

Dear Editor,

Having caught up with my reading, I have just finished reading the Self and Society which arrived at the end of September the 30th to be exact, which I read after catching up on the July/Aug copy.

Two comments 1) I wholeheartedly agree with Philip Bernard on page 232 - letters. I too felt that John Rowan was over-reacting in his critique of the Chris Scott article 'The Self-Awareness Movement - A Critique' - page 150. I'm relatively new to Humanistic Psychology and therefore I am I suppose at the stage where I'm judging everything I read in order to find where I am in relation to it. Criticism and varying ideas can effect progress and change. I felt Chris Scott reflected the viewpoint of people like me who want to believe that ideas work but are sceptical and produce criticism of them with the hope that those who may be complacent and seem to be set in their ways will move forward. I thought Chris put forward a well balanced argument and by comparison John put forward a stodgy reply.

Point 2) If John rowan feels that everything is aimed at him

personally, how about Mary Fee, see pages 234/5 of the Sept/Oct issue, who's pregnancy must be the longest on record if we go by the AHP's Newsletter, as she apparently conceived in 1985 and doesn't give birth until 1987 (I know that it is a misprint). For god's sake put it down! I felt that she picked out a piece from the article that she criticised 'The Continuum Concept in Practice' by Jean Liedloff page 143 of the July/Aug. issue, and because it appears to be a current hang-up of hers wrongly focused on it.

Do Self and Society readers really need to be led by the nose, do they really go by the book on everything? Are they really more impressed by reputation than by any judgements they may arrive at by thinking for themselves? Are they like the subjects that Milgram used in administer electric shocks when asked by someone in authority to do so, or rather someone who faked authority. Oops sorry if I'm doing what I'm accusing John and Mary of doing . . . I felt overall that the excerpt from the Jean Liedloff book wetted the appetite because it appears to show that Jean is approaching the subject from 'new angles, to me anyway'.

I write as someone who is a caring human being and has listened to friends who have been experiencing difficulty when baby's are newborn mainly because no professional will give them the guidance they feel they need: it is normally expected that the offspring's grandmother or the equivalent will be on hand to help. One such person that I knew, took pieces from Dr. Spock and even looked into developing a systems approach while dealing with the Zombie period which she experienced when she was adopting a routine. She eventually moved to a new neighbourhood, one where there were a lot of other mothers with young babies, and she loosened up a lot, because she had lots of other people to compare notes with.

Perhaps Mary would benefit from mixing and exchanging ideas and experiences with other members who are mothers. Perhaps this would enable her to formulate her own confident rather than apparently defensive ideas on the subject of child care.

Joanne Webb (Mrs.)
Portsmouth

Dear Vivian,

In response to your editorial in *Self and Society* (Sept/Oct) I welcome your projected issue on the interface between psychology and Western Religion. Can you find someone to write briefly about how dealing directly with religious experience can bring about psychological healing? Can good spiritual direction by-pass psychological

Dear Editor,

Following Jerome Liss's article 'Media Zombies or Self Helpers', how about *Self and Society* publishing a guide to the main self help - empowerment networks covering particular spheres of activity? We would be interested in putting some work into this.

Yours sincerely,

Petra Griffith
Dennis Freeland
Muswell Hill

Would anyone interested in pursuing this, or who has relevant information, contact us at: Creativity and Empowerment Workshops, 52 Grand Avenue, Muswell Hill, London N10 3BP. Tel: 01-444 9681.

therapy? If one attains union with God, does it matter that one remains neurotic? There are a few Americans I know of e.g. Gerald May, William Barry who deal with this area line; there must also be Europeans.

Please publish in a future issue **John Rowan's paper on Wilber** which he read at the recent European AHP Congress.

Yours sincerely,

Rev. John Gildea
Dublin