

## HOMOSEXUALITY AND PSYCHOANALYTIC TRAINING: STRUGGLES IN ENGLAND AND NORTH AMERICA - WHAT IMPLICATIONS FOR SOUTH AFRICA?

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In May 1995 a Letter of Concern (LOC), signed by 180 psychotherapists (Appendix A), with a covering letter from Andrew Samuels (1995a), a training analyst of the Society of Analytical Psychology, was sent to The Secretary of State for Health in Britain. The LOC expressed concern about issues related to negative and defensive attitudes towards training homosexuals as psychotherapists. I obtained a copy of this correspondence whilst visiting in July 1995. Later that year, in October 1995, at an International Psychoanalytic Association conference in America, I overheard a discussion between a senior training and supervising analyst at an extremely prestigious Institute for Psychoanalysis (Dr T), and a Clinical Faculty member of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of California (Sharone Abramowitz), in which the latter refused again, an invitation to train as an analyst. This was because of the negative attitude towards homosexuality held by training analysts.

These circumstances, together with Young's interesting and provocative article "Is 'perversion' obsolete?" (*PINS* 21, 1996) have prompted me to report something of their content. My aim is to generate discussion leading to some theorising around concrete issues of the well known, though covert, widespread exclusion of homosexuals<sup>1</sup> from psychoanalytic training. Given that this topic, as far as I know, has never been raised for public debate in South Africa, it seems timely to draw attention to it now, particularly since we are the first country in the world which has a constitutional clause prohibiting discrimination of any sort on the basis of a person's identification as a lesbian or a gay man.

I will first cover the discussion I overheard between Dr T and Sharone Abramowitz who, together with Betsy Kaskoff (a psychotherapist in San Francisco) presented at a workshop entitled "The self and orientation: New perspectives on psychoanalysis and homosexuality: Female homosexuality, presentation and response" at the *18th Annual Conference on the Psychology of the Self - Crosscurrents in Self Psychology*, held in San Francisco (ironically the so-called gay capital of the world) in October last year. I will then summarise the documents (quoting extensively from them) which I obtained in England, adding academic weight to some of the comments by referring to other literature in the field.

<sup>1</sup>. I include in this term lesbians and gay men

Abramowitz's section of the workshop was impressive. Her paper drew on postmodern ideas to discuss sexuality in ways which are not delimited by classical psychoanalytic theory, which is often used to pathologise homosexuality (Abramowitz, 1995; Elliot, 1994; see also Glassgold and Iasenza, 1995). The paper provides the space for a different theorisation and more productive psychotherapeutic work with lesbians, as was evident in Kaskoff's moving and personally mirroring account of her work, as a lesbian therapist, with a lesbian patient. The discussant, Dr T, from her public response, was clearly impressed with both presentations. She suggested they submit them for publication, to which Abramowitz commented that because of their orientation, she doubted either would be published by any mainstream analytically oriented journal.

As I too was impressed with the theoretical paper, I approached Abramowitz to invite her to submit her paper to a special issue of the **South African Journal of Psychology**, of which I was a guest editor. Whilst waiting to speak with her I (over)heard<sup>2</sup> Dr T (who had also approached the podium), say that she was sorry that Abramowitz persisted in not putting herself forward for training as an analyst. Dr T then, once again, invited her to do so. Abramowitz said she was flattered to have been asked yet again to apply by such an eminent member of the fraternity. But, she said, she would not do so because of the attitude towards homosexuality held by the training institutes. Dr T insisted that attitudes had changed and Abramowitz challenged this. Dr T commented that it was now formally accepted that it is illegal in North America to discriminate against homosexuals wanting to train. Abramowitz insisted that whilst this might be a public position, she would not risk going into training analysis because of her on-going negative experience of training analysts generally, and especially in San Francisco. She said that whilst there may be a rule against such discrimination this had not changed the theoretical position and practice of seeing the sexual orientation of lesbians and gay men in terms of pathology.

According to a colleague in Canada (Ellen Lewinberg<sup>3</sup>), until very recently there was no training in North America for people who defined themselves as homosexuals. She comments that the reason for this was that homosexuality was seen as an illness but that recent work on gender has gone a long way to change that perception. However, Lewinberg (personal communication) said that Abramowitz was "probably right when she said that she would not put herself in the hands of any training analysts, as a lesbian. Most of them were trained classically and even if they consider themselves to be self psychologists, seem to be homophobic, (probably a gross exaggeration but according to a number of friends who do define themselves as homosexuals, completely accurate in Toronto)". Lewinberg also commented that she did not know of any people who define themselves as homosexual being accepted for training at the older institutes, but added that this was not an issue at either the Training and Research Institute in Self Psychology (New York), or the Institute for the Advancement of Self Psychology in Toronto. Nor is it "supposedly an issue any longer at any institute". This would corroborate Dr T's response to Abramowitz, but certainly the latter remained unconvinced in October 1995. Whether anything has changed remains to be seen, but given that there are several papers being given at the *19th Annual Conference of The Psychology of The Self: Reconceptualizing the*

<sup>2</sup>. Since this is tantamount to eavesdropping, I hope that Dr. T and Abramowitz will not object to having this conversation reported in the paper.

<sup>3</sup>. Director, Faculty and Supervisor, Institute for the Advancement of Self Psychology, Toronto, Supervisor, Toronto Child Psychotherapy Program

*Clinical Exchange*, to be held in Washington in October 1996, on the complexities rather than the pathologies of all types of sexuality, it certainly appears that the topic is up for discussion, at least in some psychoanalytic circles in North America.

What of Britain? From the following summary of the British debate and drawing on the work of Elliot (1994), it seems that defining oneself as lesbian or a gay man is a risky thing to do if one wants to train as a psychoanalytic psychotherapist in Britain<sup>4</sup>. Generally it seems that homosexuality continues to be pathologised, but this is not openly admitted or debated - instead it seems to be a subtle, covert and defensive position apparently taken by the majority of the senior and junior<sup>5</sup> members in the training institutions involved.

In April 1995, Professor Charles Socarides<sup>6</sup> was invited to give the Annual Lecture of the Association for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy (APP). The title of his paper was "Advances in the psychoanalytic theory and therapy of male patients who are homosexual". Following the public announcement of this lecture by Socarides, a Letter of Concern (LOC) was sent for publication to six leading professional journals. The letter was signed by 180 registered psychotherapists (mainly psychoanalytic psychotherapists) or practitioners who hold or have held posts in the National Health Service in which the practice of psychotherapy forms part of their duties. The journals to which the letter was sent were chosen because of their standing in the field of psychotherapy and because of the links that apparently exist between the journals and the APP. These included:

1. **Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy** (the APP's journal);
2. **International Journal of Psycho-Analysis** (published by the Institute of Psycho-analysis);
3. **Journal of Analytical Psychology** (published on behalf of the Society of Analytical Psychology, London);
4. **British Journal of Psychotherapy** (sponsored by a number of psychotherapy organisations including the Lincoln Clinic, and the Institute of Psychotherapy (a member of the British Confederation of Psychotherapists) which thereby has a representative seat on the editorial board);
5. **Journal of the British Association of Psychotherapists** (the journal of the British Association of Psychotherapists); and
6. **British Journal of Psychiatry** (published by the Royal College of Psychiatrists - all consultant psychiatrists are members of the Royal College).

The LOC noted that Professor Socarides is well known for his view that: "homosexuality is in itself a severe psychopathological condition, warding off the dread of 'castration, fragmentation, separation anxieties and other conflicts' and he is explicit that the task of the analyst is to 'spoil the perverse gratification' enabling the patient to 'progress along the road to heterosexual functioning'" (LOC, 1995:2-3). It also drew attention to the fact that Professor Socarides has actively campaigned against moves by psychiatrists to curtail efforts to "cure" homosexuality. The LOC

<sup>4</sup>. According to Professor Gill Straker (personal communication), this is not true of some of the Integrative Psychotherapy training programmes in Britain

<sup>5</sup>. A recent visitor from one such institute made the following comment: "... we have now discovered that homosexuality IS always a pathology"

<sup>6</sup>. Socarides, described by Gould (1995) as a "leading pathologizer of homosexuality" since 1972 (Gould, 1995: 4-5)

expressed concern therefore that because of the APP's invitation to Socarides, it was reasonable to assume that the APP endorses and associates "itself with his views or as implying that a consensus exists within the profession of psychotherapy, including psychoanalytic psychotherapy, that is in line with Professor Socarides' views" (LOC, 1995:3). This was a construction with which the signatories of the LOC did not want to be associated, and therefore they hoped that the letter would openly invite the APP to make its position clear.

Anxiety was expressed in the LOC about the impact that such a belief (i.e. that there is a consensus within the profession that is in line with Socarides' view) would have on the public. There are, they pointed out, implications for those who want to train and also those who might want to make use of the services provided by the NHS.

On training, the LOC pointed out that in Britain those who have trained at the Institute of Psycho-Analysis are more likely to obtain promotion to the level of Consultant Psychotherapist in the NHS. Yet the Institute is well known to "operate a policy of discrimination against potential trainees whose sexual orientation is homosexual" (Letter of Concern, 1995:4; see also Elliot, 1994). Further, according to the LOC (and also Elliot, 1994), other private psychoanalytic and psychoanalytic psychotherapy training organisations which also lead to promotions within the system (i.e. not only the Institute of Psycho-Analysis), also either practice absolute discrimination "based on theoretical beliefs that homosexuals can never be sufficiently free from psychopathology to become psychoanalysts or psychoanalytic psychotherapists" (LOC, 1995:4-5). Others practice effectual discrimination in which, for example, "higher standards of mental health and personal behaviour are demanded of lesbians and gay men who apply to train in these institutions" (LOC, 1995:5). The most alarming aspect of this is that there is a reluctance on the part of these institutions to debate their views publicly (LOC, 1995:), or even at all (Ellis, 1994). It is well known that lesbians and gay men who do manage to train are often forced to keep their sexual orientation secret because their professional position is compromised or uncomfortable if 'out' (Ellis, 1994). It would be interesting to know what happens in South Africa. Are lesbians and gay men, for example, explicit in their applications for places in clinical and counselling masters training programmes at our universities?

To return to Britain, the LOC pointed out that this kind of discrimination against potential candidates for training, arising from institutional adherence to a set of views about homosexuality, clearly calls into question the adequacy of standards of the practice of psychotherapy. Prejudicial viewpoints obviously silence any chance of alternative views being expressed and debated. Contemporary viewpoints on sexuality and hetero / homo / bi-sexual orientation simply do not find a voice.

A second alarming implication of a public view that the APP supports Socarides' view is the inevitable (and very real - see, for example, Kitzinger and Perkins, 1993) possibility that gay or lesbian taxpayers are unlikely to seek help from the NHS, believing (appropriately) that they and their partners would be stigmatized as pathological and their relationships devalued.

The LOC considered these issues to have reached the level of a "public scandal" (p6) and the signatories called on the APP to:

1. distance itself publicly from the views of Professor Socarides concerning homosexuality and psychopathology;
2. convene a meeting before the end of 1996 at which a wide spread of opinions on these matters could be debated in a proper manner;
3. write a letter to each of the organisations, membership of which leads to eligibility for Full Membership of APP, urging them to (1) review their procedures, regulations and habitual practices so as to remove any direct or indirect discrimination against potential candidates for training on grounds of sexual orientation; and (2) to make discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation an ethical offence in relation to selection of candidates for training, the ongoing practice of psychoanalysis and psychoanalytic psychotherapy, and the conduct of professional life generally."

A copy of the LOC was sent with a covering letter from Andrew Samuels (1995a), a training analyst (Society of Analytical Psychology), to Virginia Bottomley, the Secretary of State for Health in Britain. In it he pointed out that the 180 signatories to the LOC, that included professors of psychiatry and psychotherapy, consultant psychotherapists and psychiatrists, and fully qualified psychotherapists of all orientations, including psychoanalysts and psychoanalytic psychotherapists - was an impressive number given that the letter was "in no way a petition aimed at securing a huge return". Rather, it was circulated informally in the profession" (Samuel, 1995:1).

Samuels (1995a:1) added that although many more signatories than the number of letters circulated had been received, because of the delicate and controversial nature of the contents, "many people in the profession have been frightened to put their names to this letter, some gay, but others simply because they feared for their chances of promotion, or survival of their jobs". He commented that this was alarming, not because he felt that all NHS psychotherapy is homophobic, but because there is a need for exploration of the issue in a full and undefensive matter.

In a later document Samuels (1995b) reported that there had been a positive response from the Department of Health who undertook to look into the various matters raised in the Letter. The British Psychological Society (BPS) wrote supportively, and media coverage was apparently extensive and favourable<sup>7</sup>. However, none of the journals listed above accepted the LOC for publication. The **British Journal of Psychiatry** did pass it on to be published in an abbreviated version in the **Bulletin of the Royal College of Psychiatrists**. All the others made various excuses, mostly saying that they did not publish letters on professional political issues. They persisted with this line of defence, even when it was pointed out to be "demonstrably untrue" (Samuels, 1995b).

<sup>7</sup>. It is noteworthy that people working at the Tavistock Institute in London are conspicuous by their absence from the list of signatories.

<sup>8</sup>. It is noteworthy that, following the process reported above, the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy's Ethics Committee is proposing to explicitly formalise a position in which trainees will not be discriminated against on the grounds of their sexual preference. (Professor G. Straker, personal communication)

Samuels (1995b) also commented that "two journals behaved very oddly". The **Journal of Analytical Psychology** turned down the LOC even though nine of its own editorial board had signed it. The **British Journal of Psychotherapy** accepted it but, in a subsequent telephone call, the editor told Samuels that, in spite of the board's decision, she was unilaterally refusing to publish the letter. None of the six intended journals published the letter, and for the historical record and in the interest of debate on an important subject **Free Associations** published it in late 1995.

Alarmingly, Samuels (1995b) concluded that the censorship "has a degree of co-ordination to it. My own belief is that the issue is in fact the same one highlighted in the LOC itself: the dominant position of the Institute of Psycho-Analysis in British psychoanalytic psychotherapy. There is a colossal fear of offending the Institute". This view is also borne out by Ellis's (1994) recent experience, and supported by some of the very few critiques of psychoanalysis as an institution. For example, Balint's (1939) comment that Freud's emphasis was on the "submission of trainees to a long and severe discipline under an authority which would be prepared to instruct and admonish, designed to protect psychoanalysis from further secessions .... leading to smaller competing institutions which have relied for survival on their safe, trustworthy and loyal followers" (in Elliot, 1994:515).

Clearly, attempts to establish whether psychoanalytic training programmes do discriminate against lesbians and gay men are first, risky, especially for trainees because of their vulnerability to the views of their supervisors and teachers. To ask such questions is to bravely face "a conformist group as a nonconformist individual, a strain to which only a few can stand up" (Balint, in Elliot, 1994:515). Secondly, such attempts are extremely difficult. A simple question along these lines will not establish this as Ellis (1994) discovered: the widespread and evasive position tends to be that such persons may be excluded on other grounds than their sexual orientation.

I have not attempted to establish whether our local institutes and training institutions have *formal* positions on this issue. Perhaps this is something that could be researched more fully. This would be more than an interesting piece of research - it is essential information. Of course, using Abramowitz's persistent refusal to train, even though discrimination is illegal, there is the very real and pessimistic fear that a formal position making discrimination of this sort illegal, will not change the widespread practice of pathologizing homosexuality by individuals in their practice. However, I hope that this discussion will at least act as a springboard for important debate in this journal and elsewhere, leading ultimately, I would hope, to better and more ethical practice in the field of psychotherapy.

**Note.** I would like to thank the "heavy hand" of Grahame Hayes, the **PINS** editor, with editorial help on this article.

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Samuels, A (1995a) Covering letter to Virginia Bottomley, together with the Letter of Concern (180 signatories - see Appendix A).

Samuels, A (1995b) Introductory material for the Letter of Concern.

Young, R M (1996) Is "perversion" obsolete? **PINS, 21**, 5-26.

## Appendix A.

Jan Abrams, Arbours Association

Tessa Adams, Member, Guild of Psychotherapists

Mary Addenbrooke, Associate Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology. Psychotherapist in the Substance Misuse Service, Mid-Sussex NHS Trust

Peter Addenbrooke, Associate Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology

Ian Ailister, Associate Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology

Judith Anderson, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.Psych., Full Member, West Midlands Institute of Psychotherapy, Former Consultant Psychiatrist and Hon. Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Psychiatry, University of Leicester

Biddy Arnott, Associate Member, Society of Analytical Psychology, Head Occupational Therapist (Psychiatry), Member, Institute of Group Analysis

Mark Aveline, M.D., F.R.C.Psych., D.P.M. Consultant Psychotherapist, Nottingham Psychotherapy Unit

Mike Baker, Psychotherapy Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Counselling

Vivien Bar, Member, Centre for Freudian Analysis and Research, Member, Guild of Psychotherapists, Associate of the Women's Therapy Centre

Lesley Bennett, Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Social Studies, Psychotherapist in G.P. Practice, Tooting/Raynes Park

Bice Benvenuto, Training Analyst and Supervisor, Centre for Freudian Analysis and Research

Sally Berry, Arbours Association of Psychotherapists, Clinical Director, Women's Therapy Centre

Joanne Blackley, Full Member, London Centre for Psychotherapy

John Henry Bierschenk, Professional Member, Association of Jungian Analysts

R. D. Blackwell, Member, Institute of Group Analysis, former Hon. Psychotherapist, West Middlesex Hospital

Jane Blunden, M.B., B. Ch. Member, Association of Cognitive Analytic Therapists, Senior Registrar in Psychotherapy, Royal South Hants Hospital

Clare Brennan, Chartered Psychologist, Member, London Centre for Psychotherapy, Women's Therapy Centre

Madelyn Brewer, Associate Member, Philadelphia Association  
George Bright, Associate Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology  
Clive Britten, M.A., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.Psych., Associate Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology, Consultant Child Psychiatrist, Barnet  
Sue Borsig, Metanoia Trust  
Marie-Laure Bromley-Davenport, Member, Institute of Group Analysis, Associate Member, Philadelphia Association  
Bernard Burgoine, Member, Centre for Freudian Analysis and Research  
Ann Casement, Training Analyst, Association of Jungian Analysts  
Jules Cashford, Member, Association of Jungian Analysts  
Paul Caviston, M.B., B.Ch., L.R.C.P.S.I., M.R.C.Psych(T)Psych, Consultant in Adolescent Psychiatry and Hon. Senior Lecturer, Brookside Young People's Unit and Academic Dept of Psychological Medicine, St Bartholomew's Hospital  
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Robin Cooper, Member, Philadelphia Association, Member, Institute of Group Analysis  
Jenny Corrigal, Cambridge Society for Psychotherapy  
Joy Dalton, M.B., D.P.M., M.R.C.Psych., Consultant Psychiatrist  
Alan Danks, Psychotherapy Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Counselling (Training Therapist)  
Claire Darling, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.Psych., Consultant Psychotherapist (from June 1, 1995)  
Elisha Davar, Member, Society of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy, Member, British Association of Psychotherapists, former Senior Clinical Psychologist/Supervisor, Trainer, Tavistock Clinic  
Paul Dean, Member, Metanoia Trust, NHS Psychotherapist, Camberley Medical Centre  
Sally Dean, Psychotherapy Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Counselling  
Elizabeth Deeble, A.F.B.Ps.S., Full Member, British Association of Cognitive and Behavioural Psychotherapy, Head of Adult Mental Health—Primary Care Psychology Service, Redbridge Healthcare Trust  
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Sue Einhorn, Member, Institute of Group Analysis  
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Alexandra Fanning, Arbours Association  
Nina Farhi, Member, Guild of Psychotherapists, Psychotherapist, Whittington Psychiatric Day Hospital  
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Heather Formaini, Training Analyst, I.S.A. Centre for Attachment-Based Psychotherapy  
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Hugh Freeman, D.M., F.R.C.Psych., F.F.P.H.M., Consultant Psychiatrist, former Editor, *British Journal of Psychiatry*  
Joe Friedman, Full Member and Supervisor, Philadelphia Association  
H. N. Ghadiali, M.B.B.S., D.P.M., M.D., M.R.C.Psych., Associate Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology  
S. K. F. Gladwell, M.R.C.Psych., Consultant Psychotherapist, Uffculme Clinic, Moseley, Birmingham  
Michael Göpfert, M.D., D.P.C., M.Sc., Consultant Psychotherapist, Liverpool Consultation and Psychotherapy Service  
Jill Gordon, Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology, Training Therapist and Supervisor, British Association of Psychotherapists. Signatory adds: 'I cannot comment on the NHS. I do regret the opportunity to have an alternative view put at the lecture was not taken.'  
Paul Gordon, Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Social Studies, Associate Member, Philadelphia Association, former Hon. Psychotherapist, St Bernard's Hospital, Southall  
Rosemary Gordon-Montagnon, Ph.D., F.B.P.S., Training Analyst, Society of Analytical Psychology, Training Therapist and Supervisor, British Association of Psychotherapists, former Senior Clinical Psychologist, Napsbury Hospital, former Editor, *Journal of Analytical Psychology*. Signatory adds: 'I agree with Joan Raphael-Leff. What matters is whether a person or trainee has the right gifts to work as an analyst/therapist which, as far as we now suspect, is relatively independent of sexual orientation'.  
Marion Gow, Women's Therapy Centre  
Brid Greally, Psychotherapy Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Counseling  
Esther Green, Clinical Psychologist, Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology  
Margaret Green, Member, Arbours Association, Training Psychotherapist and Supervisor  
Nigel A. Groom, Psychotherapy Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Counselling, Professional Member, West Midlands Institute of Psychotherapy, Training Therapist and Supervisor  
Herbert Hahn, C. Psychol., Full Member, British Association of Psychotherapists, Training Therapist and Supervisor, Severnside Institute for Psychotherapy  
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S. M. Krzowski, Member, Guild of Psychotherapists

H. Shivakumar, M.B., B.S., Dip. Psych. Neur., Associate Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology, NHS Clinical Supervisor in psychotherapy

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Edward Martin, Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology

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William Meredith-Owen, Associate Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology, Professional Member, West Midlands Institute for Psychotherapy

Juliet Mitchell-Rosdale, Member, British Psycho-Analytical Society Signatory adds: 'I wish to register protest but in no way to obstruct free speech'.

Muriel Mitchison Brown, Member, Guild of Psychotherapists, Member, Severnside Institute for Psychotherapists

Isabel Montero, Member, Arboura Association

R. E. Morley, Member, British Association of Psychotherapists, Training Therapist for Association for Group and Individual Psychotherapy

Katherine Murphy, Metanoia Trust

Carol Naughton, Member, Cambridge Society for Psychotherapy

Julia Nelki, M.A. (Oxon.), M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.Psych., M.Sc (Family Therapy), Consultant Child Psychiatrist, Dept. of Psychological Medicine, Myrtle Street Children's Hospital, Liverpool

Morris Nitsun, M.A. Clin. Psych., Ph.D., Member, Institute of Group Analysis, Psychology, Psychotherapy and Counselling Services Manager, Redbridge Health Care Trust

Veronica Norburn, Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Social Studies

Noreen O'Connor, Philadelphia Association

Liz O'Driscoll, Associate Member, Association for Group and Individual Psychotherapy

James O'Neill, Associate Member, Philadelphia Association

Chris Oakley, Full Member, Philadelphia Association

Haya Oakley, Full Member, Philadelphia Association, Member, Guild of Psychotherapists

Susie Orbach, Member, London Centre for Psychotherapy, Women's Therapy Centre

Renos Papadopoulos, Ph.D., Chartered Clinical Psychologist, Training Analyst, Independent Group of Analytical Psychologists

Rosie Parker, Psychotherapy Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Counselling

Christopher Perry, Training Analyst, Society of Analytical Psychology, Training Therapist and Supervisor, British Association of Psychotherapists, former Senior Psychiatric Social Worker, Paddington Centre for Psychotherapy

Roderick Peters, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P., M.Sc. (Occ. Med.), Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology, Member, British Association of Psychotherapy

Adam Phillips, Member, Association of Child Psychotherapists, Member, Guild of Psychotherapists, Principal Child Psychotherapist, Riverside Health Authority, London

Professor Patrick Pietroni, F.R.C.G.P., M.R.C.P., D.C.H., Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology, Professor of Community Care and Primary Health, University of Westminster, former Senior Lecturer in General Practice, St Mary's Medical School

Robin Piper, Member, London Centre for Psychotherapy

Michael R. Pokorny, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., F.R.C.Psych. Member, British Psycho-Analytical Society, Member, London Centre for Psychotherapy

Barry Proner, B.A., M.D. Training Analyst, Society of Analytical Psychology, former Consultant Child Psychiatrist

Bernard Ratigan, Ph.D., South Kent Training in Dynamic Psychotherapy, training psychotherapist and supervisor, Consultant Adult Psychotherapist, Nottingham Psychotherapy Unit

Joan Raphael-Leff, Member, British Psycho-Analytical Society. Signatory adds: 'Freedom of speech is at the heart of psychoanalysis. Prof. Socarides's right to his view is not disputed. It is potential official support for those views and overt or covert institutionalised discrimination which concern me'.

Hilde Rapp, Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Social Studies, Hon. Psychotherapist, St Thomas's Hospital

Val Richards, Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Social Studies, and Guild of Psychotherapists, former Psychotherapist, Halliwick Hospital and St Anne's

Gabrielle Rikkind, Member, Institute of Group Analysis, Group Analyst, Parkside Clinic (NHS)

Sheila Ritchie, Women's Therapy Centre

Fiona Ross, C. Psychol., Associate Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology

John Rowan, F.B.Ps.S., Member, Association of Humanistic Psychology Practitioners, Minister Centre, Chartered Counselling Psychologist

Geraldine Roy, Professional Member, West Midlands Institute of Psychotherapy

Joanna Ryan, Associate Member, Philadelphia Association

Thomas J. Ryan, Member, Arbours Association

Joel Rycé-Menuhin, Training Analyst, Independent Group of Analytical Psychologists, former Art Therapist, Royal Free Hospital

Judith Ryde, Member, Association of Humanistic Psychology Practitioners, Bath Centre for Psychotherapy and Counselling, former Head Occupational Therapist, St Clement's Hospital

Andrew Samuels, Training Analyst, Society of Analytical Psychology, Training Therapist and Supervisor, British Association of Psychotherapists. Signatory adds: 'The letter did not call for a cancellation or boycott of the lecture. The APP's choice respondent would have limited debate. I agree with Joan Raphael-Leff, above'.

John Schlapobersky, Member, Institute of Group Analysis, Associate Member, London Centre for Psychotherapy, former NHS Psychiatric Social Worker

Janet Sayers, Diploma in Clinical Psychology, Associate Member, British Association of Psychotherapists, Senior Clinical Psychologist

Meg Sharpe, Member, Institute of Group Analysis, Associate Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology

Joseph Schwartz, I.S.A. Centre for Attachment-Based Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy

John Schlapobersky, Member, Institute of Group Analysis, Associate Member, London Centre for Psychotherapy, former NHS Psychiatric Social Worker

Eva A. Seligman, Training Analyst, Society of Analytical Psychology, former Psychiatric Social Worker, Maudsley Hospital, former Senior Staff Member, Tavistock Clinic

Adriana Seradi, Member, Association for Group and Individual Psychotherapy

Arthur Sherman, Associate Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology

Bani Shorter, Founding Member and Training Analyst, Independent Group of Analytical Psychologists

Jennifer Silverstone, Training Therapist and Supervisor, London Centre for Psychotherapy

Ian Simpson, Full Member, Institute of Group Analysis, Training Therapist, Association of Cognitive Analytic Therapists, Group-work Supervisor, Psychotherapy Unit, St Thomas's Hospital

Fiona Sinclair, Philadelphia Association. Hon. Psychotherapist, Addenbrooke's Hospital

David L. Smith, Regent's College School of Psychotherapy and Counselling. Signatory adds: 'I endorse the call to counteract discriminatory practices in psychotherapy and psychotherapy training but urge for this to be achieved through factual research and open academic debate'.

Ruthie Smith, Women's Therapy Centre

John Southgate, Member, I.S.A. Centre for Attachment-Based Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy

Laurence Spurling, Member, Guild of Psychotherapists, former Psychiatric Social Worker

Martin Stanton, Associate Member, London Centre for Psychotherapy

Martin Stone, Professional Member and Training Analyst, Association of Jungian Analysts

Anthony G. Stevens, B.M., B.Ch., D.M. (Oxon), D.P.M., B.A (hons) Psychology (Reading), B.A. (hons) Psychology and Physiology (Oxon), M.A. (Oxon), Training Analyst, Independent Group of Analytical Psychologists

Deirdre Sutton-Smith, Member, Institute of Group Analysis, Hon. Psychotherapist, Whittington Hospital

Alison Swan Parente, Association of Child Psychotherapists, former locum Principal Child Psychotherapist, Royal London Hospital

Joanna Swift, Associate Member, Philadelphia Association, Hon. Psychotherapist, St Bernard's Hospital, Ealing

Peter Tatham, M.B., B.Ch., Training Analyst, Independent Group of Analytical Psychologists, Member, Severnside Institute of Psychotherapy, former Clinical Assistant, Cleeve House Adolescent Unit, Gloucester

Lennox Thomas, Full Member, British Association of Psychotherapists, Nafsiyat

June Thomason, Full Member, Lincoln Centre and Institute for Psychotherapy, NHS sessional Psychotherapist

Jean Thomson, Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology, former Senior Professional Staff, Tavistock Clinic

Lorraine Tollermache, Associate Member, Lincoln Centre and Institute for Psychotherapy, clinical lecturer in social work, Tavistock Clinic

Robert Tollermache, Full Member, Lincoln Centre and Institute for Psychotherapy

Heather Townsend, Associate Member, Philadelphia Association

Daniel Twomey, Associate Member, British Association of Psychotherapists

Prof. Emmy van Deurzen-Smith, Regent's College School of Psychotherapy and Counselling. Signatory adds: 'I endorse the call to counteract discriminatory practices in psychotherapy and psychotherapy training but urge for this to be achieved through factual research and open academic debate'.

Susan Vas Dias, Association of Child Psychotherapists, British Association of Psychotherapists (child), Association for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy in the NHS, I.S.A. Centre for Attachment-Based Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy

Julia Vellacott, Associate Member, London Centre for Psychotherapy

Prof. J. P. Watson, M.D. F.R.C.P., F.R.C.Psych., Professor and Hon. Consultant in Psychiatry, Guy's Hospital

Michael Whan, Full Member, Independent Group of Analytical Psychologists

Kate White, Member, I.S.A. Centre for Attachment-Based Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy

Jan Wiener, Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology, Adult Psychotherapist, Claybury Hospital. Signatory adds: 'I can lend my support to two of the issues you raise in your letter. I do not think that any training organisation should hold a policy which discriminates against potential trainees who may be homosexual. I also believe that the viewpoints about homosexuality currently taught can be narrow and prejudicial'.

Mary Wilson, Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology

Michael Wilson, Member, Guild of Psychotherapists

Sherly Williams, Psychotherapy Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Counselling, former part-time Psychotherapist, Women's Therapy Centre, South Birmingham Health Authority

Ruth Windle, Associate Member, British Association of Psychotherapists, Psychotherapy Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Counselling

Jean White, Member, Guild of Psychotherapists

Robert Withers, Associate Professional Member, Society of Analytical Psychology

Tim Woolmer, Member, Institute of Group Analysis

Lesley Wyner, C. Psychol., A.F.B.P.S., Head, Adult Mental Health and Primary Care, Psychology Dept., Goodmayes Hospital

Robert M. Young, Member, Lincoln Centre and Institute for Psychotherapy, Member, Institute of Psychotherapy and Social Studies, former Hon. Psychotherapist, Psychotherapy Dept., St Bernard's Hospital, Ealing, Visiting Professor and clinical supervisor, Centre for Psychotherapeutic Studies, University of Sheffield. Signatory adds: 'While I am in general sympathy with the aims of this letter and am keen to promote open debate about these fraught (and as-yet unresolved) issues and to have candidates for training assessed on the basis of non-discriminatory criteria, I feel co-opted by the portmanteau nature of the letter and am not inclined to be associated with anything which might contribute to the restriction of academic freedom or anyone's civil rights'.

Paul Zeal, Full Member, Philadelphia Association, member, Severnside Institute for Psychotherapy