

Things Seen from Behind

From: Rorschach_List@yahoogroups.com [mailto:Rorschach_List@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Rick Poll Sent: Monday, March 30, 2009 15:38 To: Rorschach_List@yahoogroups.com Subject: [Rorschach_List] Re: Ror & MMPI: Sexual Addiction/Aggression

First, thanks to Adam for posting such an interesting case, and doing so in this level of detail.

Second, a question to the group. Why do I sometimes write about other people's cases when I should be working on mine?

Third, some thoughts.

One thing that struck me about the verbiage is that this may be a person who is trying to sound erudite and intellectually impressive. He seems to expect others to be impressed with him, down to small details of his thought process. There is a way in which he seems to be showing off in this Rorschach protocol. This could well be characterized as narcissistic and the absence of reflections means nothing.

His thinking also shows some indications of expansiveness and a high level of cognitive activity much of which seems to be wrapped up in fantasy. He is also capable of thinking very impressionistically when his emotions are stimulated.

An aside: I read the "two feet" comment as indicating movement -- the way a cartoonist might show dancing -- not as blurred boundaries.

Anytime I get a mask response and **things seen from behind**, I wonder about paranoid features. That thought and the bird response suggest that he feels that he is very different from other people and that **he needs to hide**, at least at times. That brings up a conflict between his desire to hide and his desire to showoff, which suggests vacillating behavior in this regard.

There are also some hints of intrusive thoughts, although he can generally manage them. He is probably at his worst when the thoughts are sexual. It seems that sexual ideas hit him a little harder than most ("Gosh, a bra").

So, this suggests a kind of driven (look out for bipolar) secret inner life which makes him alienated from others. His Scale 4 subscales show more alienation than anything else, but you'd have to look at his individual item endorsements to make sense out of it.

All of that is based on an attempt to separate the history from the protocols. I agree with the poster who wondered if we'd find the same sorts of things without benefit of history.

My only thought about the history is to wonder what the nature of this relationship was, including sexually. I also wonder about exactly how the sexual aggression stopped. It sounded like he'd convinced himself that he had a clever idea to get the kind of sex he wanted -- and then dropped the idea when it was turning into something else.

Oh, as far as depression goes, note that he contemplated suicide. It's a critical item.

Rick