

Opposition and defiance in children. Reflections on the vicissitudes of the Ego in childhood. Beyond the anal problem and the libidinal fixation

**Mara Sverdlik\***

In this article, we refer to children called naysayers or simply capricious, that have and cause serious difficulties in adapting to school, relationships with others and of acceptance for the basic rules of coexistence at home. These are clinical forms that produce much suffering for both the child and the family, since crises usually end in excesses of discharge: screams, crying, extreme punishments and impossibility to anticipate or stop the scene of rage.

It is not a minor problem and it occurs with a frequency of two on fifteen patients (20%) in the demand for treatment of each therapist during a year of work. The sample included 12 patients (theoretical sampling). The populations studied do not have statistical representation but heuristic value. The analysis presented here is part of the work of eight psychologists in consultation with populations of medium-low social level, in Seville and Buenos Aires, with the aim of making a reflection on this issue, considered central to understanding Contemporary Pathology. The validity of this difficulty is found in the inclusion of the Oppositional Defiant Disorder in the DSM V or its equivalent Disorder Antisocial Oppositional and Defiant in the ICD 10 (last updated in 2013).

To analyze the problems and to think what variables are included in them, we have based on the theoretical reference of Contemporary Psychoanalysis (Green, 2001), on André Green's text about *Primary Anal*, included in the book *The clinical thought* (2010) and the research work done in the thesis that composed the book *The creation of the thought in the origins* (Sverdlik 2010), whose conclusions allow us to think about the processes that are considered in the studied modes.

---

\* [marasverdlik@gmail.com](mailto:marasverdlik@gmail.com) / [CV](#)

André Green's text refers to a form of Narcissistic Disorder or Limit Disorder in adults, characterized by obstinacy. In that book he discriminates the Anal Character Formations and Obsessional Neurosis, where the anal problems imply the existence of a libidinal satisfaction with reactive forms and counter-cathetic energy that allow sublimation processes, from some forms, where would exist, an anal problem that does not lead to neurosis and substitute type formations (with displacement or condensation) involving operation of the primary repression. It is an anal problem within the limits of the neurosis.

Green says that it is not a libidinal fixation where the satisfaction of the anal zone prevails and presents difficulty to go into the symbolic equivalents (stool =babies= money) characteristic of phallic logic (and its dominance). Therefore it does not advance towards the castration complex, but it is treated and involves a problem of the Ego. More exactly, it is the footprint of a Narcissistic Wound which produces the fixation. This Narcissistic Wound presents difficulties to the Ego, for supporting its boundaries and, therefore, a serious alteration of the relationship with the others. In the description that Green makes in this frame, we find the issue of power and the potency, or rather the omnipotence of the Ego, which is characteristic of this disorder in the limits.

### **Brief description of the Primary Anality according to André Green**

In the text above, Green makes a very accurate discrimination between the anal problems characteristic of obsessional neuroses and those narcissistic disorders where anal fixation is not a problem of the libidinal development (and their possible fixations), but it is marked by the vicissitudes of narcissism. It is an prevalent anality that it is not part strictly of Oedipal rivalry. There is a positioning of self-control thus to to narcissism, where the subject seeks control and reduce the other and generate sensation of domination. It is previous to the issue of castration, of which the subject anything wants and dismisses it.

In the adult form , according to the description of the author, the narcissism of these subjects is damaged, the narcissistic wound is not healed and able to reopen at any time. It is often seen a disturbance of the boundaries of the Ego that, after a socially normal function, suffers the "kickbacks from a narcissistic chaotic economy, more precarious, and without established borders" (Green, 2010, pp. 128). Later he

continues: "patients speak of their physical shells in terms of scabs which, when they fall, leave a dermis exposed to all attacks. "The result of this particularity of the Ego-skin (Anzieu) is, paradoxically, a rigid skeleton that can give the impression of firmness when in fact it is, as you know, obstinacy... many times incomprehensible by environment and sometimes for the analyst" (page 129). And he concludes that the anal narcissism of these people is an internal shaft and truly visible prosthesis. Opposition is vital. It looks like will and tenacity but built on a lack and a shadow of masochistic submission. Negativity as obstinacy is a defense against the threat of a fusional relationship.

Negativism is a modality of output failed of the primary nondiscrimination with the object whose basic form occurs in the conflict pride-obedience, closest to the pole of sadism, with difficulties to build some unit that gives coherence to the Ego, and in a constant conflict with others. Green adds: "I'd rather invoke a primary anality that cannot be characterized only by the dominance of the processes of expulsion, as Abraham considered, but instead widely exceeds the erogenous zone and invades the Ego, forcing him to live that pride-obedience conflict, which reveals it to be complacent and obsequious and other time to reject even, the breathing of the analyst" (page 127).

Green, in a very rich description, expresses that it is a fierce defense of the subjective territory and it is explained by a permanent feeling of encroachment of others. The character is marked by narcissism: the subject shows himself distrustful, unruly, punctilious, rigid, worried about its boundaries to the end and does not tolerate distance variations imposed by the object, and he needs to control everything that comes from it: its movements, moods, opinions, etc.

Oppositional retention is the basis of the delimitation of identity, causing difficulties in mourning and reparation processes. The metapsychological foundation of this narcissistic organization is very rich and exceeds this work. To conclude this brief exposition it is necessary to mention that these narcissistic organizational modalities are worked by the author in relation to the vicissitudes of the early trauma linked to deficits of exercise of the Framing Function and objectalising-desobjectalising functions (ways in which Green includes parental functions) where the presence-absence modes do not produce a stable organization of the internal boundaries of the Ego and a good narcissistic economy.

### **The Primary Anality as an hypothesis that illuminates the vicissitudes of the Ego in childhood**

This description that involves some of the modalities that are narcissistic or limits disorders in adult patients, appear frequently in the consultation nowadays and define part of the so-called "Contemporary Pathology". This problem that occurs as fixation and defines a disorder in adulthood, has its origins in ways of structuring the Ego in childhood.

Green's hypothesis allows us to think that these vicissitudes of the Ego present in a specific narcissistic disorder, may have to do with the movements of structuring of Ego in childhood. On the other hand, when you are in contact with children frequently it is remarkable to see a stage of whims and oppositional intensity that develops around the age of four and it will fit many times to Green's descriptions about pride-obedience conflict. In this way, these descriptions we will allow us to think beyond than Classic Psychoanalytic theory (specially on the French side) of child libidinal development, involving erogenous zones in predominance, libidinal fixation and taking place on the Oedipus complex. We propose to think in child's development, an specific level that refers to the structuring of Ego and its limits that gives the structuring of Narcissism a complex statute itself.

Narcissism is a complex structure (Green, 1986) not established once and for all in an integration movement, either by offering from the other or by internal maturation from good parental functions. Structuring narcissistic quality depends of the intrapsychic and inter-subjective vicissitudes that enable the constitution and autonomy of the limits of the Ego (Sverdlik 2012). These vicissitudes refer to modes that drives push which are revealed in the presence of the object. At this moment the different Defense Mechanisms produce stable and unstable cathexis that give rise to the cathexis and representations of Ego. Specifically, it is considered that there is a normal period in the infancy of obstinacy and opposition, at four years of age, that has a key role in the establishment of the limits of the Ego.

The great challenge of the Ego in childhood is to constitute an open system, in permanent exchange with the body, the others and reality and, at the same time, to build the resources for its own closure. That means to produce its own closure to function as a unit, which Green called *life narcissism* (Sverdlik 2012).

We will consider that obstinacy of the ego at the age of four is a moment of closure for the purposes of its assertiveness, that gives an identity definition and provides distance with the others and with the outside. This is an operation of double-track: identification level, but also intra-psychic limit and therefore inter-subjective limit. Time or phase that must be overcome the development of more autonomous limits once Primary Repression has taken place and the logic of castration- separation generates work of mourning and repair with substitutive symbolic capacity.

This stage is often accompanied by problems in the bowel control. Retention of stool and then its expulsion without any logic by retaining excess, are normal. Or the child refuses to evacuate in the toilet and he wants to do it elsewhere or he retains many hours during the day because evacuation can only be done at home and under certain conditions. We will see that these issues have nothing to do specifically with anality (or with the anal pleasure), but with over control that rests on the anal issue, because it takes place during the process of toilet training, but fundamentally, it is a source of control that allows exercise forms of Ego domination over the body (as for domination the others or himself).

Let's think how fixation in these early forms of closure of the Ego, produced in children modalities which (although can not be defined as a narcissistic disorder) are forms that their evolution, require analytical work to avoid towards a disease in adulthood. This hypothesis is founded in both clinical work with children (own material and supervision of colleagues) as findings from the research of doctoral thesis, *Theoretical analysis about fantasies and sexual theories in childhood* (Sverdlik, 2010).

We will not extend the complexity of these processes in its origins. We will only mention those considerations that allow us to understand the processes of the four years, to be able to think its normal function as well as the failed processes that extend over this age.

### **Brief tour to the origins**

Infantile sexual fantasies and theories constitute the first statements about sexuality, presenting a double reference: on one hand they speak of their drives life, their infantile sexuality. And on the other hand, they refer on the process of symbolic

production concerning such psychic work, involving specific modalities of functioning of representation and moments of the psychic apparatus topical structure.

The thesis that was carried out was intended to make an analysis of the collected material from both direct and indirect sources such as statements of the children, who came from observations and interviews at school and my own clinical records and those of my colleagues, with children from two to six years. In a brief summary of the conclusions, we will emphasize the modalities of the four years children that were a finding of the research. Variables taken into account were developed from the work of various authors who had deeply investigated the subject.

Variables relating to the symbolization processes were taken from various authors. Over all, the arguments between Lyotard (1979) Derrida\_\_\_\_(1989) and Castoriadis (1989) about the relationship between drives force and meaning linked to the relationship between space and time in the early formations of the psyche. The analyze of the relationship between the "space" and "time" with the performance of "difference" and its location as a priori scheme in Derrida was established as the first axis, or as a result of processes in the ensemblistic- identitarian separation of the social imaginary significations in Castoriadis.

The inclusion of these variables is based on the proposal of several authors who could propose fantasies and infantile sexual theories not only as content of infantile sexuality but also in relation to the symbolization processes. In this way theories of the origin of the children are considered as the first temporary statements and theories of the difference of sexes, as early statements about the difference.

The relationship between drive movements and representation processes were worked with regard to forms of "stability or permutation" that characterize the thinking of the origins. This variable was widely worked by Laplanche and Pontalis (1985) to determine interchangeable operation of fantasies. The problem of the relationship between "affection and representation", subsequently evolved, and we discussed its relationship with the concept of causality in the origins posed by Piera Aulagnier (1994). Closely linked with the previous discussion, we deployed the characteristics of "belief" and their relationship with Reality principle and processes of disavowal and negation arising from work on the figurability of Caesar and Sara Botella (2003). The problem of the "Interrogation" worked in differentiation with the "certainty" as Piera Aulagnier establishes it, but on the basis of the Work of Negative that proposes Julia Kristeva

(2002). Finally the "problem of meaning" is connected with specific organization modes of thought closely related to the modalities of sexuality.

Variables of the matrix which ordered data and established the criteria for analysis of each discourse fragment trimmed in order to establish the characteristics of each age, were thus defined. We note that there started at the age of two, monadic forms where an attribute which may or may not be erogenous, assumes a meaning of wholeness or totalisation. It is a dominance of the projective activity as basic drives activity. There are forms of nondiscrimination of affection and representation, where representative modalities fail to bind the affection in the psychic field and a direct discharge of affection as excitation is produced.

These total forms imply that the scene opens with indiscriminate forms, between the Ego and the other, between subject and object. The mode of aggregation does not, however, generate stability and there don't take place the permutation that characterizes fantasy. There is no enigma because the meaning is complete and there is no opening to the other. These early formations can be describe with formulas such as: *"little child that has a penis" or "all penises"*, which should not be confused with the universal theory of the penis, mentioned by Freud, since it has a form of fantasy and not a form of belief, typical of the theorizing.

*Around the age of three*, when these total forms open, the fantasy itself unfolds, linked to drive movements: Turning round upon the subject's own self and Reversal into the opposite. There are indicators of the presence of an Interrogation, so presumably that the enigma appears linked to the finish of meaning as a whole. They try to think about their own sexuality and their parents. At this time the statements are destabilizing, there are juxtapositions and representative formations of contiguity and basically there is an exchange of the position of the subject, the object, and the other: *"I'm a girl", "I'm a boy", "yesterday I was male"* are forms which appear frequently. There is not definite logical form: there is no need to give a foundation and sustain an affirmation or negation, since forms can swap. However, despite the instability, the download of affection or excitement slows down.

In this representation collage or painting, parts of the child and mother's body are present without being linked to a process of the whole body. Parts refer to erogenous zones or the body in general. There are various references to the maternal body. The father's body fails to be thought though its function of third comes advanced. Difference of generations can be thought.

### **The Ego as a foundation. What's new in children of four years**

It is just at the age of four when representative formations that count for a Belief, base of the infantile sexual theories, are structured. Instability and permutation of places in the scene disappear and the Ego is responsible for offering a basis. A Foundation is given as an answer to the questions. This Foundation is characterized primarily as an affirmation linked to perception and knowledge: " *I saw it*", " *I see it in the mirror*", " *I know*", are the most frequent forms arising. Subsequently this Foundation articulates attribution and existence judgment with the negation and the disavowal of perception, forming the belief itself.

This movement is essential in the process of Psychic constitution, since it opens pathways so that subsequently constitute the logical principle of contradiction. Yes and No do not coexist it longer peacefully as in fantasy, so that they are articulate in a foundation that places them securely. This foundation is based on the disavowal of perception: " *no because they are going to cut it out*", " *no because it will grow*" are its most common forms. The disavowal, as a Work of Negative, involves an internal structuring of a negative that organizes statements, where the *peaceful coexistence* of the affirmation and negation of fantasy comes to an end.

This mode that Foundation adopts links in a specific way the Pleasure principle with the Reality Principle. Structuring of the Ego and the affirmation of perception involves an openness to the Reality Principle, which does not appear in fantasy, since we can say everything or anything in it. The disavowal present in the Foundation, when a Belief is structured, can consider the outside in the reference, but the negation of perception asserts the Pleasure Principle as dominant. So the principle of contradiction can assume its final regulation and it is necessary for the subject to renounce to the formations of the belief to support for their foundations.

*Around the age of five*, the meaning is displayed both in the direction of sexuality to think the difference of sexes and in relation to sexuality of the parents with respect to the difference in generations. In both cases are not juxtaposed but connected parts of the body with the whole and functioning of oppositions and combined binary pairs. Conception of birth are more complex: the children can think processes linked to each

other, on the basis of vital functions: analogies of the digestive process or the growth of plants and they try to think about inputs and outputs: "someone cut it", "they take it out" or "someone put something into mom".

Parents sexuality is still being thought predominantly by representations linked to the mother and it is difficult to think parental body. The Function of the Third comes advanced. They can say that the father exists, it is him who puts something into or the doctor does it, but they cannot think the intervention of the father's body.

As it regards to the difference of sexes a specific formula, does not appear. They talk about different erogenous body attributes or not and generic attributes. There is not a predominance of erogenous elements to think the difference.

In this complexity of representations appears an affection that gives an account of the internal limit movements that are being generated (Primary Repression), which is the *shame* referred to erogenous zones. And *the joke* also appears, which gives an account of the particular mode of relationship between representations which is the replacement that allows the metaphor to be operated. It's a complex form that appears late, since it implies that the Work of Negative has generated sufficient space between representations so that they can be replaced. Finally it is necessary to mention the difference life-death that appears at this age linked to the story about the stages of life. It could be interesting to be able to link this issue with the mode of Family Romance, which is part of the thinking of the origins, but has not been the aim of our research.

After this research process, we see that the experience of the origins is not a schematic tour organized by stages that evolve leaving each other behind. There are ways in which the Psychic Apparatus takes shape according to the link of the drive with the object and the forms of representation and the affection resulting from that meeting, encounter that unfolds in the center of the Oedipus complex where each subject makes his unique journey.

### **Stubbornness and omnipotence: the Ego and the age of four**

We started from the normal processes of the children of four years to say that this moment is a key in Psychic structuring: the Ego closes in a *self-affirmation* way: "I know, I saw, I tell you, I say" are its frequent forms that give firmness and stability to the internal representations and limits of the Ego. These statements have the modality

of the *disavowal* : "only inside -also outside" (Botella, 2003) or the known formulation of Jacques Lacan.: "I know it but even so..." . This forms dominate the inner world and perception in relation to the external world. As a result it has a cost on the Reality Criterion.

During this period, we find "Beliefs", that make the child a great scientist (Aulagnier, 1994), who can invest the processes of the world and of himself asking questions and generating new hypotheses . Excision and Disavowal are dominant defensive processes (defenses of The Negative according to Green) that are at the base of these theorizations.

These forms of child thinking are broken and relocated from the counter-investments movements of Primary Repression where negative and affirmative judgment and Pleasure and Reality Principle are separated to give rise to Secondary Logic of the Secondary process (principles of identity -contradiction and third excluded) within the framework of the vicissitudes of the Oedipus complex. However, this time of transformation of the four years, is not a minor passenger pre-Oedipal stage, but a complete new psychic organization for the child who gives, on one hand, great stability and on the other hand, emotionally self-confidence in this position of affirmation and closing.

However, like any over closure, the achievements are labile and the threats are permanent.

When something affront Ego, it exploits and overflows mainly with anguish and hostility. Frustration tolerance is low and collapse, frequently. Typical modalities are omnipotence and control. Omnipotence is at the service of self-control: "*I can alone*", "*I do it myself*" and the others (especially parents) are reduced to helplessness in their attempt to generate distance and separation.

Frustration produces narcissistic collapse, impotence, and intrusion with fusional threat of the closer relation-ships. Omnipotence is exercised through control as a form of dominance of all exchanges between the inside and the outside, both at the level of the body, of the various processes and objects exchange and of the distance with others (presence-absence and separation). Control is presented as motor control: there are moments of need and accuracy of fine motor skills , deployment of gross motor skills, autonomy in the control of sphincters (mainly from stool) and motor skills of speech (acquisition of complex phonological capabilities).

Another level in which control is exercised is the perceptive one: the need for dominance, through seeing, touching and hearing. At this stage, children are in perceptive alert: they hear everything, play incessantly and "*I want to see*" is a regular formula. This activity has not an exploratory purpose but seeks dominance, they want to see with their "*own eyes*". Perceptual control is manifested clearly with the distances and separations. They are impatient with the lack, they want to see where the parents are, they need a perceptually verify of activities and of others and the distress or collapse in minor situations of absence appear (when they don't see the parents arrive or they hardly see them).

Finally: thought control refers to forms of belief that make the child expect that the world should be like as he has thought or imagined it. There is intolerance for surprise and news, rejection of the knowledge of adults and they must imagine before something takes place. It is common to hear: "*I wanted it to be otherwise* ( referred to the end of a movie) or "*I want to wear winter clothes*" (*in summer*) or "*I want it as well because I like it but I don't care*".

Omnipotence is at the service of desire and pleasure, but it is primarily at the service of the Ego that claim its own power and the separation and distance from each other. It is a double question: it's a own-organizational closing dominated by inner world and Pleasure Principle, but it is intended to support after this, the necessary limits to allow the Reality Principle and the presence of the desire of others. It's a pre-Oedipal stage (in classical terms, as it is currently considered that the Oedipus is present from the beginning) , where desire does not develop exclusively in parental links, but in the strength and distance of the Ego.

This is the stage that will give the child the resources needed to traverse the vicissitudes of castration and symbolization outputs. It matches with the so-called, *General theory of the phallus*, Freud (1908) but it transcends the libidinal problem and its symbolic elaboration. It is not strictly a question of losses, but the assertion of the Ego and its limits which give strength and consistency to tolerate losses.

### **Fixing of omnipotence: the stubborn children**

As mentioned in the introduction, current clinic presents these modalities typical for the age of four in older children, from seven or eight years, with rigid patters that make difficult the psychic complexity producing an alteration of the whole family life as a

result of the overflow. They are children who do not respect rules, with various difficulties: they cannot be alone, they do not tolerate regulations, they often fight with others; they ask all their wishes to be full filled, they may burst into hostility and they may have difficulty sometime in the bowel control (by retaining excess) or speech (by altering speech with stress).

It can happen, and it is very common, that these children act in a heterogeneous way and over-adapt at school and function more primarily way in the private sector of life (modes of *Private madness* of A. Green).

### **Clinical vignettes**

**Thomas** is a very intelligent and creative boy. Friends and colleagues like him much. He likes the games with rules, body motor skills and artistic expression. Consulting at six years because it was difficult for him the farewell at the gate of the school (he notes, after having entered, if the adult who accompanies him is still there, otherwise he starts to cry. He does not tolerate his parents to arrive a little late to pick him up, he can't go camping or to sleep in other houses. He has frequent difficulties in urine control.

The child establishes an immediate bond with the therapist, says that he knows all the games and toys that exist in the place, just waits to receive an indication and wants always to win, proposing competition even at times that there is not any. He finds it difficult to go and he wants to take something from the session. The parents have to stay in the waiting room in order that he accepts to stay and he cannot remain in the consulting room alone for a long time.

He is a very active child and when the interventions of the therapist come, he says that he knows it but he can't otherwise and he refuses to try own modes of transitional resources to establish distances and tolerate absence. The difficulties of treatment consist less in the complexities of the diagnostic than in the vicissitudes of the frame where the verbalization is quickly diluted in the omnipotence of thoughts, and there is no word that produces symbolizing activity.

Even with the work of distance-absence and transitional resources with the parents, the leaving of the omnipotent position was very difficult, and currently at the age of nine he has not been completely abandoned it and he is reactive with new

challenges of growth. Maternal modalities show a permanent presence, she speaks with anxiety and fears of the new challenges. His father fails to intervene in these predominant forms.

**Julia** is a girl who has trouble to establish link with others , she can be very hostile, with difficulties to integrate at school, but mainly within the family. She brawls and rivals with her one year younger sister, with whom she has been raised without distance, almost like "twins" according to mother who buys them all the same. They share room, clothes and friends.

The girl arrives at the age of six, after being diagnosed as " premature bipolar "and after a failed cognitive-behavioral treatment because she did not collaborate with the diagnosis tests and refused to enter the consulting room. The reason that brought parents to consultation is the intolerance of the child when they say "no", she does temper tantrums everywhere, she does not listen to any order and she has difficulties to establish links with other children because she always ends up fighting.

In this case, difficulties appeared again by establishing the coordinates of the framing. There was no possibility of implementing diagnostic tests and she worked only on proposals for games that the girl imposed. By the supply of dominance for her, in the analytic space , we could build ability to trust and to hold maternal absence and to replace the omnipotent closure for pleasure of sharing with another people, for a short time. In the same way as in the former case, the disavowal as a response breaks down the interventions of the analyst, to substitute forms of control of others: "*I know but I don't care*" for any proposal to exchange; or "*I cannot tolerate not to buy every toy*", or "*I feel less if I do not have it*", breaking this way any intervention that intended to make her basic forms more complex. Her mother got tired soon, did not offer substitute resources, agreed to buy everything the girl asked for and her father imposed himself with shock and shouts that were not effective.

Finally, **Federico**, a four year old child consulting because he shows very hostile with his brothers and has whims: they can not go for a walk together (he is the third of four brothers). At the session, he does not accept any proposal of game, he can not hold on even which when he had himself proposed it, he plays only without incorporating the others, he does not let the other talk and lets fall anything from the hands. He permanently reiterates "me". He says that he has all the toys that are in the consulting room without even having seen them.

As the school year passes, difficulties arise, since the child does not progress in reading and writing because he calls the letters in any way and because he wants to decide himself how to call them. Both his mother and his father tend to regulatory requirement, with difficulty for creative play and drama and with little time to share with the brothers.

Federico acts by pure omnipotence, with force in the occupation of his own space. He doesn't play, but only exercises dominion over the toys and does not tolerate the game's rules. He wants to win even without participating in a game. He tends at times to lie or to steal (his own processes of disavowal) and he has problems with bowel control because he retains too much and he doesn't want to go to the bathroom when his body needs so, but he goes when he wants to.

In this case and being four years old, interventions are beginning to be effective more quickly and through expressive artistic play, he can go enter into a logic of imaginary production where he does not try to dominate and the Ego manages to produce forms that generate recognition and valuation of himself.

### **Reviews**

We have seen in these brief vignettes, three cases. The second, more serious and resistant than the other two, the Ego does not have enough space for a more complex deployment and closes by omnipotence ways that resist forms of greater complexity which require to leave direct control and to support alternative forms of presence-absence and internal resources of transitional quality.

Parental functions offer indiscriminate and fusional forms together with a regulatory requirement or adaptive pressure in holding the absence and producing no good enough transitional internal resources. These parental forms facilitate the Ego to close itself by domination and obstinacy modes. The space of frame allows both, children and parents, to have an opportunity for new forms of exercise of the Framing Function although the stability generated by the omnipotent control causes resistance to the intervention of therapist and to any proposal for change.

### **Conclusion**

This article has developed the hypothesis that Narcissistic and limits disorders in adults can be understood in the normal conceptualizations of childhood and, in return, allow to understand in greater depth the vicissitudes of narcissism. Narcissism is a time of closure of the Ego for the purposes of his own investment and conservation.

The clinic work proposes us to observe a moment of unification of the Ego that appears with a remarkable force at the age of four, presenting own modalities: omnipotence and control of motor skills, perception and thinking and predominant forms of Defense of Negativity: excision and disavowal.

This is a time of deployment of the Origins Thinking with theorizations and beliefs that enable the Ego to oppose to the basics drive movements : Reversal into the opposite and Turning round upon the subject´s own self (Green, 1986, Bleichmar, 1984) and generate a narcissistic unit which means to unify the diverse and which is held in a closing. It is a moment of closure where the inner world dominates, but in a difference with the first moment of closure of the Primary Narcissism (Primary hallucination) because this unit holds the presence and the reference of the outside.

These forms presented with intensity in children of four years old generate resources of distance and separation in relation to the others and give quality internal resources of symbolization, both thinking and motor skills. Currently looser forms of exercise of parental functions where there is sometimes little transitional resources offer for distance and absence, along with adaptive and regulatory rigid modes, present it a risk for the Ego to reassert itself by domination and generate in adulthood a Narcissistic and limits disorder.

Early intervention allows us to act, not without difficulty, to disarm these defensive predominance that impoverishes the Ego and limit it in the deployment of its potentialities. So, it is necessary to think about these formations in normal processes and their rigid fixation and not as an early consolidated disorder of limits and where the absence of limits is understood in terms of greater regulatory pressure from parents. As a result of such interventions the problem is fixed and it is acute.

As we see in consultation, children who have difficulties in the construction of boundaries often suffer from demanding and normative parents. The answer is neither unique nor direct and requires a complex clinical thinking in diagnosis and therapeutic

intervention, with a dose of extraordinary patience, to withstand an Ego that refuses to let down the pure domination of the situation.

It is relevant to be able to expand the Theory of the origins and, fundamentally, understand narcissism as a complex process and not as a unique psychic act derived from maternal functions, either as specular image, as primary identification with maternal care or as attachment.

To open the conceptualization to the processes, we can see that narcissism is not played once and for all in the darkness of the mythical origins, but there are complex structuring movements that articulate processes of symbolization together with processes of constitution of the limits of the Ego. The Ego is a complex formation, which, far from being an area free of conflicts and even less an imaginary instance that produces opacity, is an open system which requires his own organization of its closure to be able to deal with other topic instances and that both rigid barriers and lability in their closing produce difficulties in the exchange inside-inside or inside-outside.

Understanding the Processes of the Origins leads us not to reify diseases in adults. Conceptualizations on the "self and threats" or "emotional instability" as modalities of *borderline Pathology*, based in a bad or good attachment, give reason to continue looking in neurology and biological models "firm bases" for its foundation because they result poor to think such a complex problem.

Both narcissism and limits are built in the long period ranging from birth to the age of six. It is important, by its predominance in the Contemporary Pathology, to be able to understand its complexity with the model of Contemporary Psychoanalysis.

It is often offer children observations with almost descriptive theorizations or resorting to endogenous models whose mode of thinking cause gives us reassuring certainties. This theoretical thought give a foundation to continue talking about childhood as something impossible to theorize as it is a lost paradise. We can move forward by the soil but fertile land of complex models where Contemporary Science works.