

are interested in groups and a must for those intending to get more fully involved in group work. Whether any of these approaches are more than good fun and a novel way to spend a weekend remains yet to be determined. Perhaps this introductory book will stimulate some of its readers into attempting to answer some of the specific questions that need to be answered.

Howard Rankin - Addiction Research Unit.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Sirs,

As an ordinary member of the BABP I would like to write in and thank you most warmly for your invitation to us members to submit contributions and single case studies. Could we also air our views on 'things in general' i.e. our work situation, including the isolation of most of us field workers, and 'things in particular', such as any personal theories or ideas about our work or criticisms, say, of the BABP Bulletin? Perhaps you could make a rule that any criticism or moan should be accompanied by a positive alternative or a suggested solution or goal. After all, as behavioural psychotherapists we are not simply interested in analyses but in treatment!

As a kick-off, may I comment on two issues: (1) the isolation of field workers. (2) the fact that the books reviewed in our bulletin are mostly two years out of date - indeed the one on Marriage Happiness, reviewed this January, came out in 1971? (Incidentally it is the same in the BPS Bulletin).

Returning to our professional isolation and workload, I was amused - and a little riled - at your 'impression' that there is more talk than data in members' current practice! I have a current load of 14 out-patients whom I see weekly or fortnightly, a bi-weekly group of 11 in-patients, and all the testing (a minimal amount) for this area. I also have 3 G.P.'s and a group of 19 social workers who come (or I visit) for seminars. What I would like is some ongoing supervision from a member of staff from a Teaching Hospital (the Warneford might be my base, being as I am in the Oxford area) with whom I could discuss my methods of treatment. For instance, I have recently had some real success with a paedophilic, yet could find no literature to help me; against this, I am not having any success with 2 cases of vomiting phobia. The immediacy of the threat is so close to the patient's consciousness that I do not find relaxing them of much help to them. We need either a peripatetic team of experts to visit us field workers, or a hot-line network, so that I could discuss my cases over the 'phone with experts like yourselves at the Maudsley or the Warneford on a regular basis.

Yours sincerely,

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