



Abstract Nr: 270

Wilfried Ver Eecke

Abstract Text:

Schizophrenia as the result of a defective development in childhood.

I could present ideas of my book or I could give a talk, explaining schizophrenia as the result of a defective development in childhood.

Lacan argues that it is the result of the absence of the paternal function. Vergote argues that it is also the result of a defective maternal function.

Lacan argues that the child develops two fantasies as a little child. It imagines that its mother is omnipotent, otherwise it is not safe under the protection of the mother.

The child also imagines that it is everything the mother could want otherwise it is not certain that the omnipotent mother will take care of her. If the child keeps those two fantasies while being a late adolescent the danger is that such an adolescent identifies with an adult who has maternal protective features. When that admired maternal figure imposes some limit then the child is in front of a human experience she cannot deal with; limit setting (Hölderlin). Hallucinations and delusions are used to cover over the unacceptable experienced limit. If the mother had shown respect for a third, normally the father, the child would have been invited to deal with its two unrealistic fantasies.

Vergote argues that schizophrenic persons also have a defective relationship with their bodies. They do not fully inhabit their body. Vergote argues that the ability to inhabit one's body is the result of the maternal care provided to the child. Being bodily loved by the mother invites the child to love its own body.

I thus will prove that important features of schizophrenia can be explained by developmental factors. We do not need to claim that they are genetic. I will prove this further by the research of Tienari who discovered that no child of a psychotic mother became psychotic if it had been adopted by a normal family.

**ON THE HEALING POWER
OF HUMAN RECONNECTION**