ABSTRACT

Settings for psychoanalytic psychotherapy and therapist's desires

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In psychoanalytic psychotherapy, the setting is a precondition situated at the core of its practice. However, since the therapist desires to provide an appropriate setting, it must be considered as an inevitable factor embedded in their relationship with clients. In this paper, the author presents clinical material in which the therapist's desires seemed to have greatly influenced the process of psychotherapy, examines its transference and counter-transference, and discusses how to understand these issues. Male client A tried to anticipate the therapist's expectations and follow them. The therapy greatly developed when this auticipation was pointed out. In the discussion, according to Laplanche, J.'s "theory of general seduction," the author argues that in an asymmetric relationship such as therapy, all actions of the therapist, including the setting provided, should be a kind of "seduction" and that transference would occur. In addition, the author points out the importance of an ethical attitude that responsibly keeps giving attention to the effects of the seduction.

Key Words: the rapist's desire, setting, theory of general seduction, ethical seduction, psychoanalytic psychotherapy