

classification on the methods of treatment and the variants of the methods, distinguished in this text as the techniques. The practice and application of each method and technique are also given careful consideration.

'The master code' is contained in Part Three, and is intended by the authors as a reference chart for treatment planning and practice. It complements the classification of problem areas set out in Part Two, and provides the reader with an immediate source of ideas and appropriate treatment responses in routine daily work with problem children. This is a most valuable compendium.

This book succeeds in condensing an enormous field without losing clarity or detail where necessary, and gives copious references for further reading and information on each section. I am sure that it will have wide appeal across the whole spectrum of child and family-oriented workers.

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The Technique at Issue: Controversies in Psychoanalysis from Freud and Ferenczi to Michael Balint. By ANDRE HAYNAL. London: Karma Books. 1988. 202 pp. £13.50.

How pleasant to meet Dr Haynal, who picks up a subject potentially heavy to the mind and makes of it a stylish, lively story, that can be read with profitable pleasure in an evening. Spiced with anecdotes from the lives of his three main protagonists, this study of the river of controversy flowing through psychoanalysis since its early days gives one a sparkling overview of the turbulent waters, and follows the mainstream through to the present. In the beginning was Freud, and for a decade or so, the Word *was* Freud. But then came a challenger from the East – Hungary: Ferenczi, at one and the same time Freud's most ardent, loyal supporter (and analysand), and yet, of all the first-generation followers, the one who pushed the boundaries irretrievably onwards and outwards, and pioneered new ground to the end of his days. Where Freud concentrated on theory, Ferenczi's great love was expansion of technique; Freud saw the patient as an object of rational study, yielding new insights for his model of the mind, whereas Ferenczi saw the patient as a suffering person interacting with, and affecting, the analyst. Freud, with genius, constructed a 'one-person psychology'; Ferenczi, with intuition, opened up the whole field of 'two-person psychology'. Freud knew about transference and counter-transference, but was rather afraid of them; Ferenczi embraced both as the best instruments for our purpose. Freud would have argued that "developing theory will further technique", and he used the 'classical' method of cognitive, didactic insights and

reconstruction of memory. Ferenczi's view could be summarised as: "developing technique will produce theory", and he evolved the 'object-related' method with high levels of transference and counter-transference work, interactive empathy, and the use of regression. Balint took up where Ferenczi left off, and the spotlight moved again on to the analyst himself as a whole person, and not only on his use of counter-transference. Level-headed in furious controversy, Balint deepened and refined the study of regression as a valuable analytical experience.

But, with all the vigorous arguments down the years, often advanced with quasi-religious fervour, the British Society, enriched by the immigration of analysts of all shades of opinion, has held to one view dear to Freud's heart, namely, that it is better for the health of psychoanalysis that its practitioners hang together, containing pluralism and controversy, rather than fragment; and this we do, knowing that the coherent strength of psychoanalysis lives in its aim and its topic (mental health and the abysses of the mind) and that this is not weakened by a multiplicity of personalities, styles, theories, or techniques.

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Trends in Law and Mental Health. Edited by FRANS KOENRAADT and MICHAEL ZEEGERS. Arnhem, The Netherlands: Gouda Quint. 1988. 463 pp. Dfl75.00.

This volume records the proceedings of the International Congress on Law and Mental Health, held in Amsterdam in June 1987. The 45 papers are in six sections: legislation and mental illness, medical (*sic*), legal problems, mentally ill offenders, psychiatric services in prisons, and a small general section. Most papers originated in Holland (14 papers), followed by Canada (8), Federal Republic of Germany (6), USA (5), UK (4), and one each from Israel, Australia, Nigeria, Poland, Finland, Japan, Yugoslavia, and Italy. The majority of contributors were lawyers; others included criminologists, sociologists, and psychiatrists. Four papers are in French.

The problem with a volume like this is that criticism of extant practice, often with moral and philosophical overtones and suggestions for reform, means very little to non-cognoscenti. Thus subjects such as criminal responsibility, the right to refuse treatment, and the interaction between criminal and juridical approaches do not have universal applications but are determined by the particular mental health and criminal justice systems in which they develop.

To have produced such a volume in one year is a notable achievement. However, the English translation leaves a lot to be desired. Take, for example, the last sentence of Maurizio Mannocci's paper 'Experience of an Italian psychiatric facility for prisoners': "In front of