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FILE

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Dr. Ernst Lewy
9629 Brighton Way
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Dr. Lewy:

I am glad to give you information about the Philadelphia situation that led to our decision to form our own Institute.

If I were to try to put this completely in a nut shell, I would say that the fundamental cause of separation is ideological. The conflict is between those who understand and continue the use and investigation of deep psychology against those who are fundamentally unaware or antagonistic towards some part or all of the crudities of the unconscious and hence have the inclination to make concessions to those who wish to maintain the "nobler" aspects of mankind. In this way, it is similar to the ancient struggle between those who are convinced of the earth's trivial place in the scheme of things as against those who wish it to be the center of everything or, more correctly, perhaps, those who wish to believe man's unconscious is superego and not include the id. I think that within the framework of analysis itself the same struggle is going on as Freud met originally, though in perhaps more dangerous form, since many of the very spokesmen for analysis now join with those who devitalize it.

(See my paper "The Return of the Repression")

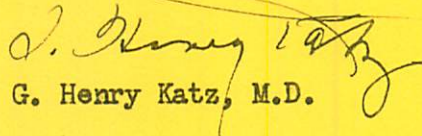
The struggle in our Society has continued over years, with our group always in the small minority. We considered the division a momentous one and tried to maintain our group by every means in our power. Recently the conviction that those who are against us were unable to do otherwise because of their resistances, either unanalyzed or later developed, against various unconscious factors, together with the knowledge that we were collaborating in training of future analysts with men whose short-sightedness prevent them from analyzing similar short-sightedness in their patients, caused us to decide to make the break. We came to the conclusion that a small group devoted to analysis within the total analytic group would have a better chance of continuing what has been learned analytically, if the principles were definitely upheld than if they remained part of the total compromising group.

I am including, with his permission, copy of letter Dr. Biddle wrote to Dr. Bibring which states some of the factors entering into our decision, and a copy of an article I expect to print in our own Bulletin stating another phase of the same.

We thought that other similar groups interested in the maintenance and furtherance of the study of the unconscious and analysis as such probably would develop as conditions within their own Societies approached ours and that we would welcome such additions to our numbers. We are keenly interested in the furtherance of understanding of deep psychology based on research and knowledge.

I would be pleased if you would let me know your reactions.

Cordially yours,


G. Henry Katz, M.D.

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