

*by whom? date? (Chicago?)
Freud's plan? Dr. Levy
1942*

TENTATIVE PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE REGULATION
OF PSYCHOANALYTIC TRAINING

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Probably the chief cause of controversy in the psychoanalytic societies arises from the fact that it seems to be necessary in order to protect the public and the reputation of psychoanalysis from improperly trained analysts to make membership in the several constituent societies of the American Psychoanalytic Association equivalent to a sort of licensure to practice psychoanalysis. As a result of this fact psychoanalytic training has in large part been organized and controlled by psychoanalytic societies. When scientific differences concerning psychoanalytic technique or even concerning psychoanalytic theory have arisen, such differences together with feelings of a more personal nature have sometimes given rise to factional struggles in the several constituent psychoanalytic societies and such struggles have usually centered about the control of training. In such controversies the need to insist upon one or another point of view often seems to gain a measure of justification from the sincere conviction that if certain essentials are not adhered to the American Psychoanalytic Association will be in effect licensing inadequately or improperly trained students to practice psychoanalysis. In the acrimony of controversial discussion, however, the tendency has been to lose sight of the principles that should govern the conduct and regulation of training and to allow psychoanalytic training to develop by more or less haphazard compromises between divergent views. In order to correct this state of affairs it seems desirable to get back to general principles and to attempt to view the whole problem from a broader perspective.

We, therefore, propose the following as guiding principles:

(A) The purpose of training even in matters of psychoanalytic technique should not be to indoctrinate a student with any particular views, not even those of Freud or those attributed by others to Freud. On the other hand, it is quite necessary to insist that the student should have a thorough

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knowledge of psychoanalytic theory in historical perspective, and an adequate mastery of the technique acquired by clinical practice under supervision.

(B) In scientific controversies fruitful insights are usually introduced and advocated by gifted individuals or small minorities, and political majorities are more often wrong than right in the light of future developments. It follows therefore that the conduct of scientific or technical training cannot safely be entrusted to the vicissitudes of political controversy or of majority vote in a society.

(C) We propose therefore:

1. that the several constituent psychoanalytic societies relinquish their control over the actual conduct of psychoanalytic training;
2. that the conduct of psychoanalytic training be entrusted to the psychoanalytic institutes as independent organizations;
3. that no psychoanalytic institute be recognized as an official training institute of the American Psychoanalytic Association or of any of its constituent societies, but that any properly constituted group of qualified training analysts be permitted to establish and maintain a training institute upon fulfilling the conditions prescribed in Minimal Standards for the Organization and Conduct of Institutes for the Training of Physicians in Psychoanalysis;
4. that the role of the American Psychoanalytic Association in relation to training should be restricted to:
 - a. Prescribing minimum standards for psychoanalytic training institutes and for examination and certification of students
 - b. Admitting to membership in the American Psychoanalytic Association students who have been certified as having completed their training in any one of the accredited psychoanalytic training institutes and who then satisfactorily passed an examination given by the American Psychoanalytic Association to determine their knowledge of the theory and their practical grasp of the technique of psychoanalysis. Such an admission to membership in the American Psychoanalytic Association should then constitute recognition by the American Psychoanalytic Association that such member's training and qualifications have been adequate to justify his engaging in the practice of psychoanalysis.

Committees appointed for the certification of students should consist of one member from each of the constituent societies and should devise rules as necessary for dividing up the task of examining students between them. The board for examination of each particular student should be composed of training analysts from other geographical areas than the one in which the student was trained but should receive careful reports concerning the character of the student's work from the Institute in which he was trained.

certification of training analysts

- c. Periodic study and evaluation of the work of training institutes (e.g. every five years) and report upon the adequacy of training offered by them. No training institute should be accredited as a psychoanalytic training institute except upon the basis of such a report. Any Committee appointed for the study and evaluation of an Institute should consist exclusively of members from other geographical areas than the one in which the Institute to be evaluated is located.

(D) All active members of the present constituent societies of the American Psychoanalytic Association at the time that these proposals go into effect should continue as members of the American Psychoanalytic Association and any former members of the American Psychoanalytic Assn. who have resigned since June 1937 should have the privilege of resuming their membership in the American Psychoanalytic Association only after passing an examination by a committee of the American Psychoanalytic Association as suggested in C-4-b.

(E) There need be no restriction on the number of constituent societies' members of the American Psychoanalytic Association in any one geographical area.

Any psychoanalytic society consisting of ten or more members of the American Psychoanalytic Association may apply for and receive constituent society membership in the American Psychoanalytic Association upon complying with the provisions of Article III, Section 3, of the constitution of the American Psychoanalytic Association.

Any member of the American Psychoanalytic Association may apply for and be admitted to any constituent society of the American Psychoanalytic Association but no member of the American Psychoanalytic Association should be a member of more than one constituent society at the same time.

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