



Einladung zum Vortrag von



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Thema: "The fear of being laughed at among psychiatric patients"

Tag: 6.12.07

Zeit: 10-12 h

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Zusammenfassung

The relationship between psychopathology and humor is an intriguing issue. It has been stressed that humor can be a useful resource to relieve, if not heal, mental disturbances. But, on the other hand, mental disorders have proved to be associated with humor impairment. Recent researches, started by prof. Titze and developed worldwide by prof. Ruch, have focalized a third dimension of this complex relationship: being laughed at can be an experience to fear, and may even acquire the form of the phobic disorder named Gelotophobia. A study has been conducted in Italy to investigate the presence of Gelotophobia in a critical area of the human condition, i.e. among individuals severely affected by mental pathology. The findings of the study highlight a relevant aspect of psychiatric patients, often neglected in the clinical practice, which can be of importance also for a broader knowledge of mental disorders themselves.

Relevante Literatur

Forabosco, G. (1998). The ill side of humor: Pathological conditions and sense of humor. In Ruch W. (ed), The sense of humor. Berlin-New York: Mouton de Gruyter, 271-292.

Forabosco, G., Mazzotti Drei, E., and N. Missiroli (2006). La gelotofobia. Una ricerca con pazienti psichiatrici (Gelotophobia. A study with psychiatric patients), Frammenti. Rivista di Psichiatria 15(1), 67-77.

Fry W.F. Jr.-Salameh W.A. (eds.) (1987). Handbook of humor and psychotherapy. Advances in the clinical use of humor. Sarasota, FL: Professional Resource Exchange, Inc.

Ruch, W., & Proyer, R. T. (in press). The fear of being laughed at: Individual and group differences in Gelotophobia. Humor: International Journal of Humor Research.

Kurze Biographie

Psychiatric Psychologist at the Department of Mental Health (Dipartimento di Salute Mentale) of Ravenna, Italy, from 1978 to 2006.

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