LIMITS OF EMPATHY
HOW TO REWIRE MORALITY IN THE BRAIN
DAN REISEL
#EMPATHY

SESSION PLAN 30 MINUTES
WHAT IS EVIL?
PETER SINGER’S EXPANDING CIRCLE
DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY
ROLE OF PLAY
TRAINING THE BRAINS OF PSYCHOPATHS
THE ROLE OF THE AMYGDALA
BEHAVIOURS VS TRAITS
RETRIBUTIVE VS RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
REWIRING MORALITY IN THE BRAIN
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE AS A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

WHY IS THERE “EVIL”?

SIMON BARON-COHEN
ZERO DEGREES OF EMPATHY, 2012

EMPATHY QUOTIENT

EMPATHY

COGNITIVE

AFFECTIVE

COGNITIVE IMPAIRED INTACT
AFFECTIVE INTACT IMPAIRED

AUTISM PSYCHOPATHY
THE PSYCHOLOGY OF EMPATHY

DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

IMAGINATION

IMPORTANCE OF PLAY

HOW DOES THIS WORK AT THE LEVEL OF THE BRAIN?

Rosenberg et al, 2013. PLOS ONE.
Restorative justice is a process whereby all the parties with a stake in a particular offence come together to solve collectively how to deal with the aftermath of an offence and its implications for the future.

A role for rewiring empathy in the brain?

Before you embark on a journey of revenge, dig two graves. —Confucius

Amygdala: Seat of empathy in the brain

US prison population 1950 - today

UK prison population 1950 - today

US reoffending rate

UK reoffending rate

80%

75%

The Axis II Work Group of the Task Force on Dsm-Ill and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (洗涤式) has expressed concern that antisocial personality disorder (APD) criteria are too vague and imprecise and that their focus on antisocial behavior rather than personality traits contradicts traditional conceptions of psychopathy and to be described in a way that is consistent with the criteria in Dsm-Ⅲ-R. American Psychiatric Association. 1987) namely, the revised Psychopathy Checklist. The authors also described the antisocial APD that is diagnosed by traditional criteria with the DSM-Ⅲ-R criteria, a version of the Psychopathy Checklist with a high level of reliability. In 1990, two new versions of the Psychopathy Checklist were released: the revised Psychopathy Checklist and the Psychopathy Checklist:short form. The latter has 25 items, and each item is scored on a scale of 1 to 3, with higher scores indicating greater psychopathic traits. The Psychopathy Checklist:short form has been widely used to assess psychopathic traits in clinical and research settings. The Psychopathy Checklist:short form has been widely used to assess psychopathic traits in clinical and research settings.
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE AS A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE?

VALUES/RESPECT
RITUAL/MINDSET
COMMON HUMAN BOND
BELONGING
RESPONSIBILITY
REPENTANCE/ATONEMENT
FORGIVENESS
TRANSFORMATION
REVERENCE

RECOMMENDED READING

ADRIAN RAINE THE ANATOMY OF EVIL
STEVEN PINKER THE BETTER ANGELS OF OUR NATURE
ROY BAUMEISTER EVIL - INSIDE HUMAN VIOLENCE AND CRUELTY
MICHAEL SHERMER THE SCIENCE OF GOOD AND EVIL

STAY IN TOUCH
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