



Abstract Nr: 13
Internet ID: 61

Type of Presentation: Poster

Psychosis, trauma and dissociation - conceptual issues

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Learning Goal:

To give the audience a clearer conception on the interface of psychoses and dissociative disorders.

Abstract Text:

The interface between psychoses and dissociative disorders presents us with both historical, theoretical and practical clinical problems. The psychopathological research traditions committed to these two concepts (psychosis vs. dissociation) share some historical roots from the beginning of the 20th century, but since then they have developed largely independently, without interaction, as two different ways of psychopathological seeing. In this presentation I will discuss the historical relations of these two psychopathological research traditions and investigate the opportunities for a more fruitful dialogue between these traditions, taking into account recent conceptual criticism of 'psychosis', modern conceptions of psychic traumatization and the conception of dissociation as a psychobiological phenomenon inherent in the theory of Structural Dissociation.

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