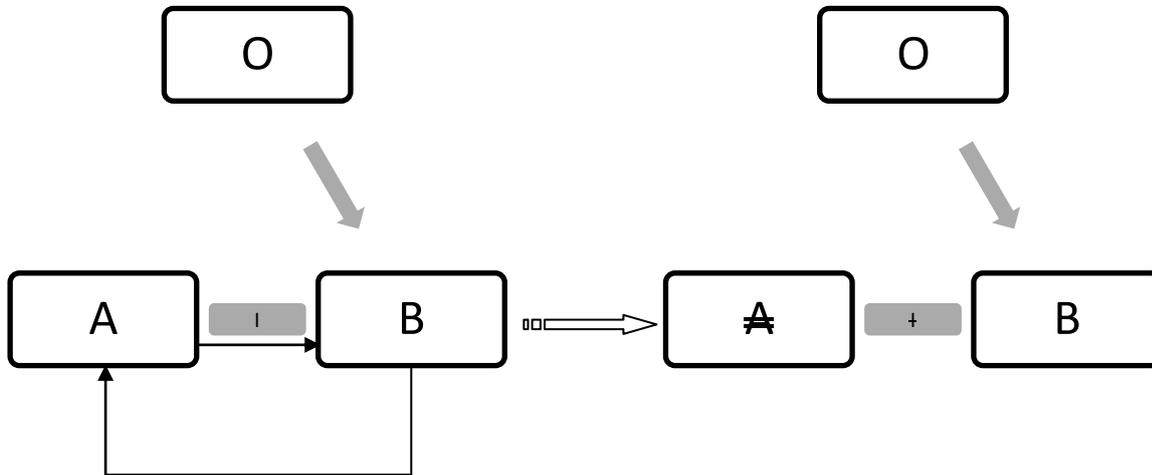


WHEN LOVE TURNS TO HATE

THREE TYPES OF THE SCAPEGOAT MECHANISM

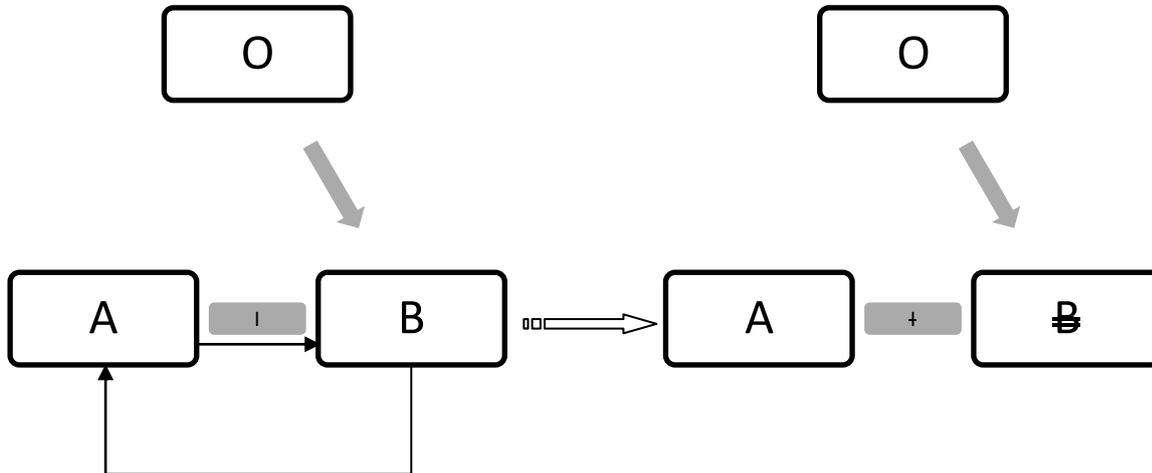
SCAPEGOAT MECHANISM – TYPE 1 (SMT1): AUTO-AGGRESSION



- 1) Because of mimetic (i.e. imitative) ability, a person A is able to imagine being a person B (to *imitate* the other is to *pretend* that you are the other).
 - Note: "person" could refer to an individual or a collective entity.
- 2) Person A compares himself or herself with person B (sign for comparing: |).
- 3) Person B seems to have something that A seems to lack, namely recognition by O (signified by the thick downward arrow).
- 4) Because A compares with B, recognition by O becomes A's object of desire (this dynamic is signified by the thin arrows).
- 5) If A does not obtain the object of desire, envious tendencies and frustrations arise.
- 6) Frustrations might become so big that A can no longer stand the difference with B – this is a crisis situation.
- 7) One way for A to avoid confrontation with the difference is to annihilate him/herself (sign for annihilation of A: \bar{A} – sign for erasing confrontation with difference: +).

In short, mimetically ignited *love* – *eros* – for the imagined situation of the other leads to *hate* towards one's own life and the life of the other (or, which is the same, love for a so-called acceptable self-*image*) – a *crisis* of identity and social order. Person A tries to resolve the crisis that arises out of a comparison with person B by sacrificing him/herself – *thanatos*! Instead of dealing with the true source of tensions and frustrations, namely the actual comparison, A becomes hostile towards his or her own situation and is no longer capable of living with it. A's own life becomes the main stumbling block to A (apart from B's life). Therefore, the scapegoat whose sacrifice seems necessary to release or resolve the crisis in A's life can be A itself, in acts of auto-aggression (violence towards oneself). Auto-aggression is a first type of scapegoat mechanism that tries to create a peaceful situation after a confrontation with an inter- and intrapersonal and social crisis resulting from mimetic interaction. As an act of violence, it is an inconsistent attempt to contain violence. Note: A's desire for recognition runs parallel to A's desire to obtain B's position.

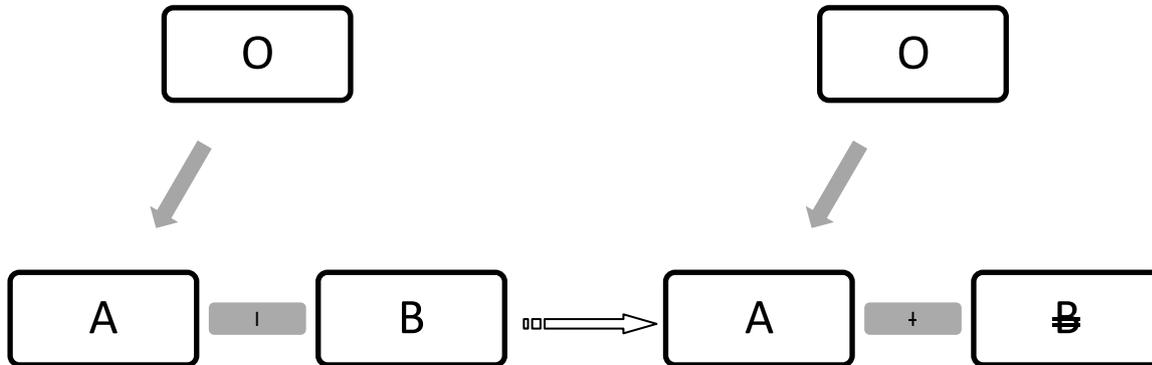
SCAPEGOAT MECHANISM – TYPE 2 (SMT2): HETERO-AGGRESSION



- 1) Because of mimetic (i.e. imitative) ability, a person A is able to imagine being a person B (to *imitate* the other is to *pretend* that you are the other).
– Note: "person" could refer to an individual or a collective entity.
- 2) Person A compares himself or herself with person B (sign for comparing: |).
- 3) Person B seems to have something that A seems to lack, namely recognition by O (signified by the thick downward arrow).
- 4) Because A compares with B, recognition by O becomes A's object of desire (this dynamic is signified by the thin arrows).
- 5) If A does not obtain the object of desire, envious tendencies and frustrations arise.
- 6) Frustrations might become so big that A can no longer stand the difference with B – this is a crisis situation.
- 7) One way for A to avoid confrontation with the difference is to annihilate the other, B (sign for annihilation of B: ~~B~~ – sign for erasing confrontation with difference: †).

In short, mimetically ignited *love* – **eros** – for the imagined situation of the other leads to *hate* towards one's own life and the life of the other – a **crisis** of identity and social order. Person A tries to resolve the crisis that arises out of a comparison with person B by sacrificing B – **thanatos!** Instead of dealing with the true source of tensions and frustrations, namely the actual comparison, A becomes hostile towards B's situation and is no longer capable of living with it. B's life becomes the main stumbling block to A (apart from A's own life). Therefore, the scapegoat whose sacrifice seems necessary to release or resolve the crisis in A's life can be B, in acts of hetero-aggression (violence towards others). Hetero-aggression is a second type of scapegoat mechanism that tries to create a peaceful situation after a social crisis. As an act of violence, it is an inconsistent attempt to contain violence. Note: A's desire for recognition runs parallel to A's desire to obtain B's position.

SCAPEGOAT MECHANISM – TYPE 3 (SMT3): RESENTMENT OR SHAME



- 1) Because of mimetic (i.e. imitative) ability, a person A is able to imagine being a person B (to *imitate* the other is to *pretend* that you are the other).
– Note: "person" could refer to an individual or a collective entity.
- 2) Person A compares himself or herself with person B (sign for comparing: |).
- 3) Person A seems to have something that B seems to lack, namely recognition by O (signified by the thick downward arrow).
- 4) Simultaneously, by comparing him/herself with B, A's desire for B's position is instigated.
- 5) If A does not obtain this new object of desire, envious tendencies and frustrations arise.
- 6) Frustrations might become so big that A can no longer stand the difference with B – this is a crisis situation.
- 7) One way for A to avoid confrontation with the difference is to annihilate the other, B (sign for annihilation of B: ~~B~~ – sign for erasing confrontation with difference: †).

RESENTIMENT In short, mimetically ignited *love* – *eros* – for the imagined situation of the other leads to *hate* towards one's own life and the life of the other (or, which is the same, love for a so-called acceptable self-*image*) – a *crisis* of identity and social order. Person A tries to resolve the crisis that arises out of a comparison with person B by sacrificing B – *thanatos*! Instead of dealing with the true source of tensions and frustrations, namely the actual comparison, A becomes hostile towards B's situation and is no longer capable of living with it. B's life becomes the main stumbling block to A (apart from A's own life). Therefore, the scapegoat whose sacrifice seems necessary to release or resolve the crisis in A's life can be B, in acts of hetero-aggression. As an act of violence, this sacrifice is an inconsistent attempt to contain violence. This third type of scapegoat mechanism arises out of resentment – a dynamic that could be characterized as a clash between a desire for recognition and a desire for what a seemingly contemptible other possesses. A is secretly jealous of B's situation but dares not create something similar for fear of being cast out by the social environment whose recognition A has mimetically learned to desire. Another possibility is that A simply cannot obtain B's situation. Therefore A turns B into someone who is despicable and whose situation is undesirable.

| When love turns to hate...

SHAME Instead of being jealous of B's situation, A might also be primarily guided by the fear of becoming a social outcast if A associates with B. A will have the tendency to sacrifice B in order to protect a socially acceptable self-*image*. This sacrifice shows itself in mental or physical acts of hetero-aggression. In short, A will deny affiliation with B at all costs, primarily because A has learned to be ashamed of this affiliation.

Note, in both instances: A's desire for recognition clashes with A's affiliation with B.