

## SUMMARIES IN ENGLISH

*Ole Andkjær Olsen & Simo Køppe: Infantile Sexuality – A Historical Survey*

The purpose of this article is to outline the scientific conceptualization of child sexuality from the end of the 19th century and up to the present time. Psychoanalysis has played a major role in this course of events, but the psychoanalytic point of view is far from being the only one. So the precursors within 19th century sexual research are reviewed as well as the discussions within 20th. century anthropology and sexology. The question concerning the very existence of infantile sexuality was controversial from the beginning and still is, especially because of the strong focusing on incest and pedophilia during the last decades.

*Rolf Reitan: The theory of Seduction and Abuse of Children – Laplanche's generalized theory of seduction*

The paper outlines the development in Jean Laplanche's thinking from the critical reading of Freud in *Life and Death in Psychoanalysis* (1970) to the generalized theory of seduction in *New fundamentals for psychoanalysis* (1987). The concepts of 'originary seduction' and the 'enigmatic message' are shown to operate as focii that permit a reconfiguration of earlier material concerning the origin of infantile sexuality as an implantation in the child from the parental universe, at the same time renewing the theory of psychoanalysis. One consequence of this is a more consistent ability to distinguish normal implantation from the violent, *intromissive* implantation, the latter being the concept for pedophile abuse of children.

*Nina Boelsgaard Christensen & Sonny Kaasing Nielsen: Child Sexuality – an Issue of the Child or the Adult?*

The subject of child sexuality is regarded as both a general and scientifically difficult and precarious area. This is stressed by the lack of knowledge in the theoretical as well as empirical literature available today. In the article the classic psychoanalytic perspective is compared to a newer cognitive perspective as both are focused on concepts essential to the understanding of child sexuality. Furthermore the article presents and discusses selected empirical material concerning the sexual behavior, and knowledge, of children. Through critical reflection upon the survey's results the authors conclude that culturally specific conditions in the interplay between children and adults define the limits of the sexual expressions of children.

*Dorthe Lippert: Children's sexual games*

Are sexual games between children experimental or exploiting? Do you have to worry, when a child shows sexual behaviour or is it quite »normal«. There is a borderland between children's common sexual plays between each other and sexual abuse between them. The references in this article are international studies of partly children's common behaviour in the pre-school age and during the school age and the problematic behaviour between children at the same age. Children's common sexual behaviour can contain masturbation, exposure, examination of own or others (children's and parents) genitalia with or without manual touching. It is also common that children apparently do not show any sexual activity. When sexual abuse take place between children there will often be a difference in power between the children. Violence or threats can appear, and the sexual activity will often be outside common sexual plays between children. Oral, anal and vaginal intercourse is very uncommon in the pre-school age and not common in the 6-12 years-age, either.

*Else Munck: Sexuality in childhood – and in adolescence.*

Since Freud wrote 'Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality' one hundred years ago, sexuality of children has become visible in our culture. But still it may be difficult for grown-up persons to find an adequate attitude to sexual behaviour in children and adolescents. There are important differences between sexuality in children, in adolescents and in adults – each age has its own behaviour pattern – but concomitantly all three are intimately connected. The two prominent periods in sexual development, early childhood and puberty, are outlined partly from a classical Freudian and partly from an object relation theory point of view. Deviations from normal sexual development are commented on. Finally the concept of sexual maturity and sexual offending are briefly discussed.

*Mehmet Ümit Necef: The Transformation of the Culture and Language of Intimacy*  
Immigrants originating from »traditional« societies go through a transformation of culture and language of intimacy in Denmark. Many first and second generation Turkish immigrants either use Danish words or shift totally to Danish when speaking about sexual and intimate matters in Turkish. Turkish males make use of the new possibilities for sexual and intimate gratification with Danish women, while trying to preserve the original ethnic culture, especially in areas pertaining to women's control over their bodies and sexualities. Research on immigrants should take into account both the willingness and resistance to change among immigrants and avoid cultural patronizing.

*Bo Møhl: Pedophilia – the tragic perversion.*

Pedophilia means sexual attraction and perhaps affection to children. Through history sexual relations between children and grown-ups have been a part of the established culture, but especially during the later years it has been strongly condemned. The article goes through the diagnosis and concludes that pedophilia is many different things. Our knowledge of pedophilia as a perversion descends mainly from psychoanalytical sources. A recurrent subject for these theories are that the attraction of the pedophile gives the child what he himself was deprived of as a child. The childhood's role is connected to an asset for the grown-up pedophile.

*Helmer Bøving Larsen & Ingrid Leth: Child sexual abuse: A review of the effects and treatment recommendations.*

Empirical studies show that sexually abused children have more symptoms than non-abused children. Fears, posttraumatic stress, behaviour problems and sexualized behaviours occur most frequently, but no one specific syndrome or symptom characterizes the majority of sexually abused children. Approximately one third of victims have no symptoms. Several factors seem to mediate the development of psychopathology following child sexual abuse: Penetration, the duration and frequency of the abuse, coercion, the relationship of the perpetrator to the victim and parental support all affect the degree of symptomatology. Therapy seems to facilitate recovery, but it is not established whether the therapeutic gains are due to the effects of therapy or due to spontaneous recovery processes. Most of the therapeutic interventions recommended for sexually abused children are trauma-focused and include some degree of direct discussion of the abuse experience.

*Mimi Strange: Sexual abuse*

The article has several foci. It highlights especially the importance of finding and treating children/adolescents who abuse other children sexually. Another important issue is to consider the damage children may suffer when sexually abused by offenders they are attached to. This highlights the importance of treating offender and victim in the same setting when possible, as the child often also have positive feelings towards the offender. The victim-offender continuum is discussed, especially the importance of seeing this as a Janus-head. The importance of multi-professional approach and the difficulties young children have as witnesses in criminal processes are briefly discussed.

*Niels Peter Rygård: Sexual Abuse of Children and Attachment Disorder*

The paper addresses »sexual abuse of children and attachment disorder« from a systemic viewpoint. Results from different disciplines (genetics, neurobiology, attachment in human species, personality and social psychology) are considered in order to attempt a holistic view of the field and possible integration of results. Conclusions are, that paradoxical attachment behavior and an underlying psychic attachment conflict often may be resolved by identification with the aggressor. Furthermore, disturbed constancy and stability are the physiological correlates to this state. Definitions of the term »sexual abuse of children« is discussed, and interdisciplinary methods in treatment are initially suggested.

*Dorthe Berntsen: Retrospective solving of crimes involving child abuse – can we trust the memories of children?*

This article summarises and discusses research on the reliability of the testimony of young children across three different conditions: 1) in free recall, 2) in research interviews involving leading and misleading questions and 3) in studies designed to imitate the amount and types of questioning that is likely meet a child who is a suspected victim of child sexual abuse. Studies of children's free recall have shown that young children generally need much adult support and adult cues in retrieving and recounting specific episodes in the past. In cases where the adult does not know what has happened to the child but expects sexual abuse to have taken place, this suspicion is highly likely to generate specific questions that alludes sexual abuse and thus – in cases where no abuse has happened – come to function as misleading questions for the child. Many studies have demonstrated that young children can be influenced by such misleading questions to such an extent that they may confirm and even elaborate episodes that have never taken place. Studies also show that small children are more suggestible than older children and adults, and that a child's suggestibility in relation to misleading questions increases with repeated questioning. These insights appear highly relevant in relation to recent cases of alleged sexual abuse in Danish day-care centres.

*Christian Braad Thomsen: The smear campaign against the pedophiles.*

The age limit for sexual crimes changes so rapidly over a short space of time illustrating the relativity of what is morally justifiable. Yet the debate about pedophilia undertakes rather cocksure forms. The lack of knowledge among many psychologists has led to miscarriage of justice. To be pedophile is to have a sexual orientation that is not suitable in a society, where we have chosen to taboo the sexual relations between grown-ups and children, but just like most heterosexuals, most pedophiles also know how to lead their sexuality into forms that are socially acceptable. Still they are often depicted in the press as sexual monsters that sneak into kindergartens and take children away to undescrivable sexual orgies. And when a psychologist like Bent Petersen try to vary the debate, he is excluded from his union.