

ICAA 1996 AMSTERDAM



FINAL PROGRAMME

International Institute on Dependencies, 30 June - 5 July 1996

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THE ART OF CANALIZING

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
ON THE PREVENTION AND
TREATMENT OF DEPENDENCIES

30 June - 5 July 1996
AMSTERDAM RAI



ICAA 1996

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

CASE DISCUSSION (BÁLINT) GROUP FOR TELEPHONE HELPLINE OPERATORS

György Szóke Ph.D.

The Bálint group organized for the counsellors of the Drug Stop service of Budapest shows some differences compared to case discussion groups working in other areas - especially those among family doctors. The persons giving the account know personally the patient they are reporting about. The other participants only picture him/her and the case through this person's presentation. In our group set up for telephone counsellors, however the reporting persons are greatly relying on their own imagination as they only know the case by hearing as well. Thus there is much chance for projective identification. As - for lack of personal acquaintance - they are more likely to put themselves in the situation of the caller, their relative or friend. The reporting persons in Bálint groups are in possession of first-hand information, they convey this to the group, whereas in the case of the helpline counsellors, one of the main fantasies of both the reporter and the group is what it would be like to have personal contact with the caller. Consequently there is a greater probability for unconscious fantasies to move or conflict, naturally without their personal roots being addressed in the group.

EAP ASSESSMENT: HOW IMPORTANT IS A PERSONAL HISTORY?

Carvel Taylor LCSW and Robert Taylor LCSW
of Taylor & Associates, Chicago
333 N. Michigan Av, Suite 3400, Chicago, Ill. 60601/USA
Assessment of employee assistance program (EAP) clients focuses on a quick but accurate diagnosis. The client's own beliefs about the situation are often erroneous. In one or two sessions the assessor must help the client move from his/her stance to one more fitted to the actual situation.

To accomplish this the assessor focuses on the historical development of the person's life and circumstances. Clients may then begin to assess for themselves the evolution of their alcoholism, chemical dependency or emotional problems in the context of their family and community.

This paper, using case study examples, will show how such historical perspective, viewed step by step, assists a troubled employee in accepting an appropriate referral for help.

(RE)INTEGRATION: THERAPY OR SUPPORT? INCREASING SELF-DEPENDENCY THROUGH ORGANISED PEER-GROUP CONTACT

C. Teensma/J. Zeilstra, Bouman Foundation Rotterdam

People who have overcome their drug dependency, or drug users who are considering a change in their lifestyle, meet with insufficient support both in the direct social circle and/or by professional workers in their efforts to reintegrate successfully in the regular society. Like others, i.e. non-users, many of them experience problems with the labour market, building societies, social contacts, finance, etc.

How they cope with these situations is influenced by their still insufficiently developed problem solving capabilities. For a great number of these people this leads to relapse into old patterns such as drug abuse or anti-social behaviour.

As a partial solution, the Rotterdam Autonomy Project (RAP) offers the possibility of peer-group contact for groups of (ex)drug users who have a similar background or aim.

Participating in this program helps reduce the instability in daily life and increases the self-dependency by offering a structure in which:

- a. Individual professional guidance for the participant secures realistic planning and
- b. the practice and moral support by members of the group creates the drive to proceed with the necessary steps that lead to the achievement of the set target.

Explanation will be given of the method that was developed for professional individual guidance and for the support of the peer-group.

THE PREVALENCE OF DRUG USE IN ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN RIO DE JANEIRO

Telles, PR* & Caldeira, Z*

* NEPAD-State University of Rio de Janeiro

This paper presents data about the prevalence of drug use at lifetime and last 30 days in the 5th to 11th grades students of public schools in two regions of Rio de Janeiro, Central-Leopoldina (CL) and South zones (S). The study was carried out in 1995 and interviewed 1240 students in 18 different schools (10 CL, 8 S), chosen by chance among all the schools in that regions, and used an anonymous self-completed questionnaire. The mean age of the sample was 14.9 years (41.9% masc. - 58.1% fem.). Our results concerning lifetime (lf) and last 30 days (td) drug use was: alcohol (82.0% lf - 21.2% td), tobacco (37.5% lf - 4.3% td), tranquilizers (8.6% lf - 2.1% td), solvents (8.0% lf - 2.5% td), marijuana (7.8% lf - 2.0% td) and cocaine (2.7% lf - 0.5% td). The mean age (in years) of the first use was: alcohol (6.3 y), tobacco (7.1 y), tranquilizers (13.3 y), solvents (12.4 y), marijuana (14.1 y) and cocaine (14.0 y). There is a significant association ($p < 0.05$) between the female subsample and the use of tranquilizers and tobacco. On the other side, marijuana was more consumed by the male subsample. Older age (≥ 15 years) was also associated, as should be expected, with the use of most drugs studied.

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Jan Walburg
JELLINEK CENTER
PO Box 3907
Amsterdam 1001
AS Netherlands

16 January 1996

Dear Mr. Walburg:

Here is the abstract of the paper we will give in the Business and Industry section of the ICAA conference this summer. We look forward to being there and hope we get a chance to meet.

Sincerely,

Carvel Taylor LCSW

Robert P. Taylor LCSW

cc: Joanne Pilat