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Autore	Molnos Angela
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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Table of Contents; Acknowledgements; Abbreviations; Preface; Foreword; Introduction; Part One: The Psychological and Social Impact of a Virus; 1. The Reversal of Meanings, Values and Attitudes; The Sinister Features of the Retrovirus Called HIV; The Language around HIV/AIDS and Semantic Distortions; Values and Attitudes; 2. Anxieties and Emotions of Individuals Affected by HIV/ARC/AIDS; Before the HIV Test Result; HIV -Positive Test Result; The Appearance of ARC; Diagnosis: AIDS; 3. The Relevance of Group Analysis; The AIDS Crisis and Group Analysis; Theoretical Assumptions The Practice of Group-Analytic PsychotherapyApplication to Staff Support Groups; 4. Healing Power and Destructive Power of Groups; Part Two: Group Responses to the AIDS Crisis: Experiences from a Workshop; 5. From the First Idea to the Final Format; The Aims of the Workshop; The First Ideas; The Way in; Towards the Final Format; 6. Participants, Staff and the Spirit of the Workshop; 7. The Four Talks; Introductory Talk; 'The Power of Groups'; 'Reactions in and Around a Hospital's AIDS Team'; 'The AIDS Crisis and Society at Large'; 8. The Unspeakable Emerges from the non-Fishbowl

The Bridge between the Small Groups and the Workshop as a Whole
The Conductor's Personal Account; The non-Fishbowl Seen by a Participant;
Other Participants' Responses; Group-Analytic Considerations; 9. What
Happened Behind Seven Closed Doors?; Composition of the Small
Groups; The Nature of the Reports; Reports by Group Members and
Conductors; A Group-Analytic Overview of the Seven Groups; 10.
Facing the Darkness in the Last Plenary Session; Summary; Extracts; 11.
The Participants' Evaluation of the Workshop; Positive Aspects of the
Workshop; Negative Aspects of the Workshop
12. Lessons Derived from the Workshop
13. Recommendations; Part
Three: Looking Towards the Future; 14. Strange Phenomena; 15.
Group-Analytic and Other Group Work in a World that Lives With AIDS;
We are All Involved; Group Versus Secrecy and Isolation; Groups for the
Carers: sharing the Uncertainties; Support Group for Health Advisers at
the Praed Street Clinic; The Use of Non-Group-Analytic Techniques;
The Group-Analytic Thread; Postscript; Appendices; Ia: Leaflet; Ib:
Registration Form; II: Members of Staff and Speakers; III: Group
Conductors' Meeting; IV: Programme for Staff
V: Programme for Participants
VI: Evaluation Form; References and
Bibliography; Index; Back Cover

Sommario/riassunto

As a group analyst concerned with social and psychological issues, the author brings a unique perspective to bear on the problems raised, both for society and the individual, by the confusion and prejudice surrounding HIV infection and the AIDS epidemic. Recognizing that these problems can vitiate even the most enlightened health care policies, she draws on her experience gained by working in several countries to put the case for the application of group analysis, through the organization of staff support groups, to those directly concerned with policy implementation: The carers themselves. In the first part of her book the author demonstrates how, if unchecked, conscious and unconscious prejudice can promote destructive tendencies within groups involved with HIV and AIDS patients. The second part recounts the author's experiences, and insights gained, during the course of a workshop convened in London in December 1987. The third and final section puts forward the case for applying group analysis to health services in the HIV/AIDS sphere.
