

Geschwister
Frères amis – Frères ennemis

The Sibling Complex and Sibling Attachment: Resolution of Conflict
In Psychoanalytic Institutions

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Psychoanalytic groups – small workgroups, small and large societies, national and international organizations – are versions of families where the archaic, preoedipal and oedipal dynamics illuminated by Rene Kaes exist. To the naïve observer, the emergence of destructive rivalries among psychoanalysts represents a shocking, repetitive, and possibly irresolvable situation. Ethical violations, favoritism, and othering may occur with such force as to discourage both patients and young clinicians to pursue psychoanalysis. The developmental and psychodynamic understanding provided by the sibling complex concept offers the psychoanalytic leader a basis for comprehension of regressive forces and a scaffold for intervention. The concept of sibling attachment may reflect hope for psychoanalytic organizations to become more transparent, functional, and democratic.