

PARAPSYCHOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS DURING PSYCHOANALYTICAL TREATMENT

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Certain psychoanalytical case histories, with evidence of parapsychological manifestations, are set forth as instructive in gaining data concerning the psi function outside the experimental situation. It is ultimately hoped by the author that facts of this kind can be integrated into a textbook.

Case 1 deals with a young man with a mother fixation. At the time the patient begins to make vital progress in overcoming his attachment, he receives a letter from his mother warning him in an aggressive way against "false prophets" and unfavorable influences. Interpreting the mother's unconscious through this letter, it seems as though she has an instinctive feeling of the circumstances in which the fixation was being dissolved. This is significant from a parapsychological point of view, as there had been no contact or communication with the parents; the analysis was being carried on without their knowledge, and away from home. The reactions of the mother, it is concluded, can only be explained if a telepathic influence is assumed.

Another case concerns a teacher with a mother fixation who had been undergoing analysis without mother's knowledge. As he begins to solve the fixation, his mother tells him of a dream in which he was a disobedient baby, so she had to give him a sound hiding. She then remarks that a child, whatever its age, remains the child of his mother. Although a parapsychological explanation of this incident is indicated, it cannot be proved, since the patient sees his mother regularly.

A third case deals with a girl who, at a certain time, feels

that a man in whom she is interested is getting away from her influence. At that same time, it is learned that the man in question has had homosexual relations.

Still another case concerns a diplomat under treatment for certain obsessional compulsions. Excessive avarice was one of his symptoms and at a critical stage of the analysis he suddenly wakes up with a sensation of wishing to give. On his way to the office, he meets no less than six beggars, within three hundred yards of one another, to whom he gives relatively large amounts of money. The author discusses the extreme improbability of this occurrence at that locale and advances the explanation as psi activity, suggesting that the urge toward charity found a psychic response in the unconscious of the beggars in the vicinity. He uses this hypothesis in preference to Jung's synchronicity theory.

Four other cases, which lend themselves to the interpretation of being parapsychological phenomena, are discussed. These involve the reactions of animals and inanimate objects, as well as of humans. These events exerted significant influence on the course of the analyses. The author hopes that these cases will stimulate discussion and result in the collection of similar data by other analysts.