

Relationships are Constructed from Generalized Unconscious Social Images Kept in Steady Locations in Mental Space

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Abstract

The social panorama approach is a psychotherapeutic method based on the view that generalized unconscious spatial imagery forms the cognitive foundation of social life. It appears to be an efficient therapeutic tool for solving a wide range of relational issues and may inspire research on space in social cognition. The leading principle of the social panorama model is “relation equals location”, which means that people keep the generalized images of relevant others in steady locations in the mental space around them. The exact location of such an image governs the emotional quality of the relationship.

We tested the prediction that moving a social image will change the emotional meaning of the relationship involved (i.e., relation equals location). To this end, we measured how increasing the distance to the image of a beloved alters the emotional experience.

Our results show that, when asked to triple the distance to the image of a loved one, the participants exhibited a significant decrease in the intensity and dramatic shifts in the quality of their emotions.

Keywords: social panorama, spatial imagery, social cognition



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Psychological Counseling and Developing Resilience for Young People with Psychological Trauma in Childhood or Adolescence

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Abstract

Introduction: *A family resilience approach aims to identify and fortify key interactional processes that enable families to withstand and rebound from disruptive life challenges.*

Objectives: *The main objectives of study were to identify the level of development of social and emotional feelings of loneliness felt by young people with psychological traumas in childhood and to investigate a correlation between the level of social and emotional loneliness and the dependence on others felt by young people with psychological traumas in childhood.*

Methods: *The research was based on four surveys: Self-Determination Scale (SDS; Sheldon & Deci, 1996), Social and Emotional Loneliness Scale for Adults (SELSA; Di Tommaso & Spinner, 1993), Interpersonal Dependency Inventory (Hirschfield, Klerman, Gough, Barrett, Korchin & Chodoff, 1977) and Child Abuse and Trauma Scale (CATS; Sanders & Becker-Lausen, 1995). To validate the two hypothesis we have used correlations between characteristics of 30 people aged between 19 and 42 years.*

Conclusions: *Resilience is the result of interactions between individual, family and environment. Resilience and posttraumatic growth confirm the development of a potential cure for the persons that agree to participate in a program of counseling and cognitive-behavioral psychotherapy. These people must develop skills of resilience and self-determination through counseling techniques and cognitive behavioral psychotherapy.*

Keywords: *psychological trauma, family resilience approach, social and emotional loneliness, dependence*

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The Experiential Orientation, a Good Practice Model in the Assessment and Profesional Training of Foster Parents in Romania

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Abstract

Introduction: *In this study, part of a more extensive research, we want to show an example of continuous assessment and professional training of foster parents, extremely necessary in the foster care practice in Romania. Thus we bring to the foreground the need for holistic assessments which include social, legal, medical and psychological dymensions. When we talk about the psychological aspects we are considering the need for a more in depth assessment which includes both personality traits and aspects related to psychological traumas and transgenerational history, which impact the personality of foster parents. Also, the need for a profesional training as a mean of psycho-emotional support and behavioral optimization of foster parents is another significant element that gives value to our research. Through techniques belonging to the experiential psychotherapy, we managed to structure more in depth the assessment and profesional training of specialists in foster care.*

Objectives: *The overall objective of this research was to develop a psychodiagnostic and training methodology of the profesional conduct of profesional foster parents. Specific objectives*

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were: 1. To identify the psycho-behavioral profile of the efficient foster parent, profile which followed three aspects: personality, the family history of psychological traumas and professional competence; 2. To develop and validate a complex assessment gride of the foster parents' professional effectiveness, by the multidisciplinary team psychologist - social worker; 3. Experimentation and validation of a psycho-behavioral model centered on the optimization of the foster parents – a formative intervention.

Methods: *The research methods and tools used were selected in accordance with the study's objectives and research hypotheses. Wanting to create a holistic assessment and personal optimization program of foster parents, we used psychodiagnostic methods, as well as a system of forms and tools to evaluate the professional behavior of foster parents and the experimental method which consisted of applying the experiential group intervention model, centered on the personal development of foster parents.*

Results: *The research results led to confirmation of hypotheses, thus achieving the overall goal to create a unified assessment methodology and training in Romania for the foster care system.*

Conclusions: *Considering the need for quality in the evaluation and training process of foster care, the research methodology took into account the objectives that led to the development of an efficient professional behavior of foster parents and the methodological approach was structured on two dimensions: evaluative and formative. The foster parents' psycho-behavioral profile assessed on a triaxial model (personality factors axis; professional skills axis and family history of psychological trauma axis) and the experiential group program focused on the personal development of foster parents can be considered by practitioners as evaluative and formative landmarks.*

Keywords: *foster parent, holistic assessment, professional training, psycho-emotional support, professional behavioral optimization*



The Coherent Narration in the Construction of a Movie – Specific Case – Feature Movie „Illegitimate”

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Abstract

The endeavor of this study starts from the depiction of the characteristics of a familial construction that shape the existence of certain people in a feature film. Besides the reality of a person and of his or her life story, there is a subtle influence of the family in which this person grew up and in which he or she was shaped. Along the construction of the film, the study brought to light the multi-faceted characters and how they could exist in the space built by the film. Furthermore, the study of the central themes of the family direct the action of the characters towards reparatory solutions of their life scenarios. The study is thus centered on realizing the coherent narration of the life story that is depicted in the Romanian long movie "Illegitimate".

Keywords: transgenerational, narrative coherence, film, character



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Gender Identity: Exchangeable Roles and Parental Attachment

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Abstract

Introduction: *Gender roles are those aspects of the individual's attitudes and behaviors that society associates with each sex. The two dimensions of gender were considered over time two facets of the same concept. S. Bem (1974) questions this view suggesting that masculinity and femininity are two distinct dimensions which each individual possesses in different proportions, regardless of one's gender.*

Objectives: *The objectives of this study were: to identify the main attributes associated with the masculinity/femininity concepts and the description of the exchangeable nature of those attributes and to analyze the correlation between different parental attachment styles and sex-role identity.*

Methods: *The measurements were made with two inventories: an adaptation of Bem Sex-Role Inventory (BSRI) and one of Parental Attachment Questionnaire (PAQ). The sample of this research included 82 participants with ages between 19 and 48 years old, with the mean age $M=24$.*

Results: *The results revealed that there were no significant correlations between the two scales (BSRI and PAQ). Significant correlations had been found between the BSRI scales, androgyny, femininity, masculinity and some indices of PAQ. Regarding the second objective, the femininity concept was partially explained by some masculine attributes and the masculinity concept was also explained partially by some feminine attributes.*

Conclusion: *The exchangeable nature of traditional masculine and feminine attributes, observed in the linear regressions presented in the results section, indicate that in the present time some of these attributes could be specific for both genders and may as well be considered neutral.*

Keywords: *sex-role, gender research, BSRI, PAQ*

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