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Family Secrets

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The wounds that silence can cause.

All children grow up amidst secrets, simply because they are confronted with adult words, impressions, and attitudes whose meaning they cannot grasp. Soon enough, they start asking questions. Reactions--the "seepage" of family secrets--lead children to believe something serious is being hidden from them, prompting them to guess what that secret might be even as they are tacitly forbidden from actually knowing. These contradictory imperatives give rise to problems in the building of a young psyche: trauma experienced and suppressed by one generation "rebounds" on the next, sometimes even the one after.
