

Epistemological Despair and Tactic of Psychoanalytics

— Truth as Method not Content of interpretation

Freud: The business of the analysis is to secure the best possible psychological conditions for the functions of the ego; with that it has discharged its task.

— **Critical Interpretation** — Freudian psychopathology maintains that the narrative of a dreamwork or reconstruction of memory conceals the object of desire it wishes to express. The sentential part of the narrative do not neatly represent or refer to the past events they purport to refer but instead report or represent or refer to another set of events that the memory tries to repress and analysis to infer. The expressed content of the part in its expression alludes to the significance of the repressed content. The repressed content is that which stands in opposition to the expressed content within the semiotic system operative in the narrative. The analysand's report that (A is B) is that (A is B) rather than (A being B') and that (A' being B). The aim is to decipher A' or B' so as to disclose —perhaps (A' being B')—as the repressed content. The report is not strictly speaking a faithful report of the significant content. The normative use of the content precedes its pure disquotational use. (Repressed = Significant)

— **Functionality of Oblivion** — Nietzsche: It is hard enough to remember my opinions, without also remembering my reason for them. To forget past events is to forget ones' past opinions and reasons. What memory needs to be (re-)created is a direct function of what one envisage for the relevant future. the functional thrust of interpretation in principle is positioned to render the repressed forces superfluous. (**Alternative** history: Functional = Significant)

— **Interminable Analysis** — Regarding the best psychological conditions, the business of analysis is not terminable and dischargeable because of the perpetual elusiveness (per Lacan and Žižek) and so the impossibility of the best psychological conditions. That the object of desire which is expressed in a psychoanalytic or historiographical narrative is perpetually elusive, perhaps is the sign that the evidence for narrative truth is yet to arrive. The narrative which aspires for verisimilitude is first true by virtue of its meaning—the meaning the analysand ascribes to the narrative in **anticipation** of future.

— **Methodological Apotheosis** — Truth in an interpretation is the proximity to the apothotic resilience of the resilience of the ego undertaking the interpretation in the face of emerging contingencies. If apotheosis implicates the critical functionality of the interpretation, then the apotheosis is the resoluteness that defies future evidence undermining the interpretation. The critical interpretation is the analytic truth that overcomes defeat by the empirical evidence by which it is normally defeasible. Resoluteness amounts to acquisition of the evidence-transcendent **method** enabling narrative truth.

— **Causal** — In physical terms, the interpretation of the narrative is a descriptive reconstruction of the past events which is a retroactive construction of the past events. Any such narrative implicate battles of competing candidates for dominance—to the degree that the mental event of retroconstruction is but a select physical **p** event rather than another physical event **q** both of which count as causal antecedent conditions leading to the instant of the retroconstruction—at which preferred future functions of the ego is decided leading to the outcome causally explained by **p** than **q**.—**Simultaneous** causation of past and future.

References — John McDowell, *Mind and World (Davidson in Context)* — Paul Fry, *Theory of Literature* — Paul Roth, *Truth in interpretation The Case of Psychoanalysis*.