

Letter to the editor

Dear Vivian Milroy,

Yvonne Craig's letter in the June issue of *Self and Society* seemed gamey to us. The first game was 'Let's you and them fight' - *Self and Society* is supposed to 'feel' guilty because you publish an advertisement that Yvonne resents and then lay your bad feelings on the ITA.

The second game is 'Poor me'. She is excluded by her poverty. Although she is apparently in the growth movement, she avoids facing the fact that she excluded herself. No one else and nothing else excluded her, but she is not willing to take responsibility for what she herself did. Many people attended who are on low incomes or unemployed, and they approached the ITA and negotiated to play what they could afford if they thought that couldn't raise the fee themselves.

She continues to play the same game by stating what attendance would have cost her: £40-£50; whereas the actual price for the two days was £20. Thus the ITA is supposed to take responsibility for *her* expenses. She also assumes that the ITA, whose basic income is from the annual conference and which has existed on a shoestring since it started, made about £2,500 more than it actually did make, which was a bit over £1,000. Which isn't, as far as we can tell, an excessive amount to keep the organisation going till the next conference in a year's time. The statement about 'national and global resources' is a beautiful piece of grandiosity. As the conference was a function of the British ITA, it could of course have been held in any part of Britain, but where better

than the city in which the majority of members live and which is convenient to most travellers?

She must, if she has an interest in TA, be aware of the extent to which she redefines and discounts her situation and that of the ITA. Her 'anger' and 'fear' are not feelings but 'rackety' thoughts, since the assumed affluence of the growth movement is not an 'experience' likely to evoke an appropriate response of real fear or anger in anyone. She also neglected to seek all the information available, since she may then have been unable to play 'Ain't it awful' and 'If it weren't for them'; she is unaware, for instance, that all those who participated in organising the conference, leading workshops, or giving presentations, thought the ITA a sufficiently worthy cause to give of their time and energy without any financial return.

Yvonne concludes with the assumption that the ITA conference was the poorer for the absence of herself and others who, she believes, could not afford to come. We ourselves conclude that the conference might have been the richer for her presence, and that she herself might have been the richer for being there. On both sides, nonetheless, this is a fantasy; the reality is that Yvonne made a decision not to come, and is not taking responsibility for her decision.

Yours sincerely,

Adam Jukes

Conference Chairperson;
Laurence Collinson, member of
Conference Committee.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

IF YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED a mad or mystic or drug-induced state of altered consciousness that you would be prepared to talk about, and possibly contribute to a book, please contact Box 751.

PRIMAL THERAPY, BIOENERGETICS, PSYCHODRAMA, RECIPROCAL SUPPORT, MEDITATION: CAN THEY BE INTEGRATED? WRITE: RECIPORT, 10 STEELES MEWS STH, N.W.3. TEL: 586 4109.