

**DIAGNOSTIC CONFUSION IN TODAY'S CHILD CLINICAL PRACTICE.
A CRITICAL VIEW FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS
(Part II)**

Esperanza Pérez de Plá *

A large group of children and adolescents with problems in school, conduct disorders and impulsivity do not achieve effective results after many years of psychiatric treatment, having received several different diagnosis and pharmacological treatments. Two clinical situations are presented where diagnostic confusion unables professionals to think and adopt an integrated and multifactorial approach. In Part 2 of the paper a reflection on errors in general clinical practice is exposed and related to the history of child psychiatry during the last 40 years. KEY WORDS: diagnostic confusion, ADHD, underlying psychopathology, family disfunctions.

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**SUCSESSES AND FAILURES OF LATENCY AS CLINICAL DIAGNOSTIC
PARAMETERS**

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The majority of children attended in mental health centres belong to the latency period, that is, they are between 6-7 and 11-12 years of age. This developmental stage is thus relevant due to the high number of diagnostic and treatment interventions it generates. It is also a stage where important psychological changes that have a repercussion on later psychic equilibrium and personality organization are consolidated. KEY WORDS: latency, intrapsychic changes, diagnostic assessment, personality organization.

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PERSONALITY DISORDERS IN ADOLESCENCE: CLINICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND THERAPEUTIC PATHS FROM INFANCY TO ADULTHOOD

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This paper studies the concept of personality disorders paying special attention to its use in childhood and adolescence. Personality disorders in childhood constitute a clinical reality that often becomes dramatically relevant in adolescence. However, from a nosological point of view, the World Health Organization's diagnostic classification (ICD-10) does not consider its usage until after 16 or 17 years of age. The paper presents a sample of patients with personality disorders attended in our Center and analyses their clinical and diagnostic development, their treatment history into adulthood and the weight of risk factors. KEY WORDS: personality disorder, adolescence, diagnosis, risk factors.

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AN INTERVENTION EXPERIENCE TO PROMOTE A HEALTHY BOND BETWEEN ADOLESCENT MOTHERS AND THEIR BABIES

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Previous research on adolescent mothers in contexts of poverty in the city of Lima (Peru) had shown evidence of the difficulties these young mothers encounter in their bonding with their babies and with their maternity role. These results were the motivation to carry on an action research, based on a group intervention to promote a healthy bonding between these mothers and their babies in a context of extreme poverty in Lima. This paper presents a systematization and discussion of the verbal material that emerged in the sessions. The material has been structured in relation to three axes: The role that the group played as a container, the construction of a maternal identity versus an adolescent identity and the acknowledgement of a maternal role in a context of poverty. KEY WORDS: adolescent mothers, mother-child bond, poverty, action research.

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EMOTIONAL CARE IN THE PREVENTION OF POST-SURGERY PAIN IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

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This paper describes the programme carried out at the Sant Joan de Déu Hospital in Barcelona for major surgery. It examines psychological preparation and emotional support as one of the best strategies for dealing with the relationship between pre-operation anxieties and post-operation pain intensity in children and adolescents. The authors propose that combining strategies for coping and cognitive reconstructions, on the one hand, and the application of emotional containment processes of a psychodynamic nature, on the other hand, constitutes one of the main tools to decrease anxiety and, therefore, post-operation pain. KEY WORDS: hospitalization, surgery, anxiety, child, adolescent.

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THE LAUSANNE TRILOGUE PLAY (LTP) IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

Grazia Maria Fava Vizziello * and Nivia Pilar Nosadini **

This paper presents the Lausanne Trilogue Play, a clinical and research instrument for early diagnosis or psychopathological organization or risk factors in family interactive patterns. It explains the theoretical, clinical and empirical bases of this innovative instrument designed by Elisabeth Fivaz-Depeursinge and her team. The paper shows, through the example of 3 families with children with personality disorders, how this instrument can be applied in prevention, in treatment with the use of video-feedback and in the evaluation of long-term therapies. KEY WORDS: early diagnosis, children, interactive patterns.

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THE SPECTRUM OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE: DEFINITION AND TYPOLOGY

Noemí Pereda *

An accepted and precise definition of child maltreatment and sexual abuse has not yet been established. This definitional ambiguity complicates the detection of these cases and the determination of statistical estimations. This paper reviews the most used definitions of child maltreatment and sexual abuse, with special reference to Spanish definition proposals. The conceptualization of a "Sexual Abuse Spectrum" encompassing all the subtypes of child maltreatment and sexual abuse, including those related to recent social and technological advances, is proposed. The paper stresses the need of professional awareness of these types of maltreatment to correctly detect, diagnose and intervene in these cases. KEY WORDS: childhood, child maltreatment, victimization, sexual violence.

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MIGRATION, IMMIGRATION, FAMILIES AND IDENTITY: HOW TO INTERVENE IN MENTAL HEALTH?

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Migration often constitutes a component of problematic family relations that generates deep suffering, adding on to previous issues, which can emerge during the process of migration. KEY WORDS: family, identity, dysfunction, immigration, migration, adolescence.

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THE HIDDEN COSTS OF CHILD CARE

Mariano Torras Lungwitz *

This paper argues that traditional economic indicators and analytical methods are ill-suited to evaluate the overall effects of our growing reliance on private child care services. Despite clear economic benefits, these are likely to be smaller than the negative psychosocial effects produced as young children spend more time away from their parents. KEY WORDS: economic costs, psychosocial effects, psychic damage, non-market benefits, children.

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STRUCTURING A SPACE FOR COORDINATION BETWEEN EARLY CHILD CARE AND RESIDENTIAL CENTRES

Sergio Martín Tarrasón *

This paper contains part of the material collected during the last two years of joint efforts between an Early Child Care Centre (*CDIAP*) and a Residential Centre for Educational Action (*CRAE*) in the Maresme area in Barcelona, Spain. It is our interest to communicate this experience with the intention of stimulating further collaboration between these two types of institutions, and with the aim of promoting a progressively more effective functioning between childcare services of the same area. KEY WORDS: early child care, educational action, residence centre, coordination.

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