
ABSTRACT

Father image and shell representation of the female graduate student in the senior student life

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The aim of this paper was to examine the mental development in the senior student life when the preparation to enter adult society becomes a psychological task. A student counseling case was presented. The subject had anxiety that she might be hit or raped by a strange man when going out, and was worried about whether job hunting would go well. The father (or an alternative person) in this period should help the student confirm relationships. The father becomes the foothold in an unfamiliar world for the student, the student's object of investigation. In addition the mental processes involved during this period were examined through the change in representations of what is called "the psychological shell". It was suggested that the ego function could distinguish the student's internal reality from external reality more clearly and interact more flexibly. As the foundation of this mental work, playing in a protected relationship was discussed.

Key Words: senior student life, father image, mental shell
