

the Analyst

The Newsletter of the Society of Modern Psychoanalysts

Bill A09214 Must Be Opposed

The Society of Modern Psychoanalysts would like to bring to the attention of its members and friends of psychoanalysis a number of concerns in relation to Legislative bill A09214 passed by the New York State Senate on March 4. This bill has been sent to the Assembly and a final vote will take place within a few weeks. *Editor's Note:* It is imperative that every reader respond if we are to protect ourselves from the negative impact of this bill on the daily practice of our profession.

We object to the inclusion in this bill of amendments to the education law in defining the practice of psychology. Why these amendments should be tied to a bill intended to license psychoanalysis among others is not clear.

Defining the scope of practice of psychology to include psychoanalysis as a practice modality (among many others) seems to imply that psychoanalysis is subsumed under psychology. This appears to nullify the intent to establish psychoanalysis as a separate, licensable profession.

Other aspects of this bill raise questions: Will psychologists practicing psychoanalysis be governed by the same rules as psychoanalysts, or by the rules established for psychologists? It seems misleading to state that psychologists (under

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INSTITUTE NEWS

News Release:

BGSP Accreditation Establishes Psychoanalysis as an Independent Profession

A SMALL GRADUATE SCHOOL in Brookline Massachusetts made history when it became the only independent regionally accredited psychoanalytic institute in the country. The Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis (BGSP) became the first free-standing psychoanalytic institute to join the ranks of higher education in the U.S.

BGSP was accredited at the doctoral level by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. The school's accreditation makes it the only regionally accredited psychoanalytic institute in the country and marks the entrance of psychoanalysis—once considered

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Annual Meeting and Scientific Conference

The annual meeting of the Society of Modern Psychoanalysts on Sunday, April 21, 2002 had a record-setting attendance. The luncheon and business meeting were followed by a scientific presentation on "Symptom and Society: A Clinical Challenge for Contemporary Psychoanalysis" with speaker Dr. Dany Nobus and discussant Dr. Nigel MacKay.

Ira Jacobs Steps Down After Distinguished Tenure

During the business meeting all present gave a standing ovation to retiring president, Ira Jacobs. Board member Ted Laqueria presented him with a plaque recognizing his skilled leadership and outstanding contribution to the profession.

What follows are excerpts from Ira Jacobs' speech to the membership—his last as its president:

I am stepping down as president, confident that the strong, knowledgeable, and experienced leadership that remains on the Society's Board of Trustees will ensure the continued survival and growth of the organization. This is especially true when Lucy Holmes and the energetic new Board members are added. Having said this, it is imperative for all of us to remember that the best way to implement growth, stability and strength is through an

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scope of practice) can practice psychoanalysis without stating explicitly that in order to do so they are required to earn a certificate from a psychoanalytic training institute. It is conceivable that psychologists might deem it sufficient to be supervised by a psychoanalyst in order to practice psychoanalysis. This would be unacceptable to psychoanalysts.

In addition this bill contains a serious flaw in the requirement that psychoanalysts may not treat "any serious mental illness" without medical evaluation by, and in consultation with, a physician. It disregards that psychoanalysts are fully trained in diagnosis and psychopathology. While we work cooperatively with physicians for medical and psychiatric evaluation, we are often the referring therapist and not the reverse. Such a requirement would create unwarranted delays and confusion for consumers.

The above requirement raises other serious questions as well. Why would not all mental health practitioners be held to the same requirement as psychoanalysts, namely, to obtain a medical evaluation and work in consultation with a physician in the case of serious mental illness? It is absurd to think that only psychoanalysts should do so. The bill does not specify what kind of physician should be consulted. Not all physicians are qualified to evaluate mental illness. It is also a well-established fact that psychiatrists vary greatly in their diagnoses.

Ethical and moral responsibility for our profession has already been established in law. The states of Vermont and New Jersey have passed legislation creating certification/licensing for psychoanalysis as an independent profession.

This bill contains yet another contradiction: it mandates a list of courses that must be offered as part of psychoanalytic training, yet it accepts the authority of professional certifying or registering bodies when it comes to waiving the examination requirement. If the law accepts that certifying/registering/accrediting bodies will take care of ensuring that proper training requirements are met (even if this was only meant for grandfathering) then it follows that it recognizes these bodies as having the competence to set standards for institute and curriculum education. Mandating courses then becomes superfluous. In addition, no provision is made to take account of the inevitable changes and revisions required in training curricula to keep pace with advances in the field. Determinations about curricula would best be left in the hands of recognized authorities in the field of psychoanalytic education.

Certifying bodies such as the Society for Modern Psychoanalysts already exist.

The legislation should take into account that for many years we have been working to obtain degree-granting status for psychoanalytic education. Precedents are already in place: the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. has just accredited the Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis to grant degrees at the Master's and Doctoral levels in Psychoanalysis. This recognition is further evidence of the quality of education offered in our institutes and to the legitimacy of our concerns about this bill.

We conclude with excerpts from Dr. Phyllis Meadow's letter to Assemblywoman Deborah Glick on the subject of this bill.

I have reviewed the bill (A09214) now pending in the Assembly and currently being reviewed in the Committee of Higher Education.

Over the past 20 years, the discipline of psychoanalysis has been established as a separate profession. Psychoanalysts have been trained at the doctoral level. Legislation certifying psychoanalysts has been enacted in two states. Psychoanalytic institutes have been authorized to grant doctoral degrees in psychoanalysis in two states.

In the proposed bill, Article 163 *reduces* the academic requirement for the practice of psychoanalysis to the masters' level, while the doctoral degree or its equivalent is required in both psychology and psychoanalysis, parallel professions.

The training in psychoanalysis is *specific to psychoanalysis*. No one, neither psychologist nor physician, as this bill would permit, should be allowed to include psychoanalysis in their definition of practice, since they are not *specifically trained in psychoanalysis* (unless, of course, in addition to their doctoral training, they have completed training at a psychoanalytic institute). If the state is to license psychoanalysts, recognition should be given to the established educational requirements in psychoanalysis—specifically, to *psychoanalytic training in a state-chartered psychoanalytic institute with appropriate*

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accreditation from a regional or national professional accrediting association. These educational requirements should be added to psychology, medicine, and social work education if they are to include the practice of psychoanalysis. *The degrees in these fields do not now include training in psychoanalysis.* The proposed bill treats psychoanalysis as a sub-specialty of other professions that do not in fact offer psychoanalytic education. It would enable practitioners of other professions untrained in psychoanalysis to determine what should constitute psychoanalytic training.

Please review also the mental health practitioner clauses, because they stipulate that masters level people may not engage in private practice, an encumbrance not imposed on other mental health professions. Furthermore, courses listed in the proposed bill as required for mental health practitioners are *not relevant to psychoanalysis.*

If you look at the board created in the mental health practitioner section of the bill, you will note that psychoanalysis is being subsumed under medicine—with clauses advising us to not do surgery and not administer drugs. Therapists are required to report to physicians. These proposed measures imply that psychoanalysts are not qualified to control their own profession, yet psychologists, practitioners of a similar but different discipline, can. The clauses also wrongly attempt to put psychoanalysis on a par with art therapy and counseling, fields with radically differing orientations toward training and therapy.



2002 Election Results

SMP Board Members elected at
Annual Meeting, April 21, 2002

Lucy Holmes - President

Phyllis Meadow - Past President

Ellen Barz	Ted Laquercia
Patricia H. Bratt	Robert Laub
Ernest Brod	Evelyn Liegner
Richard Cheney	Leonard Liegner
Mimi Crowell	Avery Manchester
Eve Hazel	Ruth Meyers
Jodi Kosofsky	Rory Rothman
Marvin Koven	Don Shapiro
Joan Lanoue-Lippincott	Eugene Smithberg
	Robert Welber

See the Analyst on-line at SMP's web site:
Note our new web address:
www.SocModPsychoanalysts.org

URGENT!

Instructions for faxing or phoning Speaker Sheldon Silver Re: Bill A09214 (Faxing is most effective.)

Phone: call 518-455-3791. Ask to speak to Assemblyman Silver to voice your opposition to the passage of Mental Health Bill Sanders A.9214B. If he is not available, request the staff person's name and receive assurances that your message will reach Assemblyman Silver.

Fax: 518-455-5459. State your strong objection to the passage of this bill to include: Sanders A.9214B is not acceptable to psychoanalysts. Its provisions are obscure and contradictory, it places psychoanalysis in a subspecialty position, creates different categories of psychoanalysts, does not clarify the distinctions between different mental health practitioners and the rules that would govern practice.

To access the website enter New York State Assembly or NYS Legislative information system.

Annual Meeting... continued from page one

active and viable membership. Membership consists of members. You are the hope and the future of SMP. If individual members take an interest, the Society will flourish. SMP's mission is "to foster training, practice, research, and the dissemination of information among a broad spectrum of individuals interested in modern psychoanalysis."

It is said that "vision" should be a "reach", but reachable. For a vision without reality is...an hallucination!

Our goal is full membership... A Society where every student, every modern psychoanalyst and every supporter of psychoanalysis is an active member. Numbers count and numbers are counted by our legislators.

I see the active recruitment of non-analysts into the main stream of the Society. Currently, we have very few members who are not affiliated in some way with the field of psychoanalysis. Non-analysts would have special membership categories just as they do now. These non-analysts would be of tremendous value to the Society via fund-raising, public relations and public education.

I envision satellites or local branches in every region of the country, all affiliated with a strong national Society. In this way, local and state issues could be quickly responded to by individuals who are most cognizant of the issues. Local legislators respond to the people who vote for them! The national society would provide the locals with the prestige of a national organization.

I believe public education and public relations are a primary responsibility of the Society. Education of the public in general, and legislators and public administrators specifically, is a "must."

Although we have put much effort into it, there is still a need to educate the public. I say this because we have not had satisfactory results. The public and the legislators who represent them are woefully ignorant of psychoanalysis—what it is, what it does, and who is qualified to practice.

In the public's eye, psychologists and analysts are one and the same. How much "educating" was necessary before the Vermont and New Jersey bills were passed? And how much educating is still needed in New York State?

As the organization grows, the Society will need an administrator to coordinate Society functions on a day to day basis.

If I may steal a quotation and twist it slightly,

"Think not what is, think what could be."

SMP Annual Spring Study Tour
June 3rd -13th, 2002

London and Paris will be the destination of this year's SMP Spring Study Tour. Participants will experience the delights of these two cities and join with Lacanian psychoanalysts in professional meetings.

Again this year the tour is being led by SMP Board member, Dr. Ted Laquercia.

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extinct—fully into the ranks of North American higher education.

"Until now, training in psychoanalysis in America has been treated as a subspecialty of medicine, psychology or social work and confined to post-graduate institutes, which require that prospective students first study these related fields," explained Phyllis W. Meadow, PhD, founder and president of the Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis. "Those of us who practice modern psychoanalysis have been struggling for decades to establish psychoanalysis as a separate profession which anyone should be able to pursue, in the best European and Freudian tradition. This is a very important step for the profession. Now qualified students from any field can study psychoanalysis at an accredited institution in the United States."

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Center for the Advancement of Group Studies

Our International Program at the Center for the Advancement of Group Studies graduated its first class of thirty-two psychoanalysts in St. Petersburg, Russia in May on the same weekend that an international conference was held to celebrate the new tolerance for psychoanalysis in Russia. The Center is investigating the possibility of offering a program in Japan next year.

A new book "The Technique of Group Treatment: The Collected Papers of Louis Ormont," edited by Dr. Lena Furgeri and published by Psychosocial Press, will be out this spring.

Recent CAGS graduates, Dr. Rafe Blaugrund, Jacqueline Fish and Myrna Kortlander have been appointed to the faculty. Dr. Lucy Homes has been named Director of Research, Dr. Elliot Zeisel, Director of Publications and Public Affairs, and Dr. Blaugrund, Director of Student Affairs.

Center for Modern Psychoanalytic Studies

On Friday May 10th at 7:00pm Dr. Eugene Kalin will lead a discussion following the viewing of the classical film *Young Dr. Freud*. The 1977 film gives a biographical and scientific glimpse into Freud's life and formative years. Tickets are free but please make reservations at 212-260-7050.

The Summer Session begins Monday, June 3rd at CMPS with the 25th year of our **June Workshops Series**. Sixteen workshops, presented by CMPS faculty will offer a wide range of topics. The workshops are designed for mental health professionals, teachers, parents, writers, artists and all others interested in learning about modern psychoanalysis. Please call CMPS at 212-260-7050 for information or brochure.

Informal Open Houses to learn about the Center's clinical program and how it can meet your needs are scheduled for Wednesday, May 15, Tuesday, June 11 and Wednesday, June 19 at the Center building, 16 West 10th Street, NYC.

Save the Date! CMPS Annual Scientific Conference with keynote speaker Dany Nobus, PhD will take place on Saturday, October 19, 2002. Call the Center 212-260-7050 for information or brochure.

Psychoanalytic Center of Northern New Jersey

Noted neuroscientist Joseph LeDoux, author of "The Emotional Brain and The Synaptic self", and a frequent commentator on National Public Radio, was the keynote speaker at PCNJ's all-day conference on Saturday, May 4, 2002 at Drew University in Madison, NJ sponsored by PCNJ and the Medical Humanities Program of Drew University. The conference addressed the way our sense of self is influenced by the emotional processes of the brain, an area in which neuroscience and psychoanalysis converge. Patricia Bratt and Vicki Semel presented clinical cases based on the analysis of emotional memories.

PCNJ's Annual Summer Conference on Long Beach Island — "Family Matters" — will feature workshops on the theme of the struggle to create and maintain a sense of self in the maelstrom of the family. Following the day's program of workshops, the Student Committee has planned a variety of activities for the off hours. Dates: Sunday through Wednesday, August 4 to 7, 2002. Call 973-736-7600 for information or brochure.

To keep up to date with events at member institutes visit SMP's web site:
www.SocModPsychoanalysts.org

Adventures in Teaching and Counseling

FOR THE THIRD YEAR ATC has been retained as a consultant by the New Educators Support Team Project and funded by AOL/Time Warner. The Project is investigating the factors precipitating the exodus of new teachers from the New York City public school system.

Spring/Summer Workshops: One-day workshops in Fair Lawn, New Jersey on May 10, May 31, June 7 and June 14 demonstrate how literature can be used to help children resolve conflict and live with trauma. Two and three-day Seminars will be held in Bay Head, New Jersey: May 17-18, The Dynamics of Learning in Groups will be explored, August 13-15, Protecting the Emotional Health of the New Educator will be the topic. A four-week Seminar in New York City (June 18-July 30 on *alternate Tuesdays*) will focus on aggression in school settings. For more information call ATC: 201-410-5839. SMP members are invited to join our on-line forum: www.adventuresinteaching.org

Mid-Manhattan Institute for Psychoanalysis

THE INAUGURAL ISSUE of MMI's journal "Annals of Modern Psychoanalysis" has been announced. It features a series of interviews by Charles and Deborah Bershatsky with Hyman Spotnitz, as well as a study of the positive anaclitic countertransference by Deborah Greene Bershatsky, and a case study of passivity in a case of psychosis written by Joan Cela. Published semi-annually, subscriptions: \$50/year for on-line and hard copy; \$40/year for hard copy only; \$25/year for on-line only. Individual print copy: \$25. Call: 212-799-8558 to subscribe.

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New Jersey Center for Modern Psychoanalysis

TEACHER EDUCATION COURSES offered under NJCMP's Certificate in Emotional Education program have been endorsed by the New Jersey Education Association. Our Open Classroom demonstration: "Dealing with Terrorism" attracted professionals and community members. Sara Perkins, coordinator of The Treatment Service organized a luncheon for guidance counselors to introduce them to use the treatment service as a referral source. Dr. Stanley Hayden addressed the group and supervised counselors in work with adolescents.

Dr. Hayden's lecture series: "The Residue of Primal Memory: An Introduction to Modern Psychoanalysis" will continue on Sunday, May 19 — "The Psychoanalytic Relationship: Emotional Communication in the Transference/Countertransference Union" and on Sunday, June 9 — "Psychoanalytic Research: Findings on Psychic Mutability".

June Workshops— "How You and Your Adolescent Child *Can* Make the Best of Their Teen Years." begin on June 5 at NJCMP, 14-24 Plaza Road, Suite 215, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410. Call NJCMP at 201-794-1222 for information or brochure

Please send me an SMP Membership Application



NAME _____

Address _____

Tel. H. _____

W. _____

Send this cut-out to:
Society of Modern Psychoanalysts
Membership Chair
16 West 10th Street, NY, NY 10011

Membership form also available at SMP's Web Site:
www.SocModPsychoanalysts.org

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