

## Women who suffer for Buddhism

Danger signs that monks, nuns, teachers should watch out for  
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IMPRINTING is when an animal learns to survive by following a suitable object, usually an adult. In FILIAL IMPRINTING, young animals, especially nesting (nidifugous) birds (geese, cranes, ducks), become dependent on their parent/s, and follow them around [Photo 1].

This phenomenon was first noticed by Thomas More in his work, *Utopia* (1516). Nearer our times, Konrad Lorenz, did his now famous studies of goslings [see photo 2].

### Human imprinting

When this is applied to humans, it is called TRANSFERENCE. This is when we feel a profound sense of attraction or faith in a person, we perceive to be holy, ideal, perfect, or powerful, usually this is a monk or nun, since s/he is single, and perceptibly available.

The one who TRANSFERS her (usually it's a woman, but easily happens to a man, too) her emotions (usually love) onto such an authority figure, sees security, love, etc, that she desired but failed to get in childhood. A more intense form of transference usually occurs in a transferer who was abused as a child.

### Lessons from Supergirl

The "transferer" (who transfers her emotions onto a power figure) is usually a very dominant person, like Cat Grant in *Supergirl* (US, 2015-date). She is highly motivated and hooked on to "success." Typically, she only has "slaves" (employees and yesees, those who instinctively agree and obsequiously obey her).

Lena Luthor (stepsister of the rogue and insane Lex Luthor, but less deadly than their mother, Lillian Luthor) famously quips to Kara Danvers (*Supergirl's* earthling alter ego): "Luthors don't have friends, we minions"), valuing their friendship. (S3E2 Triggers)

Sadly, the devious alien queen Rhea (who killed her own husband for loving their son as a father), tricks Lena into building a space portal (like in *Stargate*) for the space armada of Daxamites to invade National City and nearly destroyed it.

### Suffering

Such a transferer tends to be cold and calculating to others. She is a classic ASURA personality. Hence, when she desires us for her purposes, she will wax womanly wiles and warmth most dulcetly.

When she does marry, it would probably be numerous times, since she just does not know how to love. (Cat Grant had 4 husbands, and turned down a 5th prospect in Rob Lowe.) Often enough, her alienated mind may become super-pious, but she manages the religious feelings and activities in her own image.

### Counter-transference

Woe betides the monk she lays her eyes on. She will faithfully support him, making regular and generous donations. In other words, she owns the monk. One who has a desire for money easily accepts such a patronizing partnership. This male response is called “COUNTER TRANSFERENCE.”

In animals, such as the birds we mentioned, imprinting is only an “early-phase learning” and survival process. In other words, as they mature, they become more independent. However, this is usually more difficult in a human, who may feel the drive for domination to the end, and hurting and destroying many along her path. Hence, if you are not sure what you are reading here, it is best to practise social distancing from her even after COVID.

### Social distancing

Transference occurs mainly because of counter-transference in the other party. Hence, when the monk (in our example) is morally virtuous, wise and psychologically savvy, he will be able and willing to heal the transferer. This, of course, takes time. Meantime, the transferee has to be careful not to show himself as in any way giving more than a cursory attention to other perceived rivals.

In other words, a wise monk (or anyone) would be wiser to notice the very first signs of imprinting and transference. The Buddha knows about this from the start. For that reason, he has laid down many rules for SOCIAL DISTANCING between monks and women, and in the spirit of the Vinaya between any possibility of sexual encounters.

### Watch ourself

When we notice we have such an imprinting tendency, we should find out more about it, or do more mettā (lovingkindness) meditation, accepting ourself, forgiving ourself, and when we are ready, forgive those who have traumatized us. Learn to make friends and work to be on their level.

A lot of mindfulness and humility is needed: this is what the Dhamma is about. Moreover, the Dhamma is about letting go, renunciation, for the best things in life and after.

Hence, the rules also forbid any kind of sexual liaison. However, homosociality, preferring friends of the same sex, which is sex-free and smut-free, is safe enough for a happy Dhamma-spirited life.



(1) Ducklings following their mother. (Left)

Source: [https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Imprinting\\_\(psychology\)](https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Imprinting_(psychology))

(2) Imprinted goslings and a crane flying with an ultralight aircraft. (Right)

Source: [https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Imprinting\\_\(psychology\)](https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Imprinting_(psychology))



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[an occasional re-look at the Buddha's Example and Teachings]

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