ABSTRACT

Stories that can be told and stories that cannot be told: The Oedipus constellation of sexual trauma experiences

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This paper examines the meaning of clients "talking" and "not talking" about their sexual trauma experiences in psychoanalytic psychotherapy. Even if a client does not or cannot talk directly about a traumatic experience, their story can be told indirectly through the transference and countertransference relationships or acting in therapy. This article will focus on psychotherapy with adolescent female clients. One woman was not only unilaterally damaged, but also had her own temptations and desires, resulting in a more complex state of mind and a complex enactment. The author considered the overall situation of transference from two perspectives: anxiety about being excluded from a relationship as a couple and the Oedipus illusion as a defense against that anxiety. If a therapist experientially reads a client's traumatic object relations (Oedipus constellation) contained in this enactment and explores the possibility of dialogue with her, it will facilitate the process of reviving the "self that could not live" for the client.

Key Words: stories that cannot be told, sexual trauma, Oedipus constellation, transference and countertransference, psychoanalytic psychotherapy