

OPINION

Subject: Dissertation by Alexander Petrov on the topic:

SOCIAL ROLE STRUCTURE AS A PHENOMENON OF COLLECTIVE PROJECTION

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Alexander Petrov's dissertation "Social Role Structure as a Phenomenon of Collective Projection" is on an extremely challenging and unconventional topic, which concerns a very wide range of scientific fields. The development and presentation of this dissertation requires very broad knowledge and competencies from various fields - clinical psychology, psychiatry, psychoanalysis, philosophy, psychotherapy, etc. The development and presentation of this dissertation is possible due to the very rich clinical experience of the dissertation candidate, his competencies in various psychotherapeutic approaches, and his high personal and professional resources.

The dissertation is presented on 213 pages. Structurally, it is divided into three chapters, a conclusion, and a bibliography of 61 sources in Cyrillic and English.

In the introduction to the dissertation, Petrov comments on the motivation for developing a scientific study to analyze an approach to compensating for "a weakness." Petrov sees his dissertation as the beginning of a philosophical-psychological discussion about building a strategy for change through working with the individual and the family.

The dissertation pays special attention to conflicts in the family and "negative psychic energies" in adolescents, leading to behavioral deviations. Negative energy escalates into suicides, autoaggression, domestic violence, use of psychoactive substances, but with the preservation of the dual connection with the social role. Maladaptive behavior is associated with castration conflicts, Oedipal aggressive fixations, borderline personality disorders. Petrov interprets the social structure as protective behavior and destructive reorganization.

An in-depth analysis has been made of the autonomy of modern societies and the risk that each subculture will react with aggression towards the dominant culture when its values are threatened.

The first chapter of the dissertation presents a thorough theoretical analysis of the structuring factors of the community. The dynamics of psycho-socio-economic processes in the social group are traced. Here the ability of the dissertation candidate to discover and analyze interrelationships between psychoanalysis, psychology, individual behavior and the social community is evident, which take into account conscious and unconscious mechanisms

of transformation and regression, autonomy of the personality and the connection with a suprapersonal structure in the social community.

A very rich historical overview of the concepts of identification, frustration, traumatism, castration, object relations, as well as psychopathological personality organizations - neurotic, psychotic and perverse, is also presented, which is one of the very strong and significant parts of the dissertation. The disharmonious and psychopathological unconscious processes in the formation of group organization in various communities are analyzed.

The second chapter of the dissertation analyzes pre-psychic, psychic and post-psychic structures. I would like to devote a special place to the analysis of the complex aspects of metaphor in the meaning and understanding of desires, of defense mechanisms in neurotic, psychotic and perverse personality structures. Petrov understands the ability for psychic action as an intrapsychic phenomenon and as a process of communication with the Other. Psychotherapy can strongly influence individual development, but its influence on social processes is weak, which leads to psychotism in the couple, post-psychic reality and “role structures in the Social Being”.

In the third chapter, Petrov analyzes self-differentiating role structures based on the assumption and redistribution of personal capacity to the social subject. On this basis, Petrov assumes that a social structure can cease to function as it is built if individuals withdraw their intentions from it. When the enjoying object invests only in itself, it creates a “perverse discourse” of social sado-masochistic relations.

At the end of this chapter, the dissertation offers his recommendations for the new model of structuring communities, concerning the type of social roles and interactions, and the boundaries of freedom, which need to be systematically researched and corrected.

The contributions derived by the dissertation correspond to the non-standard ideas and those successfully defended on the basis of Petrov's rich experience with individuals and groups. A significant contribution of the dissertation is the derivation of a symbolic connection between the individual and society and the formulation of a neurotic, psychotic and perverse discourse of the community.

Conclusion

Alexander Petrov's dissertation is unconventional in both form and content. The topic is extremely challenging and assumes very broad knowledge and competencies. The proposed analyses and ideas demonstrate exceptional knowledge and skills to interweave practical experience and theoretical knowledge from different fields of knowledge. Alexander Petrov's dissertation raises many questions, outlines significant trends and proves the well-known but somewhat forgotten individual-community relationship in order to outline norm and pathology, both at the individual and community levels.

This gives me reason to recommend with full conviction to The Honorable Scientific Jury awards Alexander Petrov the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the professional field : 3.2. Psychology, Social Psychology.

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