

KAREN MORRIS

Torture and Attachment: Conscience and the Analyst's World Seeing Eye

How many more words will you waste, O Sa'adi, on the science of music?
The secrets of the heart are revealed only to the ear of the soul.

-Sa'adi, 13thc

Participation by licensed psychologists in the government sanctioned torture of prisoners and civilian populations in Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo is explored in this comprehensive paper which integrates attachment theory, world history, popular culture, as well as spiritual teachings from 13th- 14th century Persian poetry, through performative and informative language, to evolve the question of conscience as concerns the profession of psychology. The impact of subjective or objective approaches to psychology is explored through psychoanalytic understanding of the unconscious processes of practitioners regarding social, personal, and ethical responsibility.

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