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## **LA CONSULENZA PSICOLOGICA PER I MINORI**

**Carocci, Roma, 2002, 109 pp.**

At the moment, psychological consultancy requested by a judge in law suit is acquiring great importance particularly in parental separation cases and child fostering, a intervention about limitation or parent custody suspension and child adoption processes.

Technical consultancy implies necessarily some difficulties, derived from the need of tuning in judge request with the elements of the specific situation. Moreover parents become trial parts and live the expert assessment as “a judgemental and not a helpful situation” and consequently tend to have a good appearance, to hide negative aspect which could damage final judgment. The extreme parents need of being positively valued influences minor's behaviour towards the expert, seen as a threat which he has to hold out against. Consultancy's aim are, according to the author: to protect minor's integrity (his right to have a family is subdued by his personality needs), to value parent's educative role, where for parent competency Dell'Antonio means “parents are competent when further than manifesting affection and care to their son, favouring his interest, attitudes, autonomy and take a relationship dialogue based with him, giving emphasis on active family involvement, also with a critical approach, individuating and promoting family resources or removing obstacles.

The book deepens inquiry tecnics more adapt for consultancy, with an eye on the aspect of relation between expert and parents during the assessment, besides the interpersonal relation with the minor during the consultancy, to comprehend his tie with parents, necessary for a diagnostic exhaustive formulation and future intervention.

What happens at the end of the consultancy draws the attention, in fact parents and minor have not to be chained within a diagnosis, but it's necessary for them to describe the psychological situation and minor's resources. Other problems linked with consultancy end are: the possibility that expert's report to be exploited by parties concerned, so this report must be very clear; the presence of part consulent during the assessment with the minor is important to create a more relaxed atmosphere; difficulties in new assessment modality application, introduced in 2001 adoption reform.

In the end, the expert must “contribute in underlining conditions for minor's care and emphasizing resources and obstacles in social and family context.

The book presented here shows, sintetically but exhaustively, the expert's role. The lector will find here an interesting guide for a correct analysis about psychological consultancy and comprehension of adults and children behaviour in these context.

The actuality of this subject gives passionate the opportunity to know more about it.