infant's aggression in the death instinct, but rather as a response to a failure in the holding environment.

See also: antisocial tendency; anxiety; breakdown; communication; compliance; concerning delinquency; deprived children; false self; imprisonment; integration; unintegration; paradoxa; play and playing; psychosomatics; transitional phenomena; true self.


J. Joh.

WISH FULFILMENT A psychological process in which a wish seems to the imagination to have been realised. Freud proposed that products of the unconscious, dreams, symptoms, and especially fantasies, are all wish fulfilments wherein the wish is to be found expressed in a more or less disguised form.

See also: compromise formation


K. L.

WIT Freud observes that the gift of wit is possessed by some as a means of obtaining pleasure. In contrast to dream-work, which is essentially a private affair, wit is intrinsically a social activity. Wit-work follows the dream-work in its use of condensation and displacement. It also echoes the incomprehensible rebus-like narrative of manifest content in its use of the comic device of absurdity. For defensive purposes manifest content must be censored. For wit to be successful on the other hand it must have the condition of intelligibility, however idiosyncratic or novel that intelligibility may be.

While both wit and dream function to produce pleasure, the dream does so by expressing a wish fulfilled whereas employment of wit obtains pleasure through 'developed play'.

S. Byr.

WOLF MAN Soubriquet for the Russian-born Sergui Pankejeff (1886-1979), whom Freud first analysed from February 1910 to July 1914. Freud concluded that his patient had a severe obsessional neurosis. The case history, concentrating on the patient's childhood and adolescence, is known for its elaboration of oral and anal psychosexuality, the analysis of a dream about wolves, the reconstruction of a related primal scene, its deferred traumatic effect, and the imposition by Freud of a terminating date for the analysis. The chronically ill Pankejeff, now considered a borderline, was reanalysed by Freud in 1919-20, and afterwards by others.


P. M.

WOLF, ALEXANDER Alexander Wolf began therapy groups in New York in 1938. Wolf asserted the primacy of the individual over the group, both in society and in psychotherapy. He vigorously opposed group-centred methods; his aim was to sponsor the individual growth of each group member's creative ego. His approach has been termed psychoanalysis of the individual within the group as contrasted to the *Bion/Tavistock approach of psychoanalysis of the group and that of *Foulkes, psychoanalysis by the group. Wolf encouraged frank disclosure of group members' associations, and vigorous analysis of transference and resistance. He advocated 'alternate' sessions, which are scheduled meetings of patients without the presence of the therapist. This reinforces peer relationships in the absence of the parental authority as represented by the therapist, and ensures continuity of meetings when the therapist is away. Wolf vigorously opposed 'group-as-a-whole' approaches, stating that they foster deafness to differences, pseudo-cohesion and submit the individual to the tyranny of the prevailing group process.


WOLFF, ANTONIA (1889-1953) Antonia (Toni) Wolff began analysis with C. G. Jung in 1910, at twenty-one, following the death of her father. Her later and ongoing association and collaboration with Jung lasted until her death in 1953. She became an analyst, an important person in Jung's life and a pivotal figure in the group that studied and worked with Jung in formulating *analytical psychology.

Her 1934 paper 'Structural Forms of the Feminine Psyche' was a pioneering work, giving birth to the conceptual terms hetaira, amazzone, and medial woman, thus expanding and clarifying Jung's study of masculine and feminine psychology.

S. Sho.

WOMAN Lacan states that Woman – as distinct from a woman – does not exist. The psychic apparatus lacks the signifier which could name the Woman, since the only signifier which is inscribed here in relation to sexual difference is the *phallus. Since therefore the universal