemoto (1974) based on such as deviant verbalization by Rapaport, and aims to clarify the nature of verbal expressions, thinking process, and communication that appeared in the Rorschach test. In this congress, we have revealed characteristics of several pathological conditions such as Dissociative Disorder, Narcissistic Personality Disorder, etc. by using this category (2002, 2005, 2008, 2011).

However, this category still contains immature parts since Uemoto has passed away unexpectedly, therefore it has several vulnerabilities such as (1) numerous scores have been listed and not been investigated sufficiently, (2) relation among the scores and the categories have not been investigated sufficiently, (3) this category is not applicable to clinical requirement of recent years. Hence in this congress, we aim to (1) reduce numbers of 86 scores for organization and convenience, (2) investigate significance of each score, (3) consider to include clinical insight of recent years.

In conclusion, we have modified this category by (1) reducing subordinate scores by approximately 20% from 86, (2) changing listing order by meaning and convenience of each score, (3) adding notes about developmental disorders and children as research collaborators along with clinical cases of recent years. By this effort, currently this category presents its function with easier clinical practice and comprehension. By collecting data from clinical practice, We aim to investigate further whether this modification is necessary and sufficient for a practical category system for clinical usage.

# OBJECT RELATIONS TECHNIQUE (O.R.T.): IS IT USEFUL FOR THE EARLY DETECTION OF DEPRESSION IN YOUNG PEOPLE?

Prof. Belén Charro Baena<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Gisela Delfino<sup>1</sup>, Res. Elena Rodríguez-Ventosa<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Universidad Pontificia Comillas, Madrid, Spain

Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

**Introduction.** The World Health Organization (2023) states that 5% of the world's population suffers from depression, a figure that could be higher because of failures in detection and diagnosis. **Objective.** To analyse the presence of depressive traits in young people without diagnosed depression. **Hypothesis:** The Object Relations Technique (ORT) can access implicit or unconscious depressive characteristics that are not detected by self-registers for the clinical assessment of depression. **Methodology:** Ex post facto design with mixed methods (qualitative and quantitative). **Instruments:** Beck Depression Inventory (BDI II) and ORT. **Participants:** 60 college students (33 women and 27 men) were asked for verbal consent and informed of the confidentiality protocol. **Analysis:** SPSS 29.0 for quantitative data (means and standard deviations) and N Vivo v11 for ORT discourses (nodes and sub-nodes). **Results.** Eight subjects with moderate or severe depression were ruled out on the BDI II. In the remaining 52 subjects, minimal depressive indicators were found, although with some presence of the loneliness-exclusion theme ( $\bar{x}= 1.27$ ;  $SD= 0.85$ ). The study hypothesis is rejected. **Conclusions.** The discourses of the ORT have confirmed the absence of depressive traits in subjects whom the BDI II identified as not clinically depressed. Although the ORT does not appear to be helpful for the early detection of depressive traits in a population-based study, its usefulness in the idiosyncratic diagnosis of individuals cannot be denied, as previous work has shown.

# Relationship of self-harm severity to Rorschach scores in depressed and high-risk psychotic patients

Кандидат наук George Rupchev<sup>1</sup>, Anna Baranova<sup>1</sup>, Evgeniy Kafarov<sup>2</sup>, Darya Shulgina<sup>1</sup>, Anna Beresneva<sup>2</sup>, Anastasia Skrobova<sup>1</sup>, Evgenia Nikonova<sup>1</sup>, Polina Nemoytina<sup>1</sup>, Tatiana Tszyszskowskaya<sup>2</sup>, Igor Oleichik<sup>2</sup>

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Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

To coping with frustrating experiences, adolescents turn to nonadaptive forms of coping behavior - for example, self-harming behavior (Abramova et al., 2018). This is also characteristic of adolescents at high risk of psychosis and with depression, which is a complicating factor in the course of the disorder and prognosis (Pankova, 2021; Qiu et al., 2020).

The study aims to investigate the relationship of self-harm severity and Rorschach scores in depressed and high-risk psychosis patients.

The autodestructive behavior scale and the Rorschach test (CS; Exner, 1991) were used in the study. The sample consisted of 26 women with depressive disorders (20.1±3.5 years) and 27 women from UHR group (18.2±1.5 years) who were hospitalized during the study.

The following correlations were found in the depressed group: mild self-harm with Zd (-0.393,  $p<0.05$ ), P (-0.317,  $p<0.05$ ); moderate with CDI (0.346,  $p<0.05$ ), suicidal thoughts with Xu% (-0.414,  $p<0.01$ ), MOR (-0.458,  $p<0.01$ ), Zd (-0.39,  $p<0.05$ ), suicidal attempts with Intell (-0.37,  $p<0.05$ ), X+% (0.331,  $p<0.05$ ), MOR (-0.444,  $p<0.01$ ), Xu% (-0.437,  $p<0.01$ ), continued self-harm after treatment with D (0.345,  $p<0.05$ ).

In the high-risk psychosis group, the following correlations were found-mild self-harm with Dd (0.335,  $p<0.05$ ), moderate with DQv+ (0.353,  $p<0.05$ ), continued self-harm after treatment with WSum6+5 (0.333,  $p<0.05$ ).

The severity of self-harm with Rorschach indicators in depressed patients has more relationships than in the high-risk group of psychosis, mainly indicators related to the cognitive sphere. No significant relationships with suicidal index were found.

# Understanding Rorschach Responses through Facial Expression Tasks

Dr. Ryo Matsuda<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Chiharu Suzuki<sup>2</sup>

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Poster Session B (Day 1), Location: Foyer, July 11, 2024, 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Understanding the cognitive and affective processes involved in generating Rorschach responses is crucial for enhancing the validity of the Rorschach Inkblot Method (RIM). This study aimed to elucidate the cognitive mechanisms underlying Rorschach responses by reanalyzing data from two prior studies utilizing facial expression images as stimuli in cognitive tasks. In Study 1 (Suzuki, 2015), Go/NoGo tasks featuring images of facial expressions were used, and event-related potentials (ERPs) activity during task execution were analyzed. Study 2 (Matsuda, 2018) utilized a Word-Face Stroop task with images of facial expressions as interfering stimuli, using reaction time as the primary index. We focused on discerning the emotional valence differences of each task and stimulus, investigating the relationship between physiological and behavioral indices in each condition, and Rorschach variables. Correlation analysis revealed that the production of color responses remained unaffected by cognitive processes that inhibit responses to emotional stimuli as required by the Stroop task. Conversely, indices associated with maladaptive emotion and cognition (Y, MOR, INCOM, etc.) exhibited significant correlations with ERPs and reaction time. Thus, the study suggests that the failure of response inhibition to emotional stimuli influences various aspects of RIM, reflecting the intricate interplay between emotion-associated cognition and its inhibition. The findings were discussed in light of the divergent cognitive processing demands of each task.



# USING PROJECTIVE METHODS TO CLARIFY TRAUMA DYNAMICS AND RELATED DEFENSIVE STRUCTURES

Dr. Julie Cradock O'Leary<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Cassandra Parrish<sup>2</sup>, Dr. Edward Jenny<sup>2</sup>, Dr. Melinda Glass<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Private Practice, Anchorage, United States, <sup>2</sup>Edward Jenny & Associates, Kennett Square, United States, <sup>3</sup>Private practice, Palmer, United States

Session I1, Symposium: USING PROJECTIVE METHODS TO CLARIFY TRAUMA DYNAMICS AND RELATED DEFENSIVE STRUCTURES, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Given the painful nature of trauma, clients often mask their symptoms, push emotion away, fail to report trauma or may not recognize adverse events as traumatic. These self-protective maneuvers complicate assessment and treatment, risking ineffective care. This symposium demonstrates how projective methods such as the Rorschach (R-PAS), Thurston Cradock Test of Shame (TCTS), Wartegg (Crisi Wartegg System, CWS), Early Memories Procedure (EMP) and Adult Attachment Projective (AAP) Picture System clarify trauma dynamics to enhance case conceptualization and treatment. A series of multimethod collaborative/therapeutic assessment cases will be presented to illustrate the effectiveness of projective methods when working with trauma. Cases will be presented individually, with the two couples assessments also detailing how the intersection of individual dynamics impacted the couple as a whole.

The first presenter will discuss a couple whose individual histories of complex trauma led to intertwined difficulties around attachment and shame. The second presenter will discuss the case of a 19 year old trans male with dissociative identity disorder whose complex trauma and shame were first revealed during projective testing. The third presenter will discuss a couple whose individual traumas led to strong defenses that, when triggered, reduced their individual vulnerabilities but left them feeling stuck and unsure if they were even still together. Using these cases as examples, the discussant will illustrate how newly revealed dynamics, defenses and dilemmas provide hope for clients who have experienced trauma. A question and answer period will follow.

USING PROJECTIVE METHODS TO CLARIFY TRAUMA DYNAMICS AND RELATED DEFENSIVE STRUCTURES

# “FRAGMENTS OF A FEELING: HOW TRAUMATIC SHAME CONTRIBUTES TO DISSOCIATIVE IDENTITY DISORDER”

Dr. Edward Jenny<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Edward Jenny & Associates, PC, Kennett Square, United States

Session I1, Symposium: USING PROJECTIVE METHODS TO CLARIFY TRAUMA DYNAMICS AND RELATED DEFENSIVE STRUCTURES, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

The case of a 19-year-old trans male with a history of multiple somatic complaints, mood disorder, and non-epileptic seizures will be presented. Their multimethod collaborative assessment included the Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory-IV (MCMI-IV), Wartegg (CWS), AAP, TCTS, and MMPI-3. Testing data, especially the projective assessment, revealed the presence of significant shame and trauma that were not previously reported. This allowed the clinician and client to begin repairing shame and integrating self-states.

USING PROJECTIVE METHODS TO CLARIFY TRAUMA DYNAMICS AND RELATED DEFENSIVE STRUCTURES

# “WE BOTH IDENTIFY WITH SURVIVAL MODE”: HOW A COUPLE’S COLLABORATIVE ASSESSMENT ILLUMINATED THE INTRICATE DANCE OF ATTACHMENT AND SHAME

Dr. Cassandra Parrish<sup>1</sup>

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Session I1, Symposium: USING PROJECTIVE METHODS TO CLARIFY TRAUMA DYNAMICS AND RELATED DEFENSIVE STRUCTURES, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

A couple who underwent a collaborative assessment will be presented. Their personal and unique histories of complex trauma perpetuated an intricate dance of attachment and shame, further mitigated by limited emotional intelligence and difficulties with relational intimacy. Their multimethod collaborative assessment included the TCTS, AAP, Early Memories Procedure, R-PAS, MMPI-2, and NEO-PI-3. While testing data was helpful in the couple better understanding themselves, the projective data was imperative in clarifying dynamics between them.

USING PROJECTIVE METHODS TO CLARIFY TRAUMA DYNAMICS AND RELATED DEFENSIVE STRUCTURES

# Using the Rorschach to Help Clients Heal from Unresolved Trauma

Dr. Stephen E. Finn<sup>1</sup>

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Session I1, Symposium: USING PROJECTIVE METHODS TO CLARIFY TRAUMA DYNAMICS AND RELATED DEFENSIVE STRUCTURES, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Because of the special properties of the Rorschach stimuli, clients often unknowingly report percepts that are associated with past unresolved traumas, presenting a unique opportunity for the assessor and clients to process these traumas and help resolve them. Dr. Finn will discuss several case examples where collaborative discussions of clients' Rorschach responses helped them understand their problems in living, find self-compassion, and get support for emotions they had dissociated as a result of trauma. An underlying principle of this work is for the clinician to "not leave the client alone" with previously intolerable emotions. Finn will present a transcript of an actual session to illustrate this point.

# WHEN PROJECTIVE ASSESSMENT BRINGS DAWN TO THE DARKNESS OF TRAUMA

Dr. Julie Cradock O'Leary<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Private Practice, Anchorage, United States

Session I1, Symposium: USING PROJECTIVE METHODS TO CLARIFY TRAUMA DYNAMICS AND RELATED DEFENSIVE STRUCTURES, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

When pain feels intolerable, as it does for clients with trauma, defenses are engaged in the interest of self-protection. While defenses served clients well at one time, those same defenses often create later problems in living such as unhealthy relationships and feelings of shame. As illustrated in the cases presented, projective tests in a multimethod assessment battery have the ability to bring unconscious defenses, dynamics and dilemmas to the forefront. While initially frightening for clients, such awareness is ultimately freeing and hopeful. The discussant will use the cases presented in this symposium to illustrate this phenomenon.

USING PROJECTIVE METHODS TO CLARIFY TRAUMA DYNAMICS AND RELATED DEFENSIVE STRUCTURES

# Clinic for adolescents exposed to the violence of social networks

Mme Constance Barthes<sup>1</sup>

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Session I2, Symposium: Identity changes and identifications during adolescence during adoption within the framework of child protection, Session Room: Christiansborg, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

## Introduction

From our clinical experience with adolescents, we have noted a population which presents symptoms centered on attacks on the self, particularly on the body. The problems of these suffering adolescents represent an important social issue.

## Methodology

The complementarity of projective tools (Rorschach and T.A.T) combined with the semi-directive interview could respond to our hypotheses by taking into account the complexity of the dimensions raised, both conscious and unconscious. Therefore, we are planning a research protocol in two complementary phases. The first phase consists of carrying out several semi-structured clinical research interviews with each adolescent. The second phase consists of administering two projective tests: the Rorschach and the T.A.T. Through these projective tests, we question the functioning of the psychological dynamics of adolescents and their identity construction.

## Conclusion

Is there any polymorphism in these adolescents, in order, on the one hand, to glimpse the impasses that the adolescent faces; on the other hand, to identify the psychological adjustment attempts they make to get out of it? From then on, we will take care to analyze what, in the adolescent's various journeys, can lead to repetitions of the same thing or similarities, substitutions or even ruptures and cyclicalities.

Adolescence and identity difficulties through projective tests

# At the limit of (in)definition: anime in the Rorschach of teenagers

Mme Ana Silva<sup>1</sup>, Mme Sabrina Gomes<sup>1</sup>, Doutora Isabel Duarte<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Estudos e Psicologia, Lisbon, Portugal

Session I2, Symposium: Identity changes and identifications during adolescence during adoption within the framework of child protection, Session Room: Christiansborg, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

## Introduction

We are living in difficult times in the world, what is today, tomorrow is no more, or could be different, generating (in)definition and confusion, particularly among adolescents, who live at a halucinating pace, at the same time. search for satisfaction and immediate gratification, trying at all costs to minimize the impact of frustration.

The adolescents who come to us have social phobias, have few friends, do not share the most common interests and are fascinated by particular themes such as darkness and death. Japanese culture comes to us through manga, a place where adolescents can explore the limits of the unknown.

## Methodology

The Rorschach, the preferred instrument for accessing the internal world of adolescents, is the place where tensions and conflicts are expressed. In this study, we propose to reflect on the Rorschach protocols of two adolescents who seek meaning in their (in)definition. Both have an identity problem in common, they like to read manga and anime is an external place that allows us to reflect on their internal transformations.

## Conclusion

The present study allowed us to operationalize a set of predictive elements in the Rorschach which are linked to: (1) the existence of a difficulty in facing the new and the unknown, (2) the use accentuated projective mechanisms, as a means of coping with the (in)differentiation of the Self in relation to the Other(s).

Adolescence and identity difficulties through projective tests

# Identity changes and identifications during adolescence during adoption within the framework of child protection

Mme Teresa Rebelo<sup>1</sup>, Mme Lea Florent<sup>1</sup>

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Session I2, Symposium: Identity changes and identifications during adolescence during adoption within the framework of child protection, Session Room: Christiansborg, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

## Introduction

What role could adoption have in the establishment of identity changes and identifications among adolescents?

What is the possibility for adolescents in the adoption period to succeed in detaching themselves from parental figures to establish new investments? Our general hypothesis is that identity changes and identifications specific to adolescence can be, for adolescents in a situation of adoption by their foster family, an important moment to establish new types of narcissistic and object investments.

## Methodology

We used a projective methodology allowing us to put forward two operational hypotheses which are that The Rorschach would make it possible to highlight the identity issue through plates IV, V, VI, VII and IX. And that the TAT would highlight the identification problem, through the so-called Oedipal boards, i.e. 6, 7 and 9.

## Conclusion

Our study highlights that even in a situation of adoption within the framework of foster care, identity construction can be carried out healthily.

In fact, these young people do not encounter any particular difficulties in self-investment or in investment in external objects, and no significant difference with young people of all backgrounds can be highlighted.

Adolescence and identity difficulties through projective tests



# “Dropping out of school among adolescents in distress: a form of self-destruction? »

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Session I2, Symposium: Identity changes and identifications during adolescence during adoption within the framework of child protection, Session Room: Christiansborg, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Haem Claire et Rebelo Teresa “Dropping out of school among adolescents in distress: a form of self-destruction? »

## Introduction

The school emerges as a place of construction for the adolescent. Adolescence and the objectual and narcissistic rearrangements that it brings about make school a key place for shaping identity, but it is also the platform for adolescent suffering.

Our hypothesis sought to verify that dropping out of school could be the result of self-destructive behavior, symptomatic of suffering emerging from adolescent changes.

## Methodology

To verify these hypotheses, we used a qualitative methodology. We began with a semi-structured clinical interview to collect information relating to the anamnesis, family history, school situation, social relationships and risky behavior. Then we proceeded to administer two projective tests: the Rorschach and the TAT which were to provide us with analyzable information regarding the narcissism and object investment of the subjects. Finally, we concluded our meetings with a final semi-structured interview.

## Conclusion

The term self-destruction allowed us to bring together under an atheoretical and broad term, the conscious and unconscious behavior of adolescents causing themselves difficulties. However, dropping out of school being a symptom and not a psychopathological identity, its cause is multifactorial, it can thus be explained by various psychological processes, various social situations and is not reducible to a single entity.

Adolescence and identity difficulties through projective tests

# MEDICALLY UNEXPLAINED WALK DISORDERS : MOVEMENT AND ITS VARIATIONS IN PROJECTIVE TESTS

Dr Pascale Bruguiere<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Prof Emeritus Marie-Christine Pheulpin<sup>1</sup>, Mrs Krinio Benfredj-Coudounari

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Session I3, Oral Presentation, Special Topics, Session Room: Kronborg, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Generally speaking, medically unexplained motor disorders have given rise to a great deal of theoretical and clinical research.

We propose to report on a study of four female patients (the prevalence of women is reflected in our small sample), all of whom spontaneously consulted the hospital for impressive walking and balance disorders.

Their functional symptoms, leaving the medical profession at a loss in terms of both diagnosis and treatment, led us to explore their psychic functioning in depth, using the Rorschach and the TAT, analyzed in the tradition of the Paris School.

Using an empirical-deductive approach, we focused on movement and its variations, from motor expressions to psychic representations and impasses.

An initial reading of the protocols reveals the importance of motor expression, whether voluntary or not, and the diversity of psychic functioning.

A more in-depth study reveals a number of specificities: in the Rorschach, Human movement responses are not very present, not very much in part of the relationship, and are often imposed or prevented by the environment.

On the TAT, card 9GF, whose manifest content clearly shows characters in motion, proves particularly interesting; in addition, and surprisingly, card 11 can provide some unexpected representations.

These initial results could be linked to the question of somato-psychic bonding on the one hand, and to that of distance from the object, and in particular from the primary object, on the other.

# Specific characteristics of psychic functioning in hyperemesis gravidarum. Clinical and projective hypothesis

PhD - Clinical Psychologist Mathilde Dublineau<sup>1</sup>, Pr Nathalie Dumet<sup>1</sup>, Clinical Psychologist Mélanie Aulagne<sup>1</sup>, Pr François-David Camps<sup>1</sup>, MCF-HDR Barbara Smaniotto<sup>1</sup>

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Session I3, Oral Presentation, Special Topics, Session Room: Kronborg, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Hyperemesis gravidarum is characterized by incoercible vomiting beyond the first trimester, and may last for the entire pregnancy. In relation to the associated symptoms (weight loss, dehydration, request for abortion), it usually requires hospitalization. The care required is complex, insofar as it confronts staff with a feeling of helplessness, given the absence of a defined treatment and protocol. After delivery, vomiting disappears instantly, with no repercussions on the mother-child bond. This disorder remains enigmatic, particularly from a psychological point of view. With this in mind, we proposed a study integrating clinical research interviews with Rorschach and TAT tests, in order to better understand the psychic functioning of pregnant women with hyperemesis gravidarum. An analysis of ten protocols reveals atypicality when compared with the perinatal protocols of ordinary pregnant women described in the literature. Indeed, no contrast is observed between the associative quality of the clinical interviews and the rigid character of the projective productions. On the contrary, the data collected are dominated by massive control and the difficulty these women with hyperemesis gravidarum have in expressing their feelings in words - whatever their origin. Without altering their connection with reality, it's their corporeity that seems to be at the center of their preoccupations (and projective productions). We hypothesize that this corporeal scene paradoxically tends to screen the pregnancy, with the body appearing subjectively not as pregnant but as sick.

# LA SPECIFICITE PSYCHOLINGUISTIQUE DE L'ARABE DIALECTALE ALGERIEN DANS L'ESPACE PROJECTIF DU RORSCHACH ET DU TAT

Dr Et Maitre De Conférences En Psychologie Chahida Djebbar<sup>1</sup>

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Session I3, Oral Presentation, Special Topics, Session Room: Kronborg, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Algerian dialectal Arabic is a linguistic mix, dating back to the antiquity of the Phoenician and Berber linguistic space, which is permeated by the Arab, Ottoman conquests and Roman, Spanish and French colonization. In this linguistic plurality, alternating and contextualized discourses are constructed like a strongly socialized mother tongue for intercomprehension between different groups of individuals.

For various sociolinguistic researchers, this linguistic mix is marked by phenomena such as hybridization which occurs through a continuous alternation between dialectal Arabic and spoken French in contact with literal Arabic, as the reference language. And the phenomenon of borrowing which ensures the adoption of equivalent or even intermediate words due to a linguistic deficit felt by lack of knowledge or ignorance or to maintain ease in conversation, knowing also that the Algerian speaks his dialect spontaneously unlike to standard or literary Arabic, for the purpose of linguistic identity security.

In our study, the research interest focuses on the specificity of the linguistic structure known as the linguistic identity functioning of two Algerian subjects; of dialectal Arabic, in comparison with literary Arabic, via neutral projective spaces of the Rorschach and the TAT, which suppose the flow of the psychic trace via the transformation of the lexical and syntactic movement, by carrying out a discursive psychodynamic approach.

Key words: Algerian dialect Arabic, literary Arabic, linguistic identity.

# Spatiality in the Rorschach: psychoanalysis and inter-methodology dialogue

Dr. Julien Alary<sup>1</sup>

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Session I4, Oral Presentation, Multimethod 2, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM -  
10:30 AM

Objective: promote a dialogue between the different methods of Rorschach analysis based on the concept of spatiality.

Method used: French psychoanalytical school, CS-R, R-PAS

Summary:

According to the French psychoanalytical school, the Rorschach test involves a general spatial issue. This issue can be divided and categorized in several qualitative ways, which overlap in part with the way responses are scored and interpreted. The locations emphasize the geographical dimension of the boards: whole or detail, internal or external, high or low, lateralized or symmetrical. In addition, the determinants can present movements on a projective scene as well as space forms, as observed by H. Rorschach in a paper published posthumously by Dr. Emil Oberholzer (1924). The content can also be spatial (landscape, map, architectural structures...). All theoretical schools address the spatial issue in their own epistemology, but it is only studied partially through such variables as: space reversal and space integration in the R-PAS, Vista in the CS-R, perspective fading in the French school. Using protocols collected during a doctoral research, we will analyze the relevance of a variable named Spatiality (S%) in terms of psychopathological assessment and in terms of inter-methodology dialogue.

# Quantitative Assessment of Psychopathology with PAI and Rorschach.

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Session I4, Oral Presentation, Multimethod 2, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM -  
10:30 AM

**Introduction:** Recent quantitative research on The Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology (HiTOP) proposes a common, general factor of psychopathology. Two broadband indices of psychopathology, PAI Global psychopathology index (GPI) and Rorschach Ego Impairment index (EII) were compared. In this study we hypothesised that these indices would have a significant positive correlation.

**Methodology:** Archival data from 143 psychiatric inpatients (46,9% male) (PSY), and 116 transgender assessment clients (34,5% MtoF) (TRANS), was used. Age range 18-62 years (M=26.4, SD=8.3). The data set consists of clients, who were assessed in the Department of Psychiatry, Tampere University Hospital with PAI and Rorschach CS. GPI and EII were calculated from the test protocols. Analyses: Correlations, analysis of variance and scatterplots.

**Results:** Correlation of the two indices over the whole data had a moderate effect size,  $r=.30$ ,  $p= .000$ . The TRANS group had significantly lower index values than the PSY group. GPI had a negative correlation with education level and EII a positive correlation with intelligence. **Conclusions:** The results support using both self-reference and performance based methods in clinical assessment. A scheme for interpreting concordant and discordant findings on the indices is described. **Limitations:** Archival data did not provide comprehensive information on various background variables and Rorschach coding reliability. Controlling these limitations in further research should provide more reliable results for quantitative assessment of psychopathology.

# A Systematic Review of Case Studies with the Rorschach test

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Session I4, Oral Presentation, Multimethod 2, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM -  
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Case study is a versatile research method that allows to investigate, understand or predict an outcome within an idiographic approach, providing intensive and contextualized information. The Rorschach test has been historically presented as a powerful method to gauge the understanding of clients in various settings.

Our systematic literature review aims to address the features of published case studies that used the Rorschach test.

Analyses focus on the features of the journals in which case studies are published, the context of the cases and the features of the clients to whom the test is administered, the presence of a multi-method assessment integrating the Rorschach with different sources of information, the Rorschach coding systems and the theories used in the interpretation of the Rorschach.

Our systematic literature review includes articles published after the introduction of Exner's Comprehensive System (1974) describing how case studies literature changed with time. Results suggest the growth of this typology of publication, not necessarily paralleled by an improvement of its quality. The widest systems applied are the Comprehensive System and the Parisian School. In recent years, there has been a growing number of articles using R-PAS. Overall, two approaches seem to emerge, one emphasizing the use of the Rorschach along with the TAT, and their interpretation within a psychodynamic approach, and one in which the Rorschach is accompanied by self-report measures and is interpreted following a structural and empirical approach. Of note, the Comprehensive System has frequently lent itself to be interpreted also through a psychoanalytic approach.

# CONNECTING THE RORSCHACH TEST WITH THE ICD-11 PERSONALITY DISORDER DIAGNOSIS

Psychologist Christian Kroman Philips<sup>1</sup>

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Session I4, Oral Presentation, Multimethod 2, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 12, 2024, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

In this proposed oral presentation, I intend to explore the Rorschach test as a crucial projective assessment tool, offering insights into personality characteristics, cognitive processes, and emotional functioning. This presentation aims to establish a connection between these features and the new ICD-11 diagnosis of personality disorder, through a comparative overview of the features evaluated in the Rorschach test, particularly through Exner's Comprehensive System, and their relation to the corresponding ICD-11 aspects of self and interpersonal dysfunction, along with their emotional, cognitive, and behavioral manifestations.

I will attempt to highlight the identified connections and similarities, emphasizing the Rorschach test's potential in revealing significant ego-syntonic aspects of ICD-11 personality dysfunction, which are not always evident in clinical interviews or self-reports. However, I will also discuss the need for a cautious approach in interpretation and the importance of future research for improving diagnostic accuracy, recognizing the inherent limitations of any projective assessment tool. The presentation will conclude with suggestions for future research directions, including the reciprocal validation of Rorschach scores against ICD-11 diagnostic features, potentially enhancing the assessment of complex inner structures and manifestations of personality pathology.



# Capturing the Experience of Trauma with the Rorschach

Dr. Nancy Kaser-boyd<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Geffen School Of Medicine At Ucla, Studio City, United States

Keynote 4: Nancy Kaser-Boyd, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 12, 2024, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## Capturing the Experience of Trauma with the Rorschach

The Rorschach is the ideal instrument to capture the experience of trauma. It's black, gray and vibrant colors and abstract forms are potent stimuli for the projection of trauma images. The Rorschach accesses psychological processes, allowing the patient to communicate trauma images not called out by more structured psychological tests. The earliest research on traumatized individuals was with combat soldiers in the Israeli Navy and returning traumatized Vietnam veterans, but the Rorschach research on trauma has now expanded to physically and sexually abused children, battered women and rape trauma survivors, gynecological suffering including genital circumcision, survivors of war and torture, and first responders. Two patterns of Rorschach response have emerged—the constricted pattern, where the evaluatee keeps to a form-based, avoidant approach to the blot, as if defending against the memories of the trauma, and a flooded pattern where morbid and aggressive images can resemble psychosis. The content of responses is often a screen upon which evaluatees project their unique trauma experience. The Trauma Content Index and the Critical Content Index capture trauma content. Other formal scores assess cognitive disturbances associated with traumatic intrusion, defensive patterns, issues of identity and relatedness, and problems with self-regulation. The lecture will illustrate the experience of trauma with examples from the groups above. Given the state of the world in 2024, the focus will be on the effects of war and torture, as psychologists move forward to conduct evaluations for the issues of traumatized immigrants.

# TRAUMA DUE TO SOCIAL ISOLATION OR CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY?

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Session J1, Symposium: CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF MULTICULTURAL DIVERSITY AND ADOLESCENCE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY LINKS ASSOCIATED WITH SUICIDE RISK AND TRAUMA FROM ISOLATION, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

During 2021, an exploratory study was carried out with young university students who had completed their schooling and had graduated in 2020, in a situation of social isolation and virtual teaching. The average age was 19 years. detecting that they were subjects who presented indicators of post-traumatic stress (Guinzbourg IRS 2022).

An exploratory study is currently being carried out on a sample of 30 young university students who have the same social and educational level with an average age of 21 years (two years later).

Methodology: The subjects are university students of the same socio-economic and educational level as the sample previously studied. Rorschach Comprehensive System was administered in person. the results were compared with Argentinian norms (Lunazzi, 2006) focusing in indicators of trauma scale (Armstrong 2002, Viglione 2012).

Conclusion: In case there are positive indicators on the trauma scale suggesting that they are going through trauma, possible characteristics that have been installed in the personality functioning will be described. As well as their relationship to scores on other indicators associated with problems in perceptual adjustment, thought disorders and other disturbances in emotional functioning

Key Words: Rorschach-trauma-university students.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF MULTICULTURAL DIVERSITY AND ADOLESCENCE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY LINKS ASSOCIATED WITH SUICIDE RISK AND TRAUMA FROM ISOLATION

# DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY LINKS ASSOCIATED WITH SUICIDE RISK IN ADOLESCENCE

Silvia Pugliese<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>ADEIP, Santa Fe, Argentina

Session J1, Symposium: CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF MULTICULTURAL DIVERSITY AND ADOLESCENCE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY LINKS ASSOCIATED WITH SUICIDE RISK AND TRAUMA FROM ISOLATION, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## OBJECTIVE

Adolescents go through a complex process in the background of which is the type of attachment experienced with their primary caregivers.

Numerous investigations of different theoretical lines have shown that the risks and vulnerability to suicidal behaviors of adolescents increase when they come from dysfunctional or violent families; whether it is violence on a synchronic or diachronic level.

## METHODOLOGY

A sample of 248 adolescents was taken from patients and non-patients, assessed with Pfister's Color Pyramid test and Diagnostic Family Interview.

## RESULTS

Of the total sample, 135 showed suicidal risk. It was assessed that 77.77% came from dysfunctional families and of these, 60% came from violent families.

## CONCLUSION

It was concluded that in the face of the narcissistic wounds that adolescents must face, if they do not have family or social support and containment, the risk is the passage to the act. In this sense, self-harm becomes a defense against painful and intolerable feelings.

KEY WORDS: Family Violence- Adolescence- Suicidal Ris

CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF MULTICULTURAL DIVERSITY AND ADOLESCENCE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY LINKS ASSOCIATED WITH SUICIDE RISK AND TRAUMA FROM ISOLATION

# 20 YEARS LATER: COMPARATIVE STUDY OF CONTENT AS REPRESENTATIVE OF MULTICULTURAL DIVERSITY IN 2004 AND 2024

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Session J1, Symposium: CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF MULTICULTURAL DIVERSITY AND ADOLESCENCE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY LINKS ASSOCIATED WITH SUICIDE RISK AND TRAUMA FROM ISOLATION, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

At the Rorschach Congress in Barcelona (2005) we presented results of two investigations about Content, both descriptive. The first presented Rorschach content on a sample of Lima inhabitants (237) and the second, specific Rorschach content not found in samples from other countries. We show the results and discusión, emphasizing the common findings to Rorschach studies and also the differences, only found in Peru, and propose lines of research to integrate similarities and differences of our country and highlight the importance of the statistically significant findings.

20 years have passed and we need to know if those findings remain, or if the variety of cultural occurrences and the emerging of new technology have modified them.

The Content of a country, from the perspective of multiculturalism, indicate that we must not abandon the profound connections of personality and culture. Within the Comprehensive System, Content interacts with diverse indicators to generate useful information to understand the basic characteristics of personality.

Methodology: We will compare the 2004 sample of 237 non patients, with 237 cases with similar characteristics obtained in 2023-2024. Rorschach SC individual was administered, comparing both the samples with each other and the Peruvian norms (Ráez, 2007). The similarities and differences will answer the questions of the study.

Key-words: Rorschach Content- Multiculturalism- Common-Differences findings

CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF MULTICULTURAL DIVERSITY AND ADOLESCENCE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY LINKS ASSOCIATED WITH SUICIDE RISK AND TRAUMA FROM ISOLATION

# CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF MULTICULTURAL DIVERSITY AND ADOLESCENCE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY LINKS ASSOCIATED WITH SUICIDE RISK AND TRAUMA FROM ISOLATION

Prof. Dra. Matilde Ráez<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Silvia Pugliese<sup>2</sup>, Mónica Guinzbourg<sup>4</sup>, Susana Levantini

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Session J1, Symposium: CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF MULTICULTURAL DIVERSITY AND ADOLESCENCE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY LINKS ASSOCIATED WITH SUICIDE RISK AND TRAUMA FROM ISOLATION, Session Room: Grand Ball Room, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

A group of researchers from different countries in Latin America, who have participated in various international congresses, have joined this symposium to delve into two topics considered very important nowadays: Content as representative of Multicultural Diversity in 2004 and 2024 and Adolescents with Dysfunctional Family links associated with suicide risk and Trauma due to Social Isolation. Using the Rorschach as a base instrument while also evaluating with the Pfister Colorful Pyramids (TPC), and employing the in-person method as well as the online kind, we are looking to evaluate similarities, differences and new approaches in our region and an integrating contribution to scholars of other regions.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF MULTICULTURAL DIVERSITY AND ADOLESCENCE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY LINKS ASSOCIATED WITH SUICIDE RISK AND TRAUMA FROM ISOLATION

# PROJECTIVE EVALUATION AND MEDIATION IN TAKING CARE OF TRANSGENDER PATIENTS

Dr Luca Bruno<sup>1</sup>

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Session J2, Symposium: Projective methods: between assessment and mediation, Session Room:  
Christiansborg, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## INTRODUCTION

It is vital to use an adequate projective methodology in order to allow a thorough psychodiagnostic assessment for transgender patients. By the same token, it is important to have some essential elements available, in order to mediate the results with any given patient's environment and with the caregiving team.

## METHODOLOGY

We used the Rorschach and TAT tests, according to the model of the French School, albeit with the following methodological variants: the first one consists in implementing the 3 « Oedipal » TAT cards for the other sex compared with those of the patients (therefore 6BM, 7BM and 8BM for FtM and 6GF, 7GF and 9GF for MtF transgenders). The second variant is based on proposing a «choice test» on the all « Oedipal » cards.

## CONCLUSIONS

This methodology prove to be extremely useful in order to precisely assess mental functioning and the presence of gender dysphoria. The specific elements and narratives that also tap into the unconscious level of personality are all fundamental features.

This is functional both for patient-related restitutions (including their family members) and for mediating between the patients and their environment (concerning social transitions), as well as with the other professionals involved (psychotherapists and doctors in case of hormonal and surgical transitions).

The study herein intends above all to raise the issue of the importance of changes within the application methodology of the TAT. The test results are important for the therapeutic approach and to develop the theory on the psychic functioning of gender-nonconforming persons.

Projective methods: between assessment and mediation

# PSYCHIC CARE IN PRISONS: TREATMENT OF NEGATIVITY USING PROJECTIVE TOOLS

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Session J2, Symposium: Projective methods: between assessment and mediation, Session Room:  
Christiansborg, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## PSYCHIC CARE IN PRISONS: TREATMENT OF NEGATIVITY USING PROJECTIVE TOOLS

**Introduction:** The clinic of violent acts is particularly staggering. Based on clinical practice in a prison environment, the aim is to examine the role of projective tools as a vehicle for encounter. In such a singular therapeutic context, it is up to the clinician to welcome this clinical vector of counter-transferential movements of flabbergasting and fascination.

**Methodology :** Based on a clinical case of a young woman imprisoned for homicide, we show how the clinician's work of figurability gives access to the trauma and to what lies beyond the memory trace.

**Conclusion:** The issues at stake in the clinical encounter are marked by the redeployment of what has remained cut off, dissociated, erased and inaccessible to thought. Projective tools play a significant role here, insofar as they give form to and provide figurative support for the failures of representation. The contribution of projective tests, supported by a method and a reference framework, initiates the play of perceptive and projective behaviours specific to each subject. In this sense, projective 'mediation' makes it possible, on the one hand, to encounter what precisely escapes the laws of language and thought and, on the other, to apprehend the surge of the perceptive field and the importance of the movements of flabbergasting and fascination.

**Key words:** acting out, fascination, terror, projective tests, trauma.

**Projective methods:** between assessment and mediation

# PROJECTIVE ASSESSMENT WITH A THERAPEUTIC EFFECT DURING THE TEST: TWO CLINICAL ILLUSTRATIONS

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Session J2, Symposium: Projective methods: between assessment and mediation, Session Room:  
Christiansborg, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## PROJECTIVE ASSESSMENT WITH A THERAPEUTIC EFFECT DURING THE TEST: TWO CLINICAL ILLUSTRATIONS

### INTRODUCTION

The aim of this presentation is to show the impact of a complete psychological assessment with projective tests (Rorschach and TAT, analyzed and interpreted according to the Paris School), or even of the projective assessment alone, on the psychic functioning of certain subjects. More precisely, the aim is to report on the remarkable evolution these particular subjects show between the start of the test and the restitution interview.

### METHODOLOGY

We will discuss two clinical cases of young adolescents aged 12 and 13, seen in a private practice for evaluation: the first for questioning about a possible ASD, the second in the aftermath of a psychic trauma linked to an aggression. We will examine the mediating role of projective tests in these singular clinical contexts, as well as the theoretical underpinnings that could shed light on the causes of such rapid psychic transformation.

### CONCLUSION

These very surprising passations testify to a transformation of the subject before our eyes during the assessment process. In our clinical practice, we have observed that this movement manifests itself more readily in young subjects with neurotic functioning, but can also be observed in older subjects with more archaic problems. This suggests that a dynamic, mediated by the projective tests, has been set in motion, leading to a movement away from repetition and creating a psychic opening whose therapeutic effect we can perceive in the here and now.

Projective methods: between assessment and mediation



# PROJECTIVE TESTS CHALLENGED BY CULTURAL DIFFERENCES: FROM THE TEST TO THE METHOD OF LISTENING TO UNCONSCIOUS PROCESSES

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Session J2, Symposium: Projective methods: between assessment and mediation, Session Room:  
Christiansborg, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## Introduction:

We propose a reflection on the use of projective methods when a cultural difference exists between the patient and the psychologist.

## Methodology:

We are studying how cultural variabilities can make both administration and interpretation tricky: it may be difficult to distinguish between cultural characteristics or individual arrangements in the absence of norms adapted to the group of belonging of the subject, and the cultural context impacts the transfero-versus-transferential mobilization and the way the situation is experienced. In addition, we take into account how the subject relates to the language: if he or she is not completely at ease, some language errors can be confused with the emergence of primary processes. We are also examining the way in which a performance in the first language is particularly capable of reasoning with representations and affects rooted in the infantile history of the subject.

## Conclusion:

To contextualize the answers provided or to translate what the patient says, a solution could be to work with an interpreter-mediator. But the projective situation is then profoundly modified, the usual rules of passations and interpretations can no longer be applied. And the unconscious of the interpreter will be solicited, further complicating the work of interpretation. In such a situation, can we still call it a projective “test” - a standardized assessment tool – or is it only a method that promotes encounter and allows for regression and listening to unconscious processes? What are the benefits for the patient and the quality of the clinician’s assessment?

PROJECTIVE METHODS: BETWEEN ASSESSMENT AND MEDIATION

## Projective methods: between assessment and mediation

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Session J2, Symposium: Projective methods: between assessment and mediation, Session Room:  
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While the use of projective methods in an evaluative or even diagnostic perspective - in the psychopathological sense - has been widespread and accepted within the scientific community for many years, the mediating dimension that the use of projective tests can have in the intersubjective encounter inherent in the test-taking process seems to have been increasingly explored in recent years, from different perspectives. It can be used either as an intermediary, or as a third-party object that acts as a link, particularly between the patient and the clinician (Azoulay & Chagnon, 2023; Roman, 2023), between two intersubjective states, between the intrapsychic and intersubjective dimensions, thereby facilitating access to transitional phenomena (Anzieu & Chabert, 1983). It is thus likely to open up an 'other stage' towards which psychological processes can unfold that would otherwise be less accessible, for example in a dual situation. Depending on how they are used, projective methods catalyse relational issues which sometimes pave the way for a revival of the processes of symbolisation (Ravit, 2023) and subjectivation, or even a therapeutic dimension (Finn & al., 2012), beyond the evaluative dimension.

In order to examine the existing gaps and links between the use of projectives as a mediation tool and as an assessment tool, the papers presented at this symposium will examine the methodological and epistemic issues raised by each of these positions, by shedding light on these questions in the light of different clinical and/or psychopathological fields.

Projective methods: between assessment and mediation

# Features of eye movements during perception of the Rorschach test in normals and in schizophrenia patients in pharmacological remission

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Session J3, Oral Presentation, Different Topics, Session Room: Kronborg, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Hypothesis.** It is proposed that there are differences between the amount and timing of gaze fixation during perception of the Rorschach test in normal and schizophrenic patients, which may persist pharmacological remission in patients.

**Sample.** Group 1 - 18 mentally healthy participants (6 men and 12 women), mean age 26.7 years; Group 2 - 13 participants (9 men and 4 women) mean age 43 years, with paranoid schizophrenia in pharmacological remission, mean disease duration 21 years.

**Methods.** Participants were shown the I, III, VIII, and X cards of the Rorschach test on a monitor for 15 seconds, during which eye movements were performed using a 60Hz Gazepoint GP3. Participants were asked to name a few images they had seen. After the questionnaire was administered, the data were analyzed according to the CS system (Exner, 1993).

Statistical processing was performed in IBM SPSS Statistics 24 using the Mann-Whitney criterion.

**Results.** Significant differences were found in the number of gaze fixations on card III ( $U=201.5$ ,  $p<0.05$ ), group 2 had more fixations, which may reflect the difficulty in formulating percepts.

Differences were found between group 1 and 2 in the number of responses to III ( $U=201.5$ ,  $p<0.05$ ), VII ( $U=222$ ,  $p<0.05$ ) and X ( $U=193.5$ ,  $p<0.05$ ) cards, where group 1 gave more responses per fixation.

**Conclusion.** Differences were found in the number of fixations to card III in patients with schizophrenia, which may be an indicator of difficulties with percept allocation at the eye-movement level.

# THE TRANSFORMATIVE POTENTIAL OF MASKS IN AN ACTRESS'S RORSCHACH - A JUNGIAN QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF WILL-MASKS.

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Session J3, Oral Presentation, Different Topics, Session Room: Kronborg, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

The persona is a collective and personal aspect of the human being that refers to a part of the personality that is developed as a face to be adopted in social interactions. Based on Roland Kuhn's (1957) perspective that will-masks - those produced verbally through the Rorschach - reveal a desire to experience the world in a different way, playing different roles and revealing a hidden part of oneself, this study aimed to investigate how mask responses can reveal aspects of an actress's personality. This is a qualitative study using Jungian methodology, based on the one actress's assessment. To collect the information, a meeting was made, which included a semi-structured interview and the application of the Rorschach following the Comprehensive System. In the analysis, the symbolic amplification of the participant's mask responses was carried out, and then organised into category analysis. Later, these were related to the narratives obtained through the interview. The mask responses obtained through the Rorschach method helped to identify desires for transformation, as well as indicators of the collaborator's self-perception that were consistent with her life story. In other words, through this case, it was possible to observe the Rorschach Method as a powerful tool for revealing aspects of self-perception, as well as desires for change in the life of an actress, thus possessing great therapeutic potential.

# The Differentiated Investments on the Fetus: The Expectant Mothers and Fathers on Different Fronts

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Session J3, Oral Presentation, Different Topics, Session Room: Kronborg, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

It is suggested that a fuller understanding of fetal emotional experience can lead to an increased respect for the subjectivity of the infant. The pregnancy and childbirth reveal psychic processes specific to this period. The perinatal period begins with bodily and narcissistic investments, but the pregnant mother's and the expectant father's psychological effects and investments on the fetus' development and experience in the womb are significant factors. This presentation aims to provide information about changes in the psychic organization, identifications, object relations and affective world of pregnant women and their spouses.

The process of becoming a mother involves a dynamic psyche-soma dialectic and the central position of representations around body. Pregnant women use more narcissistic and infantile defense mechanisms. On the other hand, the process of becoming a father causes an early regression in the psyche and triggers conflicts related to castration, intra-uterine fantasies and bisexuality. The expected fathers try to stay away from feminine identifications where the rivalry with the father emerges with a negative discourse for them and idealization becomes evident with respect to mothers. The narcissistic investments and the elaborations on femininity do differ between expectant mothers and fathers.

The aim of this review is to provide a general framework of how the perinatal period is experienced by women and men. To discover the mutual points of their psychic processes, clinical interviews and projective tests are used in various researches. This presentation will give an outline of the most significant differences on the way to parenthood.

# MULTI-METHODOLOGY IN FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT: SELECTED R-PAS VARIABLES VS. CLINICIAN-RATED SYMPTOMS OF PSYCHOSIS (CRDPSS)

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Session J4, Oral Presentation, Psychometrics/distress, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## Introduction

In Sweden, offenders whose mental state corresponds with the medicolegal term 'severe mental disorder' (SMD), as established within a forensic psychiatric evaluation (FPE), is generally sentenced to forensic psychiatric care instead of prison. An evaluation with such consequences requires an evidence-based assessment procedure and a nuanced understanding of how various assessment methods and their results relates to the SMD-decision. Today, this procedure is relatively uncharted even though these decisions often rely heavily on test data and observer-report.

## Aim

To investigate how well test data and observer-report may complement each other in the decision regarding SMD.

## Methods

Participants (N=100) were detained and underwent an FPE, had perpetrated a violent crime, aged over 18, were able to give informed consent, and mastered the Swedish language sufficiently. The data collection started in March 2021 and ended in December 2023. Of the included participants, approximately 40% were considered to have an SMD. Similarities and differences between the two groups were analyzed, focusing on FQ(-/%), EII-3, and TP-Comp from the R-PAS (test data) and variables from Clinician-Rated Dimensions of Psychosis Symptom Severity from DSM-5 (observer-report).

## Results

The relationships between the selected R-PAS and CRDPSS variables are presented separately for those who were considered to have an SMD and those who were not. Descriptive results concerning the relationships between test data and observer report showed considerable in-group heterogeneity within the two SMD subgroups. Despite this, statistical group comparisons between the two subgroups indicated that some of these relationships may inform future FPE praxis in Sweden.

# QUALITY OF HUMAN REPRESENTATION ON THE RORSCHACH IN PATIENTS WITH PSYCHOSIS AND DEPRESSION

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Session J4, Oral Presentation, Psychometrics/distress, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

The aim of the study was to explore the quality of human representation on the Rorschach in patients with severe psychopathology. We conducted a study to answer the question whether human representation on the Rorschach reflects a different quality of representations in female inpatients with psychosis and depression. The procedure involved administration and scoring of the Rorschach protocols according to Comprehensive System to examine the quality of human representation, measured by human representation variable (HRV). The results show significant differences on global HRV score as well as some partial criteria variables between two groups of patients. Patients diagnosed with psychosis had significantly lower HRV compared with patients diagnosed with depression. The human representations of patients with psychosis were more illogical, confused, distorted, malevolent and aggressive, as compared to patients diagnosed with depression. Further analysis of HRV revealed that the subcomponent Weighted Sum of 6 Special Scores (WSUM6) that measures disturbances in thinking contributed to the lower score on HRV on subjects diagnosed with psychotic disorder. The results of the study support the validity of Rorschach to assess the quality of human representations and interpersonal perceptions and may provide an important contribution in understanding aspects of personality and psychopathology.

# QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF SPECIAL CODES AND ANATOMY IN THE RORSCHACH OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS WITH SUICIDE ATTEMPTS

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Session J4, Oral Presentation, Psychometrics/distress, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

This study aimed to qualitatively compare the Rorschach responses of university students who have attempted suicide with students who have never thought about killing themselves. Thirty-six students who had sought help for their mental health accepted to participate in the study and were assessed using the R-PAS and the Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale. Of these students, six reported never having thought about killing themselves (Group 1), and eight reported having attempted suicide (Group 2). Variables of perception, thinking, stress, and specific concerns were compared using the Wilcoxon Mann-Whitney test to guide the qualitative analysis. Significant differences (90% CI) were observed in WSumCog ( $p=0.028$ ) and An ( $p=0.075$ ) variables. In G1, three students had no cognitive codes and only one had a Lvl2 code (INC2), with low severity. In G2, all the students had cognitive codes, five had no Severe Codes (SevCog), two had one SevCog, and one student had eight SevCog. Regarding Anatomy, in G2 there were responses of “colored bones”, which seems to be similar to color projection, and more mentions of bone holes (seven) compared to G1 (two). Thus, the students who have attempted suicide showed greater difficulties in thinking, a mechanism for denying depressive feelings, and a greater focus on the empty spaces in the Rorschach blots, which could indicate greater experiences of emptiness. Examples of responses will be presented. We emphasize that the sample is small, but still significant, given the risk of death and the impact it causes on the community.



# CROSS-CULTURAL VARIABILITY IN RORSCHACH POPULAR RESPONSES

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Session J4, Oral Presentation, Psychometrics/distress, Session Room: Rosenborg, July 12, 2024, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Title: CROSS-CULTURAL VARIABILITY IN RORSCHACH POPULAR RESPONSES

Introduction: Some researchers argue standardized Rorschach administration and coding procedures minimize cultural influences on test performance (Esquivel, 2008; Ritzler, 2001). However, critics maintain that a lack of cultural considerations and international norms in previous datasets warrant concerns about the cross-cultural applicability of the Rorschach (Bachran, 2002; Garb et al, 2001; Gowri, 1999; Hosseininasab et al., 2016; Lilienfield et al, 2000).

Hypotheses: It was hypothesized that significant cross-cultural variation in P responses would be found, challenging the assumption that certain popular contents have consistent frequencies across diverse populations.

Methodology: The study compares weighted mean P values in 17 international samples with Exner (2006) normative data.

Results: A one-sample t-test found a significant difference in average P scores between the U.S. and international sample ( $z = -9.45$ ,  $p < .001$ ), supporting the hypothesis of lower average P scores in culturally diverse samples.

Conclusion: Cross-cultural analyses reveal disparities in average P scores, with lower mean values observed in international samples. Certain culture-specific responses also emerged, challenging the assumed universality of P responses. These findings suggest a need to reconsider P coding criteria and assumptions. This paper advocates for specific changes to P coding criteria and interpretive considerations. Suggestions include subdividing popular responses into Unique, Common, and Universal categories (Bachran, 1996; Bourguignon & Nett, 1954, Hallowell, 1945), and developing culturally specific P-lists. Such refinements would enhance cross-cultural interpretive accuracy, contributing to the broader discourse on the Rorschach's cross-cultural utility and to culturally sensitive assessment practices.

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