

IN RELIGION

put the blame on the devil and absolve yourself of guilt. When Luther threw his inkpot at Satan he relieved himself more than if he had pounded himself on the head with it. The Eskimos of Labrador believe that 'each person is attended by a special guardian who is malignant in character, ever ready to seize upon the least occasion to work harm upon the individual whom it accompanies.' The medieval Church had a whole hierarchy of demons to account for the temptation of the evil self. It is a workable device, but a very dangerous one. My young patient will outgrow his devil—he is not abnormal—but he will always have an unconscious stratum of fear in his life."

Along with this unnecessary evil self of childhood, a horde of unnecessary sins are created—disobedience, anger, jealousy, selfishness, self-conceit, pride, vanity, impertinence, and so forth. These sins are expressions of the child's instinct of self-assertion, which is the mainspring of his whole life. Expressions of the countervailing instinct of self-abasement are praised as virtues—humility, unselfishness, obedience, meekness, reverence for his elders and the general feeling of inferiority that comes with a broken mainspring. The child, with his sex instinct also marked as