Abstract

Objective: Explore the psychic functioning of a woman who has been sexually and physically abused since childhood.

Development: The authors did a systemic second hand observational revision of six psychoanalytically oriented psychotherapy sessions carried out by a Javeriana University Clinical Psychology Masters student. Conclusions: The authors found a system of bidimensional functioning in the patient whose attention and consciousness are exclusively sensorial, with a passive state of desmentalization, dismantlement and rupture in her sensorial functioning level. This has been broken up in several pieces, can only be connected by proximity or verbal contrast, and appears interchangeably, without the necessity of any sense of time, space, nor objects as organizational factors, once the violent rape irruption of the body has shattered the initial link between body and psyche and, therefore, damaged the normal development of femininity. This way, a mental state of a second skin was developed whereby the sections of narrated stories that she tells from time to time, keeps her temporarily united; but as the pieces turn smaller and unarticulated amongst themselves, she is left in the emptiness of her existence.

Keywords

Women, ill-treatment, rape, desmentalization, dismantling.