

P02-371 - AFFECTS AND EMOTIONS IN WOMEN VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

M. Amann Gainotti, S. Pallini

Dipartimento di Scienze dell'Educazione, Università di Roma Tre, Roma, Italy

Only recently has the extent and seriousness of the phenomenon of domestic violence been acknowledged, and its consequences, that are not only psychological, but also social and economical have started to be seriously investigated because of long-term consequences such as alcoholism, drug-addiction, depression, job absenteeism, incapacity to raise children, etc. The purpose of the research was to extend knowledge of the interpersonal dynamics of mistreated women by examining the characterizing emotions described by a group of women involved in violent marital relationships. Subjects were a little group of 12 women, users of a Centre for Mistreated women in Rome (Italy) that volunteered to participate in the study. Their age ranged from 24 to 50. Most had children under 18. The method included different instruments: The Adult Attachment Interview (M. Main, 1998), and a free report concerning the beginning and the development of the mistreating relationship. The self report was introduced by five questions in which subjects were asked to compare their relationship to a tree, a colour, an animal, a house, a type of music.

Results: Emotions expressed by the group of mistreated women compared to those of a control group, are in a remarkable way characterized by gloominess and mournfulness and are connected to topics such as destruction, fear and death.

References: M. Amann Gainotti, S. Pallini (2006), *Uscire dalla violenza. Risonanze emotive e affettive nelle relazioni coniugali violente*, Unicopli, Milano. M. Amann Gainotti, S. Pallini (2008), *La violenza domestica*, Ma.gi, Roma