

July 27, 1949

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Ernst Lewy

TO:

I

This memorandum and the attached material is strictly confidential. Please do not mention this to or discuss with anyone except those who also received a copy. (See list below)

This all refers to an idea I proposed to and discussed with Dr. Brunswick and Dr. Greenson as a possible solution of the increasing difficulties we are having in the Education Committee. The summary on Sheet II was formulated by Dr. Greenson as a result of my discussion with him and Dr. Brunswick.

The proposed division is similar to that established in the London Institute of Psychoanalysis where difficulties had arisen between the Anna Freud Group and the Melanie Klein Group.

I am not satisfied yet that such a plan as proposed by me would achieve what it is supposed to. One chief disadvantage would be that the dissenting group (those who always emphasize the importance of "recent advances" which seem of rather doubtful clarity and value to us in contrast to what we consider accepted and firmly established tenets of psychoanalysis) would at once be recognized as equally qualified to represent and teach psychoanalysis, a state of affairs to which we might neither want to agree nor lend a helping hand. However, the situation has become so bad that something must be done. On the other hand, we must consider the rights and position of the candidates in training and their dependency on financial aid from the Veterans Administration. This makes more drastic steps impossible for the time being.

There are many problems and technical difficulties to be solved if this plan is to be tried out.

What I want now is your interest and opinion.

I shall be glad to discuss this plan individually with each of you or at a meeting at any time and hope you will think about this and discuss this among each other starting immediately.

I would like to add to the list of prerogatives as listed by Dr. Greenson under "sub-committees" on Sheet II:

- g) The sub-committees share available funds equally.
- h) Sub-committees invite guest lecturers independently.

It is required ((strongly) recommended) that candidates attend all (all theoretical) courses given by guest lecturers of each group.

EL/ab
Attachments

cc: David Brunswick
Mrs. Frances Deri
Hannah Fenichel
Richard Evans
Robert Newhouse.

Ruth Jaeger and Lincoln Rahman

Tentative Plan for Reorganization of the Training School
of the Institute

It is planned to divide up the functions of the training institute in such a way that training can be continued efficiently and thoroughly for the candidates despite the important divergencies of opinions on basic questions within the Education Committee.

By splitting up some of the functions of the Education Committee into two sub-groups, it would be possible to avoid much of the friction. Each sub-group could set up a curriculum of courses they want to teach and submit it to the other sub-group, and then jointly decide what courses they would recommend for their candidates and which courses they would insist upon giving by themselves. This would make it possible for new lecturers to be trained and this would also make it possible for the training analysts to make sure that their candidates are getting the kind of training they think they should get. Candidates would be permitted and encouraged to attend seminars given by the other sub-group. They would also be encouraged to take controls from the other sub-group. This would do away with much of the whispering campaign by announcing in this way a definite difference of opinion without resulting in hostility and mistrust. There can be disagreement without suspicion. This plan would probably result in some duplication of seminars, but this is better than having seminars which do not satisfy the requirements of some of the members of the Education Committee. Some seminars could be given jointly for both groups.

The following changes are tentatively proposed:

- Under advanced stages of their training w. consent of their train.*
- (1) The Education Committee shall give up some of its powers to sub-committees but retain its power on certain matters.
 - (2) The sub-committees shall consist of members of the Education Committee who wish to work together. These sub-committees shall have the power to
 - a) Elect a sub-committee head
 - b) Appoint lecturers
 - c) Set up curriculum
 - d) Decide the beginning of control dates for candidates they train
 - e) Elect a representative to the Board on Professional Standards
 - f) Have representation in the examination of candidates
 - (3) The Education Committee shall retain the following powers:
 - a) To meet regularly and have a director
 - b) To appoint training analysts
 - c) To approve credentials of transfers
 - d) To approve of examinations of candidates.
 - e) To approve of credentials of candidates
 - f) The selection of candidates
- is provided for*