

Abstract

Using a case study modality, this dissertation offers a Humanistic Integrative view of the psychoanalytical theory of Countertransference. A further consideration of Concordant and Complimentary Countertransference will be included.

Throughout I hope to show how the 'therapeutic alliance' between client and therapist can be enhanced by an awareness and integration of these phenomena. Furthermore, rather than countertransference being something to avoid or deny, I contend it is an inevitable consequence of psychotherapeutic relationships, as well as a feature of all human relating.

This work consists of three main sections, my rationale for practice, which outlines my personal as well as my philosophical Humanistic and Integrative stance, followed by a literature review that charts the significant past to present writing about this subject and finishes with a case study wherein I hope to relate my chosen topic to practice and show how countertransference is inextricably linked to intersubjectivity, phenomenology, and interpersonal psychotherapeutic work and by its very nature a Humanistic concept.

Word Count:160