TOTEM UND TABU

Einige Übereinstimmungen im Seelenleben der Wilden und der Neurotiker.

Von

Prof. Dr. Sigm. Freud

1913

HUGO HELLER & CIE.
LEIPZIG UND WIEN, I. BAUERNMARKT 3
Where did the Oedipus Complex come from?

What is the origin of universal symbolism?

What is the history of our modern day psychological structure?

What is the relationship between the individual and the group?

How do we understand the relationship between libido development and cultural evolution?
Oedipus and the Sphynx
THE DESCENT OF MAN
AND SELECTION IN
RELATION TO SEX

BY
CHARLES DARWIN

SECOND EDITION, REVISED AND AUGMENTED

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

NEW YORK
D. APPLETON AND COMPANY
1906
Freud’s Desk with Antiquities
Freud at his desk
Freud at his desk with antiquities and his dog
An inspired Freud at his desk
The Horror of Incest
Taboo and Emotional Ambivalence
Animism, Magic and the Omnipotence of Thoughts
The Return of Totemism in Childhood
- Patriarchal Horde
- Totemic Brother Clan
- Religious World
- Modern Scientific Weltanschauung
Totem and Taboo:
Some Points of Agreement between the Mental Lives of Savages and Neurotics

1) A stage of normal development
   The Oedipal Stage
2) A form of psychopathology
   Neurosis (esp. obsessional neurotics)
3) A stage in cultural development
   Totemic culture
4) A myth
   Totemism/Oedipus
5) A ritual
   The sacrificial totemic feast

The points of agreement:
1) Erotic desire for the mother and the horror of incest
2) Desire to kill the father and the adoration of the father
Freud and Anthropology:
A History and Reappraisal (1983)
by Edwin R. Wallace, IV

- Psycho-Lamarkism
- Biogenetic Law
- Similarities between different cultures
- Matriarchy preceding patriarchy
- Ahistorical approach
- Primitive people are childlike
- Cultures are expressions of the dynamics of individuals
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phylogenesis</th>
<th>Onto- and Perigenesis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>I. Catastrophe</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Origin of organic life</td>
<td>Maturation of the sex cells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>II. Catastrophe</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Origin of individual unicellular organisms</td>
<td>“Birth” of mature germ cells from the gonads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>III. Catastrophe</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginning of sexual propagation</td>
<td>Fertilization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of marine life</td>
<td>Development of the embryo in the uterus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IV. Catastrophe</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recession of the ocean; adaptation to terrestrial existence</td>
<td>Birth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of animal species with organs of copulation</td>
<td>Development of the primacy of the genital zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>V. Catastrophe</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Ages</td>
<td>Latency period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The coming of man</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Ferenczi, 1923, 1956, p. 69)
a newly discovered manuscript

Sigmund Freud

A Phylogenetic Fantasy

Overview of the Transference Neuroses
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historical Environment</th>
<th>Psychopathology</th>
<th>Developmental Stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A rich environment in which all needs were easily satisfied</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adversities of the Ice Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginning of Ice Age</td>
<td>Anxiety hysteria</td>
<td>(earliest neurosis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Ice Age</td>
<td>Conversion hysteria</td>
<td>(from about the fourth year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of Ice Age</td>
<td>Obsessional neurosis</td>
<td>(prepuberty 9-10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primal Horde (Patriarchal stage)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Ice Age</td>
<td>Dementia praecox</td>
<td>(puberty years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paranoia</td>
<td>(the mature years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Melancholia-mania</td>
<td>(the mature years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The band of brothers (Social Stage) (Sigmund Freud, 1987, p. 12-20).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Libido Development and Cultural Evolution
Part I

Totem and Taboo and Beyond

Daniel Benveniste, Ph.D.
A Carter - Jenkins Center production
The End
copyright 2008