

**EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES OF INCESTUOUS FATHERS:
A SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIONIST INVESTIGATION**

by

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I declare that **EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES OF INCESTUOUS FATHERS: A SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIONIST INVESTIGATION** is my own work and that all the sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references.

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to relate the emotions of two fathers regarding their incestuous behaviour.

The epistemological framework is social constructionism. The 'case-study approach' was chosen as the most suitable method to gain access to the information. Qualitative in-depth interviews with the fathers were conducted to collect data about their emotional experiences regarding their incestuous behaviour and Hermeneutics was used as method of data analysis.

The emotional experiences of the participants regarding their incestuous behaviour were reconstructed in the form of prominent themes. Themes that seemed to re-occur in both participants' stories were identified and discussed as common themes. These themes included; ambivalence, powerlessness and guilt.

This study provides a rich understanding of the emotional experiences of incestuous fathers. These experiences seem to be unstated or insufficiently emphasised in the traditional empirical, cause and effect, linear modernist literature.

Key words: Ambivalence; Case study; Constructivism; Criterion-based sampling; Guilt; Hermeneutics; Incest; Modernism; Postmodernism;

Powerlessness; Purposive sampling; Qualitative research; Research methodology; Social constructionism.

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“¹ Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ² Early in the morning he came again to the temple; all the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. ³ The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst ⁴ they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such. What do you say about her?" ⁶ This they said to test him that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. ⁷ And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸ And once more he bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. ⁹ But when they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the eldest, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰ Jesus looked up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" ¹¹ She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and do not sin again." ¹² Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." ¹³ The Pharisees then said to him, "You are bearing witness to yourself; your testimony is not true." ¹⁴ Jesus answered, "Even if I do bear witness to myself, my testimony is true, for I know whence I have come and whither I am going, but you do not know whence I come or whither I am going. ¹⁵ You judge according to the flesh, I judge no one. ”

**John 8: 1-15
(Bible, 1980, p. 1005)**

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