

Disentailing the transsexual experience of the psychoanalytic diagnosis of psychosis

Abstract

This paper aims to contribute to the current debate about the psychoanalytic view on transsexuality and, by doing so, open new possibilities for clinical practices connected to the issue. Robert Stoller – whose ideas became paradigmatic on the field – and lacanian psychoanalysts, such as Safouan (1979) and Czermack (1991), claim that there is a necessary association between transsexuality and pathology. These lacanian scholars support a clinical praxis that restricts transsexuality to psychoses, because they believe that, in those cases, the psychic mechanism at stake is only the Verwerfung and foreclosure of the Name of the Father. This work aims to expose failures on the justification of this thesis. It intends to show that Verleugnung, a mechanism that operates in non-pathological psychic and in current social experiences, is also present on transsexuality. So, this paper can play an important role on a process of disassociation of transsexuality and the clinical diagnosis of psychosis and the field of pathology.

Key-words: Transsexuality; Psychoanalysis; Psychosis; Verleugnung.