

INDIVIDUATION AND SYMBOLS OF TRANSFORMATION AS MANIFESTED
IN THE DREAMS AND DRAWINGS OF THAI AIDS PATIENTS

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ABSTRACT

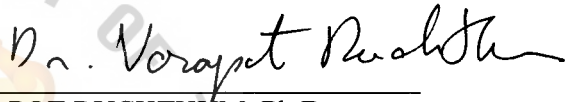
Carl Jung (1875-1961) founded analytical psychology, a school of psychoanalysis that focuses on the individual's encounter with the unconscious through the archetypes and symbols that appear in the individual's dreams, visions, and fantasies. According to Jung, the encounter between consciousness and the symbols arising from the unconscious enriches life and promotes psychological development. Jung called this key developmental concept *individuation*, which is a lifelong, natural process of self-realization and psychic growth that can be achieved only by the integration of the conscious and the unconscious psyche.

This study explored the archetypal images and symbols of transformation associated with the individuation process of Thai patients who were in the major and severe symptomatic phase of HIV infection. With the sharpened understanding of the archetypal images and symbols of transformation manifested during the dying process, counselors and psychologists can assist the clients living with HIV/AIDS in working towards individuation and integration of the total personality which, in turn, will allow the clients to live in greater harmony with their own circumstances.

The case study research method was used in this study. Six Thai HIV/AIDS patients participated in the study. All participants were between the ages of 20-40 and were residents of The Dharmaraksaniwesana I Project, Wat Prabatnampoo, a hospice noted for its compassionate care and support to HIV/AIDS patients. The data included

the narrative accounts and drawings of the dreams reported by the participants in the dream journals and interviews collected for a period of six weeks. The content analysis method was used in analyzing the data. The participants' dreams and drawings reveal a wealth of archetypal images and symbols of transformation that evidence an ongoing individuation process aiming at integration of the personality.

APPROVED:



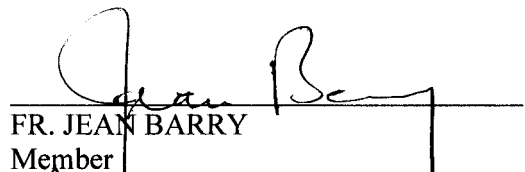
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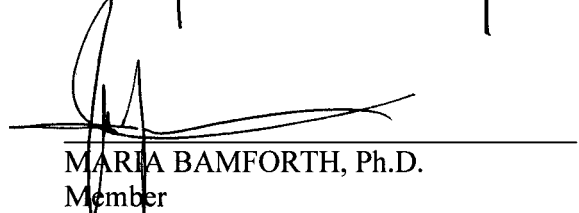
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