

Narcissism on the Rorschach

Date: Wed, 26 Mar 2008 19:13:52

Subject: RE: [Rorschach List] Narcissism and the Rorschach

From: "David Joubert" <joubd@hotmail.com>

To: Rorschach_List@yahoogroups.com

This kind of differential diagnosis is difficult to make because having one "disorder" clearly does not preclude having the other. Many antisocial individuals are also narcissistic, especially when psychopathy is involved.

The Rorschach (and TAT, for that matter) are better at assessing narcissism as a broader construct rather than Narcissistic PD. Indications can be found in mirroring-type responses, but also content suggesting inner emptiness and disturbed sense of self (primitive idealization, shadows, skeletons, caricature figures, etc.).

Also, look very closely at the patient-examiner interactions and subtle (or not so subtle) attempts at wresting control away from the examiner, "perverse" manipulations and role-reversals, etc. You may also want to look at aggressive drive derivative responses (Gacono & Meloy's system) as an addition to standard Exner scores.

Good luck,

David Joubert

To: Rorschach List@ yahoo groups.com; Rorschach List@ yahoo groups.com

From: JToomey@gc.cuny.edu

Date: Wed, 26 Mar 2008 12:39:37 -0400 Subject:

RE: [Rorschach List] Narcissism and the Rorschach

I recommend taking a look at the article "Narcissism in the Rorschach Revisited: Some Reflection on Empirical Data" by Hilsenroth et al (1997) in Psychological Assessment.

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From: Rorschach_List@ yahoo groups. com on behalf of Claude Monje

Sent: Wed 3/26/2008 12:12 PM

To: Rorschach_List@ yahoo groups. com

Subject: [Rorschach_List] Narcissism and the Rorschach

I'm trying to make a differential between Antisocial Personality Disorder and Narcissistic Disorder. The patient I am testing really meets the criteria for both but I have a hunch that he is more narcissistic, which is better for him.

I'd like to know if anyone could please tell me how narcissism manifests itself on the Rorschach. I know that there is agreement that lots of Reflection responses are the key, but are there other markers? If so, what are they? Any help would be appreciated.

Thanks,

Best,

Claude

