

NAME: Anna Maria

SURNAME: Loiacono

INSTITUTION : Training and Supervisor Analyst of the “H.S.Sullivan” Institute of Florence,
I.F.P.S.Delegate Member

TOPICS:

Postal Address:

e-mail:

annaloiacono@alice.it

Abstract: “As If” Personalities and Identity: Affects, Emotions and Feelings

The “as if” personality concept refers to people who are prone to having strong identifications, peculiarly imitative in nature, but lack their own personality. This phenomenon is an expression of the human inclination to imitate attractive models, to remain passively waiting for external influences, never reaching, therefore, the capacity of having genuine relationships neither with others nor with their own motivations.

The author, through the works of H.Deutsch, K.Abraham, P.Greenacre, E.Jacobson, H.Kohut, P.Roazen and others, brings to light the fact that the problem of “as if” personalities is a modern reality. The author tries to demonstrate how the fear of losing these false identities is correlated to the falling away of illusions, those same illusions of identity which had substituted the function of religion in the psychic life.

Moreover, here she treats the “as if” personalities as a concept of unification in contrast to the current attempts of fragmentation of diagnostic personality disorders, as in many psychoanalytic concepts in relation to the psychiatrization of psychoanalysis.