

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The British Psychological Society is currently endeavouring to establish a 'Register of Chartered Psychologists'. The aim of the Registration Bill would be to restrict the use of the term 'psychologist' to be applied only to persons the BPS thinks fit to go on the register. The use of the term 'humanistic psychologist' in describing a non-registered person is specifically cited as an example of an offence under the proposed act.* Does this mean that the AHP will have to change its name? Or will membership of the AHP be restricted to 'psychologists' on the BPS administered register? Will the AHP have any say at all on registration? Who, exactly, is the proposed registration designed to protect? I hope the AHP can act swiftly and effectively to make its voice heard.

Yours,

A.V. Conway

**See Bulletin of the British Psychological Society, Vol.37, Jan. 1984, pp 1-7*

Dear John Rowan,

I was interested in your comments following my article on the Human Potential Movement, in the last edition of 'Self and Society'.

I am aware that humanistic psychology is known as the 'third force' in psychology. That is, as you say, common knowledge. I'm not sure, though, that this constitutes a 'party line' as you suggest. Embracing, as it does, concepts of subjective experience, freedom and personal autonomy, humanistic psychology is surely big enough to contain a wide range of views and theories? The 'party line' is one of the limiting factors in both psychoanalysis and behaviourism. It would be a pity to see such a limitation creeping into humanistic psychology.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Burnard