

Abstract

This dissertation explores the application of transference/countertransference and its imperative nature within therapeutic repair. Why? Because a thing which has not been understood Inevitably returns; like an unlaidd ghost, it cannot rest until the mystery has been resolved and the spell broken (Freud, 1909).

The dissertation opens with my rationale for practice, detailing fundamental humanistic philosophies and the integration of theories that compliment my relational approach. This is followed with a literature review on transference/countertransference and its centrality within reparative therapeutic relationships. I provide an historical overview on transference/countertransference from a classical stance to totalist, identifying movement towards the relational paradigm and its significance within therapeutic repair. Consideration is given to research and further directions. The dissertation concludes with a clinical case study, which evidences my use of self within the transferential relationship, whilst continuously reflecting on mine and my clients process throughout.