

FEPTO-News

NEWSLETTER OF THE FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN PSYCHODRAMA TRAINING ORGANISATIONS

NEXT APPOINTMENT IN BUDAPEST

Dear FEPTO member:

The next General Meeting is approaching. It will be held in Budapest, 22nd – 26th March 2000 and I hope that many of us are in the position to be able to participate in this important event. Member *Accrediting Organisations* can send one voting member and two other trainers. Member

Training Organisations can send two voting and two other members.

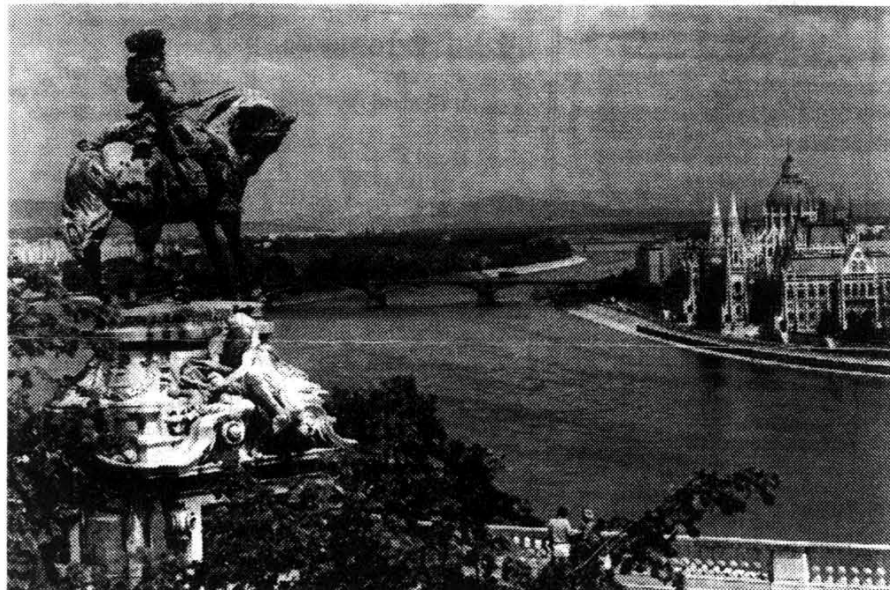
During the General Assembly, members will vote for the election of the New Council (term 2000-2002). Nominations will be accepted from members who have paid their membership fee by 31st December, 1999. Member Organisations are entitled to nomi-

nate one candidate by 31st January, 2000.

The title for the meeting is: "The New Millennium: Transmission of Values Through Psychodrama – From Values to Competencies".

Put this appointment in your diary! A detailed programme and an application form will follow very soon.

Giovanni Boria



BUDAPEST, Hungary / 22-26 March 2000

General FEPTO Meeting

Theme

*The New Millennium: Transmission of Values Through Psychodrama
From Values to Competencies*

Our chairman, Giovanni Boria, asked me to react the theme of our next FEPTO Meeting. I try to do it on a theoretical and technical level. Now on this first level. Next time, I wish to mention some techniques that seems me appropriate in working about values.

Pierre Fontaine

VALUES IN PSYCHODRAMA Theory

1. What are values?

We speak here of values in the sense 'a person has a value' and not in the sense 'an object or even a service has value, market value'.

Definition: "Value is an abstract concept often merely implicit that defines for an individual or for social unit what end or means to an end are desirable". Rokeach (1973) says it is "an enduring belief that... is preferable".

We see in the first definition that there are individual and social and instrumental values (courage, honesty, ambition...) ways to reach these ends. Values form clusters or systems and they can be ordered according to rank.

Values are important. They guide and motivate behaviour, help in decision making, help to rationalise our actions. They maintain identity and self-esteem. They give sense to existence. So the concept value is near to other concepts but can be differentiated from them: attitudes (several beliefs around a specific object or situation), traits (more fixed), motives, interests, needs...

2. What values do we have in psychodrama?

There are specific Morenean values like spontaneity (with the two aspects: adequacy and originality), creativity and the more complex co-creativity. There is reciprocity (with equality and complementarity). Other therapeutic systems have other values, so Rogerian psychotherapy has authenticity, congruency...

When we train for psychodrama, we believe that our way of training has values and perhaps transmit the values in which we believe. And our students recognise values in our training (Hurme, 1999).

When we conduct psychodrama we work with a client and with a group, they have values, conflicting values perhaps. We respect people's values, but at the same time we are not neutral, we have our conscious or unconscious ideas and prejudices about what is a

healthy personality and this is value linked. We need to clarify our values.

3. Values in conflict / in synergy.

Values can be in conflict inside the person. We can be sincere and to be polite, to be ourselves and to be with the others, solitary. On a political level, equality and freedom may be in conflict in the same party. Between age and gender groups, religious groups, organisations there can be value conflicts.

There can also be synergy (Benedict, Maslow) between seemingly opposed values. It can be a dichotomy: *I or You*. But it can be a synergy *I and Thou* (Buber). It is only through been confronted with the other that I can find myself, find my identity and it is through revealing my real identity that I can be truly with the other (*identity and intimacy* in Erikson, 1950).

In the time dimension change and continuity can be opposed but there is no continuity (stability) possible without change (flexibility) and I cannot permit myself to change if continuity is not assured.

General FEPTO Meeting and Annual General Assembly

Hotel Platánus
BUDAPEST
22-26 March 2000

Meeting fee:
250 DM
(including an excursion)

Accommodation at the Hotel Platánus:

- single room plus half pension: 74 DM / day;
- double room plus half pension: 100 DM / day.

But at the extremes, excessive continuity or rigidity and excessive change or chaos are linked in a catastrophic way (René Thom). There is a tendency to jump from chaos to rigidity and the reverse, on the microsocioal level of the family and on the macrosocioal level of states.

4. Transmission / Transition of values.

So at the beginning of the new century

we can ask ourselves how shall we transmit values to the next generations, in what measure will it change, or will it be constant.

This week in the last psychodrama in a group of migrant women (dir.: V. Magos) one of them said to her mother the sentence of Kalil Gilbran: "Your children are not your children, they are the children of the call of life". And some minutes later she was confronted with her own children saying the same sentence. She remained silent and thinking during a time. I am also thinking:

"Transmission of values?"
Yes, I think we have to work on that subject!

Bibliography

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Student voices: discussion on trainer-trainee roles and relationship

in FONTAINE, Pierre (Ed)

Psychodrama Training

Leuven, FEPTO Publications

- ROKEACH, Milton (1973)

The nature of values

New York, Free Press

To pay your

Membership fee for 1999

please send the amount of:

- € 150 + € 10 (transfer costs)

for Organisational Members;

- € 75 + € 10 (transfer costs)

for Founding (Individual) Members

only by bank to the

account number 63 78 61 124

on the name of FEPTO.

Address:

General Bank

Parklaan 6

6130 AD Sittard

The Netherlands

Don't forget to mention the name of your FEPTO Training Organisation/Accrediting Organisation 1999.