

The Furious Bull

Attachment issues – phase 1.

Anxious attachment: The sense in the room is that mother and child seem to avoid each other. The child is excessively and associatively talkative around themes of violence, and power. He is focused in his internal world, with little investment in social interaction, as a defense against intimacy and connection. Contact is broken whenever mother mentions symptoms. Mother, who is present but detached, and withdrawn.

Child calms and cooperates when therapist inquires into his phantasies and their meaning. Therapist's role is to help them reestablish the connection around child's behavior and symptoms.

AIP : attachment memories are the cause of "separation anxiety" and uncontrolled anger. He is easily triggered. A child who is described as "unsatisfied".

Resources lie in the fantasy world and imagination as well as in high intelligence.

Traumatic memory of the unbearable fear of abandonment and separation is frozen, separated from his other positive resources, takes him out of his window of tolerance.

Neuropsychological –Triggered

fragments of more "primitive", preverbal somatic and affective experiences, are the cause of present symptoms.

Widening of both the child and parent's understanding of the function of these fragments and their relation to his present symptoms, over activity, anxiety and aggression, will help to restore the neuropsychological perception of safety. The child's perception of safety is relational.

Attuned engagement, of both parent and therapist with the child is required in order to allow for the seeking\social system(Panskape,) to operate safely. This boy's fear throws him out of his window of tolerance into flight-freeze reactions.

The EMDR Protocol and Dyadic Treatment Planning:

Enabling an inner freedom to be and express through spontaneous drawing and projection of symbolic material, which relates to the symptoms.

Mother in the room, participating, as an active witness and interpreter for the child's inner world.

Phase 2 Preparation – may be relatively long, must concentrate on bringing him to feel safe in expressing his feelings. Ensuring a sense of safety through being contained understood and regulated whenever flooded with anxiety.

Developmental techniques: Joining his phantasies and imaginary world as a way to enable associative chaining relating to the fear based behavior. Distancing through projection.

Phase 3 and 4: Using mother's empathic presence to accompany the child through the processing phase. Moving out of the fight -freeze states into achieving a sense of control, through changes in posture and tone. **Phase5-7:** Empowering his self-image, enabling the release of anger energy without fear. .

Developmental milestones: His fear has led to inhibition of the capacity to freely express anger and fear, and contain his anxiety as it rises. He needs to establish feelings of trust in the world and in himself, as he experiences the opportunity to feel contained and regulated while his defenses are activated.