

Inferiority and compensation from Adler's times up to the present day: a cultural perspective

Poster session presented at the XXIII S.I.P.I. National Congress - "The network of the compensatory functions in the Adlerian theory and practice", Milan, 2012.

The full article is available for download in Italian only.

Summary. This paper proposes a cultural reflection about this question: how the Adlerian model of psychic dynamism - that is based on compensatory dynamics that occur between inferiority and superiority and, with respect to the concept of limit, between possible and impossible - could represent an actual explanatory hypothesis and could be more meaningful to understand the nature of both some social phenomena and inter-and intra-individual dynamics, with respect to the Freudian model, that is based on the conflict pleasure/frustration and norm / transgression? We would suggest that some socio-cultural changes, that have occurred in the last century, may have contributed to make the Adlerian model more effective for the comprehension of actual reality, with special references to the different influences that the two psychodynamic movements have taken in this historical period.

[CD_075_Milano_Aillon-Simonelli](#)

Il comportamento da 'bullo' come possibile forma di compenso abnorme

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Pain ans compensation: from the Greek mythology to the Christian Theology. The

answer of Adler.

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Summary. Over the centuries, people have always wondered about human pain. The ancient Greeks thought that pain was caused by hellish gods: evil depended on Fate and it caused the pain of humanity. Christians think that pain comes from man: evil depends on free will and it causes pain. But the same pain cleanses of sin and it becomes a source of compensation. Adler wasn't Christian and he explained the individual according to a social sense. He hasn't mythicized man and pain; he has given attention to the whole community because he was convinced that a human being can't be separated from the whole community and that every emotion makes sense only if considered among the interpersonal relationships of society. Adler's answer (compensation) to problems of life and to pain (inferiority) is the cooperation among our peers.

[CD_075_Milano_Berselli](#)

Le compensazioni nel caso di Giovanni

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Desire of Hastened death in terminal cancer patient: analysis of compensation and factors associated

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Summary. The objectives of the study are to examine the desire of hastened death and the euthanasia request in terminal cancer patients, to identify factors associated with hastened death and to analyze it as a compensation. One hundred and thirty patients admitted to the Hospice Valletta in Turin have been subjected to a short semi-structured interview designed to assess thoughts of death, and to the following Rating Scales: Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS), Visual Analogue (VAS) - which assesses painful symptoms - and the Functional Assessment of Chronic Illness Therapy-Spiritual Well-Being Scale (FACIT-Sp). The study has shown significant associations between HADS and VAS and between HADS and FACIT-Sp. Furthermore, the desire of hastened death was significantly associated with a poor functional status, pain, depression, spirituality and with the perception of being a burden for others. This study has shown how physical, psychological and existential distress factors are associated with the desire of death in terminal cancer patients. At the end of the life the desire of hastened death could represent an extreme attempt to free himself from distress and to affirm himself against the illness.

[CD_075_Milano_Bovero-Graziato e altri](#)

Le funzioni compensatorie per la prevenzione dei disturbi della personalità in Adolescenza

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Inferiority and compensation. Considerations on a fundamental symbol in western culture

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Summary. The considerations developed in this poster can be summarised as follows: firstly, the symbol of Christ on the cross, a religious symbol per se, is read using other keys to interpretation (psychodynamic, literary, sociological and philosophical) on an Adlerian basis; this highlights that the basic dynamics is always the inferiority/superiority dialectic. Secondly, the symbols “cross” and “crossing” - very rich in meaning and present in several cultures - are analysed; the definition of a genetic phenomenon as a crossing-over brings us back to Adler’s brilliant intuition of the psychological and biological world of human beings as based on an inferiority/compensation dynamics, as if these two forces were “crossing” for survival’s sake. Finally, this poster suggests a possible formalisation of the way in which compensation and inferiority operate, by drawing a xy Cartesian coordinate system on which normal and pathological psychological manifestations are placed.

[CD_075_Milano_Maiullari-Marasco e altri](#)

"The King's speech"; individual-psychological interpretation of a case of stuttering

Poster session presented at the XXIII S.I.P.I. National Congress - “The network of the compensatory functions in the Adlerian theory and practice”, Milan, 2012.

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Summary. This paper aims to propose an individual-psychological interpretation of stuttering, starting from the analysis of the ‘case’ of King George VI, King of England and father of the actual Queen Elizabeth, whose human and historical events have recently been told in the movie “The King’s Speech” (T. Hooper, 2010). After the preliminary introduction of the plot of the film, told through the most significant passages in the evolution of the character and history, we proceed with the reconstruction of the King’s family constellation, in order to identify the most significant features for the development of his personality. Then, the individual-psychological interpretations of King’s Life Style focuses on the description of his stutter as a compensatory mechanism used by the King to face his personological vulnerabilities. Particular attention to the relationship between the patient and the speech therapist, is finally paid, in order to highlight the key aspects of his ‘(psycho)therapeutic’ function.

[CD_075_Milano_Mazzarino-Simonelli](#)

Quando la musica diventa compensazione

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Dai processi finzionali e compensativi della "Principessa" A. a un confronto fra il modello clinico-terapeutico di Adler e quello metacognitivo di Welles

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