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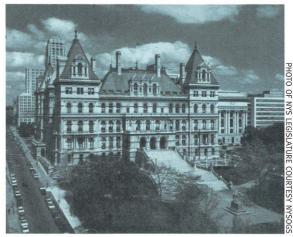
Landmark Psychotherapy Legislation Begins with Clinical Social Work

Marsha Wineburgh, DSW, Legislative Chair

Just before midnight, August 13, 2002, Governor George E. Pataki allowed the social work licensure bill, S.7711-A/A.11761-A, to become Chapter 420 of the Laws of 2002. With the enactment of this legislation, New York State becomes the 48th state in the nation to license social work, leaving only Michigan and Arizona to be regulated.

After more than three decades of legislative effort, New York State has finally enacted landmark legislation to protect the consumers of mental health services and to regulate the social work profession which delivers the majority of mental health treatment. Clinical social work is the first non-medical professional group to be regulated in its practice of psychotherapy in New York State. At the time of this writing, waiting in the wings to be signed by the Governor are psychology, marriage and family therapists, mental health counselors, creative arts therapists

and non-traditionally trained psychoanalysts. Clean-up amendments to the social work statute will be completed this fall.



New York State has finally enacted legislation to protect consumers and regulate the social work profession.

Two Tiers

The legislation, which takes effect in September 2004, creates two levels of

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EXECUTIVE REPORT

Mobilization of the Profession

By Helen Hinckley Krackow, CSW, BCD, Society President

his is a time for celebration. New York State social workers and clinical social workers have gained licensure. We are the first mental health professionals, other than psychiatrists, to have such a licensure. Passage of the legislation, so important to our clinical social work identity, has taken 13 years of continuous effort led by Dr. Marsha Wineburgh, our Legislative Chair, a former State Society President as well as National President of CSWF. Countless hours were devoted to travel, lobbying, meetings, conference calls, and letter writing campaigns. Several versions of the bill were drafted before the final version was agreed upon — one that protects the public by spelling out very clearly the

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Executive Report

By Helen Hinckley Krackow, CSW, BCD, Society President

terrorist attacks. They are beginning to feel entitled to

deal with their emotional pain and ready to stop push-

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scope of practice of a clinical social worker.

At times through the years it seemed that we would never move the State Legislature. Much coordination

and work had to take place, including interfacing with many other mental Americans have been health organizations. Of invaluable assistance were the efforts of Hillel forced to look squarely Bodek, the Society's Chair of Forensic at the issue of mental Clinical Social Work, and Chair of the stress as a result of Committee on Ethics and Professional Standards and By-Laws, as well as the the September 11th members of the Legislative Committee. terrorist attacks. We The Society is very grateful to those who need to capture the wrote to their legislators and to Governor Pataki and those who made moment for the welcalls regarding physician referral. fare of our profession

Society members should take heart from this success. Other seemingly impossible initiatives can be tackled

now. We must build the public's awareness of our role in clinical mental health treatment. We must mobilize to take on the managed mental health care industry. We must work with other mental health organizations to influence the insurance industry and state and national governments regarding reimbursement for mental health treatment. Agency and private practice clinical social workers need to be paid more.

Americans have been forced to look squarely at the issue of mental stress as a result of the September 11th

ing it under the carpet. We need to capture the moment for the welfare of our profession and of the public.

Do we as clinical social workers believe in supporting our professional identity financially and with our energy? I believe we do. I believe we must. Can we mobilize to protect our own profession and to practice the mental health treatment we believe in? I know we can! I have lived as an engaged activist for my entire professional life, and it has brought me great satisfaction with every dollar and day of work spent.

Long live the profession of clinical social work! I hope that you take joy in our victory.

Adrienne Lampert Honored



Helen Krackow (left) and Adrienne Lampert.

On April 7, 2002, Adrienne Lampert, CSW, BCD, was honored at a Brunch Meeting of the Brooklyn Chapter of the State Society and presented with a plaque acknowledging her many contributions at the chapter, state and national levels of our organization. She founded the Brooklyn Chapter in 1978, served as its president from 1984-1989, as President of the State Society from 1987-1989 and then as President of the Clinical Social Work Federation from 1990-1992. In addition, she is a Distinguished Practitioner in the National Academies of Practice in Social Work. Helen H. Krackow, Society President, said that although Ms. Lampert recently moved from the Greater Metropolitan area to Ithaca, she would continue as State Membership Chair. "Indeed, she will continue to shine as a jewel in the crown of the State Society."

NEW YORK STATE SOCIETY

FOR

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and of the public.



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Landmark Psychotherapy Legislation Begins with Clinical Social Work

This professional status provides

the clinician with a more substan-

tial legal and ethical platform, in

any practice setting, from which

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The State Society is responsible

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effort that led to mandatory

insurance reimbursement for

clinical social work services in

1985, and the current licensing

campaign.

to advocate for patients and

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practice: the generalist level, the Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW), and the autonomous clinical level, the Licensed Clinical Social Worker. The scope of practice for LMSW includes the functions of prevention, assessment, evaluation, formulation, implementation of plans of action based on client needs and strengths, and intervening "to address mental, social, emotional. behavioral, developmental and addictive disorders... psychosocial aspects of illness and injury experienced

by individuals, couples, families, groups, communities, organizations and society." Administration of tests and measures of psychosocial functioning, social work advocacy, counseling, consultation, research, administration, management, teaching supervision are also included. LMSWs may deliver mental health services, but, as in the "P" vendorship statute, they must be super-

vised by a licensed mental health professional. Anyone currently holding the title of certified social worker will be grandfathered in as an LMSW. Any person who has an MSW and five years of post-graduate social work employment can apply to be grandfathered in at the LMSW level without examination.

Autonomous Clinicians

The second tier of licensure recognizes the professional experience and education of clinical social workers and establishes autonomy, i.e., practicing without supervision, for those qualified to be licensed. Licensed clinical social workers are no longer defined by their work setting,

but rather by their knowledge and experience when it meets the State's standard for competence. This professional status carries with it the ethical responsibility to update clinical skills and knowledge continuously, even though continuing education is not a requirement in this licensure statute. It also provides the clinician with a more substantial legal and ethical platform, in any prac-

tice setting, from which to advocate for patients. Licensed practitioners have an independent position from which to promote improved human services programs, whether they work in agencies, hospitals, HMOs, or contract with managed care organizations.

Under this statute licensed clinical social workers can diagnose and treat patients as well as provide the same services as LMSWs. The scope of practice for LCSW includes "the diagnostic assessment of mental, emotional, behavioral, and addictive and developmental disorders and disabilities and of the psychosocial aspects of illness, injury, disability and impairment... administration and interpretation of tests and measures of psychosocial functioning; development and implementation of appropriate assessment-based treatment plans; the provision of crises-oriented psychotherapy. brief long-term and short-term psychotherapy, psychoanalysis and behavioral therapy to individuals, couples,

families and groups.

Any CSW who has qualified "P" or "R" can apply to be quali-

for a "P" or "R" will be grandfathered in as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Any CSW who has the qualifications for either the fied by the State Board for Social Work and be grandfathered in without examination.

State Society Leadership

services in New York State.

The last problem arises because a scope of practice license defines specific functions as belonging to the specific profession being licensed. For example, if clinical social work included the functions of "diagnosis and treatment" in the license, psychologists and other mental health practitioners trained to diagnose would need to have their own licensing bills or be exempted

from the social work bill. This was further complicated by the fact that new groups of practitioners were recognized nationally and in other states but had no legal status in New York, for example, marriage and family therapists and mental health counselors. Thousands of hours were spent by hundreds of mental health practitioners over the last 11 years trying to develop a reasonable mental health policy in this arena.

The State Society has been a leader in social policy issues since its founding in 1972. The organization is responsible for initiating both the vendorship effort that led to mandatory insurance reimbursement for clinical social work services in 1985. and the current licensing campaign. Passage of the latter was complicated by three major problems: reaching agreement within the social work community for support of the same licensing legislation, creating a critical mass of legislator interest in licensing psychotherapy in the State, and, finally, finding a method to license the major groups delivering unregulated psychotherapy

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Some Concerns About the Current **Nature of Parental Permissiveness**

By Diana Siskind, MSW, BCD

The National Membership Committee on Psychoanalysis is sponsoring, jointly with the New York State Society for Clinical Social Work, a series of articles for The Clinician written by distinguished members of the NMCOP. The first paper in this series was written by Jane S. Hall and appeared in the Spring 2002 issue. The paper in this issue is contributed by Diana Siskind. Future articles will appear as space allows. Please call Marilyn Schiff at 212.255.9358 if you have comments or suggestions.

trend toward parental permissiveness has reached such extreme proportions that it warrants the Lattention of our profession. In the many families whose style of parenting is representative of this trend, attitudes toward childcare have changed so much that the very face of family life has been transformed. I would like to comment on the effect of these changes on child development, on parenthood as a developmental phase, and on the role of the therapist with regard to this phenomenon.

A brief description of extreme permissiveness might sound familiar. You have probably seen and heard examples of it both in your practices and in your daily

lives. The permissive parent places enormous value on denying the existence of the generation gap; consequently, children of all ages, including very young ones, are encouraged to make decisions that more traditionally fall within the domain of parents. Children as young as two and three are consulted about family menus, modes of transportation, preferences regarding taking a bath, where and when to sleep, toilet training, family vacations, choice of baby sitter, and so forth. It is not unusual to overhear, at a playground, a mother ask her three-year-old

whether she wants to have lunch at home or in a restaurant; if a restaurant which one, and shall they walk there, take the bus or a taxi? If we follow this pair to the restaurant, we might overhear the child order an extraordinary amount of food, show no interest in eating, and then be allowed to play with the food and make a huge mess – all this under the benevolent eye of the parent. We will also note that the parent will do her best to accommodate any demand made by the child, and be apologetic if unable to meet a demand, no matter how unrealistic. We might marvel at how literal but patient the parent is in her response to these demands and how unaware of the growing sleepiness of the child who, after a vigorous morning in the playground, is trapped in a restaurant under a mountain of food when she would perhaps be happiest in her own room taking a much needed nap.

What we have here is a common example of a major shift in the care-giving function of a parent. The more traditional view of parent as an adult taking charge, making decisions, soothing, teaching, protecting but also having certain expectations of her child,

are replaced by a parent who strives to be patient and democratic above all else. This parent does not say no to her child and, with the absence of a parental no, the child is denied the opportunity of taking a critical developmental leap: identifying with the no-saying parent and discovering her own ability to say no. We know from the work of Rene Spitz that the appearance of no is an indicator that a new level of psychic organization has been attained, marking the beginning of abstract thinking, self-object differentiation, autonomy, and

inner regulation. When these developmental milestones fail to take place, we see a dramatic increase in separation anxiety, narcissistic disorders, and various adjustment disorders. Among young children this has resulted in an increase of such symptoms as sleep disturbances, eating problems, very delayed toilet training, and even elective mutism.

The impact of extreme permissiveness on development is multifaceted but, if I were to chose one area

of developing the capacity to

reflect and to recognize and

regulate their own moods.

Three State Society Members Inducted Into the National Academies of Practice

Each year, the NAP sponsors a

nary collaboration. Since only

100 members can be elected in

each Academy, selection is

indeed an honor.

forum on aspects of interdiscipli-

Recognized for their consistent and outstanding contributions to the advancement of clinical social work practice, three members of our society were inducted into the National Academies of Practice (NAP) at its Installation Banquet on April 13 in Arlington, Virginia. They are Richard M. Alperin, Joan K. Cohn, and Carol Tosone.

Founded in 1981, the NAP is dedicated to serving as the nation's distinguished interdisciplinary healthcare forum addressing public policy, education, research, and inquiry. It is comprised of Distinguished Practitioners and Scholars from the primary health care profession, which includes Dentistry, Nursing, Optometry,

Osteopathic Medicine, Medicine, Psychology, Podiatric Medicine, Social Work, Veterinary Medicine, and Pharmacy. Each year, the NAP sponsors a forum on aspects of interdisciplinary collaboration. Since only 100 members can be elected in each Academy, selection is indeed an honor.

Based on his 28 years of experience as a clinical social worker, Richard M. Alperin, DSW, a diplomate in the State Society, was elected into the Academy as a

Distinguished Practitioner. He received his M.S.W. from Fordham University, his DSW from Columbia University, and a Postdoctoral Diploma in Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy from the Derner Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies, Adelphi University. He has been in full time private practice since 1985 in Riverdale (Bronx), Manhattan, and Teaneck. From

1991 to 1996 he chaired the Society's Committee on Psycho-analysis and from 1991 to 1994, served on the Executive Board of the National Membership Committee on Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work. He currently teaches and supervises analytic candidates at the New Jersey Institute for Training in Psychoanalysis, the Object Relations Institute for Psychoanalysis, and the Psychoanalytic Study Center. One of three social workers in Who's Who in the World, he is the author of many publications and coedited a book with Dr. David Phillips, "The Impact of Managed



NAP inductees included three State Society members: Richard Alperin (second from left), Joan Cohn, (third from left), and Carol Tosone, (second from right).

Care on Psychotherapy: Innovation, Implementation, & Controversy."

Also elected into NAP as a Distinguished Practitioner, Joan Kirschenbaum Cohn, DSW, is a clinician, assistant professor, lecturer, and author in the social work field. She helped initiate and build community based and organizational programs with major teaching hospitals including Harvard (Brigham and Women's Hospital and Children's Hospital), Stony brook University and

Mount Sinai Hospitals.

In her career as a clinician she has had the opportunity to treat individuals, groups, and families from different ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. Her patient population has spanned very young children to senior citizens. She has served as a consultant to nursery schools, day care centers, colleges and family busi-

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nesses. She also provided crisis incident debriefing for a Wall Street firm after 9/11.

Dr. Cohn was a founding member and Associate Director of Mental Health at the Mount Sinai Women's Health Program in New York City. In this academic-based interdisciplinary primary care practice, she helped train physicians about women's health issues and participated in women's health research. In addition to her clinical responsibilities as a therapist, she has been an Assistant Professor in the departments of

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Collaborative Dialogue: The Clinical Process

Dianne Heller Kaminsky, Education Committee Chair, introduced May's well-attended conference. Its objective was "to look at therapeutic action and the psychodynamics of the therapeutic relationship. The particular aspects of therapeutic action that facilitate psychological change are likely to vary from person to person... Because change occurs for many different reasons, there are many different theories about which factors actually contribute to bringing it about. Each of our presenters will give their view of therapeutic action. Although this conference is not about Sept. 11th and the impact of terrorism on our lives and work, we all live in its shadow and cannot help but be affected by it, and the presentations will reflect that."

She went on to thank her committee for all their hard work. The committee included Roxandra Antoniadas, Richard Beck, Tripp Evans, James MacRae, Phyliss Mervis, Carol Silverman, Jane Stark, and Jill Winston.

Moving In – Staying Out

Keynote Review by Carol Silverman, MSW, BCD

Judith Rosenberger, Ph.D., the first of the keynote speakers, presented a stimulating and timely paper entitled, "Replenishing Depletion States in Our Patients and Ourselves." The thesis of this paper is "that we do not move on...until we move in." By "moving in," Dr. Rosenberger means a deep engagement with the product of the trauma, i.e., "fragmentation of the self." Moving in is seen as the "path to replenishment," while staying outside leads to depletion in both patient and therapist.

Dr. Rosenberger quoted or referred to the work of Sandor Ferenczi, Emanuel Ghent, Christopher Bollas, and Sigmund Freud as well as the poets Billy Collins, Wm. Mathews and W. B. Yeats to enrich her presentation of the theoretical and clinical material.

Dr. Rosenberger made three important points about depletion and replenishment. First, depletion states are the product not of engagement but of protracted hesitation between instinctual states of flight or fight. Second, pursuit of engagement with the traumatized patient's fragmentation is a quest for the transformational

moment, which necessarily occurs in relationship. Third, the transformational moment is mutually replenishing.

Judith Rosenberger

Dr. Rosenberger talked about the flight or fight concept as a visceral instinctual response to threat. We see in the diagnosis of PTSD the phenomenon of hyperventilation and flashbacks, and the more erosive effects of protracted arousal states due to lower level but unremitting anxiety signals, as causing more insidious ego compromises.

Dr. Rosenberger suggests that Freud's idea of neurotic anxiety as arising from internally generated states of threat disregards the anxieties (protracted arousal) related to untenable social conditions, which are real "and not amplified by unconscious associations." (This writer believes that the varieties and individuality of responses to external triggers suggest that unconscious associations are involved even when overwhelming external forces predominate.)

In working with traumatized patients the clinician must be attentive to the parallel processes that are likely to ensue and to her responses to them, i.e., survivor guilt, a version of superego anxiety, anxiety about the gratitude for one's own safety and resentment at having to repress one's own relief. These feel-

ings may lead to depletion, as we feel guilty about our own wish to flee,

powerlessness to fight and gratitude that we are relatively safe. Ferenczi is quoted regarding the need for the clinician's awareness of failure to reach full contact with the patient's communicated distress.

We must "give up that passivity and place ourselves at the patient's disposal in a passionately active manner."

In the introduction to the poignant case example, Dr. Rosenberger describes her own struggle with compassion fatigue or survivor's guilt that depletes therapeutic reserves, the therapeutic self, and inhibits the ability to contact the passionate activity about which Ferenczi speaks. The case example is of Linda, a graduate student who had been trapped for a time in her school near Ground Zero. She was able to flee north

Carol Silverman is a graduate of the Psychoanalytic Institute of the Postgraduate Center for Mental Health. She is in private practice in New York City.

with others and eventually to rendezvous with her father, who took her home to New Jersey. Weeks later her disrupted sleep, loss of concentration, social withdrawal, tearful hopelessness and relentless revisiting of the day were not abating. It was difficult for her to finish the school semester. She felt that people were losing the ability to be sympathetic and losing interest in her experience of 9/11. She felt ashamed and guilty of continuing to feel afflicted, especially given that she had suffered so little compared to the actual victims of the attack and their families.

Dr. Rosenberger asked her to describe the day, her feelings and the aftermath and reassured her that she had suffered and that it was appropriate to grieve. Dr. Rosenberger suggests that she had "mobilized the tools of crisis intervention, recalling her latent ego capacities, mollifying her harsh superego, placing the crisis in the context of time in which there was a before and would be

an after." Using Bollas' idea of identity themes and self-image, Linda's identity theme was thought to be one of hyper-responsibility. That, in addition to feeling immature because she was still a student and living with her parents at age 26, was part of the problem.

Dr. Rosenberger describes her own experience of the session, recognizing her "internal shrinking" from the patient's description of her experiences and "helpless anguish about her failed recovery." Despite the temptation to "move out," i.e., end the session with some consoling words, a less than conscious feeling of something unsaid or undone led her to break a comfortable silence with the words, "Something else you want to tell me?" Dr. Rosenberger has no doubt that what followed had only at that moment achieved the capacity to be represented in words. The patient related that while she was running north, she passed the firehouse of a friend and she had not stopped to inquire about him. This flooded out in a way that indicated she was reexperiencing the feelings of that moment, as was Dr. Rosenberger in an empathic identification. Her friend had died in the tower collapse. She was excoriating herself for not having stopped to inquire about him, as if this would have prevented his death.

Dr. Rosenberger believes strongly that "the therapeutic moment occurred in not abandoning her to the state of unintegration of self that had kept this memory from view." She also feels that having been invited into a "facilitative encounter" enabled Linda to allow the memory to surface, and to achieve the capability of representation and communication. The source of the amnesia was the presence of a "sinister internal self-



Education Committee: (left to right, front) Jill Winston, Roxandra Antonaides, Dianne Heller Kaminsky, Chair; (left to right, back) Carol Silverman, James MacRae, Tripp Evans, Richard Beck, June Stark.

doubt that was equal in traumatic impact to her exposure to terror." She had departed from her identity theme. The facilitative mothering act was caring to discover the unintegrated self-dimension and to rid it of self-rebuke. Facilitation was of an unintegrated self that included parts that are previously unknown. Referring back to Ferenczi, the facilitation was one of "passionate activity," in which the invitation had to be made, urged, coaxed forward, and yet the invitation was contentless requiring unintegration in the listener.

Linda, Dr. Rosenberger said, was able to finish her school term, was sleeping better and was feeling some return of interest in the future and had accepted a referral for further clinical work.

Dr. Rosenberger suggests that our own moments with transformational objects create a memory, which we seek to recreate in our work with patients. Paradoxically, we can only use this experience by giving up our own self-integration and trusting to the mutuality of creating a re-integration with the patient's help. We attempt to fit together with the patient and one tool that we can use is the concept of surrender (a concept of E. Ghent) which Dr. Rosenberger sees as a form of passionate activity in which we ward off our own need to know, do, and think to allow for the emergence of something else.

Dr. Rosenberger then introduced the work of three poets and of Christopher Bollas to elucidate some of her thinking. From Bollas we learned that the need to experience unintegration in the search for a transformed integration is a giving up of an integration based on defensive paralysis, which is depleting. Unintegration in the pursuit of deeper rapport is replenishing.

Collaborative Dialogue: The Clinical Process

Holding, Containing and Facilitating Couples with Trauma Histories

Keynote Review by Richard Beck, RCSW, BCD, CGP

Richard Beck, president-elect Eastern Group Psychotherapy Society has a private practice in NYC specializing in Trauma. Barbara Feld's keynote address both held and contained her audience as she enhanced our understanding of treating couples with trauma histories. She described her method of incorporating both attachment and dynamic systems approaches. Ms. Feld's goal in couples treatment is "to help partners to become aware of and better regulate the co-created, interactive aspects of their relationship." When couples have a history of trauma, the clinician has additional elements to understand, namely how early traumatic experiences play out in the context of their interpersonal relationships. Traumatized persons tend to use "avoidant, disorganized or ambivalent strategies of stress regulation," according to Ms. Feld, as opposed to secure and responsive ones. They are frequently "blaming and distrustful" and in "combat or disengaged." If there was no safety in the family of origin, especially "if love was associated with the original trauma," it plays out in the couple's relationship.

Recent advances in psychoanalytic thought in individual treatment are incorporated in treating the dyadic system. These advances relate to attachment theory (based on Bowlby's work) and dynamic systems approaches and ideas about "self and mutual regulation of affect." These are the twin lenses through which Ms. Feld views her work with couples. Attachment theory research by Ainsworth identifies "attachment orientations" relating to how one views self and others in a "strange situation." They are 1) secure 2) insecure (avoidant and ambivalent) and 3) disorganized. Bowlby's "working model" describes the first five years of the reciprocal relationship between child and mother as forming the basis of later relationships." The mutually influencing systems can cause problems for couples that, Ms. Feld found, were further exacerbated after the terrorist attack on Barbara Feld

According to Ms. Feld, "when the security of a bond is threatened, a person responds with typical attachment-seeking behaviors that were designed in childhood to regulate anxiety." The "building blocks" of

September 11th, 2001.

secure attachment, "emotional accessibility and responsiveness between important others, open physical access, self-regulation, and a reflective function in the parental figures," need to" become available in the treatment setting."

The dynamic systems perspective, which emphasizes the "process and systems aspects of interactions" overlaps and complements Ms. Feld's use of attachment theory. This reciprocal relational process "shapes each partner's individual state of consciousness as well as being shaped by it." In order to understand the couple, it is important to understand the system created.

The two theories described by Ms. Feld focus on different aspects of a related phenomenon, and it is with wisdom, clinical experience and expertise that she is able to utilize both. She described the "frame" within which treatment occurs, in particular, the importance of the

therapist creating a "safe holding and facilitating environment "that is helpful for the expression and exploration of the relational processes" that the partners bring to treatment. We need to be able to sit with the

couple and all of their affects, she said, especially the unexpected, disorganized ones. We need to provide a "secure base" from which each partner can "explore the wish to be understood by the other."

Ms. Feld references Winnicott's holding environment in couples treatment as a place where "one can grow and repair," one that the therapist needs to constantly maintain. It is a different environment from that of the family of origin of each partner. The listening stance Ms. Feld takes, one of facilitating a sense of "being attended to and understood" for both partners, helps to create such an environment. It requires "modeling direct communication and cooperative, coherent discourse to repair the cycle between people."

Ms. Feld went on to describe how the terrorist attack affected couples, especially those partners with trauma histories who were unable to turn to each other with compassion. She described one such couple in treat-



Conferees: (left to right, front) Barbara Feld, Judith Rosenberger; (left to right, back) Florence Rosiello, Dianne Heller Kaminsky, Carl Bagnini, Gwenn Nusbaum, Rhoda Ritter, Nancy Kahn.

ment. Paying attention to their non-verbal communication was very important, as was paying close attention to her own countertransferential reactions.

A masterful clinician, Ms. Feld modeled understanding, accessibility and responsiveness during this delightful presentation.

State Society Members Inducted into the National Academies of Practice

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Medicine and Community and Preventative Medicine. She has mentored medical students and residents and taught the importance of the psycho-social aspects of disease. Before coming to Mt. Sinai, she was a supervising social worker and instructor in Pediatrics and Medicine at the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Dr. Cohn received her undergraduate degree from Jackson College of Tufts University, a Master of Arts from Columbia University, a Master of Social Work from Boston University and a Doctor of Social Work from Adelphi University.

Carol Tosone, PhD, was inducted into the NAP as a Distinguished Scholar in Social Work. Dr. Tosone is an Associate Professor at the New York University Shirley M. Ehrenkranz School of Social Work and a recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award and Medal.

Dr. Tosone serves on the editorial boards of Psychoanalytic Social Work, Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy, Social Work in Mental Health and Social Work in Health Care. She is the author of professional articles on the topics of countertransference, short-term treatment, trauma and women's issues. Dr. Tosone is co-editor of two books, Love & Attachment: Contemporary Issues and Treatment Considerations, and Doing More With Less: Using Long-Term Skills in Short-Term Treatment.

Prior to joining the faculty of NYU, Dr. Tosone was an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry (Social Work) at Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia. Dr. Tosone received her M.S. from Columbia University, her Ph.D. from New York University Shirley M. Ehrenkranz School of Social Work, and her certification in psychoanalysis and psychotherapy from Postgraduate Center for Mental Health, where she was the recipient of the Postgraduate Center Memorial Award. Dr. Tosone was appointed to the National Study Group of the National Membership Committee on Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work and also serves on the Executive Board of the State Society in the capacity of First Vice President.

The Society's Referral and Information Service has changed its name to TherapyResource (TR) because it is easier to remember. Since full members of the TR panel must have P or R certification, a new category of membership, associate member, has been developed. Associates are not required to have a P or R, but may participate on committees and may be

eligible for special events. All Society members are eligible to participate as speakers with the Speakers' Bureau.

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If you would like to join as a full or associate member, please call Marilyn Paschel at (718) 961-8332 or email her at mjpaschel@aol.com for an application form.

Therapy Resource ads are being placed in community papers. Below is an example.

How to Find an Experienced Psychotherapist.

herapyResource (TR)provides a personal and reliable way to find a suitable, experienced psychotherapist. Part of the New York State Society for Clinical Social Work, TR draws from an extensive database to match you with a therapist who is right for you — someone who offers the type of treatment and expertise you need, and whose office location and insurance coverage fit your needs.

Many TR therapists have private offices throughout the metropolitan area. All are certified by New York State and have extensive training and experience. Their clients are adults, teenagers and children who come to therapy with many different kinds of problems.

These problems include low self-esteem, anxiety and stress, couple and family relationship issues, parenting concerns, depression, bereavement, job and career pressures, sexual dysfunction, separation/divorce/custody issues, school problems (including LD and ADHD), chemical and alcohol dependency, traumatic experiences, or just a general sense of unhappiness or lack of direction.

In addition to providing referrals to psychotherapists, TR offers information about community resources and mental health issues and provides help during crises. For example, many members volunteered at the Family Center helping bereaved families after September 11, 2001. TR also provides speakers on various topics for community groups, school and corporations.

How does TR work? When you call the 800 number, a clinical social worker will call you back. You can request general information about emotional and behavioral issues, help in locating community resources, connection to the TR Speakers' Bureau, or, if you wish, referrals to one or more therapists whose expertise fits your specific needs. Your inquiries will be treated with respect and tact. Calls are confidential and free of charge.

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The Practical Practitioner

Using the Internet to Build Your Practice

hen marketing yourself, remember that the Internet is a potential source of referrals and a way to gain name recognition, a kind of electronic networking. There are many sites where you can list yourself by specialty or geographical area, often at no cost. One example is Psychotherapy Finances (psyfin.com/directory/) Another useful site is run by Pat McClendon at clinicalsocialwork.com/join.html. There are a number of others (If you'd like an electronic list, please send me an e-mail at the address below.)

You can also become known by belonging to a professional on-line mailing list (sometimes called egroup or listserv). Although clinicians from all over the country belong, sometimes a need for a referral may arise in your area. Such a list can also be a valuable backup for information about professional or practice management issues or even consultation on a difficult case. Some clinical social workers have formed a list at yahoogroups.com. To become a member, go to the site

and search for clinical social work. (You'll find several other sites, too, which may be of interest.)

tay Shello Pelds

Many sites are also looking for articles to post. Visit AOL's Social Work Forum and you'll find a number of excellent pieces which are seen by clinicians nationwide and which could be a source of referrals, should you place something of your own there. And, of course, you might want to consider developing your own site as a source of referrals. We'll write more about that in the next issue.

As a professional in private practice, it is particularly important to be connected to the Internet. More and more clients are on line and sometimes use e-mail to connect with their therapists. If you find yourself overwhelmed by the idea of using a computer, get someone to help you learn how, or take an adult education class. You can reach me at Sheila2688@aol.com or by telephone at (516) 889-2688. If you have a site of your own, please let me know, since we'd like to write a column on that topic.

Public Relations

On Matters Electronic

e've been focusing much of our energy on our Web site and our e-mail list. Recently, in the licensing battle, we placed a pop-up window on the site (clinicalsw.org) first advising people about the struggle over getting our version of the bill accepted, then, when that was settled, advising site visitors to write to the governor urging him to sign, and finally, at last, letting people know that WE HAVE LICENSING!!

Working with president Helen Krackow and Legislative Chair Marsha Wineburgh, we've used our email list of members to keep them abreast of the same developments. Most recently, we sent out a notice about the latest HIPAA regulations. If you haven't received these e-mails from us and would like to be added to the list, please e-mail me at the address below (and MAKE SURE YOU INCLUDE YOUR CHAPTER). We hope to use this process more and more as members come on-line, both for speed and economy (it's a lot cheaper than mail).

In an attempt to organize the process for placing content on our Web site (clinicalsw.org), I will be sending out a monthly e-mail to all of you requesting whatever information you'd like to be placed on the site about your chapter or committee for that month.

The site is growing and people are visiting it. I plan to have a counter placed on our front page so we can keep track of "hits." We get three or four membership requests a week from the site, as well as a variety of other e-mails.

We are also in the process of developing policy for advertising, since we've received some requests about this. Probably we will accept ads on a monthly basis with rates somewhat less than our newsletter. More next meeting.

Please keep in mind ways in which you can use the site to announce your events, post pictures, etc. We can also use book reviews and clinical articles. Professionals ARE visiting us and we've entered it into many of the more popular search engines. Our next step will be to develop materials relevant to the general public. Please send me an e-mail at Sheila2688@aol.com

Some Concerns About the Current Nature of Parental Permissiveness

While some therapists might

view parenthood as falling

outside of their traditional

domain of love, work and issues

of identity, I propose we view

parenthood as the ultimate

blending of love, work and

identity.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

where the harm is most disturbing, it would be that children who are constantly praised, indulged, entertained, and scheduled are denied the opportunity of developing the capacity to reflect, and to recognize and regulate their own moods. This places them in the vulnerable position of protracted dependency and the anger and depression that so often accompany seesawing between helplessness and grandiosity.

But what about these ultra permissive parents, parents who, with the best intentions, have brought about this state of affairs? Who are they and why have they adopted this mode of child rearing? This is where I become uncertain; how this trend came to be so

entrenched is very unclear. The reader might think that this trend must exist among the very affluent, for who else would take children to restaurants and let them waste piles of food? It does seem to be prominent among affluent and well-educated parents, but it exists in many middle-class families as well. The reader might think that it exists in homes where both parents work and their indulgence is a measure of their guilt at being so often apart

from their children. I have found that full time parents are as likely to be overly permissive as working parents. You might think that older parents are more likely to be permissive because they waited so long to have a child, and their child seems a veritable miracle to them. That might be true, but I have found this trend among younger parents as well. While I have been unsuccessful in understanding the force of this trend, I can describe something about the state that these parents are in when I see them professionally, either as the parents of a child patient, or simply as adults in treatment.

The ultra permissive parent is typically sleep-deprived, overworked, overwhelmed, yet unwilling to take charge and institute changes to reduce the disorganized home climate. For instance, if the sleep deprivation is caused by a young child's sleeping in the parental bed and demanding meals, videos and storybooks during the night, the parent behaves as if yielding to these demands is a natural part of being a parent. This view of parenthood as a state of having to surrender totally to the demands of a child, with little regard for ones own needs, is a curious and puzzling phenomenon and suggests that something radical has shifted in the parental ego ideal. While the child is simultaneously adultified and infantalized, the parent clings to the belief that parental fairness consists of not imposing anything on the child or of not making any decisions without his permission. Consequently, the attitude that the parent takes pride in upholding seems to the therapist an abdication of parental care and protection. What is lacking in the ultra permissive homes is the creation of an environment that has a particular structure, that provides a sense of order and predictability, and that imposes standards of behavior, in other words, what Hartmann called "an average expectable environment." The ultra permissive home is chaotic, with family members all laboring hard and feeling great distress. If we were to choose a good indicator that parents had reached the emotional development that parenthood requires, their

ability to provide a holding environment would be an excellent one. The ultra permissive parent is not separate enough from his child to have attained this developmental stage, and everyone suffers. What we have instead is a situation wherein unconscious fantasies and unresolved conflict have gained the upper hand with reality lagging behind.

Psychotherapists who work with the parents of their child patient are often able to intervene and help the ultra permissive parents. But what about

the therapists of adults who listen to patients talk of their children and family life and reveal that theirs is

an exhausting child-dominated home climate? While it is true that very often these patients are not consciously asking for help in this area, they are letting us know that they chronically feel uncertain and unsafe in one of life's most important tasks. While some therapists might view parenthood as falling outside of their traditional domain of love, work and issues of identity, I propose we view parenthood as the ultimate blending of love, work and identity. To help adults struggling with this aspect of development is very much a part of our work, so long as we do not lose our psychotherapeutic perspective and fall into a mode of advice giving rather than exploration and interpretation. Our training as psychoanalysts and psychoanalytic psychotherapists

REFERENCES:

and children in distress.

Hartmann, H. (1958). Ego Psychology and the Problem of Adaptation. New York: International University Press.

gives us the tools we need to address this area of human

development. Our careful listening and fine-tuning

will, as in all other matters, guide us in applying these

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Spitz, R. (1959). A Genetic Field Theory of Ego Formation. New York: International University Press.

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-- Landmark Legislation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

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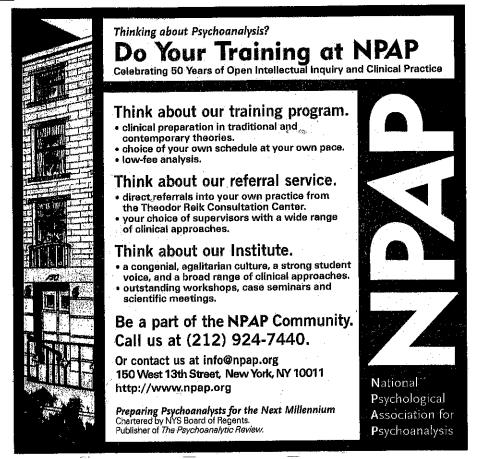
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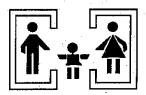
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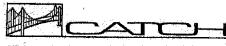
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