

## Psychological investigation of thalassemic adolescents with Rorschach projective technique

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### Abstract

This research was carried out with 20 adolescents and young adults with b-Thalassemia, (boys and girls), aged 15; 1-20;1 years. The goal of the research was to investigate their personality. We focused particularly on some parameters of its functioning that we considered indicative for the psychological impact of a chronic illness: Ego and defense mechanisms (Intelligence - Ego - body image - defense mechanisms - identifications), Ego and the other person (mother image - object relations), drives (sexuality-agressiveness), psychophysical manifestations (anxiety-depression). We used the projective test Rorschach and the interpretation of the protocols has been effectuated by three different psychologists who agreed for the final interpretation after the comparison of their results. The results verify our hypothesis that a chronic and fatal illness has a strong impact on the personality. The Rorschach protocols indicate that some subjects develop adaptive mechanisms which are efficient since they control anxiety and depression, but massive, hindering the way to the internal world and the relational investment as well. On the other hand, there is an impoverishment of the personality in all levels, as if the available emotional energy is consumed in the struggle against their illness.

## **Individual family therapy**

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### **Abstract**

Object relations family therapy began its development about twenty years ago out of the efforts of certain family therapists who, having been trained as analysts wished to follow a psychodynamic approach that would allow them to work with the dynamics of both the individual self and the family system. Its principles and language have their roots in systems theory, the theory of group process and the psychoanalytic theory. This paper discusses the theoretical framework and the therapeutic technique of object relations family therapy with emphasis on the concepts of splitting, projective identification and transference/countertransference. Finally, the comment is made that, having succeeded in a cohesive therapeutic approach on multiple levels, individual, interpersonal and systemic, object relations family therapy provides food for thought for any therapist of any therapeutic approach, family, individual and otherwise.

## **Fear of rape among young Greek Women**

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### **Abstract**

The purpose of this study was, on the one hand to investigate the magnitude and the prevalence of the fear of rape and, on the other hand to identify precautionary behaviors. A preliminary study led to the construction of a questionnaire on the fear of rape which was used in the main study. This questionnaire included a list of crimes (i. e. murder, being threatened with a knife, etc). The questionnaire was given to 388 female and male students from the Universities of Patras and Ioannina. The results of the study showed the following. First, as far as magnitude is concerned, fear of rape is the greatest fear among women. Second, regarding prevalence, more women are afraid of rape than any other crime. Third, in terms of precautionary measures, a greater proportion of women than men use avoidance tactics, that is, not going out at night, not going out alone, avoiding certain areas and avoiding to open their door to strangers. The results of the study are discussed in light of the consequences fear of crime, including rape, has in the lives of young Greek Women.

## **The use of affect in the therapy of schizophrenia in adolescence: Some thoughts on the relationship and significance of affect in the process of psychological maturity.**

**A. Joannidou Jonson-Tournas, D.S.W.**

### **Abstract**

In this article the author defines and discusses affective communication, its relationship to psychological maturity of schizophrenic adolescents and its subsequent use in psychotherapy. A clinical example is used to demonstrate how affective communication is used by the psychotherapist to bring about changes in the interaction among members of a schizophrenic young man's family whose symptoms were first recognised in early adolescence. Attention is called to the critical role the young schizophrenic's significant environment plays in part for the development and subsequent partial elimination of his most dysfunctional behavioral symptoms.

## **Measurement of sexual differentiation in childrens' male and female figure drawings**

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### **Abstract**

A review of published work on drawings revealed that even though there have been many studies dealing with the sexual differentiation of human figure drawings, very few of them have been conducted and analyzed systematically. It was also found that even though there was no contemporary, reliable scoring system for the measurement of the sexual differentiation in human figure drawings, data from dubious and unreliable studies on the topic have often been used for diagnostic purposes. So it was thought that there was an urgent need for a new and reliable scoring system, as well as for a detailed description of the normal development of childrens' sexual differentiating ability. The present study analyzed representations of a man and a lady taken from 507 school-age children. A new scoring system was formed and by applying it, it was found that girls employed more differentiating items than boys in their drawings, while both boys and girls were found to include more sex differentiating items in their self sex figure drawings. The results are being compared with those of previous studies and possible interpretations are being discussed.