DEVELOPMENT OF VIOLENCE AND PLEASURE IN MAN

ESALEN INSTITUTE
BIG SUR, CALIFORNIA

October 10-12, 1969
ON Crime and Punishment

You cannot separate the just from the unjust and the good from the wicked; For they stand together before the face of the sun even as the black thread and the white are woven together. And when the black thread breaks, the weaver shall look into the whole cloth, and he shall examine the loom also.

THE PROPHET
KAHLIL GIBRAN

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OCTOBER 10-12, 1969

Sponsored By The
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT

THE NEUROPSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTE
University of California
Los Angeles, California
WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

DEVELOPMENT OF VIOLENCE AND PLEASURE IN MAN

Extensive studies on the effects of maternal-social deprivation and early isolation-rearing experiences in mammals have produced a body of evidence that links these early experiences to autistic-depressive, hyper-reactive, and violent-aggressive behaviors in the maturing and adult organism. Recent theoretical developments have interpreted the above relationships as a consequence of sensory deprivation of the somatosensory system during the early formative periods of development and that these experiences result in the abnormal development of specific brain structures.

The objectives of this workshop are to review the existing scientific evidence that relates measures of brain function to the quality of early sensory experiences, specifically, maternal-social deprivation and isolation rearing experiences and to discuss the following points of view:

1. Behavioral pathologies resulting from early maternal-social deprivation experiences are attributable primarily to abnormalities of somatosensory system development and function.

2. The somatosensory system is the most important sensory system for social-affective development with the visual and auditory sensory systems assuming a secondary role. Problems in emotional-affective expression may be attributable to developmental abnormalities of the somatosensory system.

3. Sensory deprivation experiences produce stimulus-seeking behaviors that are related to the sensory system that is deprived. Somatosensory deprivation illustrates the reciprocal relationships between pleasure-seeking and aggressive-seeking behaviors such that functional capacity in one denotes functional incapacity in the other.

4. Somatosensory stimulation may be therapeutically more effective than visual and auditory stimulation in the treatment of emotional-behavioral problems.

5. The somatosensory-cerebellar system is a master integrating and regulating system for sensory-emotional and motor functions.

6. Social-cultural and ethical-religious beliefs and practices determine, in part, the quality of sensory stimulation experienced by the developing child which, in turn, affect the developing brain and behavior.

Participants of the workshop will be drawn from the multidisciplinary sciences of neuropsychology, neuropsychiatry, neurophysiology, psychophysiology, developmental behavioral biology, social anthropology, and psychoanalysis.

JAMES W. PRESCOTT, Ph.D., Chairman, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

WILLIAM H. RICKLES, JR., M.D., Co-Chairman, Neuropsychiatric Institute, University of California, Los Angeles
FRIDAY EVENING—8 P.M.

Behavioral Effects of Early Isolation Rearing Experiences
JAMES W. PRESCOTT, Chairman

JAMES W. PRESCOTT—Introduction

HARRY F. HARLOW —Respondent
WILLIAM MASON —Respondent
AUSTIN H. RIESEN —Respondent

DISCUSSANTS

GERSHON BERKSON
VICTOR DENENBERG
WALTER B. ESSMAN
MARGARET K. HARLOW
JOEL N. KAPLAN
GARY MITCHELL
LEON S. OTIS
GENE SACKETT

SATURDAY MORNING—9 A.M.

Electrophysiological Effects of Early Isolation Rearing Experiences
WILLIAM H. RICKLES, Chairman

ROBERT G. HEATH —Keynote Address

LORING CHAPMAN —Respondent
LAWRENCE R. PINNEO —Respondent
KARL H. PRIBRAM —Respondent

DISCUSSANTS

NEIL R. BURCH
JOE KAMIYA
MARTIN L. REITB
GUENTHER ROSE
BERNARD SALTZBERG
SATURDAY AFTERNOON—2 P.M.

Neurochemical, Neuroendocrine and Neuroanatomical Effects of Early Isolation Rearing Experiences
AUSTIN H. RIESEN, Chairman

WALTER B. ESSMAN —Keynote Address
JOSEPH ALTMAN —Respondent
VICTOR DENENBERG —Respondent
GEORGE A. SANTISTEBAN —Respondent

DISCUSSANTS
I. ARTHUR MIRSKY
AUSTIN H. RIESEN
MARK ROSENZWEIG

SATURDAY EVENING—8 P.M.

Somatosensory-Cerebellar Mechanisms as a Regulatory System for Social-Emotional and Motor Processes
LAWRENCE R. PINNED, Chairman

R. S. SNIDER —Keynote Address
JOSEPH ALTMAN —Respondent
GLENN RUSSELL —Respondent
ARTHUR KLING —Respondent

DISCUSSANTS
ERNEST S. BARRATT
ROBERT G. HEATH
JOHN LILLY
KARL H. PRIBRAM
SUNDAY MORNING—9 A.M.

Somatosensory Stimulation in Child Rearing Practices: Cultural Anthropological and Psychiatric Perspectives
LEON YARROW, Chairman

THOMAS LANDAUER — Keynote Address

GEORGE COLLIER — Respondent
EDWARD ORNITZ — Respondent
BRANDT F. STEELE — Respondent

DISCUSSANTS

NEIL R. BURCH
JAMES GROTSTEIN
HERBERT C. QUAY
BERNARD RIMLAND
LOUIS J. WEST

EPILOGUE: Developmental Psychobiology as the Origins of Self-Actualization

A. H. MASLOW

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ON Pleasure

Some of your youth seek pleasure as if it were all, and they are judged and rebuked. I would not judge nor rebuke them. I would have them seek. For they shall find pleasure, but not her alone; Seven are her sisters, and the least of them is more beautiful than pleasure.

THE PROPHET
KAHLIL GIBRAN