

Caution!

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The Perverse Triangle as a Recursive Pattern in DVNLP

Thies Stahl, first published on 12.06.2015, update on 17.01.2020¹

For a better understanding of the conflict in DVNLP, I propose here the application of an analysis or description model that has proven itself in systemic therapy: A recursive pattern that is a co-constituting factor of the DVNLP causa can be described as a formation of "perverse triangles" that is repeated on different system levels in DVNLP.

The term "recursive pattern" is used in supervision, among other things. There he describes the not uncommon phenomenon that the dynamics of interactions and relationships that the client has made the subject of therapy are repeated between client and therapist, and then again in the interaction between therapist and supervisor - and sometimes also in the dynamics of the group in which the supervision takes place, or even in the relationship system of the supervisor, e.g. in the interactions with his colleagues or his partner.

A "perverse triangle" (according to Jay Haley) is constituted by a hidden violation of the hierarchy or generational boundaries within the frame of reference. Such a border violation occurs when a member of a higher level of status, generation or hierarchy secretly allies himself with a member of a lower level against a person at the same or lower levels. Perverse triangles are often characterized by power and/or sexual abuse (e.g. in incestuous systems).

The handling of the issue of abuse within the association, which is² traced in the chronology of the "Causa DVNLP", can be described as a repeated application of exactly the type of procedure to correct a situation which initially led to its need for

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² Since the DVNLP in an official statement on 26.09.2014 misleadingly and defamatory spoke of a "Causa Thies Stahl und ... (name of the participant concerned, the complainant in the association)", I rightfully speak of a "Causa DVNLP". It is well documented in *Causa DVNLP - the chronology*.

correction - whereby the interaction structure and dynamics of this procedure has all the characteristics of a perverse triangle.

In the "Causa DVNLP" the situation, which originally had to be corrected in the association, is given by the ethically questionable, since hidden relationship of an assistant (11.04.2018: later anonymized with XY) to a participant in a master course of Thies Stahl. Its concealment of its power-asymmetrical relationship from the trainer is, as a hidden violation of the hierarchical boundary between the subsystem leadership level of the group, leader/assistant and the subsystem participants, a perverse triangle in the Haley sense.

In this particular case there were many perverse triangles within this group. XY allied herself alternately, but always undercover, with the participant in question and with other participants in conflict with her. There were as many perverse triangles in said master group as there were questionable hidden interactions, transactions and activities of assistant XY in the background of the group in which she was involved in the role of a whore and XY and other students in different, complementary or otherwise related roles according to the reports of the participant concerned. The participant reports that these activities were partly consensual and to her benefit, but mostly directed against her and to her detriment.

The multiple border violations, maintained over a whole year through concealment, deception and lies, led to a situation in this master group in which the options of the course leader with regard to the leadership of the group and the promotion of individual group members were enormously limited. In particular for the participant who was involved in the power-asymmetrical relationship with assistant XY, the possibilities of profiting from the course were enormously limited, as she was unable to talk about her difficult situation in the group - which is not unusual in abuse situations, but in this case all the more true due to a special threat situation in her life. Thies Stahl has already publicly apologized to her for not having noticed this, as well as for the misconduct of his assistant XY.

As a result of his multiple border crossings, Master Assistant XY was simultaneously an assistant to the course leader with above-average power and a "perfectly normal" course participant, who lived out his life and talked about his topics in the informal area of the group, at the level of the participants, and then kept silent about them just as participants rightly do not necessarily want to have made informal private events of the previous evening the subject of the seminar the next day or discuss them openly.

In perverse triangles, all participants lose options. Just like the participant, assistant XY could not speak openly with the leader or in front of the group about his entangled situation in the group and his own issues. Within perverse triangles there is no supervision and no correction - and thus no healing - for those involved in the triangle in question. (This is probably also true for the perverse triangle created by this power-asymmetrical relationship, because according to the report of his psychotherapist, XY had to undergo psychotherapeutic treatment as part of her health insurance license because of "serious depressive decompensation triggered by this relationship")(11.04.)(11.04.)2018: Meant is Cora Besser-Siegmund, who

obviously could not correct XY in her therapy with him, but fought in the common association on his side against the complainant and me - compare *"My beautiful delinquent German Association! DVNLP completes perpetrator-victim-reversion"* and *"DVNLP + GNLC hide suspected sex offender" :-)*

Who or what could have corrected the Perverse Triangles?

For a perverted triangle, a healing correction can only come from the outside and only from a higher system level. A damaging situation in a DVNLP-certified seminar resulting from ethically questionable behavior can only be corrected by the higher DVNLP system level, the executive board. In such a case, the latter has the task of providing a mediating or conciliatory context in which a peaceful settlement is possible. This can be done either by

- forwarding the complaints to the conciliation commission or the appointment and authorization of a professional mediator from outside the association
- a transfer of the decisions necessary for correction to the MA as the sovereign of the Association
- the decision of the Executive Board to take responsibility itself and to make itself available as this mediating and mediating context.

These three paths would correspond to a "healthy" order within the DVNLP (by the way, Bert Hellinger based his concept of order on Haley's concept of the "perverse triangle"). The board of directors did not choose any of these ways to correct or cure this situation, which then continued to have a "pathogenic" effect in the association (as the DVNLP case shows) of the then master course. Instead, it did not handle and forward the corresponding requests for referral to the arbitration commission and the total of eleven of eight members' requests to the general meeting for the establishment of an investigative committee in accordance with the statutes, but blocked, suppressed and concealed them from the association members. Thus, he neither delegated the responsibility for a pacifying balance and a healing correction to the responsible association bodies, nor did he assume it himself through his own mediation attempt.

This omission on the part of the executive board formed the framework for the emergence of further perverse triangles in the DVNLP. Of the most comprehensive of these, he himself has become a part. We turn to this one first, since it was the first to emerge and, as a superior frame or meta-triangle, enabled the other perverse triangles in the association to emerge and survive.

Biased Board at the Center of all Perverse Triangles

The perverse triangle involving the executive committee emerged during its increasing loss of neutrality towards the conflicting parties from the master course, as documented in the chronology of the "Causa DVNLP". It was formed in the process of this loss and as a result of it: A "loss of neutrality of the board of directors", which manifests itself in action and non-action with regard to disputing association members, is identical with an "unacknowledged formation of a coalition

with one of the lower-ranking conflict parties", i.e. with "entangled in a perverse triangle".

The (now recursive) pattern in the DVNLP is repeated in a "perverted triangle", which is embedded in this perverted triangle involving the board of directors and which has been hidden from the public of the MV by the latter and by those involved at great expense. It consists of a coalition formation across several hierarchical boundaries: In an uncanny alliance hidden with the help of the board, the member of the DNLP's training and further education commission, Martina Schmidt-Tanger, and another very well-known DVNLP member, Y. (11.04.2018: Cora Besser-Siegmund), with the participants and the assistant of the master group of Thies Stahl (11.04.2018: ... and the DVNLP instructor of the trainer training of XY and the complainant, the certificate cheat Stephan Landsiedel). These two former Thies Stahl students secretly passed on to assistant XY collegial, friendly and confidential emails from Thies Stahl so that he could use them in his legal proceedings against Thies Stahl.

The then assistant and today's teaching trainer XY presents himself before the Hamburg Regional Court, just as he did before the DVNLP, as a person unjustly accused by the master's student in question and by Thies Stahl³. The court has not yet decided whether it will uphold its claim that Thies Stahl has made the accusations made against him by the master's student her own - or whether it will confirm Thies Stahl's claim that, as her responsible trainer, honorary member, founding board member and senior authority of the DVNLP, she has naturally stood up for the rights of her former student.

Already in summer 2013 the DVNLP chairman Jens Tomas had in a conversation 'among men' the statement of the assistant XY, "it was amicable" as an excuse. In the arrogance of the public prosecutor's office and the court's expert opinion, he then publicly questioned the credibility of the master's student in question and claimed that Thies Stahl had "*made the accusations her own*".⁴

AFK member Martina Schmidt-Tanger and DVNLP member Cora Besser-Siegmund. (11.04.2018: she could not be named in 2015, because she has not yet been appointed DVNLP honorary member, so she had no function in the association.) are trying, in a secret coalition with the participants and the assistant XY of the Master, to obtain confirmation of the biased view of the Chairman of the Board from the Hamburg court and thus to silence Thies Stahl on the subject of "abuse in the DVNLP" and to make the Master participant concerned, who was also a training graduate of AFK member Martina Schmidt-Tanger, appear to be untrustworthy (according to an official statement by the DVNLP, there would have been no abuse in the association after all). This grubby action "in the back room of the Hamburg court" took place with the mediation and assistance of Petra P., the spokeswoman of the

³ See legal facts of the "Causa DVNLP".

⁴ In partial agreement with the position of the said assistant XY in court

DVNLP regional group for Schleswig-Holstein/Hamburg, who was herself involved in the master conflict, and with whom the chairman of the board, Dr. jur. Jens Tomas, had already formed a coalition in one of the other perverse triangles of the DVNLP case when he made their accusations against Thies Stahl and her master-conflict partner, the complainant, his own without examination.

In this perverse triangle involving the Hamburg court, several boundaries given by differences in status/rank/hierarchy are violated, namely those given by differences in

- Association functions important for the power hierarchy ("longstanding, influential AFK member who has a say in decisions on the course trainer applications of the participant and the course attendant" *versus* "normal DVNLP members without office", or "Spokeswoman of the DVNLP regional group SH/HH" *versus* "as untrustworthily labelled member or as honorary member labelled as "senile-blinded"") (11.04.2018: Means here Martina Schmidt-Tanger vs. Petra P. and the master participant, who together with both lied to the manipulated and deceived 2014 general meeting)
- Celebrity and awareness ("Developer and trainer of one of the Wing-Wave approaches complementing NLP - 11.04.2018: Cora Besser-Siegmund - who trained and continues to train assistant XY" *versus* "normal NLP users")
- the duration of membership in the NLP field ("for 36 years" *versus* "for 16 years") (11.04.2018: here Cora Besser-Siegmund vs. XY)
- the duration of membership of the DVNLP ("since its foundation and longer" *versus* "new member")(11.04.2018: here, Martina Schmidt-Tanger and Cora Besser-Siegmund vs. complainant)
- the nature of the relationship between them ("have worked together as colleagues for 20 years" *versus* "are former participants") (11.04.2018: here, Martina Schmidt-Tanger and Thies Stahl vs. complainant)
- the duration of the alumni relationship ("Alumni for 36 years" *versus* "Alumni for 16 or 3 years"). (11.04.2018: Means here Cora Besser-Siegmund vs. XY and complainant)

In the Causa DVNLP Chronology there are more perverse triangles, including this one:

- The DVNLP chairman and "NLP-professional" trainer Dr. jur. Jens Tomas is forming a coalition with the DVNLP and AFK member, the "NLP-professional" owner Martina Schmidt-Tanger, as well as the DVNLP member and "NLP-professional" trainer SM secretly and hidden from the MV public against the DVNLP member Thies Stahl and said master participant, a graduate of their joint coaching training certified by Martina Schmidt-Tanger and Thies Stahl.
- The DVNLP executive committee tried to form a coalition with Thies Stahl against the master participant in a perverse triangle when he invited him (in 2014 in Göttingen) to a crisis meeting with the executive committee and explicitly invited

her out, under threat of violence. It would have been the first conversation of one of the competent bodies of the association with her.

- This pattern was repeated in the explicit refusal of the Conciliation Commission, which was called in in March 2015, to include the complainant in the discussion to be held. (This organ of the association would probably have given honorary member Thies Stahl a chance to stay in the association if he had renounced to help the already excluded master participant to her right). Perverse triangles have the property of multiplying: Thies Stahl was put in the position to, for his part, as a DVNLP member, form a coalition with the corresponding DVNLP members, who are also high-ranking DVNLP members in the association, pervertedly against his former master participant, the lower-ranking member).
- On the occasion of the DVNLP event Future-Tools 2014 in Göttingen, the Board of Directors forms a coalition with the complainant's conflicting parties, who it allows to participate in the Derks Workshop, while inviting the latter under threat of violence. (11.04.2014: ...instead of inviting both parties to the conflict - or allowing and imposing on both to go there).
- A 2000-fold perverted board triangle represents its call to all DVNLP members, sent by e-mail, to take legal action against the members Thies Stahl and the respective master participant.

The recursive pattern of perverse triangle apparently also affects DVNLP employees.

- Thus, in its efforts to discredit Thies Stahl, the executive board is forming a coalition with the maintainer of the official Wikipedia page of the DVNLP, the Wikipedia user "halligoland". He manipulated both the "DVNLP" and the "Thies Stahl" page on Wikipedia - damaging Thies Stahl's reputation, but congruent with the politics of the board of directors towards this unwelcome member. Depressing indications suggest that it is an employee of the DVNLP office, which the association has not yet denied.
- Furthermore, the board of directors is forming a coalition with employees of the office, who together with Sebastian Mauritz, the "DVNLP Board of Directors for Public Relations" (legally acting as a private person, but appearing under the official name of his association function), operate the official DVNLP Members' Forum: DVNLP members who have fallen out of favour in the association can be prevented there from commenting on defamatory contributions (before they are then completely excluded from the forum) - for which the executive committee then refuses to accept any responsibility for the per association lawyer. (11.04.2018: This association-official fraud can only be read in the chronology)

Perverse Triangles as a Basic Structure of Abuse of Power

If the concept of the "Perverse Triangle" is considered a useful attempt to describe pathologies in systems (such as families, organizations, etc.), it is not possible to describe the pathology of the system as a whole.) and additionally advocates the hypothesis that the secret fraternizations and coalition formations in perverse triangles always also represent a kind of abuse, then the statement, "the DVNLP

board, the DVNLP officials concerned and ultimately also, as sovereign of the DVNLP, the MV deceived by the board, repeat this pattern, tantamount to the statement that the DVNLP board and the DVNLP association are abusing its members. Considered under this perception filter, one could come to the conclusion that the DVNLP board

- abused the four master's students by using them to bring unfair and unilateral charges in the Tribunal-MV against the previously "deported" members, Thies Stahl and the master's student in question (11.04.2018: See *"DVNLP abandoned by all good spirits? Predetermined breaking point fascistoid-totalitarian slips and loss of self-control"* in my blog on ThiesStahl.de) Instead, he should have enabled these master participants to mediate or arbitrate, and thus to resolve their conflicts in a way that is conducive to learning - which would have been good for a communicators' association with a systemic-humanist tradition that also wants to train mediators
- abused the then Master's assistant and today's teaching trainer XY by hiding him from the responsible association bodies and the general meeting and thus, as a coach and trainer, denying him the opportunity to learn a course correction that confronted him until today (and thus of course taking the risk of endangering future participants of DVNLP-certified courses)
- in his questionable handling of her abuse complaints abused the respective master participant - as human sacrifice in the "dance around the golden calf" of good seminar business. Their sacrifice is intended to ward off the danger of an impending scandal, as well as critical questions about the "ethics of power in NLP" and how to deal with the issue of "abuse of power in the DVNLP" that could endanger sales.
- abused all those present at the 2014 GM and thus also all members of the association by manipulating them by disinformation and lies to form a coalition with him against two members of the association.

Perverse triangles typically arise because of difficulties in communication, especially between partners on the same hierarchical level. Its causes and conditions of preservation are communication poverty, secrecy and refusal to communicate - the main characteristics of the "DVNLP cause" and the embarrassing and amateurish way in which the DVNLP communicators' association has dealt with two of its members, the master participant concerned and one member (me), who stood up for her rights.