

To: The Treasurer, Association for Humanistic Psychology,  
62 Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 0AU.

I would like to join the AHP in Britain, and enclose my first year's  
subscription.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

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OCCUPATION .....

QUALIFICATIONS .....

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## GROWTH CENTRES

### BRISTOL ENCOUNTER CENTRE

28 Drakes Way, Portishead, Bristol. Tel: Portishead 847490. Weekend Encounter  
Groups, Meditation, Creativity Groups Mini-Society Work, Co-Counselling, various  
On-Going Groups. Directors: Ken Waldie, John Crook.

### THE CHURCHILL CENTRE

22 Montagu Street, W1, off Montagu Square. (Nearest tube: Marble Arch) Tel: 402  
9475. A centre for human relations training, emotional education and group therapy,  
set up by Ken Holme, a consultant psychologist.

### EAST MIDLANDS AND FURTHER NORTH

Anyone interested in getting something together anywhere between Birmingham and  
Newcastle, please get in touch with Brian Cranwell or Alan Byron at 74 Banner Cross  
Road, Sheffield S11 9HR, or telephone 360435. The idea is for occasional get together  
and the exchange of information about what is going on encounter-wise in the area.

### QUAESITOR

187 Walm Lane, London, NW2. Tel: 01-452 8489. Director: David Blagden.

### ENTROPY

11 Lindfield Gardens NW3. Director: Ronald Ullman. Tel: 01-435 8427. Sunday  
evenings introductory sensitivity training groups for well functioning people. No  
therapy is offered. The emphasis is on a new way of relating. Telephone for brochure.

### A.T.M.A.

Birmingham: six months intensive offering a variety of techniques including Gestalt,  
Yoga, Massage, Psychodrama, Meditation, Intergroup Relationships, Bio-Energetics,  
Body Movements. 72a Wake Green Road, Moseley, Birmingham 13. Tel: Kington 781  
or 021-449 2947.

## YERBA BUENA

Consultations for private growth and education. Roger Sanders Smith, 317 Stoney Stanton Road, Coventry CV6 5DS.

## CENTRE FOR GROUP WORK AND SENSITIVITY TRAINING

Hans Lobstein, 7 Chesham Terrace, Ealing, W13. Weekends from £6; send s.a.e. for programme.

## COMMUNITY

15 Highbury Grange, London N.5. Tel: 01-359 1372 (or 586 3545) Co-Directors and Leaders: Michael Barnett, Carole Davey, Tom Falkner.

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# Letters to the editor

## **An Open Letter to the leader after a disappointing weekend encounter group.**

Dear Bill,

I am writing to you as a friend, as a sort of follow-up to my weekend experiences in the group. You may feel that many of the criticisms are directed at you and Helen as leaders, but much of what I have to say is directed against the encounter movement as a whole. Note, not the human potential movement, just this type of encounter group; I still believe that some encounter groups are useful in education and especially in counselling. I still believe that personal growth is a good thing.

To me there are two types of group with appropriate exercises and techniques for each. There are interpersonal groups and therapy groups. What I object to more and more is the public therapy group, where there is almost a demonstration of soul-baring to a group of on-lookers, for example the two episodes at lunchtime on Saturday. You will say that I object to therapy (Gestalt and otherwise) because the screaming arouses in me anxieties which I do not wish to face. This may be true, but the point is that I am unlikely to face them in public in this way, simply because someone else chooses to do their personal growth via a public display of anger and grief. In other words, for every person who is stimulated to growth by bioenergetics, just as many - and especially newcomers to encounter - are turned off. These are fairly advanced techniques for an introductory group.

What the weekend did for me was to convince me finally that I am the sort of person who will never act out in public the way some people can and did do. If all encounter groups are to remain this type of 'mutual analysis without permission' group, then I must look around elsewhere for a method of growth which is more suitable to me. I much prefer the interpersonal exercises such as milling, your 'miracle worker' game,