

Editorial

When Nick Owen in his article in the last issue (Personal Change through Encounter) wrote 'This type of research has scope for much learning and growth for all who take part, with no specific end or cut off point' he didn't reckon on a nameless sub-editor who put his/her scissors through his text at that point and really cut him off. What he wanted to go on to say (and due to an equally nameless sub-editor or gremlin had already said in the March issue as a surprising coda to Peter Well's article on Some Notes on Encounter and Social Change) was that he hoped his article would stimulate people to look at the IPM (Interpersonal Perception Method), his research having been an application of this. His results in fact shewed that considerable changes had occurred in relationships during the period due to one or more of the partners having taken part in an Encounter Group. If enough people would research their own experiences during Encounter Groups this could add to a valuable general statement about Encounter Groups, or a least about individual experiences and developments. Nick Owen went on to say:

'I would be glad to respond to any questions, queries or suggestion from people reading SELF AND SOCIETY. This statement has had to be very concise. I hope here are not too many gaps in the sense, that need to be filled out.'

Well the main gap wasn't his fault. We are very sorry.

John Heron

An open letter to Harvey Jackins

John Heron was for over two years a principal figure in introducing re-evaluation counselling into the UK and Europe both as teacher of the method and reference person for the communities here. In February this year he resigned from the roles of teacher and reference person within the international re-evaluation counselling communities because of major disagreements with Harvey Jackins, the originator of re-evaluation counselling and the active leader of the international communities who monitors theory and policy and authorises teachers and other appointments. The following open letter sets out some of the primary issues involved in these disagreements.

Dear Harvey

Re-evaluation counselling with its communities is in many ways a very beautiful construct in human affairs but it suffers from two quite fundamental internal contradictions. And it has always been my concern about these contradictions that has led to the profound rift between us.