

Free Associations

A Newsletter for the PSP Community

...dedicated to excellence in learning, teaching and application of psychoanalytic knowledge

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NOTABLE QUOTE: “Impossible is a word only to be found in the dictionary of fools.”

--Napoleon Bonaparte,
French military and political leader

OUTSIDE NEWS & VIEWS

Study Explores How Alcoholics Anonymous Helps Members Stay Sober

A new study examining how Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) helps its members stay sober finds two crucial factors are needed: spending more time with people who support abstinence, and having greater confidence in one's ability to maintain sobriety in social situations.

The study also found reduced depression and increased spirituality or religious practices had a significant role in the recovery of people who had received inpatient treatment, meaning they most likely had been more seriously dependent on alcohol.

The results suggest that social context factors are key; the people who associate with individuals attempting to begin recovery can be crucial to their likelihood of success.

THE THERAPIST'S THESAURUS

Nominal aphasia. Aphasia characterized by difficulty in giving the correct name of an object.

Polyphagia. Pathological overeating.

Acrophobia. Dread of high places.

Haptic Hallucination. Hallucination of touch.

Intropunitive. Turning anger inward toward oneself. Commonly observed in depressed patients.

Twirling. Sign present in autistic children who continually rotate in the direction in which their head is turned.

STANDARDS FOR ACCREDITATION: Standard 1-10

The institute maintains adequate risk management policies, including Directors and Officers insurance and liability insurance.

PSP maintains Directors and Officers insurance along with adequate general and professional liability insurance. Additionally, risk management policies are in place that monitor physical plant and professional activities along with guaranteeing due process as necessary.



From Harry Guntrip's Clinical Notes

An elderly woman known to me developed eczema all over her body following the death of her husband. For more than a year medical treatments secured no more than improvements, followed always by relapse. She was then cured by a kindly elderly woman herbalist who personally massaged a wonderful ointment into her for an hour twice a week. She was 'cured' so effectively that the eczema never returned. This was due, no

doubt, not to the wonderful ointment, but to the 'mothering,' albeit of an infantile order of soothing attention to her body by someone in whom she rapidly acquired great faith and trust, in her loneliness and distress. Nevertheless, an analyst would be thankful to produce so permanent a result so quickly. Her bereavement had laid bare a deep-seated infantile insecurity in her which had been hidden by her dependence on her husband. The patient cannot give up the illness unless something better can be put in its place.

WHAT'S GOING ON AT PSP?

- We're working on revising our Strategic Plan. The process is ongoing and we hope to have it finished by the end of April.
- Nominations for Board of Directors' open positions will be occurring shortly. Nominations are open to Society Members who will be receiving a notice shortly.