



Introduction

In June 2020, the Theoretical Psychoanalysis PhD Program of the University of Pécs held an online conference, entitled *Intersubjectivity and the Psy-Sciences*. The conference provided an opportunity for PhD students and other scholars to connect to the event from a wide variety of disciplines within the framework of intersubjectivity. The papers covered topics of psychoanalysis, social sciences, pedagogy, philosophy, literature, and art theory.

What exactly intersubjectivity stands for? The concept describes a relationship between two or more people, in which the focus of the description is primarily on the relationship itself and not on the subjects who are maintaining the relationship. The interpretation of these relations, however, is different for every discipline. In psychology, the question of relationality appears at many different levels. For instance, it may reflect on our close ties or social relations, but it may also refer to the relationship between the patient and the therapist in the sphere of psychotherapy. While some psychological theories derive human cognitions and actions from the individual's inner world, theories that emphasize intersubjectivity tend to focus more on the circumstances of the person. The aim of the conference was to highlight some critiques on individual-focused theories in psychology and represent socially reflective ideas on subjectivity.

It is well-known that Ferenczi attributed great importance to the therapeutic relationship. His perspective unquestionably influenced the later development of psychoanalytic theories and practices. According to his theory, the formation of subjectivity, psychosexual development, trauma, and healing are fundamentally carried out through interactions. This idea is echoed in his trauma theory or in the method of active technique. Although in his last years Ferenczi was marginalized within the analytical community, his ideas on intersubjectivity was carried forward by the emigrated members of the Budapest School of psychoanalysis.

By discussing the historical, psychological, therapeutic, linguistic and pedagogical aspects of intersubjectivity, the editors have gathered several contributions to the understanding of some less-known problems of intersubjectivity. The article of Kata Kiss establishes an interesting parallel between the notion of intersubjectivity applied by phenomenology and the psychoanalytic work of Sándor Ferenczi. Dóra Szabó's essay explores the intersubjective aspects of the developmental theory of Susan Isaacs, who broadened the scene of pedagogical observations by introducing early childhood

educational institutions into the scope of psychoanalytic research. In the study of Nikolett Kanász, Jung's ideas about the analytical situation and its contemporary aspects are discussed, particularly the concept of the intersubjective matrix and the potential connections between synchronicity and psychotherapy. Janka Kormos introduces the reader to the theoretical foundations of the Kestenberg Movement Profile with special focus on developmental movement patterns and their influence on early relational patterns. Béla Rideg addresses the question of linguistic-literary representations of trauma in two novels by the Finnish-Estonian novelist Sofi Oksanen, while Katalin Faluvégi explores the intersection between psychology and linguistics in a psychoanalytical and developmental psychological framework.

The ideas of Ferenczi and some further representatives of the Budapest School of psychoanalysis are undeniably closely connected to the current questions of intersubjectivity. By discussing the above-mentioned scenes, the editors' aim is to provide an insight into the manifold theoretical and practical implications of intersubjectivity, and illuminate its significance within the context of psy-sciences.

In our "Archives" section, we publish a unique document, fitting the issue of intersubjectivity perfectly: Sándor Ferenczi's letter to Elizabeth Severn written in March 1925, as a response to her request for taking her into analysis. As it is known, Severn was Ferenczi's patient from 1925 to 1933, becoming part of their common experiments with mutual analysis, which led Ferenczi to important theoretical and technical considerations. The letter is introduced by Anna Borgos who received it from the Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute Archives.

In this issue we also commemorate our colleague and friend, Kata Lénárd who passed away tragically young in January 2021. Besides her obituary we republish her interview conducted with sculptor Jane McAdam Freud, Sigmund Freud's great-granddaughter in 2006.

Júlia Gyimesi and Kata Dóra Kiss