Splits in the Soul & Inner Healing

The concept of split personality and its consequences for psychotherapy

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• New book 2010
Psychosomatic Network

- cell-to-cell-communication made by genes
- immune system
- psychic system
- multidimensional selective adaptive creative
- hormone system
Main functions of the “Psyche”

- Helping the living organism get access to reality
- outside the body
- within the body
- in order to survive and procreate.
- The „psyche“ is a part of the psychosomatic network of the human body.
Main abilities of the Psyche

- to perceive
- to feel
- to think
- to remember
- to be conscious of oneself

„Psyche“ means different software programs to process informations and to coordinate actions within the human body. „Soul“ is what human beings feel as their core and essential self.
Three main states of the Psyche

- **Well being**
  - no existential thread
  - openness for reality
  - existential threads
  - focusing on the dangerous reality
  - threads are overwhelming
  - denial of reality

- **Stressprograms**

- **Trauma reactions**
Four human brains and their psychological programs

- **left hemisphere**: Speak! Think rational! Be yourself!
- **right hemisphere**: Imagine and associate! Invent and create your own world!
- **the mamal brain**: Love your relatives! Keep close contact to your social unities!
- **the reptile brain**: Fight or flight! anxiety and aggression
The human development takes places between the poles of symbiotic needs and desires for autonomy.
Symbiotic necessities

- being nurtured
- being kept warm
- contact with bodies
- contact with eyes
- being understood
- being supported
- belonging exclusively to another person
Desires for Autonomy

• to gain confidence in own one’s perceptions and feelings
• to develop independent thoughts and opinions
• to rely on one own’s abilities to act
• to become self-responsible
• to get self-sufficient
For children “safe bonding” (J. Bowlby) to their parents is fundamental for self confidence, confidence in human relations and mental health.

All their capacities can develop in a healthy way.
Symbiotically every child is doubly bonded to her mother:

passively: the emotional qualities of the mother are an imprint in the child’s soul

actively: the child clings to her mother and tries to support the mother

The symbiotic love of a child towards her mother is one of the most powerful emotional forces.
The most powerful emotional experience of every human being is the symbiotic relation with the mother.
Files of Bonding

- skin temperature
- taste
- milk
- movement
- smell
- eye contact
- touch
For a child the relation to his mother can become a symbiotic trauma.

The child is helpless and incapable to establish a safe, hold giving relation with her mother, who herself is traumatized.
Trauma and parental love

- Traumatic experiences destroy the capability of parents to love and care and be emotionally supportive.
- Because of their surviving mechanism, traumatized parents avoid deeper emotional contact with the child.
Traumatised mothers

- are emotionally not available
- carry a high emotional stress within them
- are emotionally needy
- can’t respect borders
- act unforeseeable
- act violent
- carry splits in their souls.
A life experience becomes not only stressful but traumatic

• ... if we or others face a mortal risk and are incapable of dealing with it with the help of our stress programs and ending up in a state of helplessness and agony.
When traumatised we are torn by the contradictions of our stress reactions and so we freeze, dissociate and in the end split the whole personality in order to survive.
Splits in the personality and identity structure after a traumatic experience

- Traumatized part
- Surviving part
- Healthy part
Characteristics of the healthy parts of an adult personality

- clear realism
- capable of regulating all feelings
- contact with oneself
- ability to make safe bonds and dissolving bonds if necessary
- ability of true self-reflection
- self-responsibility
- love of truth
- optimism and basic confidence
- true autonomy
- strong enough even to confront traumatic experiences
Characteristics of the surviving-parts

- constructing and guarding the splits in the psyche
- denying the trauma experience
- suppressing the traumatized parts
- avoiding memories
- controlling oneself and others
- looking for compensations
- making illusions
- producing new splits
Characteristics of the traumatised parts

- store the **memory** of the trauma
- are always the **same age** as they were, when the trauma occurred
- are still **engaged** with the traumatic experience
- can unpredictably and suddenly be **triggered**
- want to be **released**
Healthy structures within a child

- Own lifepower and energy
- Own strong will to live
- Healthy basic needs
- Joy of movement and exercising the body
- Joy of playing
- Joy of learning and solving problems
- ...

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Characteristics of the traumatized part in a symbiotic trauma

- despair that there is no love from mother
- deep loneliness
- fear of dying
- suppressed anger
- suppressed sadness
Characteristics of the surviving parts in a symbiotic trauma

- Constant fighting and arguing to get into contact with the parents
- Idealising the mother or the father
- Identifying with the surviving mechanisms of the mother/father
- Feeling responsible for the parents
- Identifying and resonating with the traumatized parts of the mother/father
- Repressing and denying one’s own trauma
Consequences of a symbiotic trauma for a child

- No ability to distinguish between own feelings and those of the mother
- Not living one’s own identity
- Lifelong symbiotic entanglement in relationships
- Mental illnesses like hyperactivity, depression, psychotic states
Characteristics of a symbiotic entanglement

- always looking to others
- distraction from one’s own problems
- clinging and merging
- weight of expectations on others
- anger, hate and violence in relationships
- illusions of love
Healthy or entangled relation?

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<th>Person B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HP/HP</td>
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Constructive and destructive types of relationships

- Equality
- Giving and taking is in balance
- Empathy and love as predominant feelings
- Parting is possible
- Partners can stay in their healthy parts

- Dominance and submission
- Exploitation
- Anxieties and aggression as predominant feelings
- Parting is forbidden
- To stay in the relationship is only possible if one splits
Four steps to heal traumata

- breaking through the gates of fear and pain
- using the gates to freedom
- passing the gates of illusions
- growing of the healthy parts
“Constellation of my Intention*”

- show the amount of symbiotic entanglement and surviving strategies caused by trauma
- minimize the risk of retraumatization
- strengthen the development of healthy structures of the psyche
- support the integration of the traumatized parts of the soul

* intent, purpose, goal of a constellation
Literature

