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Countertransference reactions to psychotherapy group work with HIV positive children

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THEMATIC CHARTS

1. Defences against mourning

1. Keeping a secret (Collusion with denial)	2. Pushing the illness out the room (Denial)	3. Too good a mother (Idealisation)	4. Mlungu holds the wellness (Idealisation)	5.Struggle to make sense of the unfairness	6. Raging	7. Rescuing the child (Omnipotence)	8.Helplessness	9. Despair, Meaninglessness and burnout
Fear and stigma Secrecy and denial Collusion Idealisation White, privileged and HIV negative Disclosure is the abyss Truth is known at another level	Death is everywhere Contamination The dangerous negated mother Pushing the illness out The perfect family	Responsible for the children Too good a mother A space about nice things Feeding the children Mother in the transference	Well and idealised Mlungu abundance White and guilty	Born with a death certificate Difficult to make sense of Cruel and Unfair Injustice of stigma Shadow side of love Existential injustice	Helpless rage Anger at God Something to blame	Saviour fantasies Fantasies of adopting Want to protect child Need to make a difference Child is vulnerable Child needs to elicit love A defence against being overwhelmed Identification with the child Defends against vulnerable child part	Can't do enough Not making a difference	Despair Killing internal devalued child Exhaustion and burnout

THEMATIC CHARTS

2. Engaging with death and dying

1. Containment and holding	2. Relinquishing omnipotence	3. Comfortable with death	4. Finding meaning	5. Children walk their own journey
Tolerating the feelings. Awareness of fusion. Mutual containment. Symbolisation through language.	Not to save Humility Okay that it will never feel right.	Allowing vulnerability. Embracing the unknown. A new conception of strength.	Finding meaning	Strong and resilient. Promoting child's voice. Child's autonomy. Uniqueness of child.