

Canine and feline victims of the family system

INTRODUCTION

Domestic animals, the ancestral partners of humans, have a prominent place within the human family; so much so that in most cases they have been considered as one more child. They fill the void caused by loneliness, take the place of the ideal partner, allow to express motherhood or not concretised paternity and undoubtedly are unconditional friends, who always listen to us. They are also always willing to be a projection of our image, blending with how we are in order to meet the need for us humans to identify with our "possessions".

Over the years, during consultation, we have noticed that companion animals have become something like an "EXTERNAL ORGAN OF SOMATISATION". They absorb the negative or positive emotions of the family nucleus as a sponge would and somatise according to their IDIOSYNCRASIES. Also, in a lower percentage, pets suffer similar or equal conditions to those of the humans, with whom they live.

The only son or one more son

From birth to old age, dogs and cats have different degrees of dependence, submission, mimicry and obedience, among other features, which are also found in human beings; but in us, at a certain age, a separation from the family nucleus occurs, when every individual reaches its independence and no longer behaves like a son. With our animal partners, dependence is permanent; they become eternal children, who are always in need of our care for their livelihood, making us their GUARDIANS ALL THEIR LIFE.

The eternal child is like a sponge, it is a major recipient of all the emotions and energies that are in the family; thus, requiring further studies within the family and in relation to it. We cannot separate our patient from the context, in which it lives, since this would implicate only seeing part of the problem, turning away from the various factors (holistic concept) that true medicine must contemplate. In our opinion, to understand the profound suffering of each individual or particular patient, it is preferable to make a consultation in the house, where the animal lives by performing a systemic evaluation and involve all family members in the disease process that affects our non-human companion.

Key words: Somatisation , Electromagnetic fields , Family system , Conflict.

Objective: to demonstrate the important role that the entire human family, which lives with the animal patient, plays in the health of the canine or feline.

Method: study the phenomenon from different perspectives to reach a better understanding.

Family nucleus: Within the family, it is common to find among its members or ELEMENTS, troubled and pathological relationships infused with negative emotions, such as anger, anxiety, nervousness, fear, phobias and aggression, resulting in an atmosphere of tension and daily stress.

Families function as a SYSTEM, where each person interacts and relates closely with each other. **When an element within this closed system gets out of balance, it changes, therefore generating a change of role in the others.** In many occasions, this new role adopted by the second element, shows the lack of harmony in the family. In some situations, this modification of roles causes someone to absorb the family pathology, becoming the "VALVE" or the **SYMPTOM**, where the common problem of **all the members is reflected.**

We have observed in some families that the animal is an exit "VALVE" of the emotions that their guardians are unconscious of. Our animal companions are totally vulnerable and without the necessary tools to defend themselves and **they quickly absorb emotions and as a result they become victims of family conflicts.** In this essay we mention the case of a client, who suffered a nervous breakdown at home. She lived alone with her cat, who witnessed the

manifestation of anger, nervousness and other negative emotions caused by having spent all morning trying to collect some of the money that was caught in the financial "Corralito" (playground; Ed). At the end, **the cat began to convulse** for "no apparent reason" and the owner was very scared, because the cat had never before presented this symptom.

A similar case occurred with a dog, who lived with a family during December the 20th, 2001, the day of the national "Cacerolazo" (public protest, where people bang pots and pans together to attract attention; Ed), where all members came to participate in the rally and returned home infuriated. The same day the dog had its first convulsion. Since then the dog had been given anticonvulsants medication but he still had an attack once a month. However, when his guardians went on vacation and left him with the grandmother, he was cheerful and did not convulse.

These cases clearly show the close interaction between humans and companion animals.

Which is the External Organ of Somatization?

It is the element of the system, which takes the place of the "**VALVE-SYMP TOM**," and expresses the family's pathology or the pathology of the single person, which with it lives. In other words, it takes the weight of emotions or conflicts of others and **SOMATISES** them.

If our patient lives with a guardian in a good state of mind, he will only absorb the emotional and energetic imbalance. On the other hand, if it has close contact with a person, who has a particular pathology, e.g. cancer, depression or neurotic symptoms, the patient will likely present similar symptoms and it is even possible that it could mimic the guardian's illness and end up with the same disease. In fact, we have seen this occur in different occasions.

Possible explanations for this phenomenon

1. From the HOMEOPATHIC perspective

PRESERVATION miasma:

Miasmatic impregnation is the immaterial or energetic contagion of a particular pathological state. It is Dr. Kent, who in his work titled "Homoeopathic Philosophy and Minor Writings" suggests the possibility of syphilis and gonorrhoea contagion between spouses without the presence of any infective lesions. How can we explain Dr. Kent's observation in the light of current knowledge? What is it that is transmitted, if the corresponding germs are not present in the lesions?

A personal observation: It is not surprising to find resemblances in the way of walking, the gestures, tone of voice or even attitudes found in couples after having shared a lifetime together and even in some cases they could get the same, not contagious, diseases. Would this be an energetic impregnation that is manifested from the subtlest, (tone of voice), to the deepest, such as an organic symptom?

Currently, quantum physics talks about quantum or personal field, surely from this point of view it could be better explained.

2. From the PSYCHOLOGICAL perspective

Emotional impregnation:

By incorporating a pet into the home, it is away from nature and is brought into the middle of the great concrete jungle. Our patient get out of context, when it is forced to live in apartments or houses, where it is not able to express the specific needs of its species, thus causing unavoidable dependency on his guardian and behaving approximately as a 3 year old for all its life. If we consider dogs and cats as another child or the only child of the family, we begin to find characteristics similar to those of humans; such as attachment, dependency, obedience,

identification, imitation, etc., which help in the coexistence of people with their pet partner and allowing the rules or guidelines of the family to be carried out.

Psychology has meticulously studied **the relationship between mother and son**; some currents promote the existence of a strong emotional fusion between mother and son, which gets dissolved as years pass by causing a deep fissure, when the child is 3 years old.

When the patient experiences this emotional fusion, everything that the mother is unconscious about or is unable to take care of, is experienced or acted out by the child; thus, **absorbing the unconscious of the mother**, the companion animal or eternal child also takes on the emotions of its guardian permanently.

The mirror phenomenon, which reflects our SHADOW, is exposed: the other experiences the emotions that, without having the necessary tools to metabolize them, he could somatise them. This is clearly shown, when a mother is sad and tries to hide it, but her baby will not stop moaning, crying or he ends up getting sick; the child cries for her and somatises the symptoms.

3. From VETERINARY MEDICINE perspective

Observations from veterinarian Richard Pitcairn's book *Natural Health for Dogs and Cats*.

Chapter 10. MIRRORS: PSYCHE AND HEALTH. Dr. Pitcairn analyses some cases, where no treatment was successful; for this reason, he began to suspect the possible influence of psychological attitudes of people in the health of their dogs and cats.

- a) **Dogs and cats have the same health problems as their guardians.** Dogs scratch themselves, when their guardians do; a fat dog has an obese partner or other animals are more idiosyncratic, as it is the case of the cat that suffered a circulatory problem similar to the one that his guardian had. The dog started coughing inexplicably soon after his guardian suffered an asthma attack. Another case can show the same conclusion: a dog had a serious sinus infection and his owner coincidentally suffered the same nasal problem.
- b) **Animals who get precisely the disease that their owners feared them to get.** In this case the animal seems to replicate the patterns or beliefs of its guardian. A client had a history of his dogs and cats suffering of kidney failure. He feared that his dog might suffer from the same problem and once again later on, what he feared occurred and his dog was dying of kidney failure. We may ask, telepathy?
- c) **Animals whose problem is aggravated by emotional conflicts or tensions arising between family members.** Dogs and cats can be very sensitive to the conflicts that arise within the family, not realising that they have nothing to do with the problem. In the book *What the animals tell me*, B. Lydecker cites a case of a dachshund that nipped and scratched herself, whenever her guardians had a dispute and felt frustrated by the abandonment. When the couple realised the situation, they took the appropriate measures and as a result, the chronic itchy skin conditions disappeared.

4. From the BIOLOGICAL perspective.

Rupert Sheldrake, in his book entitled *Dogs That Know When Their Owners Are Coming Home*, showed several cases the telepathic connection between the guards and their dogs.

5. From BIOPHYSICAL perspective:

Dr. Paul Pearsall, outlined in the book entitled *The Heart's Code*, the existence of an important electromagnetic field caused by the activity of the heart and Ricardo Garcia Molina talks about the interaction within human fields and between humans-animals fields.

Affinities man/animal

How can we explain the numerous examples of animals, in which their human partner's mental and physical health is reflected? Is it a coincidence or is there something else?

If we want to comprehend this phenomenon, we should know the bonds between the person and the animal. For this, the world is limited to the family and perhaps a few dogs, cats and neighbourhood children. By forming dependency ties, called by biologists "imprinting effects", our animal companion becomes an individual highly susceptible to everything around him.

Conclusions

To approach the truth, we must always take into account the multiplicity of factors involved or at stake. Veterinarians need to know not only internal medicine of our patients and all pathologies associated with them, but also the FAMILY NUCLEUS in which they develop. We must remember that each family member is an ELEMENT OF THE SYSTEM including the dog or cat; thus, sometimes being the case that the cause of the disease affecting our learning partner is the family nucleus.

Recommendations

- Recognizing the influence of family nucleus in the health of companion animals and take appropriate measures to promote the harmony of all its members.
- To conscientiously perform the homeopathic consultation because this is a holistic approach. This concept of TOTALITY, involves not only the organism but also the factors, which surround it.

Homeopathy can restore the energetic, emotional and physical imbalance in both humans and companion animals. Sometimes the Simillimum remedy of the guardian can be the same that cures the pathology of our traveling companion.

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