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CRUEL BEHAVIOR MODELS IN CLASSICAL PSYCHOLOGICAL THEORIES

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The article presents analysis of cruel behavior models in classical theories. Within psychodynamic theories of personality there exist two main approaches to the problem of cruelty. Within the scope of the first one cruelty is identical with aggression, which is seen as person's instinctive predisposition to hostile and destructive actions. Within the second approach the adaptive and constructive nature of aggression is acknowledged. In terms of behavioristic and cognitive-behavioristic theories, cruelty is viewed as model of behavior.

Keywords: cruelty, aggression, violence, frustration, behavior.

Problem statement. Cruelty and aggression have existed since the times when people appeared, and a certain level of crimes against personality is sustained regardless of social, economic or geographical position of the country. Present day is characterized by complexity of

social processes, aggravation of interpersonal relations, spreading of terrorism and violence, growth of crime rate and unmotivated aggressive acts.

Unsurpassed and everlasting value is human's life, his health and freedom. In the whole world it is considered that the state indicators, growth

and structure of crimes against personality allow to judge about the level of law and order, characterize public morality and moral health of the country. At the same time, there exist today phenomena of terrorism, a lot of people in all countries of the world fall victims to moral and physical cruelty.

Crisis phenomena in society, accompanied by transformation of public conscience, unavoidably lead to the changes of mental activity. Social crisis expands social base of cruel crimes, which includes ever new layers of society. The cruel crimes growth is a universal problem.

Cruelty, according to E. Fromm [17], acts as specific human passion for ultimate domination over others. Cruelty is a lasting personality trait, expressed in strong yearning for causing harm to others, and is accompanied by comprehensive feelings, resulting in concentration of all power and aspirations of a person on the subject of aggression. Cruelty acts as some driving force for committed aggressive acts.

The aim of the article is to analyze the cruelty models, presented in classical psychological theories.

The principal material statement. The cruelty problem research as a method of aggression actualization was initiated by S. Freud [20], who viewed aggression and other destructive forms of behavior as a consequence of human's inborn aspiration for death.

In his early works S. Freud [14] viewed aggression as the result of libidinal impulses and as one of sexual drive elements. According to S. Freud [15], cruel behavior is realized due to changing behavior of aggression and as any libidinal impulse, which is faced with an obstacle, it becomes hostile, cruel, actualizing sadistic components of libido. However, later S. Freud [116] suggested that cruelty impulses can result from sources, independent of sexuality. S. Freud put forward a hypothesis of existence of Thanatos. According to this hypothesis, aggression is a reaction not to external action but is a certain constantly present in the body impulse, conditioned by the very nature of a person.

Cruel behavior is determined by S. Freud not only as inborn, resulting from death instinct, but also as unavoidable, since, if the Thanatos energy is not directed externally, it will soon lead to destruction of the person himself [19], which contradicts self-preservation instinct.

A. Adler [5], unlike S. Freud, believed that the roots of cruel behavior lie in social nature of a person. A. Adler [3] agreed with S. Freud that initially aggressive traits are present in a person, but he identified them with the active origin in a person. A. Adler supposed that aggressive traits serve for direct goals achievement of a person without resorting to various tricks. With time social situation, in which a person finds himself, «distorts» this direct way, compensatory personality traits start to develop, which help to realize life plans in a «devious» way.

According to A. Adler [3; 5], propensity for cruel actions is a compensatory mechanism, directed towards overcoming fear and lack of self-confidence, feeling of inferiority or awareness of the fact that death is impossible to avoid.

G. Jung [21] did not pay any special attention to the problem of propensity to cruelty and aggression,

but in some works there are indications that propensity to cruelty is manifestation of masculinity.

R. Johnson [9] indicates that aggression and cruelty constitute unfavorable, destructive side of masculinity, which, at the same time, should be integrated. Inability to subdue aggressive impulses to consciousness is the indicator of immature masculinity, which is typical for adolescent age.

A. Lowen [11] supposes, that cruelty is destructive way to realize aggression. Aggression is a necessary energetic element of vital activity and mental health of a person. Bioenergetic unbalancing of person's body leads to distortion of aggressive impulses realization and becomes apparent in actualization of sadistic and hostile tendencies.

E. Fromm [17, 19] criticizes ideas, that aggressive behavior of people is inborn. He tries to combine instinctive and behavioral points of view on the problem of aggression and violence.

Regardless of differences in given psychodynamic approaches, they are united by the fact that cruelty is seen as phenomenon, identical to the phenomenon of person's destructive behavior, fully explained in terms of aggression and aggressiveness, formed at the earliest stages of person's development, having biological basis and yielding almost no social impact or change.

In behaviorism cruel behavior is also considered to be the consequence of aggression. According to concepts of behaviorism representatives, the reasons for appearance and development of aggression are contrary to those, which are presented in the works of psychoanalysis followers.

A. Bass [27] describes aggression as behavior, which causes irritation and harms other organisms.

R. Baron and D. Richardson [6] give suggested by behaviorists of later period definition of aggression as behavior, directed towards harm or injury of other living being, which has all grounds for avoiding such treatment.

In spite of belonging to behaviorism, D. Dollard with his colleagues consider themselves obliged to S. Freud, believing that initially the main idea of connection between frustration and aggression was enunciated in his early works [6].

The essence of frustration-aggression theory [28, 30] can be consolidated to such theses: frustration always leads to aggression in some form; aggression is always the result of frustration; frustration does not cause aggression directly, but indirectly provokes it. Aggression initially was determined as behavior, the aim of which is to destroy or shift frustrating block [6].

In the 40s the authors changed the enunciation of their hypothesis [30] and started seeing aggression as natural and dominant, although unavoidable consequence of frustration.

Considerable corrections to the frustration-aggression theory were made by L. Berkowitz [26]. The author states that frustration is only one of many stimuli, which are able to provoke aggressive reactions, but do not directly lead to aggressive behavior. Aggression provoking takes place according to the type of conditioned-reflex connection: stimulus can acquire aggressive value, if it is connected with positively reinforced aggression or is associated with earlier experienced discomfort, pain. Aggressive behavior relaxation is pos-

sible only on condition that frustrator is harmed and unsuccessful attempts to cause such harm only increase frustration, and, correspondingly, the power of impulse.

In whole the frustration-aggression concept was criticized by other psychologists-behaviorists as well as followers of other schools [10].

A. Bass stated that frustration is not the only and by far not the strongest reason of aggressive and cruel behavior. According to E. Fromm [17], one of the drawbacks of frustration aggression theory is the absence of clear enunciation of what authors understand under frustration. As the result of this cause-effect relation between frustration and aggression is seen as not indisputable. In his late works L. Berkowitz [26] shifted the emphasis from external reasons for aggression to intrapsychical emotional and cognitive processes, having shown that it is they that underlie the interconnection of frustration and aggression. In accordance with his model of new cognitive connections formation, aversive stimuli provoke aggression if the negative effect is present. In A. Bandura's judgement [23; 24], people, though they have neuropsychological mechanisms, which ensure the possibility of aggressive behavior, the activation of such mechanisms depends on corresponding stimulation and is controlled by consciousness. Aggressive behavior is learned by people in the course of life activity and socialization as the result of obtaining personal experience as well as through vicarious learning, which has a greater significance than direct experience in the course of obtaining and modifying aggressive behavior.

A. Bandura [7, 25] supposes that an important source of aggressive behavior formation, based on learning through observation, is a family, where the aggressive models of behavior are encountered most often. Having discovered this, the author suggested that firstly, parents should model unaggressive forms of behavior for their children on their personal level, and, secondly, they should guard

them from watching TV programs which contain violent scenes. At the same time A. Bandura [24; 25] does not think that with the help of such recommendations the problem will resolve itself and notes the necessity of joint social efforts, directed towards changing social system functioning.

Conclusions and recommendations. Within psychodynamic theories of personality we can single out two main approaches to cruelty problem:

– within the first one violence is identified with aggression, which is seen as instinctive predisposition of a person to hostile and destructive actions, formed in phylogenesis;

– the second approach to cruelty problem analysis is built upon acknowledgement of adaptive and constructive nature of aggression, which is a necessary condition of normal life activity.

Within behavioristic and cognitive-behavioristic theories, cruelty is viewed as behavior model rather than an instinct, emotion, motive and set, and determining factor of its appearance is social conditions.

However, the appraisal of cruel behavior as of consequence of only aggressive impulses seems insufficient. R. Baron and D. Richardson [21] note that manslaughter, suicide, love plays of sadomasochistic character are not manifestations of aggression from the cognitive-behavioristic point of view. These actions, which are cruelty manifestations, are not studied in behaviorism, which limits the potential of studying person's cruelty phenomenon within this given approach.

Behaviorists, as well as psychoanalysts describe only narrow corridor of phenomena, which lead to cruel behavior formation, which can act as manifestation of aggressive impulses, but are not exhausted by it.

The perspective of further research is connected to the description of subjective presentation of cruelty, as well as its formation dynamics and building culture scale of cruelty and cruel behavior appraisal.

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МОДЕЛІ ЖОРСТОКОЇ ПОВЕДІНКИ В КЛАСИЧНИХ ПСИХОЛОГІЧНИХ ТЕОРІЯХ

Анотація

У статті представлений аналіз моделей жорстокої поведінки в класичних теоріях. У руслі психодинамічних теорій особистості виділено два основні підходи до проблеми жорстокості. В рамках першого жорстокість тотожна агресії, яка розглядається як інстинктивна схильність людини до ворожих і деструктивних дій. У рамках другого визнається адаптивна і конструктивна природа агресії. У руслі біхевіористської і когнітивно-біхевіористських теорій, жорстокість розглядається як модель поведінки.

Ключові слова: жорстокість, агресія, насильство, фрустрація, поведінка.

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Аннотация

В статье представлен анализ моделей жестокого поведения в классических теориях. В русле психодинамических теорий личности выделено два основных подхода к проблеме жестокости. В рамках первого жестокость тождественна агрессии, которая рассматривается как инстинктивная предрасположенность человека к враждебным и деструктивным действиям. В рамках второго признается адаптивная и конструктивная природа агрессии. В русле биохевиористских и когнитивно-биохевиористских теорий, жестокость рассматривается как модель поведения.

Ключевые слова: жестокость, агрессия, насилие, фрустрация, поведение.