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**Family ghosts and strangers in the family : experiences os Badaracco's multifamily psychoanalysis groups in Argentina, Belgium, Italy and Spain.**

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**Learning Goal:**

To provide informations about what Multifamily Psychoanalysis Groups are, how they work and why they can be considered a useful tool for the approach to the relationship between psychosis and family relationships, intergenerational dynamics, past events. Different experiences and applications from Argentina, Belgium, Italy and Spain will be described.

**Abstract Text:**

The symposium will compare different experiences from Argentina, Belgium, Italy and Spain of Badaracco's Multifamily Psychoanalysis Groups (MFPG).

MFPGs groups gather families and facilitators in order to share experiences focusing on relationships and their functioning. The method allows to identify those features of the relationships in which a psychotic (i.e. fragmented, confused, symbiotic) functioning is at work between two or more people, getting them stuck in a repetitive mechanism (pathogenic and pathological interdependence). The aim of MFPG is to reflect on and improve such functioning, through the exchange of different views and perspectives and experiences in the group, and the reactivation of healthy elements from each participant.

The respectful atmosphere of the MFPG is the key to the deep attention each participant can experience during the sessions. Intergenerational, social and dynamic factors are all taken into account in Multifamily Psychoanalysis.

Presentations from the four countries aforementioned will describe the basics of Multifamily Psychoanalysis, its development and spread in different countries, and the different applications of MFPGs.

The topic of the "ghosts" in the MFPG will also be addressed. Secrets or taboos or intergenerational aspects or past events that cannot be mentioned, can be family ghosts. Psychosis and its onset in the "psychic economy" of the family can also be a ghost. Ghosts are also those unbearable parts of one's psyche or experience that happen to be unconsciously given to children by their parents to be managed. Ghosts can also happen in the group of facilitators, depending on its structure and history. The very foundation of a MFPG, given its peculiar and somehow revolutionary functioning (everybody must be listened to, what is said by a family member or a facilitator has the same relevance) can also have ghosts surfacing in the institution where the group is beginning to work.

**ON THE HEALING POWER  
OF HUMAN RECONNECTION**