Attachment, suicide attempts and borderline personality disorder: a review by a case report

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Abstract

Introduction: Borderline personality disorder (BDP) is a common and severe psychiatric disorder. It’s characterized by severe functional impairments like a pervasive pattern of instability in affect regulation, impulse control and interpersonal relationships. Clinic may include impulsive aggression, repeated self-injury, and chronic suicidal tendencies. It leads to extensive use of treatment, and high costs to society. The etiology is not yet clear but has been a source of intense clinical interest. It seems that genetic factors and adverse life events during childhood seem to interact. Likewise Adler suggested as a failure of parental affection and bonding and also, Kernberg says that excessive early aggression leads young children to excessive frustration. Therefore, studies also suggest that the manifestation for suicide attempts has been described as arising from exposure to adverse childhood trauma.

Objectives: To describe the case of a central hospital psychiatric inpatient and it’s comparison with the international available literature.


Case Reports: Woman, 38 years old, inpatient at Daily Hospital of a Central Psychiatry Hospital. It was admitted for behavioral changes with suicide ideation and impulsive behaviors. History of several internments in Psychiatric facilities and suicide attempts since she was 8 years-old.

Conclusion: Theories of suicidal behavior suggest that the desire to die can arise from disruption of interpersonal relationships. And those are also preponderant to clinical course of BDP. For that, when working with BDP patients, it should be considered the patterns of attachment.

Supplementary material: Complete presentation available at http://ijcnmh.arc-publishing.org

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