
Freud's *Fixierung* and the real : 10th March 2022 : Avi Rybnicki

Towards the XXth NLS Psychoanalysis Congress – Fixation & repetition – July 2022 – Zurich, Switzerland.

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Our German-speaking colleagues from the Berlin Initiative (LOB) and the Vienna Initiative (NLF) formed cartels and delved into Freud's 'Gesammelten Werken' in search of the concepts of 'fixation' and 'repetition'.

You will find them in the '[Orientation](https://nlscongress2022.amp-nls.org/orientation)' (<https://nlscongress2022.amp-nls.org/orientation>) section.

The reference to the G.W. should make it possible to find the place and context of the quotation in the translations of Freud's work in French and English .

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Freud's *Fixierung* and the real Avi Rybnicki

"It may further be assumed that it was her horror at the noise produced against her will that made the moment a traumatic one, and fixed the noise itself as a somatic mnemonic symptom of the whole scene." 1

In his 'Return to Freud' Lacan argued and proved again and again that the post-Freudians turned their back to what was essential for the Freudian invention, his ethics, the 'bone' of the Freudian *Ding*. They produced an imaginary Freud, not one anchored in the real.

In fact, the link to the real is already striking in the very early remarks of Freud by his use of the term *Fixierung*. We can see the presence of bodily effects in producing *Fixierung*. In *A Case of Successful Treatment by Hypnotism*² he speaks of fixation by repetition of the noise produced by the mother's tongue, or in the case of *Emmy*³ the arbitrary coincidence of pain and exhaustion. Later in the same text, he writes of the horror of producing a noise against

her will.⁴ By that, the noise becomes traumatic and fixates itself as a bodily (in German *leiblich*, is related to the flesh) remainder symptom of the entire scenario.

So, Freud connects fixation with the trauma, with Lacan we can grasp that he connects it with the real. In many places such as in *The Interpretation of Dreams* ⁵ or in *Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality* ⁶ fixation relates to the intensity of libido, of erogenous zones of the body which is libidinally cathected and by that easily arousable (in German it is *besetzt* or *Haftbarkeit*, which is closer to the flesh of the body).

With the help of Lacan's reading of Freud, what becomes obvious and what one re-discovers, is that Freud's psychoanalysis is a discipline rooted in the real.

References

¹ Freud S., Frau Emmy von N., Case Histories from Studies on Hysteria (1893), *The Standard Edition of the complete psychological Works of Sigmund Freud. Vol. I. Pre-Psycho-Analytic Publications and Unpublished Drafts (1886–1899)*, London, The Hogarth Press, p. 92.

² Freud S., A Case of Successful Treatment by Hypnotism (1892), *The Standard Edition of the complete psychological Works of Sigmund Freud. Vol. I. Pre-Psycho-Analytic Publications and Unpublished Drafts (1886–1899)*, London, The Hogarth Press. p. 115–128.

³ *Op.cit.* Freud S. (1893), p. 92

⁴ *Ibid.* p93

⁵ Freud S., The Interpretation of Dreams (I) (1900), *The Standard Edition of the complete psychological Works of Sigmund Freud. Vol. IV. Pre-Psycho-Analytic Publications and Unpublished Drafts (1886–1899)*, London, The Hogarth Press, p. 1-310.

⁶ Freud, S., Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality (1905), *The Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud, Volume VII (1901-1905): A Case of Hysteria, Three Essays on Sexuality and Other Works*, p. 123–246.

Further texts by Avi Rybnicki at www.LacanianWorksExchange.net /Authors A-Z (Rybnicki)

Availability of References

Footnotes 1 & 3. SE II p92 : Sigmund Freud: Studies on Hysteria: 1893-1895, SE II, Part II, Case 2 : Frau Emmy von N., Age 40, from Livonia by Sigmund Freud SE II p48 : Published bilingual at <https://www.freud2lacan.com/freud-philosophy/> /15. STUDIES ON HYSTERIA—with Breuer's original case history sent to Robert Binswanger in Kreuzlingen See Studies on Hysteria : 1893-1895 : Sigmund Freud on this site /3 Sigmund Freud (18930101 or Index of Sigmund Freud's texts)

SE II p92 It may further be assumed that it was her horror at the noise produced against her will that made the moment a traumatic one, and fixed the noise itself as a somatic mnemonic symptom of the whole scene. I believe, indeed, that the character of the *tic* itself, consisting as it did of a succession of sounds which were convulsively emitted and separated by pauses and which could be best likened to clackings, reveals traces of the process to which it owed its origin.

2. Freud S., A Case of Successful Treatment by Hypnotism (1892), SE I p115-128

4. SE II p92 : Sigmund Freud: Studies on Hysteria: 1893-1895, SE II, Part II, Case 2 : Frau Emmy von N., Age 40, from Livonia by Sigmund Freud SE II p48 : Published bilingual at <https://www.freud2lacan.com/freud-philosophy/> /15. STUDIES ON HYSTERIA—with Breuer's original case history sent to Robert Binswanger in Kreuzlingen

See Studies on Hysteria : 1893-1895 : Sigmund Freud on this site /3 Sigmund Freud (18930101 or Index of Sigmund Freud's texts)

SE II p93, possibly, These two symptoms, the clacking and the stammering, which were thus closely related through the history of their origin, continued to be associated and were turned into chronic symptoms after being repeated on a similar occasion. Thereafter they were put to a further use. Having originated at a moment of violent fright, they were thenceforward joined to *any* fright (in accordance with the mechanism of monosymptomatic hysteria which will be described in Case 5 [SE II p149f.], even when the fright could not lead to an antithetic idea being put into effect.

The two symptoms were eventually linked up with so many traumas, had so much reason for being reproduced in memory, that they perpetually interrupted the patient's speech for no particular cause, in the manner of a meaningless *tic*.

5. SE IV & V, bilingual at www.Freud2Lacan.com /homepage (The complete bilingual of THE INTERPRETATION OF DREAMS and ON DREAMS

Chapters I-V, Chapter V, Chapter VI, Chapter VII, ON DREAMS; Bibliographies, Indices)

For detailed references see <https://nlscongress2022.amp-nls.org/orientation>

See The Interpretation of Dreams : 6th November 1899 (published as 1900) : Sigmund Freud SE IV & V, See www.LacanianWorks.org /3 Sigmund Freud (November 1899)

6. SE VII p123-245 Bilingual at www.Freud2Lacan.com /homepage (THREE ESSAYS ON SEXUALITY (Drei Abhandlungen zur Sexualtheorie))

See Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality : 1905d : Sigmund Freud, at

www.LacanianWorks.org /3 Sigmund Freud (19050101 or Index of Sigmund Freud's texts)
