

Text on Psychanalyse Actuelle for the CONVERGENCIA conference in MAY 2025

I'm returning to our title, "Malaise, Castration, Otherness," to address the current situation, where the violation of symbolic law confronts us with a global scene of dominated/dominant, guilty/victim gender, and a silencing of many analysts. Malaise, signifier of the enjoyment of evil, the evil of one's neighbor due to the existence of the sexual in civilization, and the paradoxes of enjoyments, which are either semiotic enjoyments and move toward peace, or they can be beyond meaning, with violent destruction.

Let us refer to The Bible and the Gospels: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Fear for Freud and Lacan (lesson 15 of Ethics of Psychoanalysis, 1960) due to this enjoyment of the evil of one's neighbor, deep within oneself. How then does a neurosis arise today in the face of the link between law and the impulses of analytical ethics? Hence the necessary sublimation toward the law and the call to the being of the Other that introduces otherness, the lack in the other, and castration. And maternal castration precisely in terrorist acts.

Sublimation here with the death of the father through symbolic murder, monotheism inscribed by the repression of the murder of the founder. This symbolism can cease, and here is the war against the killings, the cruelty, the trauma of current Islamist terrorism through its political action of hatred of Jews, through the foreclosure of this function of the symbolic father, bearer of the law, which leaves the de-sublimated impulses under the aegis of the archaic matrix.

The real is here caught between psychoanalysis in intention and psychoanalysis in extension.

Current Psychoanalysis draws on a text by Freud to advance its work on violence in the world and the media, due to the disruption of the balance between the law stemming from the symbolic murder of the father and the impulses of destruction.

Hence the challenge to Current Psychoanalysis, through the war in the Middle East and the global media war against Jews and Israel, to alienate them through Islamist propaganda maneuvers by Iran, Hamas, and Qatar. To reverse the genocidal attack of October 7th with this terrible taking of Israeli hostages by Hamas, which also uses its own population as a human shield. And from there, to posit an accusatory inversion of the Jews as perpetrators of genocide. And this with Christian images capturing the West, images of the death of Palestinian children to the point of passing through their networks, which fellow analysts accept, that there are Israeli drones, manufactured to finish off wounded Palestinian children. An ancient accusation of age-old anti-Semitism.

Here is an excerpt from The Man Moses and the Monotheistic Religion [1] (1938), Freud, on Islam, advances: "...the founding of the Mohammedan religion appears as an abbreviated repetition of the founding of Judaism, of which it manifested itself as an imitation. It seems, in fact, that the prophet initially intended to adopt Judaism in its entirety for himself and for his people. The recovery of the unique and primitive Great Father Abraham produced among the Arabs an extraordinary elevation of their self-awareness, which led to great temporal successes, but also exhausted itself within

them"... "Allah showed himself much more grateful for his chosen people than Yahweh had formerly shown towards his own." But the inner development of the new religion soon stalled, perhaps because it lacked the depth of insight that the murder of the religion's founder produced in the Jewish case."

Hence the triumph of the killings as a matrix ideal unbound by paternal law. Freud insists that such a murder of the father is repeated enough times to become a text, "Humanity has always known how to kill a father before and again before." Freud insists that this function must be approached as if it were an individual, thus allowing for a reading of the collective, which also means that the conditions for such an establishment of terrorism can arise in other nations, other groups than Islam, which currently concerns us so much... And it divides the ties between psychoanalysts.

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