
ABSTRACT

Individual and family therapy of a juvenile delinquent focusing on victim and perpetrator mentalities

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This case study focuses on individual and family therapy conducted with a male juvenile delinquent, "A." "A" had a physically abusive father and was admitted to a children's self-reliance support facility. He was reported to have had weak impulse control since childhood and was diagnosed with attention-deficit / hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and conduct disorders. As a result, he struggled to establish interpersonal relationships and frequently engaged in problematic behaviors such as theft. "A's" father did not understand the underlying causes of his son's behavior. Instead, he viewed it as selfishness and attempted to correct it by using physical violence. Consequently, their relationship deteriorated, and behavioral issues escalated, culminating with "A's" admission into a children's self-reliance support facility. This case study addresses (1) the experience of accepting a victim mentality from others as necessary for the awareness of perpetrator mentality; and (2) the combination of individual and family therapy required to reconcile victim and perpetrator mentalities and help restore their relationship.

Key Words: family therapy, clinical practice with delinquents, adverse childhood experiences, victim mentality, perpetrator mentality
