

ABSTRACT

A Qualitative, Phenomenological Study of Psychotherapists' Perception of Ethnic Identity Shifts in Immigrant Patients

by

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This qualitative phenomenological paper investigates ethnic identity shifts in immigrant patients by interviewing nine psychotherapists who work with immigrant patients in New York City. It takes into consideration the privileged and biased perspective of the therapist's subjective experience of their patient's ethnic identity shifts. The study argues that ethnic identity affiliation is relevant and worth investigating during the psychotherapeutic work, as it can shed light on crucial aspects of one's emotions, thoughts and behavior.

Keywords: ethnic identity shifts, subjective reality, immigration, psychotherapy, culture