

can also be misused — the tool of a competitive and dehumanising culture where 'individual worth is construed almost entirely in terms of research output or the ability to attract funds'. And of course registration will not completely prevent charlatanism and the abuse of clients. But Brian Thorne need not worry about this. Even if, in the coming years, we were to face an Orwellian 1984-style scenario, those very qualities that he acknowledges in human beings — the 'mysteriousness of personality' and the 'divinisation of humanity' — would ultimately triumph. Throughout the ages no amount of persecution and repression has been able to eradicate the spirit of the heretic, the dis-

sident or the independent of mind. In fact quite the contrary. Wasn't it Solzhenitsyn who said that the camps in the Gulag made scoundrels into greater scoundrels (stealing, for instance, their friends' last piece of bread) and saintly people into even more saintly people?

Faced with the pressures — and dangers — of accountability we can resolve to 'give unto Caesar what is due to Caesar and unto God what is due to God'. Meanwhile, irrespective of the dictates of external authority, we would be well-advised to remain accountable to ourselves — and our God or Daemon, if we have one.

Further Reading

Adolf Guggenbühl-Craig, *Power in the Helping Professions*, Spring Publications, 1971

Brian Thorne, 'The Accountable Therapist' in *Self & Society*, 23(4)

Dreams

Julian Nangle

Last night I had a dream that I was playing camp-site cricket with a girl in a red dress. She was in her late teens, as was I. There were others in our group, but we had decided to play cricket together, although we had not known or been particularly attracted to one another before. As the 'match' progressed I became aware of a deepening of feeling for this girl

through my enjoyment of the game. This is important: my attraction for her was not separate or apart from the game we were playing — it was because of it. She was bowling at me, in fact throwing the ball at me very fast and I recall it hit the 'fall-over' wicket and as I went to retrieve it I wondered whether I might protest that she was throwing it, but decided not to.

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As I came back with it, and the wicket (which had been sent some feet), and bent down to fix this in the correct place, I was aware that the girl was standing by me, very close, and that I felt a compulsion to hug her legs. Her arms came down and touched my shoulders as I did this. I remember that at this point I realised it was not a red dress she was wearing, but a red top and black leggings. I felt an enormous affection for this girl as we stayed like this for a moment before I woke up.

The reason I share this dream with you is to illustrate the power of play in matters of love. It was through the shared experience of creativity in its mildest and most obscure form, the creation of a game, that powerful feelings developed in this dream. So it is in waking life. It is for this reason, among others, that people are attracted to one another: for the purpose of creation. I do not mean just babies necessarily — childless relationships, be they between two people of the opposite sex or of the same sex, can be quite as creative as any relationship that bears children. As can be seen from my dream, creativity does not have to have an end product; indeed in most cases it does not.

Our Inner Child holds a magnificent Aladdin's cave of creative energy which can only be tapped once we have acknowledged its existence. Through this acknowledgement we can begin to 'play' with our Inner Child, and through this play (as in my dream) a development can occur, a relationship begin, from which infinite joy and love can flow. As the adult we can develop the play into sophisticated creations of our own, from which we often experience all manner of external acknowledgement, as well as the more

important acknowledgement from our Inner Child.

Seth talks in his book *Seth Speaks* of the ability of our Multidimensional Self to create anything for as long as we want it. He says that our powers for creating our own environment are infinite, that we can materialise or dematerialise anything we wish. It puts me in mind of Jesus' words to Caiaphas about being able to rebuild the temple in three days. All this might seem hard to envisage if you have not given yourself permission to create whatever you care to create through the agency of your own imagination. Imagination is an enormously powerful force that lies at everyone's disposal. Try giving yourself permission next time you're in the bath, or have a quiet five minutes, to imagine yourself somewhere else, somewhere exotic perhaps, somewhere with a special friend, imaginary or real, with whom you can develop a truly mutual relationship where your innermost self is understood, accepted and loved. You may find the experience remarkably vivid and real.

