PERFORMANCE OF DEVELOPMENTAL TASKS BY ADOLESCENTS FROM FAMILIES WITH AN ALCOHOL PROBLEM

SUMMARY

The main of the presental study was to find out whether and how the adolescents attitudes toward their developmental tasks are affected by bringing up in the family with the alcohol problem (i.e. in the family in which one of parents is addicted to alcohol). A description of such an effect may be useful for a more general analysis of socializing functions of the family with the alcohol problems as compared to non-clinical families.

Adolescents aged 12-17 from families with the alcohol problem ("Al" group) and from non-clinical families ("K" group) rated 5 developmental tasks typical of this period on the following dimentions: – present level of the task fulfilment; – urgency of striving for its fulfilment; – parental support obtained in performance of each task. Moreover, mother and father of the subjects assessed the present level of the same tasks accomplishment, and of their support given to the child in these tasks performance.

Group "Al" adolescents, as compared to group "K", were found to rate lower: /1/ their present fulfilment level of the "Independence" task; /2/ urgency of their striving for fulfilment of the "Independence" and "Future" tasks, with the similar tendency in respect of the remaining tasks; /3/ parental support obtained in their performance of such tasks as "Peers" and "Independence", with a similar tendency in respect of the remaining tasks.

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