

[A Trauma Named Desire: Three Films Analysed from an Individual Psychological Perspective](#)

Paper presented at the 25th Congress of the I.A.I.P. - "Separation, Trauma, Development" - Vienna (Austria), 14-17 Luglio 2011

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[The development of the young men towards an adult identity, between desire and freedom, Adlerian psychotherapy of avoidance behaviour during this period of "sad passion"](#)

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Summary. Young men of today, live in a time described by some as of "sad passion". The loss of optimism and hope in a better future, that accompanied the Post-war generations, the radical deconstruction of the past, restricted, but reassuring, social conditions, the insistent drive towards personal success, the intimidating reflections of globalisation, science and technology that do not offer real solutions, the absence of dialogue within the family, the complexity and uneasiness of the parental figures, are only a few of the many reasons for the insecurity and anxiety of those in search of their adult identity today. Constrained within a profound reassessment of their male identity in relation to the female world that confounds them with new and effective expressions of determination, young men have to confront the road to independence from the family in a time when the future is very uncertain. Thus many young men appear to hesitate on the threshold of independence, torn between desire and disengagement, enduring enormous stress on their personal life styles. Adlerian psychotherapy, with its ability to capture and interpret the paths of Self as well as the social and cultural repercussions, would appear to be thoroughly capable of helping young men in their struggle to find a real adult identity, based on self-awareness, understanding of the world, independence and openness towards others. The Adlerian therapeutic path, with its incisive interpretation and encouraging outlook, can offer a comprehension of the life styles in play and their dysfunctions, the disengagement and the avoidance strategies that interfere with an incisive confrontation of the time which we have to live and interpret.

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

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. 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.