

## Proposal

### The transgender illusion. The enigma of identity

Through the discussion of two clinical cases, this contribution will illustrate the theme of the experience of the body in adolescents who define themselves as transgender. It was born within a clinical work group on transgender adolescents treated psychoanalytically. In recent decades, the theme of sexual diversity and transsexualism has become increasingly pregnant.

We are faced with an enigma that challenges our diagnostic categories and the canons on which psychoanalysis of gender identity is based. For many of these cases we have to ask ourselves: is it the pubertal conflict that has produced the gender defensive issue through which the patient defends himself against decompensation, or is it instead a deep nucleus of gender identity that has produced the pubertal conflict and the sexual body hatred in which the patient does not recognize himself?

Some of these adolescents tell us about an idealized and fantasized body, the illusion of a perfect body, other than itself, can be considered as a defense that leads to an arrest in the processes of figuration and symbolic reorganization of the sexual body. This work intends to reflect on how these defensive processes end up preventing the development of new self-images in adolescence and refer to an aesthetic identity that takes the place of real identity.