INTRODUCTION

**Passion in psychotherapy and photography**

Surrounded by my tender children, the light struck me again: The light of passion, the light of psychotherapy, the light of photography. I couldn't, and I didn't want to go blind from the intense light, and took shelter in its shadow, I protected myself and with curiosity, observed its contents.

Thus, with pain and pleasure, I gave birth to a doctoral dissertation submitted to Bar-Ilan University, to the Department of Hermeneutics & Cultural Studies, on which this book is based. I didn't know the term phototherapy at the time – treatment through the use of photography, with which I am involved today. This book is a theoretical course, for the creative and emotional development of a new psychotherapeutic field that is so spectacular to the souls of its many patients and students. It is a type of psychotherapy that enables deep creative mental development through the help of a magic like contemporary medium, photography.

There is a passion that builds up between the therapist and the patient within the context of the closed treatment room, (which is mentioned often in the psychoanalytic literature) by Freud, Jung and others, and in the second half of the 20th century by psychoanalysts such as Ogden, Bion and Bollas and others who describe the passion of the therapist within the context of the therapy room when he begins to describe the patient therapist relationship (see for example, Bollas 2000, Ogden 2001), a treatment that allows room for the therapist's human responses and for the interrelationship between the therapist and the patient: no more viewer-object relationship, but a relationship between two subjects, from which the therapeutic value is derived (Berman 1997, 2000). These theorists have coined a new concept which they have termed "the analytical third," or "the third element," which they define as being a third body or space that is created from the relationship between the therapist and the patient. Into this space is drained their feelings, passions, desires, cultural background and life histories. All of these form a third body, which in the process of treatment becomes essentially independent. The passion from the treatment allows the “third element” to occur and expand the inner boundaries of both therapist and patient.