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Does Child Analysis Teach Us About Analytic Technique?

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Child analytic patients insist we listen to their ideas about how they need to communicate the pain that brings them to treatment. They do this by letting us know how we are going to interact, how our play and talk needs to evolve. If we fail to recognize what they have in mind they are surprisingly forgiving and return to their unconscious plan. Perhaps their youth, their developmental energy, and their being less bound by conventions of social interaction and expectations of therapeutic process make them freer. They point out when conventional approaches are not useful. Children seem to have an innate developmentally driven sense of analytic process.

In this elective using analytic process from adults and children we will explore together among others concepts such as self-disclosure, play, trauma, defense, biological issues, unusual play signatures, relational elaborations, gender and sexuality and commonalities across theoretical perspectives.

Reading List

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