Presentation Abstract

Surname

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Field of Expertise

Psicoterapy

Name of National Association

AIAT

Modality of Participation

in-person

Type of Presentation

Workshop

Presentation Title

Sexuality, script and familial transmission: menarche as the matrix of the sexual script

Abstract

Although sexuality represents a transversal dimension in Eric Berne's work, his theoretical references are scattered across themes such as the body, relationships, injunctions, roles, intimacy, and family dynamics, without an explicit systematization of the construct of the sexual script. This fragmentation opens a research space aimed at interrogating sexuality as the outcome of early processes of familial transmission and script construction. This study proposes menarche as a possible catalytic experience for the sexual script, hypothesizing that the way it is communicated, represented, hidden, medicalized, ritualized, or silenced in the family context constitutes a privileged stage for the transmission of meanings relating to the body, femininity, sexuality, and intimacy. The project develops along two complementary lines. The first consists of qualitative research on Berne's work aimed at mapping the lexicon, semantic nuclei, and theoretical configurations relating to sexuality. Through an analysis of the terms and constructs present in Berne's texts, the study aims to identify the implicit coordinates of a sexual script theory rooted in the transactional analysis perspective. We will actively work on this throughout the workshop. The second direction concerns the design of a menarche survey instrument, geared towards subsequent psychometric validation, with the aim of exploring the narrative, relational, emotional, and symbolic dimensions associated with the first menstruation. The questionnaire will investigate, among other variables, the quality of the information received, family communication methods, the presence of silences or implicit prescriptions, bodily experiences, and the meanings attributed to the event. The questionnaire will be reviewed and revised together within the group. The underlying hypothesis is that the menarche narrative can provide a privileged access to the reading of the family sexual script, making observable the processes through which norms, prohibitions, authorizations, representations of the body, and gender models are transmitted and incorporated. From this perspective, menarche is not considered solely a biological or evolutionary event, but a possible narrative and clinical marker of the construction of the sexual script.