

Abstract

My dissertation provides an exploration of the Reparative Relationship from a Humanistic and Integrative perspective (Clarkson 2003). It is divided into three parts.

In the Rationale for Practice I will introduce myself, describe my work with clients and discuss my rationale for integration. I will also identify which Humanistic and Integrative theories I utilise in my work, and my reasons for doing so.

In the Literature Review I will explore historical and contemporary interpretations and applications of the Reparative Relationship, a subject with which I am passionately engaged. Furthermore I will consider the Reparative Relationship in terms of the findings from Attachment Theory (Bowlby 1988) and Developmental Psychology (Stern 1985), with a particular emphasis on Affect Attunement and the significance of Relational Needs (Erskine, Moursund & Trautmann 1999).

The third and final section of the dissertation is a Case Study, in which I will demonstrate how I put theory into practice through a discussion of different phases of the therapeutic relationship with my case study client. I will also contemplate the reparative aspects of that relationship through the communication of Attunement (Erskine, Moursund & Trautmann 1999).