The Milton H. Erickson Foundation
NEWSLETTER
Michael D. Yapko, Editor / P.O. Box 4268 / Leucadia, California 92024
Vol. 11, No. 1
Spring 1991

The Evolution of Psychotherapy

A Conference


The Milton H. Erickson Foundation staff had taken their places behind the registration desk. Some 20 workers from the Anaheim Convention Bureau were seated, waiting for their jobs to begin. The Showboaters, a Dixieland band, awaited its cue.

Outside the doors, hundreds of attendees at The Evolution of Psychotherapy Conference stood patiently. In two minutes, the waiting would end. In two minutes, the Conference organizers would see the efforts of their 18 months of planning, scheming, executing, and unfolding.

The band conductor looked toward the entrance doors. He was given the signal. The band began a slow, funeral tune. The doors opened. The band changed the tempo. Music filled the hall. People filled the hall. The Evolution of Psychotherapy Conference had begun.

Approximately 7,000 attendees came from all over the world. There were 25 nations represented. Registrants came from all 50 states. The delegates were in Anaheim to listen and learn from the greatest minds in psychotherapy.


The Keynote Speakers: Betty Friedman, Viktor Frankl.

Viktor Frankl. The man they all came to see and hear. He said in the summer of 1990 he hoped to be in Anaheim for the Conference. He explained that his presentations would have to be limited. Professor Frankl's eyes are failing. He is 86 years old. A trip from Austria can be trying.

"It was an honor for The Erickson Foundation to have Professor Frankl on its program," according to Conference Organizer and Foundation Director Jeffrey K. Zeig, Ph.D. "Professor Frankl gave so much to this program," Zeig said. "Having him in Anaheim was truly a highlight."

Frankl, whose Keynote Address was Thursday afternoon, December 13, had his wife, Eleonore, with him on the podium. Introducing her, he cited a dedication to her as "the warmth that accompanies the light."

The address drew a standing ovation for Professor Frankl.

The address. "From Concentration Camp to Existentialism," was held in the Convention Center Arena, which was filled to standing room only.

In addition to the Keynote Addresses, other faculty members presented Invited Addresses, Workshops, Clinical Demonstrations, Panels and Conversation Hours. The program was designed to give speakers a forum for their psychotherapeutic disciplines. Attendees could see for themselves the people whose ideas created the foundation for modern psychotherapy.

The Conference was held from Wednes-

Board, Staff Work Together Toward Meeting

The Evolution of Psychotherapy Conference, held December 12-16, 1990, in Anaheim, Calif., was the result of months of planning.

The conference sponsor, The Milton H. Erickson Foundation, manages the meeting. The Board of Directors, Jeffrey K. Zeig, Ph.D., Kristina K. Erickson, M.S., M.D., Elizabeth M. Erickson, B.A., and James Theisen, M.A., M.B.A., J.D., work together on initial stages of planning. Proposals are considered and agreed upon.

Speakers are invited. The program is designed. Contracts, with suppliers are negotiated. Publicity, advertising and brochures are produced, placed, mailed. Registrations are processed.

All the pieces of the intricate puzzle are made possible through hard work and dedication.

The Erickson Foundation staff, under the direction of Executive Director Linda McThrail, sees to all the details of the meeting.

The staff includes Monica Bobak, Assistant Registrar; Theresa Cordes, Administrative Assistant; Sylvia Cowen, Bookkeeper; Greg Deniger, Registrar; Dana Deniger, Staff Assistant; Jeannine Elder, Staff Assistant; Sachi Eng, Volunteer Coordinator; Janis Gambill, Administrative Assistant; Alice McAvoy, Staff Assistant; Regina Molina, Staff Assistant; and Lori Woers, Staff Assistant.
From The Editor

I'm writing this as I bask in the afterglow of the Evolution of Psychotherapy Conference, held in December in Anaheim. What an experience! There were nearly 7,000 people representing 25 countries in attendance at the meeting. I'm certain that all were satisfied in having feasted on the collective wisdom of the most renowned therapists and theorists of our time.

It's difficult to put into words the personal and professional significance of an event like this, but I can tell you with sincerity that I was deeply impressed on many levels by people I heard and interactions I witnessed. I appreciate greatly the extraordinary efforts made by Jeff Zeig, Linda Carr McThall, and the staff of the Foundation to make this conference a timely, vital and classy production.

My personal highlight? Well, there were several. One was receiving a gift from Mrs. Elizabeth Erickson of one of Dr. Erickson's books and one of his ironwood carvings. Another was an exceptionally memorable interview and dialogue with Aaron Beck (which will be featured in an upcoming issue of the newsletter). Another was experiencing the challenging and extraordinary perceptions of Thomas Szasz, who serves as a wonderful reality check in the sometimes crazy world of therapy. Finally, being told by so many about their enjoyment of the newsletter was a pleasure for me. It's hard to know what people are thinking until they tell me — and what they told me was very nice. Thank you, one and all.

The meeting was wonderful, and the experience was profound in many ways, some of which I am probably not yet consciously aware. It was a great way to end 1990, and now on to 1991! Happy New Year!

Editor's Change of Address

Effective immediately, Michael Yapko's new mailing address is P.O. Box 4268, Leucadia, California 92024. Please forward all correspondence regarding the newsletter to Yapko at this address. As always, advertising information should be obtained directly from the Foundation in Phoenix.

What I want you to do is begin being yourself. Accepting yourself. And knowing that you can control yourself. You want to do something. You control yourself. You focus your efforts. And it is a wonderful thing to explore, to discover the self.

(Erickson & Rossi, 1979, p. 387)
The 1990 Evolution Of Psychotherapy

Sponsored by The Milton H. Erickson Foundation, Inc.

KEYNOTES

☐ PC289-1 From Concentration Camp to Existentialism, Viktor Frankl, MD, PhD

☐ PC289-2 The Challenge of Evolving Women, Men and Families, Betty Friedan

INVITED ADDRESSES

☐ PC289-4 Zen and the Art of Therapy, Jay Haley, MA, Disc, William Glasser, MD

☐ PC289-5 Stories of Psychotherapy, Cloe Madanes, Lic. Psychol. Disc, Mary Gouding, MSW

☐ PC289-6 The Political Landscape of Family Therapy, Salvador Minuchin, MD, Disc, Mara Selvini Palazzoli, MD

☐ PC289-7 Symbolic Experiential Family Therapy: Model and Methodology, Carl Whitaker, MD, Disc, Paul Watzlawick, PhD

☐ PC289-8 Cognitive-Behavior Modification: An Integrative Approach To the Field of Psychotherapy, Donald Meichenbaum, PhD, Disc, Albert Ellis, PhD

☐ PC289-9 Clinical Therapeutic Effectiveness: Banning the Procrastinant Bed, Sam Lazan, PhD, Disc, Jay Haley, MA

☐ PC289-10 Resolving Childhood Trauma...When the Therapy Must Be Short-Term, Mary Gouding, MSW, Disc, Judd Marmor, MD, PhD

☐ PC289-11 Ericksonian Methods: Vitures of Our Faults, Jeffrey K. Zeig, PhD, Disc, James Masterson, MD, PhD

☐ PC289-12 The Construction of Therapeutic Realities, Paul Watzlawick, PhD, Disc, Cloe Madanes, Lic. Psychol.

☐ PC289-13 Identifying the Several Recurring Processes in the Family Leading to Schizophrenia in an Offspring, Mara Selvini Palazzoli, MD, Disc, Donald Meichenbaum, PhD

☐ PC289-14 The Revised ABC's of Rational-Emotive Therapy, Albert Ellis, PhD, Disc, Salvador Minuchin, MD

☐ PC289-15 Towards Better Results in the Treatment of Depression: The Analysis of Individual Dynamics, Joseph Wolpe, MD, Disc, Thomas Szasz, MD

WORKSHOPS

☐ PC289-W1AAB Rational-Emotive Therapy (RET), Albert Ellis, PhD

☐ PC289-W1BAB Training Adolescent Psychocytes, Mara Selvini Palazzoli, MD

☐ PC289-W2AAB Fostering Depth in Client Self-Exploration, James T.F. Bugental, PhD

☐ PC289-W2BAB Multimodal Assessment and Therapy, Arnold Lazarus, PhD

☐ PC289-W3AAB Fundamentals of Ericksonian Hypnosis, Jeffrey K. Zeig, PhD

☐ PC289-W4AAB Mind-Body Healing in Everyday Life: The Ultradimensional Healing Response, Ernest Ross, PhD

☐ PC289-W5AAB The Power of Tight Therapeutic Sequences, Erving Polster, PhD

☐ PC289-W6AAB Conversation with an Officially Denominated "Schizophrenic" Patient, Thomas Szasz, MD

☐ PC289-W7AAB Violence In The Family, Cloe Madanes, Lic. Psychol.

☐ PC289-W8AAB The Varied Dynamics and Related Treatment Protocols of Social Anxiety, Agoraphobia, and Panic, Joseph Wolpe, MD

☐ PC289-W9AAB How to Read the Body: Past History Into Present Behavior, Alexander Lowen, MD

☐ PC289-W10AAB Gestalt Therapy: Support and Integration, Miriam Polster, PhD

☐ PC289-W11AAB Cognitive Therapy of Couples' Problems, Aaron T. Beck, MD

☐ PC289-W12AAB The First Two Interviews in Family Therapy: Negotiating and Conducting the Blind Date, Carl Whitaker, MD

☐ PC289-W13AAB Family Games: What They Are and How to Avoid Them, Mary Gouding, MSW

☐ PC289-W14AAB Family Therapy, Salvador Minuchin, MD

☐ PC289-W15AAB Reality Therapy: Theory and Practice, William Glasser, MD

☐ PC289-W16AAB Supervision of Psychotherapy of Borderline and Narcissistic Personality Disorders, James Masterson, MD

☐ PC289-W17AAB Directive Therapy, Jay Haley, MA

☐ PC289-W18AAB Workshop on Dynamic Psychotherapy, Judd Marmor, MD, PhD

☐ PC289-W19AAB Research Frontiers in the Evolution of Psychotherapy, Ernest Ross, PhD

☐ PC289-W20AAB Cognitive Therapy of Personality Disorders, Aaron T. Beck, MD

☐ PC289-W21AAB The Therapy of Sex Offenders and Their Victims, Cloe Madanes, Lic. Psychol.

☐ PC289-W22AAB Cognitive-Behavioral Modification with Adults, Donald Meichenbaum, PhD

☐ PC289-W23AAB The Therapeutic Family Reunion, Carl Whitaker, MD

☐ PC289-W24AAB Psychotherapy of "As If" Paul Watzlawick, PhD

☐ PC289-W25AAB Relationship Issues: A Rational-Emotive Approach, Albert Ellis, PhD

☐ PC289-W26AAB The Use of Dreams in Sex Therapy, Mary Gouding, MA

☐ PC289-W27AAB Control Theory in the Practice of Reality Therapy, William Glasser, MD

☐ PC289-W28AAB The Conduct of Supervision in Depth Psychotherapy, James T.F. Bugental, PhD

☐ PC289-W29AAB Family Therapy, Salvador Minuchin, MD

☐ PC289-W30AAB Therapy of Adolescence, Jay Haley, MA

☐ PC289-W31AAB Fundamentals of Ericksonian Therapy, Jeffrey K. Zeig, PhD

☐ PC289-W32AAB Releasing Body and Emotional Tension, Alexander Lowen, MD

☐ PC289-W33AAB Reality Therapy Is Applicable to All Varieties of Clients, William Glasser, MD

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Obituary — Murray Bowen, M.D.

Murray Bowen, M.D., died Tuesday, October 9, 1990, at his home in Chevy Chase, Maryland, of respiratory failure. Dr. Bowen was born January 31, 1913, in Waverly, Tenn. He received his Bachelor's degree (1934) at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and his M.D. (1937) at the University of Tennessee Medical School in Memphis. Dr. Bowen had five years active duty in the Army (1941–1946), during which time he was a First Lieutenant, and then a Major. It was during World War II that his interests changed from surgery to psychiatry.

After the war, Dr. Bowen had a Fellowship in psychiatry and psychoanalytic training at the Menninger Clinic in Topeka, Kan. From 1954 to 1959, he was Chief of the family study section for the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Md., and he devised a research project in which entire families lived in the ward with the schizophrenic patients. It was during this time that Dr. Bowen became known as one of the originators of the family therapy movement in psychiatry.

In 1959, Dr. Bowen moved to the Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington, D.C., where he was Director of Family Programs and a Clinical Professor of psychiatry. He maintained these positions until his death. At Georgetown, Dr. Bowen developed his approach to family systems therapy and systems therapy.

During his distinguished career, he published more than 50 papers, book chapters, and monographs, mostly on family psychotherapy. He was a Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and the American Orthopsychiatric Association, and one of the originators and first President of the American Family Therapy Association.

Dr. Bowen's professional life was a quest to replace conventional psychiatric therapy with a more comprehensive theory which maintained as a locus the idea of defining one's self within one's family of origin. The differentiation of self and emotional systems are essential to his theory. To Dr. Bowen, good therapy was determined by the way a therapist “thinks” about human problems.

I first met Dr. Bowen at the 1985 Evolution of Psychotherapy Conference. He was the discussant for my Invited Address. I was intrigued by his insights and was grateful to learn from his comments. In 1986, I had the privilege to co-lead a workshop in Minneapolis with Dr. Bowen. It was one of the highlights of my professional career to share the podium with such a distinguished thinker.

I last heard from Dr. Bowen in May 1990, at which time he indicated that his health was improving and that he expected to be at the December 1990 Evolution of Psychotherapy Conference. In March 1989, Dr. Bowen sent me a copy of a tribute that he read at the funeral of his mother-in-law, who had died the previous month at the age of 91. I wrote him back, thanking him for the honor of All I did was give a look of confident expectation. Now that's the important thing. An infant learning to walk, you know he can learn to walk, but the infant doesn't know. You give the infant the confident support of your expectation.

(Erickson, Rossi & Rossi, 1975, p. 282)

Let me plagiarize freely from the eulogy that Dr. Bowen wrote, making a simple substitution of characters:

Dear Murray, In this final earthly parting, your presence has been a bright light for generations. You are not dead, in the sense that your life will continue to shine far into the future of unborn generations... You will be known in history as a person who set an example for others to follow... You were "present and accounted for" for over three-quarters of a century.

Thank you Murray, for being you, and for having lived so long and so well. Your physical presence has been converted to precious memory. Your life has been an inspiration to all who follow.

Jeffrey K. Zeig, Ph.D., Director The Milton H. Erickson Foundation

Now, the unconscious mind is a vast storehouse of memories, your learnings. It has to be a storehouse because you cannot keep consciously in mind all the things you know. Your unconscious mind acts as a storehouse. Considering all the learning you have acquired in a lifetime, you use the vast majority of them automatically in order to function.

(1980, p. 173)

THE EVOLUTION OF PSYCHOTHERAPY

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Upcoming Training

(Note: The Erickson Foundation lists workshops as a service to its Newsletter readers. We cannot attest to the quality of training provided in these workshops.) A $10 fee is required for each workshop submission.

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<td>3/6-10</td>
<td>Trancework; San Diego, CA, Michael D. Yapko</td>
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<td>Treating the Symmpotic Adolescent with Systemic Family Therapy; Dana Point, CA, Gianfranco Cecchin, M.D.</td>
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Contact Information

1. Milton H. Erickson Institute of San Diego, 2525 Camino del Rio South, Suite 265, San Diego, CA 92108; (619) 295-1010
2. The Center for Personal and Family Development, 1221 West Lakeview Avenue, Pensacola, FL 32501-1836; (904) 648-3089
3. Medical Hypnosis Seminars, 1845 Skyline Blvd., Los Gatos, CA 95030; (408) 354-7738
4. Richard Landis, Ph.D., Director of Training, OCSEPH, 2101 E. 44th St., Suite IIIA, Santa Ana, CA 92705; (714) 547-8240
5. Associate Trainers, 567 Split Rock Rd., Syosset, NY 11791; (516) 922-2926
6. Academy of Guided Imagery, PO Box 2070, Mill Valley, CA 94942; (800) 726-2078
7. George Ingmar or Collen O'Grady, University of California - Santa Cruz, 740 Front Street, Suite 155, Santa Cruz, CA 95060; (408) 427-6610
8. Carol Lankton, PO Box 958, Galf Breeze, FL 32526; (904) 932-6819
10. IGST, Kusaalmstur, 30, 6900 Heidelberg, GERMANY, Tel. 06021/4913
11. Judy Kaczowka, M.Ed., LPC, NCC, Continuing Education Coordinator, PsyCare, Inc., 540 Falmace Avenue, Suite 500, Youngstown, OH 44510; (216) 841-3803 or (216) 856-8663.
12. NYSEP, PO Box 1390, Madison Square Station, New York, NY 10015; (212) 696-1999
13. Andrew Leon, 293 Malabar Road, Maroubra, 2035 N.S.W., AUSTRALIA
14. Clinical Hypnosis Institute, 4545 Park Blvd, Suite 207, San Diego, CA 92118; (619) 542-0088
15. ASCH, 2200 E. Devon Ave., Ste. 291, Des Plaines, IL 60018; (708) 297-3317
17. George Burns, 7 Rheola Street, West Perth, Washington 6005 AUSTRALIA
18. Julia Aloysyina, Vice President of the Association of Practical Psychologists, Moscow 121235, Piatnizkiy 25 - 56, USSR
20. Reese Price, Ph.D., Tulsa Psychiatric Center, 1620 E. 12th St., Tulsa, OK 74102; (918) 582-2131, (800) 364-8427
21. Dr. Robert Schwartz, LACT, PO Box 166, Armore, PA 19003; (215) 790-1414
22. Robert Wubbolding, Ed.D., Center for Reality Therapy, 777 Montgomery Road, Cincinnati, OH 45236; (513) 551-1911

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March 15-16, 1991 — 14th Annual Family Therapy Network Symposium. To be held in Washington, D.C. For information, contact: Symposium Registrar, 8528 Bradford Road, Silver Spring, MD 20901. (301) 585-5545.

April 3-7, 1991 — International Society for Systemic Therapy, to be held in Heidelberg, Germany. For information, contact: IGST, Kussmaulstr. 10, 6900 Heidelberg, Germany. Tel. 06221/4913.

April 14-18 — American Society of Clinical Hypnosis Annual Meeting. To be held in St. Louis, Missouri. For information, contact: ASCH, 2200 E. Devon Ave., Ste. 291, Des Plaines, IL 60018. (312) 297-3317.


August 12-16, 1991 — International Summer Symposium - Brief Strategic Therapy, conducted in English with simultaneous translation into French and Spanish. To be held at Stanford University, Palo Alto, California. For information, contact: MRI Symposium, 555 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA 94301. (415) 321-3055.

August 25-30, 1991 — The 12th International Congress of Hypnosis of the International Society of Hypnosis. To be held in Rome, Italy. For information, contact: Kences Tours, PO. Box 50006, Tel Aviv 61500, Israel.

August 31-September 3, 1991 — The Joint Conference of the International Society of Hypnosis and the Milton Erickson Society of Germany. To be held in Rome, Italy. For information, contact: Burkhard Peter, Dipl. Psych., MEG, Konradstr. 16, 8000 Munich, Germany.

The Evolution of Psychotherapy Conference

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day, December 12, to Sunday, December 16, 1990. Sessions were held at the Anaheim Convention Center and the Anaheim Hilton & Towers, the Conference headquarters.

The Erickson Foundation contracted with 14 hotels or motels in Anaheim. A total of 6,313 rooms were used citywide over the five-day meeting.

Some 9,000 lunches were served at the Convention Center between Wednesday and Sunday. Nearly 1,600 delegates attended the Saturday night banquet, which featured steak and chicken—along with baked Alaska, which was served for dessert.

In addition to educational sessions, attendees were treated to an evening at Disneyland. The world-famous theme park, the original in the Disney chain, was closed to the public. Only attendees of the Conference and their guests could attend. The marquis at the entrance of the park announced the welcome to Conference attendees. A banner on Main Street, U.S.A., greeted Disneyland goers, stating, "Welcome Milton E. Erickson Foundation."

Lines to the popular rides were short. Waits were minimal.

Other activities participated in by attendees were the "Welcome to Anaheim" reception and Authors' Hour. The Authors' Hour gave registrants a chance to have faculty members sign books and other media, including a baseball one attendee had.

The Conference featured 34 exhibitors, as well as The Evolution of Psychotherapy Conference Bookstore managed by Brunner/Mazel Publishers, Inc., and the audio-and videotapes sold by InfoMedx.

The event was cosponsored by The University of California, Irvine - Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior and California State University, Fullerton - Department of Psychology.

The Foundation Board of Directors will consider a third Evolution Conference. "There certainly is interest," Zeig said. "We've had people tell us to have another one (Evolution meeting) in 1991. We'll look at a lot of factors before scheduling another conference. Plus, we'll need to get a little rest after this one."

Obituary —

Hilton L. Lopez, M.D.


He alone forged the way for hypnosis to be accepted on his native island, Puerto Rico. He taught hypnosis at the major medical and psychological institutions on the island as well as using it in a busy psychiatric practice.

Dr. Lopez was born in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, June 5, 1912. He attended high school and college in Maryland and Virginia, and was graduated from the University of Maryland Medical School in 1938. He took 10 Seminars in Hypnosis from 1958-1961, and was instrumental in arranging conferences for The American Society of Clinical Hypnosis in Puerto Rico. He was a member of ASCH since its founding in 1957, and eventually was elected a Life Fellow.

After working as a physician for more than 20 years, originally riding horseback from town to town in Puerto Rico to help his patients, he took training in psychiatry and worked at the State Psychiatric Hospital from 1968-1972, as Staff Psychiatrist in Clínica Dr. Eugenio Fernandez Garcia from 1971-1988, in the Alcohol and Drug Program from 1972-1988, and at the Veterans Administration Resident Training Program in psychiatry from 1968-1989.

In the last year of his life, he was honored by the Psychiatry Section of the Puerto Rico Chapter of the American Psychiatric Association which dedicated its annual meeting to him. He continued seeing private patients until he died in his home where he had his office. He never charged patients who could not pay, and as the old-time doctors, he made himself available to all who needed him. He innovated culturally syntonic approaches to hypnosis utilizing all that the patient brought to him in the true Ericksonian tradition. Erickson was first his mentor, and then close friend and colleague.

The passing of Dr. Lopez is a great loss to all who knew him for his great generosity, humanity and skill as a physician and psychiatrist. He is survived by his two children, Hilton Luis Lopez and Stella Fernandez, and four grandchildren, Stella Cheyres, Eduardo Jose, Hilton O. and Francisco Jose.

—Madeleine Richeport, Ph.D.
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PRACTICAL, ETHICAL, AND EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES FOR BUILDING UP YOUR PRACTICE
- Why cooperation, not competition with your colleagues will enhance your practice (p. 29)
- How to conduct a profitable business and maintain a clear conscience (p. 18)
- Why an ad in the Yellow Pages is essential and how to make it most effective (p. 59)
- Which personal characteristics are most important for a thriving private practice? (p. 7)
- How doing pro bono evaluations helped one therapist gain numerous referrals from lawyers (p. 63)
- Why one therapist finds it saves her money not to charge for intake and termination services (p. 139)
- How to thrive amidst increasing competition from large health care organizations (p. 64)

Interspersed throughout are detailed self-assessment questionnaires, vivid case examples, and verbatim transcripts of workshop sessions conducted by the authors.

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CEUs also offered by University of West Florida (P-004-92 & CM-215-90).
An International Problem

A Question of Ethics

A new trend seems to be taking hold in the Ericksonian community. Some American students of Milton Erickson traveling abroad are teaching outside of authorized Erickson Institutes and providing diplomas in Ericksonian hypnosis to attendees in their courses. The result of this unfortunate practice is that there are people calling themselves "Ericksonian hypnotherapists," who the Ericksonian Institutes would not be authorized to accept as students.

Here in France, it is common practice for people with no academic background whatsoever to use the title "psychotherapist" and to declare they fulfill the same function as psychiatrists or psychologists. Now we find this group has grown to include "Ericksonian psychotherapists," and even "trainers in Ericksonian therapy by students X, Y, or Z, of Milton Erickson." Up to now, the work of Milton Erickson and Ericksonian-inspired therapies have been well regarded here in France. This is.

The ideal person would be one who had a readiness to accept the interchange between the conscious and unconscious. Children are uncluttered by rigid conscious sets, and therefore children can see things that adults cannot. (Erickson, Rossi & Rossi, 1976, p. 258)

due to the work of the members of the local Milton Erickson Institute, all of whom are fully qualified professionals. We have been considering seeking recognition for Ericksonian hypnosis in the university system and from professional societies. Will this recognition now be compromised?

Do we have an ethical problem, as many Europeans believe? We would very much like to have an Ericksonian opinion come out of this debate. Isn't it unfortunate that the same weekend as the French Ericksonian Congress there was a seminar on Ericksonian hypnosis given in an unauthorized Institute by an American?

We must realize that a claim that one has been a student of Erickson, even if true, does not necessarily mean that one is carrying on his teachings and his methods of therapy as he would have approved. The Milton H. Erickson Foundation, in recognizing its authorized Institutes, is trying to uphold the true quality and standards of Ericksonian practice, as well as to follow his decision that certifications (diplomas) should be reserved for basic medical and psychological specialization, not simply presented for attendance at a course. We are not able to invite more than five students of Milton Erickson to France every year; we regret we cannot invite more.

—Jean Godin, M.D., Ph.D.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Milton H. Erickson Institute of Paris

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1991

Milton Erickson Society for Clinical Hypnosis, Germany

Joint Conference

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Ericksonian Hypnosis in the Soviet Union

The first workshop on Ericksonian Hypnosis held in the Soviet Union was from Aug. 1-3, 1990, in the city of Obninsk, south of Moscow. From more than 1,000 applicants, 250 Soviet psychologists and psychiatrists were selected to attend the workshop. Because the city of Obninsk or "Atomic City" normally offers special permission to hold the workshop there, in the excellent educational facilities provided by the Institute of Nuclear Energy.

The workshops on "Beginning Skills in Ericksonian Hypnosis," began each morning at 6:30 a.m. with an hour-and-a-half session on Aikido instruction. Aikido was presented as a non-verbal metaphor for understanding hypnosis. The workshop ran from 6:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Several evening small-group workshops were held from 7:00 to 9:00 on selected topics as working with children, smoking cessation, management applications of Erickson's ideas, Soviet advances in hypnosis, etc.

The workshop was presented by Michael Sparks, Ph.D. (USA), assisted by: Alex Sinitkov (USSR), Charlie Badenhop (Japan), Albert Wahrhaftig (USA), Darcy Booth (Canada), Bill Neckman (USA), and Maim Reissman (USA).

The workshop received extensive newspaper and radio coverage throughout the Soviet Union. The workshop will be featured in a forthcoming edition of the English language magazine, Soviet Life.

The proceedings of the workshop are being published as a book in Russian, Beginning Skills in Ericksonian Hypnosis, by Image Contact Publishing (translation by Inessa Rebekko).

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(Erickson & Rossi, 1979, p. 389)

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Donations

The Milton H. Erickson Foundation has received $1,231 in contributions since the last issue of The Newsletter.


We appreciate all donations to The Foundation. Thanks also go to the following people: Stina C. Nelson, Victor Swarooop, Tusie Silapalikitporn, Justin C. Steur, Ph.D., Miriam Neswold, Lynn Groff Loomis, Maia Rahill, Susan A. Lipshutz, Vito E. Bertigia, Marlene Bunnell, Leon R. Probasco, Leslie M. Singer, Kathleen M. Sheehan, LSW, Ed.D., Phyllis Levy, LCSW, M. Jackie Ammons, Charles S. Rohr.

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