

ing with love, including the risks of merging, submission, and the hostility that lies below its surface. Her chapter on self-surrender is particularly strong, especially in its insightful discussion of the type of surrender to love which enhances the self, versus the type which masochistically degrades it, and the dynamics of autonomy, dependency, and narcissism which underlie neurotic problems of this type. These dynamics lead her naturally into a chapter on the power in love. Here she covers the precariousness and the subtle but inevitable teeter-totter of power that exists in seduction, possession, idealization, caretaking, and other elements of the love relationship. She also helps the reader to see how traces of guilt, coercion, sadism, and contempt can tip these elements towards the pathologic.

In Chapter 9, "Triangles," the classical Oedipal situation serves as a launching point for an innovative exploration of other triangular arrangements in couples. Distinguishing "rivalrous triangles," in which one competes for the lover, from "split object triangles," in which one divides one's attention between two love objects, Dr. Person deftly shows how defensive moves such as arranging to be desired by two rivals rather than competing with a rival for another can be seen in our love stories. Chapter 11, entitled "Modes of Self-Realization," also provides a wealth of innovative psychoanalytic ideas, many departing from classical theory, to help the reader understand such commonalities as a woman's relatively greater fear of rejection in love. Here the clinical reader will be particularly helped by insights into possible patient dynamics.

Reprinted essentially without modification, this is not the right book for those seeking a contemporary update in gender studies or biological research on sexuality. A few statements, such as "the quest for an ideal love relationship...is the only quest readily available to most women except for motherhood," may seem anachronistic to the modern reader. But, as a clinician who struggled alongside her female patients as their desires for a committed relationship were met by male flight, despite advances in feminism, and as someone who recognizes with Dr. Person the importance of "the passionate quest as...the central theme of our lives," I know of no more encyclopedic or enriching entry into this field.

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Cyber Bullying: Bullying in the Digital Age, by Robin M. Kowalski, Ph.D., Susan P. Limber, Ph.D., and Patricia W. Agaston, Ph.D. Malden, Mass., Blackwell, 2008, 224 pp., \$79.95.

Cyber Bullying is a useful introduction to the growing problem of electronic harassment among children. The first half of the book describes both traditional and cyber bullying. The second half contains a practical guide for parents and educators that offers specific suggestions for preventing bullying. Traditional bullying is defined as intentional, repetitive, and aggressive behavior perpetrated by a more powerful individual against someone weaker. The authors note that traditional bullying occurs mainly in schools and that the public has become more aware of its occurrence since the killings at Columbine High School. The authors describe the age, gen-

der and racial demographics of bullying. Children are more likely to be bullied in elementary and middle school and more likely to bully others during early and mid-adolescence. Boys tend to engage in direct physical bullying, while girls express their aggression indirectly through rumors and sexually disparaging comments. The authors also profile both the perpetrators and victims of bullying, noting that victims often report debilitating symptoms including depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation, poor concentration, a sense of helplessness, and low self-esteem.

Cyber bullying is defined as "bullying through the use of technology such as the Internet and cellular phones." The authors describe the different types of cyber bullying, the profiles and motivations of children who cyber bully, and the communication modalities they use to harass victims, including instant messaging, e-mail, text messaging, social networking sites, chat rooms, and blogs. The most notable finding is that girls cyber bully more than boys. The authors (and others) have suggested that anonymity—like that found on the Internet—produces disinhibition, which can lead people to be more aggressive than they normally would be if they were confronting their victims in person (1). The chapter on cyber bullying research reviews a number of survey studies but adds little additional useful information. The authors fail to adequately summarize and analyze the data from the various studies, many of which appear on Internet web sites rather than in peer-reviewed journals. The few tables of data are uninformative and presented without statistical analysis. It is difficult to estimate the prevalence of cyber bullying from the data in the book, but others have estimated that 9%–34% of adolescents are victims of bullying and 4%–21% of adolescents are perpetrators (2).

The chapters providing advice to parents and educators are quite helpful. They discuss options for preventing bullying, including recommendations on when to seek legal aid, how to intervene in the bullying process, how to teach children to protect themselves, and similar issues. In that sense, the book is far more effective as a practical manual for the lay public than a scholarly treatise.

One of the authors' main points is that cyber bullying is simply an electronic version of traditional bullying rather than a separate phenomenon. Yet, it differs from traditional bullying in several ways, some of which have been noted by the authors and other investigators (3). First, cyber bullies are not necessarily more powerful than their victims; they simply hide behind the anonymity of the Internet. Second, their aggressive behavior does not need to be repetitive to have the desired effect. A single posting of derogatory information about a victim on a web site is sufficient to repeatedly injure that individual, because the information is widely disseminated. Third, in cyber bullying the communication is usually in writing and transmitted in one direction, from aggressor to victim. Finally, the participants are physically separated and the communication is often delayed, rather than live or in "real time," as it is in traditional bullying. These differences mean that aggressors do not receive verbal or nonverbal communications from their victims that might moderate their aggressive behavior. It also means that many victims feel helpless to respond to cyber bullying because they cannot identify and adequately respond to their attacker.

In sum, there is a significant restriction in the type, amount, direction, and timeliness of information exchanged in cyber versus traditional bullying. This suggests that cyber bullying is a separate phenomenon that has more in common with the electronic harassment seen in sectors of society beyond schools than with traditional bullying (4).

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