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Editorial

Charles Konia, M.D.

The Widespread Invasion of the Emotional Plague in the Economic Realm

The natural operation of the economy of any society is vital to its health. Since America is the most robust economy in the world, the emotional plague was bound to target it. The wholesale destruction of the American economic system is occurring at an accelerated rate in front of everyone's eyes thanks to the rampant criminal activity in the business world and the unbridled interference of self-regulatory market processes by the Federal Government. Taking advantage of the financial crisis, seemingly well-intentioned politicians and economists who have nothing but the most superficial understanding of the pathology underlying the current economic situation are attempting to correct it through manipulation of market forces. Nationally, this attempt has had the effect of strangling the free market through centralized regulatory measures (read "control") over the private sector, such as health care, the automobile industry and the banking system. In the international arena, printing paper money by the Federal Reserve serves to devalue the dollar, make Americans poorer and undermines America's economic standing in relation to other nations. In fact, the effect of every one of these measures has been to undermine America's pre-eminence as a world leader and to polarize both the American people and the nations of the world against each other.

The economy, however, is not a machine that can be corrected by "tweaking," "fine-tuning," and external manipulation. Similar to a living system, the economy naturally expands and contracts. It has a life of its own when it is not interfered with by armored humans. Whether done intentionally or not, the destructive effect of armored human behavior on the marketplace is the underlying cause of current economic problems. Therefore, only with an in-depth understanding

of the biological human forces underlying social pathology can there be any hope of reversing the economic degradation.

Everyone, including the political Right, is incapable of effectively opposing current destructive economic policies because they are the unrecognized expression of emotional plague individuals. If allowed to continue, the process of these degenerative policies will bring about the destruction of America's premier rank as world leader. Then the safety of the world will become jeopardized as all nations will be at the mercy of any plague-ridden individual who regularly and inevitably appears on the international scene in their grab for power. The tragedy will be compounded by the fact that no one will ever understand what happened. This is the final outcome of what is in store unless the operation of the emotional pestilence is recognized and addressed.

The current issue of the *Journal* contains two articles on economics. The first serves to orient the reader to a functional view of economics. It argues that economics must be understood not from the narrower sociological, but the wider biological framework which includes understanding the importance of the work function and the operation of the emotional plague. Interpreting economic processes strictly from the sociological perspective that has been attempted by quasi-Marxist-oriented economists is not only of limited value but has proven to have highly destructive consequences. It has resulted in the tragic errors of Communist governments and movements of the 20th century, including the murder of hundreds of millions of people worldwide. Today, with its façade of progressivism, communism presents a greater threat to America because most people in this country have learned nothing from these past experiences. The second article provides a much needed functional understanding of exchange which is the foundation of economics.

Application of the knowledge contained in these articles to economic processes by a sufficient number of people will help to arrest the headlong decline of America into another second-class, socialist state with its attendant disastrous consequences for the world.

The Interdependence Between Consciousness and Self-perception

Charles Konia, M.D.

Editor's Note: *One of Wilhelm Reich's major contributions to psychiatry was to end once and for all the dependence of natural science on mystical explanations when science falls short of providing an accurate understanding of nature. Mystical terms and phrases such as "consciousness" and "power of mind" are still routinely used when mechanistic thinking in natural science is confronted with phenomena it cannot explain. This is where Reich's distinction between consciousness and self-perception is pivotal. The following For the Record Journal article, originally published in 15(2), 1981, provides solid neurophysiological evidence to support Reich's functional understanding of the relationship between the perceptual function and consciousness. Other articles on orgonotic contact published in later issues of the Journal demonstrate how this knowledge is unlocking the door to a natural scientific, as contrasted to a mechanistic, understanding of biology.*

To natural science, the phenomenon of consciousness has remained *terra incognita* until fairly recent times. Its comprehension was beset with the difficulties regularly encountered in the traditional mechano-mystical viewpoint: The organicists emphasized neurologic (structural) factors, which basically were derived from material processes, whereas mystics, as well as the psychoanalysts, focused exclusively on the psychic elements. Both approaches were incapable of shedding light on the problem. Because of this dichotomy, this phenomenon, which was loosely equated with the concept of "self-awareness," was either considered strictly in descriptive terms and classified according to separate divisions (memory, orientation, etc.), or it was viewed teleologically, i.e., the "purpose" of consciousness was to "permit" the organism to "adapt itself" to its environment.

Not until Reich's elucidation of the schizophrenic biopathy did consciousness become accessible to natural scientific thought (1949). Reich was the first to provide a sound theoretical basis for the understanding of this enigmatic phenomenon. It will be shown that later neurophysiologic research offered unequivocal objective corroboration of Reich's ideas.

Reich pointed to a way out of the insoluble dilemma. He states that "the mental functions of self-perception and consciousness are directly related to and correspond to certain *bio-energetic states of the organism, in kind as well as in degree.*" [Italics added] With characteristic brilliance, he goes on to make a crucial distinction. He separates the function of *self-perception* from that of *consciousness*. Without this clarification, the biophysical basis of these two essential phenomena of the mind cannot be comprehended.

He continues:

Consciousness is a function of self-perception and vice versa. If self-perception is complete, consciousness is also clear and complete. When the function of self-perception deteriorates, consciousness also deteriorates and with it all its functions such as speech, association, orientation, etc. ... Consciousness appears as a higher function, developed in the organism much *later* than self-perception. The degree or clarity and oneness of consciousness depends not so much on the intensity of self-perception as on the complete *integration of the innumerable elements of self-perception into one single experience* of the SELF.

In schizophrenia, this unity falls apart and with this the function of consciousness disintegrates. Usually, the function of self-perception *precedes* the disintegration of the function of consciousness.

DISORIENTATION and CONFUSION are the first reaction to one's own perceptual discoordination. Next to fall apart are thought associations and speech when disintegration of self-perception has gone far enough.

Even the *type* of discoordination of consciousness reflects the *type* of disintegration of self-perception.

In paranoid schizophrenia where self-perception is severely disturbed, association and speech are disjointed. In catatonia where the organism is severely *contracted* and *immobilized* complete *mutism*, i.e., the absence of speech and emotional reaction, are the rule. In hebephrenia where a slow deterioration and dulling of all biophysical processes are in slow progress, perception and consciousness are also dulled, slowed down and increasingly less effective.

Reich's observations on schizophrenia revealed that the functions of consciousness and self-perception are distinct but interdependent, both qualitatively and quantitatively.

If self-perception is not disturbed but only reflects a RIGID organism, as in affect blocked neurotics, the functions of consciousness and intellect will be rigid and mechanical. When self-perception reflects *dull* organismic functioning, then consciousness and intellect will be dull. When self-perception reflects a removed, faint organ excitation, consciousness will develop ideas of being "beyond" or "foreign" or strange forces.

Reich goes on to describe the functional relationship between self-perception and biophysical emotion in the development and integration of the perceptual-motor system. During the neonatal period, the movements of the newborn are not coordinated into a meaningful whole. Each part of the organism moves for itself. Similarly, self-perception already exists but not in a coordinated, unified way. Gradually, some kind of functional contact and coordination of the independent and separate movements and perceptions develop lawfully in a cephalocaudal direction. Accompanying this progressive sensorimotor integration, the sense of oneness begins to emerge.

He continues:

On the basis of the dependence of *self-perception on plasmatic motion*, self-perception at birth would be dim and split up into many separate experiences of the self according to the separateness of the plasmatic organ movements.

Gradually *movements* and *perception* become coordinated until the organism moves as a whole into *one* total perception of the self (= SELF-AWARENESS). Not until then can we speak of a fully developed consciousness.

Historically, the relationship between consciousness and self-perception was somewhat metaphorically anticipated by Lange, who writes:

...how does this sensation sum itself into the unity of consciousness? The difficulty is not a psychological one, for if the sensations commence—no matter how—like tones in a system of harmonious sounds—once to flow into each other, then we may imagine *how a sum of elementary sensations may afford the richest and most significant content of consciousness*: But how do the sensations effect this transition from atom to atom through void space? ... *the sensitive particles act immediately upon each other, and so form a continuum*. (1957, page 31) [Italics added]

Not until the discovery of orgone energy, however, could this line of reasoning be fully developed and given a firm theoretical and physical foundation.

From an ontogenetic standpoint, consciousness first appears in humans when the cephalocaudal integration of the developing child is fairly complete, at about one year of age. Before then, self-perception already exists as it does in lower animals, but the function of consciousness is incomplete.

The ontogenetic development of cortical dendrites provides neurophysiologic evidence to support Reich's hypothesis. In the human infant brain at birth, cortical neurons are widely separated, and there is very little dendritic sprouting. At four months, cell density is no higher, but dendrites start to grow from cell bodies. By fifteen months, there is a vast proliferation of cortical dendrites, and, although still incomplete, those of one neuron can be observed to make synaptic contact with those of others.

Recent developments in the field of neurophysiology have provided physical corroboration of Reich's ideas regarding the interdependence

of consciousness and self-perception. In order to satisfy Reich's hypothesis, these findings must fulfill the following criteria:

A. A group of neurons centrally located in the brain must be identified as constituting the physiologic substrate of consciousness.

B. Afferent sensory (perceptual) fibers from the total organism must be shown to functionally *converge* on this central system.

C. The *degree* of sensory input must be correlated quantitatively with degrees in arousal (consciousness).

D. Destruction of this central system must be associated with a disturbance in consciousness.

E. There must be support from clinical and physiological grounds.

F. The entire system must be involved with perceptual as well as motor integration on a biophysical level.

G. This hypothesis must be able to provide a unified theory that makes comprehensible both conscious and unconscious processes.

Identification of a centrally located arousal system

The electroencephalogram (EEG) is a record of neuronal activity of the *cerebral cortex*. Transitions from sleep to wakefulness or from states of relaxation to alertness are characterized by alterations in the EEG. The breaking up of synchronous cortical discharges (alpha waves) by afferent stimulation such as opening of the eyelids was first observed by Berger in 1930. With arousal, the synchronized pattern of high voltage slow waves, seen typically in lowered states of consciousness, are replaced by the appearance of low voltage, random, fast activity. The *magnitude* of the EEG change parallels the *degree* of transition. It consists of blockage of these alpha or other high voltage slow waves and may be produced by any type of sensory stimulation generated either internally or externally that arouses the individual.

In 1949, Moruzzi and Magoun (1949) demonstrated that EEG changes seemingly identical with those of physiologic arousal reactions can, without exciting classical sensory pathways, result from direct stimulation of the *reticular formation of the brain stem*. The reticular system includes the *central core of the brain stem*, extending

from the bulbar reticular formation forward through the pontile and mesencephalic tegmentum into the caudal diencephalon. It is generally referred to as the Reticular Activating System (RAS).

The anatomic and physiologic properties of this system are quite unique. They consist of a network of neurons in which excitation passes freely from cell to cell by multiple routes of varying lengths. In the reticular core, dendrites typically extend over long distances. Those from cells of one group of neurons interdigitate with dendrites of another, overlapping by relatively great distances (measured in millimeters). These dendrites weave their way through a profusion of fiber bundles that constitute the input to the reticular system. The axons of the reticular neurons are equally unique. Instead of each neuron making a localized single contact, many of the axons give off collateral branches that run along the dendrites, presumably establishing many separate contacts with them. Further, many neurons in the reticular system are *polysensory* (they may be excited by more than one type of stimulus).

From a functional standpoint, the reticular system can be viewed as a kind of syncytium without the neurons actually displaying direct protoplasmic contact with each other. In contrast to the specific nature of the classical sensory motor system, the nervous impulses within the reticular system are not discreet. *Pooling* of sensory impulses within it are at a maximum (see later).

The cortical response to reticular stimulation consists of a sudden cessation of synchronized alpha rhythm in the EEG and its replacement with low voltage fast activity. It involves the entire cortex and is most pronounced ipsilaterally in the sensory-motor visual and auditory projection areas. The EEG response to reticular stimulation is best obtained with low voltage, high frequency stimulation. Accompanying this cortical response, a state of alertness appears in the organism.

Control studies show that this cortical response is not affected by any of the previously known ascending or descending paths that

traverse the brain stem. It is also independent of changes in respiration, blood pressure, and heart rate. Neither is it attributable to antidromic excitation of corticofugal fibers or to the dromic stimulation of known afferent pathways bordering the reticular system. Further, movements referable to pyramidal tract excitation never accompany EEG responses to reticular stimulation.

Because of limitations in experimental design, no direct proof can be brought forth to demonstrate the vital role played by the reticular system in maintaining consciousness. These experiments, however, provide strong presumptive evidence for the hypothesis that the brain stem reticular formation is directly involved in the arousal reaction and forms the physiologic basis for consciousness.

Afferent Fiber Entering the Reticular System

All the great sensory nerve trunks of the body (the *specific* sensory fibers) as they travel rostrally within the central nervous system to the specific projection areas of the cerebral cortex *send collateral fibers into the polysynaptic neural network of the non-specific reticular system*. Here the nervous impulses converge and diverge in all directions, making *functional contact with sensory input from other parts of the body*. (See Fig. 1.)

The collaterals from the specific somatosensory and special sensory fibers first activate the brain stem reticular formation and exert their influence upon the cerebral cortex indirectly through it.

The passage of sensory fiber tracts into the reticular system would satisfy one condition of Reich's hypothesis, that the function of consciousness depends on the *integration* of the innumerable elements of self-perception (sensory impulses) into one single experience of the self.¹

Quantitative Considerations

The *magnitude* of electrical change of the EEG accompanying arousal parallels the *degree* of transition from sleep to wakefulness. These behavioral correlations to EEG changes correspond to experimental

¹In a later article, evidence will be given supporting the hypothesis that the sensory system of the CNS represents the structuralization of the perceptual function of mass-free orgone energy in the organism.

findings. In addition, the response to reticular stimulation varies with the degree of background synchrony present. Conspicuous effects are observed when the brain exhibits some degree of relaxation (EEG consisting of high-voltage slow waves), while a fully activated EEG is not further affected.

The EEG response is proportional to the stimulus frequency. Fifty cps is the lowest frequency at which a definite alteration is elicited.

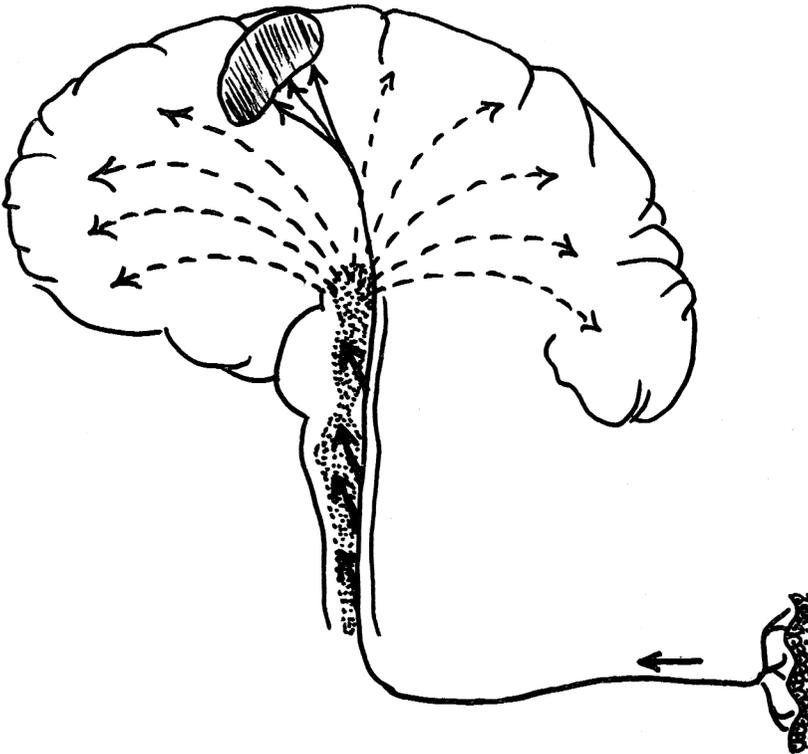


Figure 1

THE RETICULAR FORMATION is the area stippled in this cross section of the brain. A sense organ (lower right) is connected to a sensory area in the brain. (upper left) by a pathway extending up the spinal cord. This pathway branches into the reticular formation. When a stimulus travels along the pathway, the reticular formation may “awaken” the entire brain (dashed arrows).

The response is improved by increasing frequencies up to 300cps. Low voltage produces a better response than high voltage.

Destructive Lesions of the Reticular Core

If the reticular formation is permanently injured, irreversible coma ensues.

Anesthesia or sleep-inducing drugs block the flow of nerve impulses into the reticular formation but have little effect on impulse transmission along the sensory pathways from the sense organ to the cortex. As the anesthesia wears off, the flow in the reticular core returns to normal. Stimulants, on the other hand, have the opposite effect. They enhance the conduction of impulses in the reticular formation.

Physiologic and Clinical Evidence

Absence of sensory input into the brain is known to be a common cause of disturbed consciousness. Altered consciousness due to sensory deprivation is a well-known occurrence. Syncopal attacks following stationary standing for long periods (soldiers standing “at attention”) is another example. This is explained by an interruption of sensory input to the brain from the plantar surface of the feet.

Clinically, altered states of consciousness may occur in therapy while a patient is breathing. This happens when the patient is not in touch with the energy build-up that accompanies breathing. Contact, which is based on the ability of the brain to perceive the energy excitation, can be reestablished by instructing the patient to kick, squeeze, or stretch the body. These procedures not only discharge excess energy but also provide sensory stimuli to the brain, resulting in a return of full consciousness.

Hypnosis can probably be understood along these lines also. Disturbances in consciousness occurring during the schizophrenic psychosis and the epileptic seizure will be discussed later.

Sensorimotor Integration

The reticular system not only “samples” sensory impulses of most kinds but also is involved with sensorimotor coordination in the following ways:

1. It affects skeletal muscle tone (inhibition or facilitation).
2. It is involved with the production of coordinated body movements (walking, etc.).
3. The pathways to and from the hypothalamus, which is a major component of the autonomic functioning of the brain, are routed into and through the reticular system.

The Physical Basis of the Unconscious in Protoplasmic Part-Perceptions

These recently discovered properties of the central reticular core of the brain stem substantiate Reich’s theoretical views regarding the interdependence of consciousness and self-perception.

Does this approach also clarify our understanding of the relationship between conscious and unconscious processes? Traditional medicine views the unconscious in two entirely different phenomenologic ways.

1. *Neurophysiological*: Consciousness is dependent on certain neurophysiologic properties of the brain. When the conscious part of the mind is not functioning, the individual is said to be unconscious. This is a variable state, ranging from a *total* absence of certain faculties such as memory, orientation, perception, and purposive motor activity, to a *partial* decrease in these functions. In this state, the individual is said to display varying degrees of confusion, disorientation, delirium, etc.

2. *Psychological*: Another definition of the unconscious is employed in psychiatry. In Freud’s terminology, this term refers to a certain topographical division of the psyche. It covers that portion of psychic functioning that is *not in the immediate field of awareness*. When near enough to be more or less easily accessible to consciousness, it is called the “preconscious.” The unconscious in this sense originates from neurotic conflicts, and is therefore psychopathologic in nature.

Each of these views is correct but one-sided, since its antithetical function is ignored. Because it is the unitary expression of orgonotic plasma movements that forms the physical basis for consciousness, the *unconscious* (both in the physiologic and the psychiatric use of the term) can be regarded as the orgonotic *disintegration* of sensory part-perceptions entering the brain. In unconsciousness due to organic causes, there may be a more or less total and sudden interruption of sensory input into the reticular system. This can be due to a variety of causes that need not be mentioned here.

By contrast, unconsciousness due to psychic causes is usually partial and can be viewed as a selective reduction of reticular input (absence of part-perceptions from the armored region). Perceptions of the emotions and organ sensations originating from the armored segments become split from the unitary experience of the self. Full consciousness is disturbed to a greater or lesser degree.

Clinically, removal of armor may be accompanied by the appearance of a memory that was associated with its formation or by insight into a particular character attitude. Consciousness becomes fuller. The lack of contact between excitation and its perception due to armor is the physical basis for the occurrence of unconscious phenomena. In therapy, establishing contact with the part-perception associated with an unconscious idea or emotion is the reverse of this process. The armor splits up the unitary sense of self into a multitude of fragmentary part-perceptions. The neurotic character is the sum total of the expression of these part-perceptions. When armoring is present, consciousness will be affected to a greater or a lesser degree (contactlessness). If it is severe, a dissociated, amnesic, or psychotic state can appear. These differences may depend on the type of disturbance of reticular input. In general, the type of armoring determines the qualitative aspects of perceptual distortions. This will be discussed at a later time.

Sleep is a physiologic state of unconsciousness. The organism withdraws from contact with the world. Armoring is temporarily reduced. Self-reflection accompanying the loss of consciousness

during the process of falling asleep reveals that the unitary perception of the self (consciousness) becomes dissociated into a multitude of part-perceptions which are based on the respective organ sensations of the body. In the process of dreaming, each particular organ sensation forms the psychophysiologic basis for a different dream element. Accompanying the orgasmic discharge, a partial suspension of consciousness occurs. These are the only two conditions in which an interruption of consciousness occurs naturally.

In summary, there is compelling evidence from varying sources strongly supporting the hypothesis that:

A. The ascending reticular system of the brain stem represents the structuralization of the plasmatic functions of coordination and integration of the central nervous system.

B. A background of sustained activity within this reticular system accounts for consciousness. Conversely, reduction of its activity, either naturally or by experimental injury and disease, or by armoring, may result in a disturbance of consciousness.

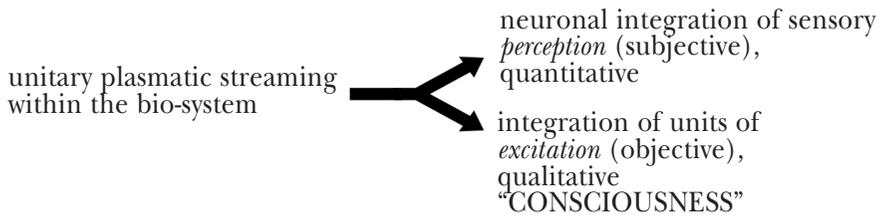
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ORGANIC AND PSYCHIC DISTURBANCES IN CONSCIOUSNESS²

	<i>organic</i>	<i>psychic</i>
1. type of disruption of RAS	general, nonspecific	specific from armored segment
2. origin of disruption	metabolic, physiologic, etc.	blocked emotion contained in muscular armor
3. degree	may be partial or total	usually partial, rarely total
4. some distinguishing manifestations	coma, delirium	contactlessness, dream or fugue states, <i>déjà vu</i>
5. aggravating factors	underlying physical condition	emotionally specific situations

²Certain disturbances of consciousness such as amnesia, disorientation, confusion, etc., are common to both. In this category, the focus is only on those characteristics that are unique.

Integrated orgonotic streaming within the biosystem constitutes the CFP of both objective (excitation) and subjective (perceptual) functions in the reticular system. In man, consciousness is the subjective aspect of this perceptual integration. We assume that both self-perception and perception of the environment are fully developed in lower animals, but not consciousness. This function first appears in humans when the coordination of part-perceptions progresses to a sufficient *degree*. The quantitative increase in this integration, which is functionally identical to the degree of afferent input into the reticular system, abruptly results in a *qualitative* change in subjective experience in the formation of consciousness (the ability of the organism to be *aware of itself*).

This can be expressed in the following manner:



Following this process of bioenergetic coordination, “purpose” and “meaning,” as well as rational thought and behavior, begin to emerge. Without full biophysical coordination, rational thought and action are impossible. We assume that this process is accompanied by a greater ability of the brain to hold an orgonotic *charge* and corresponds to the increase in cerebral mass. Further, we assume that the process of thinking must be based in part on the presence of a certain minimal amount of free energy present in the brain that is at the disposal of the organism to “direct.”

Words such as “concentration,” “attention,” and “focusing” apply to physical energetic processes involved with the ability of the individual to actively direct energy in the brain. With the emergence of consciousness, the psychic perception of *movement* is capable of becoming dissociated into its component parts of *space* and *time*.³

³In physics, movement is measured as velocity. It is defined as the ratio of *distance* (a space function) over *time*.

Similarly, the perception of the organism in relation to his environment, which is originally sensed in a unitary manner, becomes dissociated into its component parts of *observed* and *observer*. In this manner, the capacity of the conscious organism to *orient* itself in its environment (as to place, time and person) emerges.

In schizophrenia, a reversal of this process of integration occurs. Accordingly, rationality, purposefulness, orientation, speech, association of thought, and other mental functions disintegrate to the extent that the bioenergetic basis for these mental functions falls apart. In this biopathy, disturbances in consciousness are mild except, of course, during a psychotic episode, when they may become more extensive.

The opposite happens in the case of essential epilepsy. In the grand mal epileptic attack, the effect on consciousness is sudden and complete. It results either when the epileptic discharge is initiated in the central reticular system or when the discharge spreads into it through corticofugal projections. Rapid spread of an attack of focal origin may occur through the reticular system with its bilateral projections to widespread cortical areas. On the other hand, if the epileptic discharge remains focal or confined to the cortex, consciousness is not impaired.

The motor aspect of the grand mal attack also originates from the central reticular core of the brain stem. It was noted earlier that this system is involved with motor, as well as sensory, integration.

From a biophysical standpoint, there are three basic types of disturbances in consciousness:

1. *Disintegration* of part-perceptions entering the reticular system. This occurs typically in the schizophrenic psychosis. It may be precipitated by an increased energy push which the brain cannot tolerate. The respiratory block, by reducing organotic sensations, also plays a part. The results are confusion, disturbances in orientation and thought association, etc.

2. *Reduction* of sensory input into the reticular system due to armoring. This is the basis for the contactless state frequently seen in

neurotic characters. The affect block of the compulsive character is a typical example. Mystical alterations of consciousness are in part based on this blockage, also.

3. *Flooding* into the reticular system due to an amount of energy flow to the brain that is greater than that which it can tolerate. In therapy, syncope is an example. It may occur in certain patients who are incapable of tolerating a strong energy push. Breathing may also create an excess of energy, producing a trance-like or dissociated state. This may be accompanied by motor symptoms such as twitching of the eyelids, jaw, muscles, etc., reminding one of myoclonic seizures. In fact, these patients may be mistaken for epileptics if the underlying character structure of the patient is not understood. The similarity to convulsive disorders is not merely coincidental, however. The same basic mechanism (flooding of the brain) occurs in both epileptic and non-epileptic characters. In the former, this results in a convulsion because the epileptic has a greater sensitivity to this push than a nonepileptic.

In conclusion: Functional thinking is capable of understanding the properties of the reticular core of the brain stem and its relationship to consciousness in a physical and practical manner. This framework is capable of satisfactorily explaining unconscious phenomena as well. Qualitatively, the type of armoring determines the type of disturbance in consciousness. Quantitatively, the degree of armoring determines the degree of this disturbance.

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Affect Block in a Catatonic Schizophrenic Character

Virginia Whitener, Ph.D.

Abstract

Character diagnosis is different than the diagnostic system (DSM-IV) which most psychiatrists and psychologists use. The following case presentation describes the catatonic schizophrenic character diagnosis and shows the positive response to orgone therapy of a patient with this diagnosis.

Introduction

Baker (1967) defines a block as “a contraction in the organism which prevents the free flow of energy or its excitation” (page xxvii). In the presence of an affect block, emotions are shut off from awareness. Affect block in general is pervasive in the population and results in the “emotional coldness and genital deadness” (Reich, page 86) that characterize the neurotic human condition. In the extreme, a person feels little or nothing. He or she feels chronically empty with only a vague sense of self. Thoughts, words and actions are separated from feelings. The original function of the block is to defend against fear, anxiety and terror and to allow survival under intolerant, intolerable conditions in childhood. It takes energy and effort to accomplish this stopping of the flow of energy and movement.

Although with sufficient blocking anxiety is lessened considerably, there is also little or no chance of, no impetus toward, spontaneous action and creative initiative, which in the individual’s history was not allowed. Thus the individual so armored is “safe,” though emotionally dead and rudderless—they have insufficient emotional cues on which to make definite decisions.

Case Study

Rose was having intense difficulties in her marriage when she sought therapy ten years ago at age 45. She and her husband agreed that their conversations quickly became ripping, critical put-downs. Both were angry and frustrated. Rose felt “invisible, not appreciated, not respected.” Her husband found Rose insensitive to and not supportive of him or his interests. Rose felt terribly burdened by her workload and personal financial matters: She, the major wage earner, worked long hours but family expenses were high and debt accumulated. Rose left decisions including those about money matters, household management, and childrearing to her husband, but complained about the outcome. After a period of marital therapy Rose elected to start individual therapy.

Presentation

Rose was competent, successful, and responsible in her business life, but appeared rather “out of it”—not quite in touch with the real world or the specifics and nuances around her or emotion within herself. As she spoke of the details of her life and functioning, it became clear that she procrastinated and avoided tasks (in part by playing computer games) and took a burdened, pressured, compulsive approach to work. She described a frantic, scattered quality in the way she approached and finally set herself to tasks. She had difficulty making decisions. Conscientious, she nonetheless complained of not being productive. Later it came out that sometimes she did not get paid for work because she did not ask for money; she feared confrontation, others’ anger, and wanted to be, and to be seen as, “nice.” She could not set limits on the time she gave to people and tasks. People seemed to like her attention, but she was routinely late, forgetful of, and behind schedule for the next thing.

Tall and average in build, Rose enjoyed good physical health. Biophysical exam showed an extremely tight and rigid forehead, top of the head (scalp), and occiput in addition to general armor and

tension throughout her body. After being in therapy for some time, she with her husband made a conscious effort to attend to her physical and biophysical health—they improved their diet and began regular exercise, to good benefit.

Rose showed at times a flat, mildly confused expression in her eyes, an incongruous, odd grin, and minimal mobility of her face. She could appear “normal”—polite, nice, well-dressed—a “professional business woman,” but she also was somewhat “out of it,” “not with it.” While at times anxious, momentarily frozen and periodically displaying reactive anger to her husband, she was generally out of touch with her feelings. Her controlled behavior allowed her to appear appropriate at the surface. She looked as if she was doing everything “right”—her armor allowed her to hold herself together, by holding back her fear and other emotions. In fact, the armor was so intense it created an affect block. Her experience of herself as “invisible,” “empty” reflected this, her disconnection from herself and her feelings. It left her with doubt, not knowing what to do, indecisive, struggling over decisions, vacillating as she had no or weak emotional information to go on. Even her ideas had little valence and little conviction. Her ability to assert herself and utilize her above-average intelligence was compromised.

Rose and her husband had a minimal sexual relationship but were quite close in looking to each other for emotional support and assistance. Their difficulties and feuding seemed related to high anxiety and to projection onto the other of fears and frustration regarding their individual limitations. They each to varying degrees had difficulty realistically assessing problems and feeling a sense of accomplishment. Fighting, although adding to confusion and anxiety, seemed to give them some discharge and substitute contact.

History

Rose was toilet-trained at the age of 11 months. Her mother abandoned her in childhood and made no contact with her until she was an adult. On reunion she told Rose that she had been a difficult

child, as if that was the reason she left. Such was the nature of the mothering she received. With the mother's disappearance, her father moved frequently so that there were few stable contacts, family or personal friends. Rose remembers being scared and having no one to talk to.

Therapy

Pointing out Rose's "out-of-it-ness," her disconnection, and that she "missed," did not notice, things outside of and within herself helped her to be in better contact. She became more aware, attentive, and curious. Having her use her eyes and look more purposefully and asking her to be specific as best as she could about what happened in situations, what she saw and what she was feeling, also helped her. It was necessary to point out specific, important aspects of situations she missed perceptually, as they could potentially be used against her with significant destructive consequences (due to her perceptual neglect, insufficient registering, and dismissal of the cues she did pick up on). For example, when her administrative assistant became rude and disrespectful and began spreading ill will in the office, Rose, though irritated, did not recognize the seriousness of the situation. She failed to see the escalating, destructive nature of the behavior, the resulting deteriorating productivity of the business, and the need for her to take action to preserve cooperation within the work staff and prevent further damage.

Though somewhat aware of problematic situations, Rose put up with and endured them. She withdrew protectively or complained now and then but did not address or speak up directly. Periodically, she raised objections to her husband about various matters including what their children did. This inflamed him as her complaints, while pointing out a problem (which could have been useful), contained criticism of which she was unaware and implied that he had caused the problem and/or should take care of it. Her husband, based on his characterological patterns, took her complaints as personal accusations and blame. He reacted with anger and rather desperately

countered with verbal attacks against Rose and bemoaned his situation. Rose then reacted with anger, and the substantive matter was never addressed. In the long run, little or no action was taken, and the original problem remained unsolved. Rose looked to her husband to make decisions and take action when she could not; just as he looked to her to problem-solve, support him, and assert herself in ways that he could not. Due to their perceptual distortions neither could make corrective changes.

In therapy, Rose for many months didn't "get" that complaining was not the same as problem-solving and was, instead, a defense against fear of making decisions and taking action. However, as she became more in touch with herself and the world around her, and more aware of being "out of it," she was more able to look at her own behavior and situations and see them for what they were, to feel and know what needed to be done and to take action. No argument and discussion were needed.

As therapy proceeded, Rose's complaints showed more feeling. She said, "Nobody believes me." As she listened to her own words, she became aware that *she* did not believe herself. She became aware of her doubt and that her original statement was a projection of her own disconnection and disbelief. Though she could espouse and complain about problems, she did not really believe what she was saying, could not feel the truth of it, and could not stay with her perception. Inaction and waiting for others to clarify and correct problems ensued.

In addition to characteranalytic intervention, developing fuller respiration and biophysical movement in the ocular segment helped to break up armor and allow excitation to come through to awareness. In this case, by and large, *the development of biophysical sensation preceded emotional contact*. The degree to which Rose began to feel new sensations in her body was notable.

At present Rose is more attuned to and aware of the rise and fall of her anxiety in daily life, and in what context it appears, making her response more articulate and relevant to specific situations. She can also discharge tension in therapy and relax. As Rose faces her anxiety

of expressing feelings, she is more able to express anger as well as fear during therapy sessions. At the end of sessions, after getting out fear and rage, Rose has a livelier sense of self and feels excitement, movement and relief of tension within her body better. As she becomes more tolerant of motility and feelings, she can face her anxiety asserting her needs and expressing emotion. Less afraid of moving, she is more able to take effective action in daily life. Her behavior is less frantic, less avoidant and more organized.

When more in contact, Rose has a better sense of what she needs to do. She is more rationally, consciously responsive and less reactive. She now reports feeling compassion for her husband when he is troubled. At the same time, on occasion she can set boundaries and see his troubles as separate from herself. That is, she can see the need for and take rational action to help with a problem he has, but she does not take his distress as attacks of her. At such times she does not feel the need to react defensively.

Conclusions

Affect block in conjunction with ocular blocking characterizes the catatonic schizophrenic character. Baker (page 142) defines the catatonic schizophrenic character as a compulsive with a repressed ocular block. The ocular block of the schizophrenic is thought to occur in the first ten days of life, leading to a “disruption of unitary biophysical functioning” (page 143), a split between perception and excitation. In addition to ocular problems that express themselves in perceptual splitting and panic, the catatonic schizophrenic character has compulsive features due to severe childhood experiences, including early toilet-training. If toilet-training occurs before the age of 2 to 3 years, before the child has developed the natural ability to control the anal sphincter, the training demands of the parent require severe rigidity in the young organism “which leads to contraction of the whole body musculature to conform” (page 126). The child or infant then is “holding back for dear life” (*ibid.*). The severe holding leads to rage which must also be held back and is further repressed

due to the intolerance of the parents. The affect block is further reinforced as the child gets older and energy (especially arising at “first puberty” around age four but at any age) tries to push through to expression and the parents and others in the social environment harshly and completely stop it. Further repression and blocked-off fear and rage build up. There is often a tremendous but unvoiced “No,” held-in anger, and a fear of letting go and giving in to spontaneous, open expression.

In certain cases, if the balance between the ocular and anal armor is right, the individual despite the severe emotional limitations can look like a well-adjusted person.¹ Few would know how empty and incapable the individual feels inside.

It is possible in therapy that as energy increases, the armor spontaneously lets go and the rage and fear underneath come to the fore, available for discharge.

This case, the patient and her therapy, illustrates:

- The specific characteristics of the catatonic schizophrenic character type. They include affect block, withdrawal, procrastination, compulsive work habits, doubt, ambivalence, reactive displays of emotion (outbursts or explosions in response to another person), and, at times, a “nice” or bland exterior. This overlays fear of emotional expression in general and of aggression in particular, underneath which lies rage.
- The function of armor. Armor allowed Rose to hold herself together. She was able to work, to put her “nose to the grindstone,” accomplish tasks and achieve some normalcy and engagement with others although with disconnection, self-doubt, and very limited pleasure.
- The value of the presenting symptom in making a diagnosis. Rose’s initial complaint of being “invisible” manifested emotional disconnection central to the catatonic schizophrenic. Her feeling invisible to others reflected her lack of contact with

¹The diagnosis may include not just law-abiding, well-behaved individuals but also pathological ones such as the serial killer who commits acts of torture without much feeling or regret or the quiet person whose neighbors cannot believe that such a “nice, quiet” person could do the things they hear or read he or she has done.

herself. Unable to emotionally feel herself, she was unable to perceive and doubted her existence in the eyes of others.

- The progress that the catatonic schizophrenic character often makes with character analysis and biophysical movement in therapy. The appearance of sensation, a greater sense of self, and a new capacity to engage with feeling in the world in this character type is often a profound and moving experience for patient and therapist alike.

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A Brief Introduction to Functional Economics

The Biological Origin of Economic Debacles

Charles Konia, M.D.

Abstract

Economics is a component of sociology which is a component of biology. All manifestations of economic life, healthy and pathological, are derived from biological functions of armored humans.

Introduction

Mechanistic thinking separates the natural sciences into different branches, each having little or no functional relationship to any other. In contrast, functional thinking is capable of integrating the various sciences into a unified whole and is also able to investigate specialized areas of science. Economics is a good example. From a functional perspective, economics is a less inclusive, more superficial branch of sociology which, in turn, is a less inclusive, more superficial branch of biology. Therefore, economics must also be included as part of the biological sciences. This perspective gives someone who has an in-depth understanding of bioemotional functions of individuals and of society the ability to contribute to the science of economics.

Significantly, from a historical perspective, these sciences originated in reverse order. Economics was the first to develop. Plato identified the economic basis of social life and in *The Republic* organized a model society on the basis of a careful division of labor. Aristotle, too, emphasized the importance of economic security as the basis for social and political health. However, it was not until the 18th century, with the publication of Adam Smith's *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*, that economics was established as a separate scientific discipline. According to Smith, self-interest was the

basic motivating economic force. He made a masterly analysis of the division of labor and had a comprehensive understanding of the development of economic institutions in the West. Sociology did not originate as a science until the following century with the emergence of the concept of society as separate from the State. In the 19th century, Karl Marx was the first to understand the enormous productive capacity of human biosocial working power. The greatest challenge to classical economics came from the distortion of Marx's economic ideas by his followers. Their criticism of capitalism, particularly the recurrence of economic crises such as inflations and depressions, with their advocacy of labor unions and wealth redistribution by government, has had disastrous worldwide social consequences in the 20th century. Quasi-Marxists continue to approach economics politically from the narrow perspective of 19th century sociology. *Without a biological foundation, this has not only failed to provide a solution to economic problems, it has made economic conditions worse than they were before.*

Despite these failures, and demonstrating that the biological forces determining economic life continue to be ignored,¹ American democracy and the free market is again the target of yet another socialist "experiment" thanks to the current Obama administration.

A particularly glaring example is the failure to distinguish between healthy and pathological economic activity. No distinction is made between rational, productive work and its pathological counterpart, the destructive effect and consequences of armored work activity in the marketplace. Without any sense or understanding of the truly biological basis of economic life, the economist of today flounders, focusing instead on the quantitative and specialized manifestations of the economy such as econometrics, interest rates, exchange rates, inflation, and so on. The underlying biological basis of economic life, both healthy and pathological, remains completely out of the economist's domain. Instead, out of touch with the original function

¹A free market can be defined as one in which anyone has considerable scope to go anywhere in the world and buy, sell and own goods, services and productive enterprises, with attendant responsibilities and rights. (Robert Harman in a personal communication)

of economics, economists today are focused on complicated theories dealing with the advanced state of our industrial society.

In contrast, the relevant biological discoveries of Wilhelm Reich, M.D. and Elsworth Baker, M.D. make it possible to place economics and sociology on a firm biological foundation, one that can be the start of a true understanding of this science. On this basis, the destructiveness of distorted Marxist social criticism can finally be put to rest.

Economics is defined as the science focused on people's exchange of goods and services. The fundamental relationship in economics is that between the individual supplier of goods or services and the supplied individual and the satisfaction of their material and personal needs. From a functional perspective, economics deals with core biological functions and addresses the question, "How can people survive and live harmoniously together through the exchange of goods and services?" The relationship between supply and demand in the economic realm is derived from the satisfaction of basic biological needs such as food, clothing, shelter, and so on. *This interaction between the supplier and the supplied individual is entirely spontaneous and, under natural, healthy conditions, is sustained by the biological work function of both parties.*² Without human labor there can be no economy, again clearly demonstrating that economics is, in fact, one of the biological sciences.

As societies transitioned from tribal to agrarian and industrial, the biological work function of humans also became increasingly more developed and specialized with the greater development of tools and energy sources, actually, extensions of people's work function. Correspondingly, human functioning became more complex and the economy of societies became more developed as well. Yet, under healthy conditions, the underlying core economic functions and the necessity for a free market remain operative in the same way in economically developed industrialized societies as they do in primitive societies (see below).

²From a functional perspective, every animal in the wild must work to survive and live. Building a nest, foraging for food or killing prey for food are, strictly speaking, forms of work. Unlike humans, the energy economy of animals in the wild is limited to core functions such as finding a mate and securing their own means of survival.

According to the functional view, there are three layers to the human biopsychic structure from which all human activity originates: the biological core, the destructive secondary or middle layer and the superficial or surface layer. This same layering also exists and is operative in the economic realm. All vital economic activity originates from the biological core since a healthy economy deals with the satisfaction of people's core needs. In an armored society, not only do the core needs require satisfaction but the destructive secondary needs as well. Therefore, knowledge of the destructive manifestations of the middle layer in economic life is essential to distinguish between healthy and sick economic activity.³ In contrast, the traditional economist recognizes and deals primarily with the superficial layer of human life while ignoring the biological core and the destructive middle layer. The superficial layer of economics involves functions related to the intellect such as measurements of national income and productivity, observations of financial markets, and so on. However, most of what happens in economics, both healthy and pathological, originates from the deeper layers. These layers are the primary determinants of all human activity including the economy of any modern society.

There is a close relationship between people's emotional needs and their economic needs. This relationship becomes apparent in the use of the term *investment* which refers to a quantity of energy attached to something, applying either to an emotional need or to an economic activity. This is another example illustrating the close association between the biological and the economic realms.

The work function of biological orgone energy originating from the core of the organism, the source of all economic activity, is poorly understood by everyone including, in particular, economists. The sociopolitical Right views work moralistically from a compulsive standpoint as "a necessary part of the Christian work ethic." The Left also views work moralistically but from a different, socialist standpoint. For the Left, work is "an activity of the worker that is exploited by the

³An example of pathological economic activity is criminal work, that is, work that is destructive to the individual or to society, such as drug trafficking.

capitalist owner of the means of production.” Therefore, the owner of production is morally bound to compensate the exploited worker. If the owner does not give “voluntarily and fairly,” he must be forced to do so either by the government or by the force of “the people.” These narrow, moralistically based views show how little people are in touch with the biological work function. As a result, human work is seen by many armored people as the bane of their existence. Since their work function is impaired to the extent that they experience no gratification in it, they look forward to retiring or to winning the lottery or to the government taking care of them.

In contrast, people with a healthy work function feel a sense of frustration if, for any reason, their work is interrupted. Biological work has both quantitative properties in terms of the amount of work done and qualitative properties in terms of the kind and quality of work. If allowed to develop without individual or social impediments, the work function is inherently rational, lawful and productive. People with a healthy work function give rise to a marketplace that is self-regulating. On the other hand, human armor blocks the flow of biological orgone energy resulting in emotional disturbances in the individual and also, by disturbing the work function, interfering with social and economic interactions. In armored humans, energy is disrupted as it passes through the middle layer, the repository of destructive including criminal work impulses, causing a disturbance in economic activity. Genuine pleasurable satisfaction in work and its products are disrupted. In the economic realm, these work disturbances are the ultimate cause of disruptions of the free market.

In an armored society, the market *must* be controlled or “regulated” in varying degrees by the government because of the destructive social effects caused by the pathological economic activity of armored people. Thus, regulation or governmental intrusion in the marketplace is a rational manifestation of social armor.

The biological function of the free market can be disturbed from forces originating from either the Left or the Right. For example, leftist ideologues claim that pathological economic conditions such as

inflations and depressions are intrinsic to a free market and can only be corrected through external manipulation by the government. Thus, when economic conditions worsen, the political Left enter advancing their misfired socialist “solutions” in the form of externally imposed “stimulus programs” to “jump start” an already disturbed and weakened free market. The biological origin of economic pathology, human armor, is consistently ignored.

On the political Right, confusion and ignorance regarding the existence of distinct biological, social and economic realms has had different but no less destructive social repercussions. Commercial business with the help of the advertising industry thrives on this muddle in the name of “free enterprise,” marketing all sorts of products, some of which are necessary for life and others that function as substitute satisfaction for an emotionally unsatisfied population: Satisfaction of neurotic material needs from the more superficial economic realm is a substitute gratification for unsatisfied deeper social and biological needs. This practice, often using high pressured sales techniques, is consistently supported by the political Right if for no other reason than “to keep the economy going.”

Knowledge of the effects of human armor on economic life shows that when there is pathology causing trouble in the economy, there must be an underlying disturbance in people’s biological work function which, in turn, disturbs the free market. These disturbances are the result of armored people’s destructive behavior impacting the economy. *They are internally generated from within the armored population.* Thus, interfering with the market by instituting greater regulation or greater freedom may temporarily alleviate the problem but it is symptomatic treatment that cannot produce permanent, long-term solutions. It must be recognized that *the behavior of armored people and not the free market itself is the ultimate source of economic problems.*

Armored people can disturb the economy in one of two ways: Either their pre-existing work disturbance renders them emotionally helpless and dependent on others for their survival, or by their actions

as a carrier of the emotional plague, the tendency of humans to act destructively toward one another. An example of the latter is interfering with or destroying the work functioning of others in the workplace. Occurring on every level of social organization, the plague's disturbance of economic life can have devastating effects leading to the destruction of the free marketplace.

The Spread of the Emotional Plague into Economics⁴

The economic foundations of the free market system are ultimately based on the health of the biological work function of the masses. In turn, the capacity of people to be free of individual armor allows the free market to exist. *When the biological work function and therefore the productivity of people deteriorates beyond a certain critical point, the entire free market economic system must sooner or later collapse. The financial solvency and the credibility of America as a leader among nations are only as real as the capacity of its people to behave responsibly and to work productively.* These facts were as axiomatic in the beginning of American history when the infant nation was struggling for its survival as they are today.

People's emotional sickness manifested in social life and the emotional plague reach far beyond sociopolitics and extends into all aspects of life, including the economy. In addition to the neurotic helplessness of the masses of people in low- and middle-income levels there is the pathological behavior of the financially well-to-do. It is a common misconception of ordinary people that the rich and famous, the successful politician and business person, and the wealthy are somehow immune from the typical, crippling emotional disorders that afflict the rest of the population. This is a common mystical belief of the masses. For many of these well-heeled Little Men, wealth is unconsciously associated with a sense of security and often a distorted sense of power that emboldens them to lord it over those less well off or to engage in quasi-criminal or frankly illegal business schemes. These highly successful but emotionally crippled individuals often present themselves as respected leaders in the business world. Having a self-important sense that their enormous wealth protects them from

⁴The following is an excerpt from *Neither Left Nor Right*, which will be published in 2011.

the law, many act as if their irresponsible or criminal behavior can be carried out with impunity. A closer look reveals that their emotional pathology is barely concealed behind their façade of material success, which is really a poor substitute for their lack of genuine sexual potency.

Examples of this form of pestilence include dishonest or incompetent corporate executives who defraud the public, psychopathic investment specialists who carry out crooked financial deals on unsuspecting investors and socialist billionaires who support subversive leftist causes to bring about the destruction of the free market. Out of touch with their work function and without any vital connection to the needs of other people, these influential but severely emotionally disturbed and irresponsible individuals undermine the confidence and trust that society has traditionally placed in the operation of the free market by turning it into a house of cards. Accountability on all economic levels is badly subverted and supervision and regulation called for by the Left, control by government, become ever more imperative.

The corrupt politician's influence over people has the same destructive effect on the social fabric as that of the crooked businessman's effect on the free market. Filled with insatiable greed and a lust for power, many line their pockets with wealth swindled from the hard labor of others. When apprehended by the law most escape with nothing more than a slap on the wrist while the politician's transgressions are usually overlooked completely.

Whereas the emotional plague on the political Left seeks to manipulate the economy from above through political activism to bring about *state* socialism, the plague on the political Right seeks through lobbying for special interest groups to bring about *corporate* socialism. Both forms of effecting social control are highly destructive to a healthy, self-regulating economy.

Any irresponsible act if it involves another person is, by definition, a socially destructive act. The following questions require serious consideration: At what point does an irresponsible act become a

criminal one? When are the affairs of a shady, psychopathic businessman or politician considered to be illegal? Because of people's inability to think functionally and because the emotional plague is not recognized or understood, laws as they are currently written are unable to contain these "lawless" behaviors and the accompanying degradation of economic life.

As a current example, consider the credit crisis that triggered a cascade of economic events leading to the collapse of the financial markets globally in September 2008. This catastrophic occurrence was the result of the confluence of two destructive forces that were operating within separate segments of society over a period of several decades.

These were the destructive forces in operation:

- *Irresponsible, leftist-sponsored government legislation* designed to increase home ownership by forcing banks to provide mortgage loans to people without documented sufficient income or employment history (the "sub-prime" market).
- *Irresponsible and entitled masses of people* who believed that they could assume loans without having the necessary financial resources to fulfill their debt. Many of these people were allowed to purchase a home with minimal or no money down.

When a catastrophe happens people typically evade the source of the problem by putting the blame on someone else: the Right blames the Left and the Left blames the Right. In fact, recognizing, exposing and courageously dealing with people's pathologically irresponsible emotional drives underlying the economic crisis are essential in order to avoid a repeat of these painful, disastrous events. On the most superficial, symptomatic level, when the real estate "bubble" collapsed the mortgage balance due on the homeowner's house was greater than its market value. Thus, a return to stronger, more responsible underwriting standards is essential, especially a requirement for a relatively high down payment on home purchases. A further safeguard is strengthening the recourse that mortgage lenders have if borrowers

default on their mortgage.⁵ This measure would have the effect of making the borrower more responsible. These are minimal symptomatic measures that must be implemented. They do not, however, address the underlying pathological, emotionally based source of the problem—the tendency of both parties, the lenders and the borrowers, to act irresponsibly.

Another recent example of this is the crisis in the American automobile industry which was the result of decades of *irresponsible* union leaders making excessive demands for higher wages and benefits for their workers and *irresponsible* management giving in to them.

Underlying the current economic debacle *was a degradation of many people's biologically rooted work function*. This manifested as *economic irresponsibility* on several different social levels, including pathological, *characterologically based* greed and feelings of entitlement. These forces, displaced onto political and socioeconomic life, led to the abnegation of individual accountability and a weakening of American democracy and the free market.

Armored people typically approach economic problems within the narrow confines of mechanistic-mystical thinking. The Left blames any catastrophe on a failure of the free market system and advocates increased government supervision of the economy. From irresponsible executives in today's business world to outright psychopaths swindling the public is but a slippery slope. From seemingly well-intentioned politicians concocting lofty plans to take care of the public to their incompetent and/or self-serving, quasi-criminal colleagues is but a small step. Since legislative measures can only be superficial and symptomatic, they not only don't get to the heart of the problem and are bound to be ineffective, but they usually exacerbate the problem.

The Right blames the crisis on excessive government interference with the economy. They usually promote a *laissez-faire* attitude. They extol the virtues of a free market in a moralistic fashion and recommend traditional solutions to economic problems such as the return to constitutional government, elimination of fiat money⁶ or

⁵Liebowitz, S. 2009. New Evidence on the Foreclosure Crisis. *The Wall Street Journal*, July, 3-5.

⁶Here, the term "fiat money" is used to mean a credit money system in which there are few, if any, external restraints on the central bank's capacity to create credit money. The term "fiat money" is used in a different sense in Dr. Harman's companion article to this one in this issue of the *Journal*.

“belt tightening” to counteract inflation. They support giving responsible people access to capital, allowing them to take ownership of assets and encouraging entrepreneurship. Although correct in sensing that the economy has a life of its own and that innovative solutions often make matters worse, they miss the essential point that the underlying source of the problem is not a moral issue. In fact, a moralistical viewpoint is an impediment to arriving at a correct solution. *The truth of the matter is that many people in America are biologically incapable of responsibly taking advantage of the opportunities that are available to them because their emotional sickness interferes with their ability to work.*⁷

In contrast, people on the Left view the economy mechanistically. They want and attempt to “do something” to “make it work better.” Viewing the economy as a kind of machine that can be “oiled,” “fine-tuned” and manipulated by government from above, their approach is “Let’s keep the economy going” by, for example, pumping fiat money into it through government bailouts and by allowing people to purchase on credit beyond their ability to repay their debts. The government is currently throwing trillions of dollars at the mortgage market (either through buying bad bank loans or through continued Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac irresponsibility) with the intent of stabilizing it. Ignoring the underlying socioeconomic disease, this approach is like giving methadone to a heroin addict. It can create a temporary albeit false sense of economic well-being but does nothing to deal with the source of the crisis. This policy will inevitably lead to further deterioration in economic conditions by allowing people’s pre-existing neurotic dependency on government to worsen. At the same time it gives the government more control over people’s lives. Placing a cap on executives’ salaries and taxing their bonuses are an other example of a symptomatic solution. The individual’s honesty, integrity and worthiness, or the lack thereof, is ignored.

Yet, the thinking of each side is correct in some way. The Right speaks to the emotional health in people (their need to work and be independent) and the Left addresses people’s emotional sickness

⁷See “Is the Medicine Worse Than the Illness?” *The Wall Street Journal*, December 20-21, 2008 and “Jack Kemp in His Own Words,” *The Wall Street Journal*, May 4, 2009.

(their need to be cared for). Neither side has any knowledge of health or sickness. *As a result, people view the world from the social surface and neither the Left nor the Right look at economic and social problems functionally, in terms of their energy source.*

Since the economy is a product of human effort any disturbance in it must be seen as the result of disturbed human actions. Therefore, the biological work function and the pathological emotional forces contained in people's character armor that impede and distort it and that underlie economic events must first be recognized.

Economic events cannot be correctly viewed from the narrow perspectives of morality or mechanistically governed "market processes" from above.⁸ When not tampered with by armored humans, the economy naturally expands and contracts. It has a life of its own. As in the case of a healthy individual, a *healthy free market regulates itself*. When disturbed, both require compulsory regulation: the individual requires armor imposed socially and the economy requires regulation (control which is an externally imposed armor) by the government. The rational function of compulsory regulation from above in both cases is to prevent social chaos and in the latter, economic catastrophe.

Recently, there has been an attempt to understand economic pathology using a medical paradigm and thinking of economic sickness as a kind of metaphor for a sick patient.⁹ This approach, partly conceived of by a physician, comes closer to a correct understanding of economic processes. It does away with mechanistic-mystical preconceptions and is partially successful in its attempt to view economic events from a strictly empirical perspective. Unfortunately, what it lacks is the very same thing that medical science lacks: a clear, functional, energetic understanding of the pathophysiology of disease and the difference between health and disease. Since it is a real life expression of people's emotional sickness, economic pathology is not merely theoretical or a metaphor. It originates from disturbances in bioenergetic functions such as

⁸Konia, C. 2008. *The Emotional Plague: The Root of Human Evil*. See section on Functional Economics, pages 187-192.

⁹See Milken, M., Simons, J. 2009. Illness as an Economic Metaphor. *The Wall Street Journal*, June 20-21.

expansion and contraction and the pathological consequences of human armor on social and economic life such as irrational thinking and behavior.

The Biological Source of Economic Problems

People's destructive, neurotic attitudes and behaviors displaced onto economic life are, in fact, the real cause of disturbed economic activity. Decisions and actions based on a neurotic need for financial security secondary to emotional insecurity coupled with the fear of an economic downturn (contraction) disturb natural market fluctuations. As a result, many neurotic people experience uninterrupted economic growth (chronic economic expansion) pleurably because it provides an illusion of personal and social security. Consequently, a continual state of sustained economic growth is desperately needed and irresponsible government officials respond by artificially "pumping up" the economy. However, these economic sociopolitically based practices create a vicious cycle, with the masses becoming chronically dissatisfied, ever more demanding and expecting an endless state of economic expansion to acquire the hoped-for wealth and material security. Yet, as a result of armor, even in this artificially expanded state they are unable to fully enjoy the blessings they have. Conversely, economic contraction intensifies neurotics' personal insecurities and, for most, anxiety is an emotional state that is to be avoided at all cost. As a result of these opposing forces—seeking gratification and avoiding pain—there is a constant push in the business world to make things happen. This leads to a *state of artificial, chronic economic overexpansion*.

The most recent resulting "bubble," pumped up by every segment of society, lasted for many years until the end of 2007 when the inevitable contraction in the economy brought it to an abrupt end. The severe contraction that followed took hold not only of the economy but also gripped many people's emotional life and aggravated their personal insecurities. Unfortunately, nothing constructive could be done to address these underlying emotional problems.

It is unlikely that the sobering events of an economic contraction will overcome the masses' "freedom giddiness" and bring them to their senses. Hopefully, some may find it in themselves to be grateful for their good fortune to be living in a country where freedom and enterprise are still tolerated. Combined with a sense or actual knowledge of people's emotional sickness, this awareness hopefully can result in more responsible personal and economic behavior in the future.

In order to correctly understand the pathology of an economic system it is necessary to have the perspective of a physician understanding the illness of a patient: Since both the individual and society as a whole are biological systems, functions that take place in the former also occur in the latter. This includes the manifestations of human armor. In health, the spontaneous activity of the economy is a society's life blood and the intact biological work function of people is the essential determinant of healthy economic life. A formal democratic society with a *free market economy* is still the surest safeguard against the encroachment of the emotional pestilence in political and economic life because it allows whatever degree of freedom and emotional health that the armored general population can tolerate.

Since people's survival instincts are closely tied to their emotional life, their neurotic problems can easily become mixed up with the economy. For example, the labor union leader's demand for exorbitant benefits for union members, the union worker's feelings of entitlement, the businessman's lust for power over others, and the insatiable greed of the industrialist tycoon are some of the typical, pathological, socioeconomic symptoms of the emotional plague of armored individuals. They result from people expressing and attempting to *overcome their personal, emotionally based fears and conflicts* by displacing them onto the external economic realm.

The destructive emotional forces of armored people from different segments of society acting synergistically over time was the determining factor that ultimately brought about the economic debacle that we are currently witnessing. If unaddressed, these forces can bring down the entire economic foundation of

America. Pointing a finger at this or that group is an evasion, a plague-ridden behavior and an expression of the worst kind of partisan politics. It effectively prevents squarely facing, understanding and confronting the pathological manifestations of armored humans that have led to the current crisis.

Symptomatic “solutions” in response to the economic crisis, such as tampering with the market with “government bailouts,” printing fiat money and instituting socialist programs, are not only ineffectual substitute measures, they will exacerbate the continued decline in the economic vitality of America. With the pretext that the federal government is the only viable entity that can jolt the economy back to life, Mr. Obama’s \$787 billion dollar “stimulus package” is full of spending measures that secure a social engineering agenda with central planning at its core.

These methods of the emotional plague are characteristic of leftist ideologues who profess to have solutions but who know absolutely nothing about the underlying root causes of social problems. They are only too ready to propose obsolete socialistic measures which history has shown to be disastrous for the well-being of any economy. Expanding government’s reach in the private sector misses the point. A health care “reform” program will cost over one trillion dollars over 10 years. A new energy program will cost however many hundreds of billions of dollars in however many years. Controlling General Motors and discussing where their automobile plants are is not the province of government.¹⁰ When these attempts at economic improvement inevitably fail and economic stagnation continues, the government will step in again and tighten its stranglehold on the economy even more.

Tax reduction programs advocated by the political Right address the problem from an economic standpoint and are not in themselves destructive, but are of limited value. They also do not address the underlying problem of people’s emotional sickness. They can do nothing to improve armored people’s capacity to be responsible and to enjoy the fruits of their labor.

As the masses demonstrate their inability to be responsible for their lives, it is inevitable, given today’s leftist-oriented, anti-authoritarian thinking, that

¹⁰Noonan, P. 2009. To-Do List: A Sentence, Not 10 Paragraphs. *The Wall Street Journal*, Saturday/Sunday June 27-28.

the Federal Government must step in and attempt to assume fiscal responsibility through manipulation of the economy and the institution of socialistic policies.

From a bioenergetic perspective, socialistic measures are nothing more than an unsuccessful attempt to impose an additional layer of social armor (control from the top) to prevent further social deterioration resulting from the irresponsible and criminal economic behavior of armored humans. *Unless the irresponsible behaviors such as helplessness, dependency, envy and the criminal tendencies of armored people are first recognized and addressed, it will not be possible for people to effectively take charge of their healthcare and other economic problems. If this does not happen, the degradation into socialism brought about by the emotional plague is inevitable.* In other words, the current social and economic crises serve as a graphic illustration of how armored people living in America and *not the free market itself* are responsible for this country's insidious deterioration into a socialist state.

As noted, any society is only as vital as the emotional health of the people living in it. The vitality of a free market can exist only to the extent that the majority of people are healthy enough to maintain it. Having integrity and behaving in an honest and responsible manner are core manifestations of an individual's emotional health. These traits help to generate people's trust in the marketplace. Their absence leads to mistrust and a collapse in people's confidence. Once confidence is lost beyond a certain point it cannot be regained through government manipulation.

The forces that underlie people's neurotic and destructive behavior in all segments of society must be faced squarely and exposed as often leading to destructive outbreaks of the emotional plague affecting millions of people.¹¹

¹¹When trade among nations collapsed in the 1930s thanks to U.S. Government intervention (the Smoot-Hawley protectionist tariffs), political ties deteriorated. Economic breakdown resulted in the decline of people's work function. Any type of breakdown of the work function spreads the emotional plague. In Japan, starting in 1931, policies similar to a modern-day Keynesian stimulus were aggressively followed resulting in an overheated economy. This created false prosperity in that country while the rest of the world was sinking ever deeper into economic depression. The result in Japan was increased social anxiety coupled with an inflated sense of national power, destiny and arrogance, exacerbating mass delusions of Japanese racial superiority. The displacement of work energy onto the political arena helped to bring about militaristic fascist governments not only in Asia but in Europe as well. These events contributed to the mass outbreak of the emotional plague in the form of the Second World War.

Psychopathic individuals including political con men prey on people's legitimate needs in order to gain their trust. These politicians enter into the confusion produced by sociopolitical activism to provide their makeshift "solutions," even as the public's trust in the free market erodes, uncertainty over the economy rises and the public's mistrust of politicians reaches crisis levels.

One political columnist put it this way:

Oblivious to manifest failure [of socialist programs], the liberal-progressive idea ...that if government commits itself to accomplishing a public good, it will more or less succeed despite the difficulties and inefficiencies of these great projects. Needed good gets done.

The civics-book faith in the good intentions of government has been on the bubble with a broad swath of the American people who don't know left from right but only public performance. The Obama health-care proposal arrived at a particularly bad moment to be asking voters to "trust us."

By the time Barack Obama entered the White House, the explosion of the housing bubble had covered the landscape with the bodies of bankers, brokers and politicians who'd promised people a yellow-brick road lined with homes sold with fairy-tale down payments. Then the gods delivered a final lesson in misplaced trust: the Madoff Ponzi scheme.

I believe Madoff's massive and destructive breach of trust had an effect on the public mind that carried beyond the tragedy of its immediate victims. After Madoff, John Q. Public set the bar really high for anyone seeking a big commitment of trust with money. But that's exactly what the ambitious Obama health plan did.

President Obama in his public pleas for the plan appears to be truly upset that his benign view of it isn't obvious to all. In his op-ed for the Sunday *New York Times* he wrote, 'We'll cut hundreds of billions of waste in federal health care programs like Medicare and Medicaid.' *Hundreds of billions?* Just like that? This is nothing but an assertion by one man. It's close to Peter Pan telling the children that thinking lovely thoughts will make them fly.¹² (italics added)

¹²Henninger, D. 2009. In Government We Trust? *The Wall Street Journal*, August 20.

As long as the emotional sickness of armored humans and the plague that is spawned from it remain unrecognized, social destructiveness will continue and social conditions will worsen. It must be understood that ocular armor prevents people from seeing and thinking clearly about the world. As long as they remain undiscerning, the public will continue to be duped by con artists in all areas of life including politics and the business world. The pestilence will actively invade and destroy every area of American life. In the economic realm, politicians and saviors will keep giving the people nothing they actually need not only because what they want are substitutes for genuine happiness but also because it is not for politicians and saviors to “give” in the first place. The regulatory agencies and other nostrums instituted through legislation by politicians will do nothing to stop the downward spiral caused by their own endless thirst for control of society and the attempt by sick human beings unable to take care of themselves to satisfy their substitute, neurotic needs.

The problem is not *quantitative*, of people having more and more. It is *qualitative*, of people not being able to *experience genuine emotional satisfaction* in life that the freedom in America allows for everyone. The material and spiritual favors and rewards that are being promised by political opportunists are, at best, illusory. What all Americans will certainly get out of their Faustian bargain with these saviors is to become poorer in material possessions and much more regimented in their personal lives. Hopefully, the socialist programs and regulatory measures that are being legislated to bring about a better world will finally be seen for what they are: desperate, symptomatic measures that worsen social conditions. They will never satisfy the insatiable needs of a helpless public or provide genuine happiness.

What Must be Done to Reverse the Continued Decline in Socioeconomic Conditions?

There is no way to reverse the process of social disintegration by relying on current ways of thinking. For permanent improvement to occur major changes in people’s thinking and living must occur.

Exposing the evils of mechanistic socialism is essential but will not in itself stop the decline. It is also not enough to tell people they must care for themselves and not rely on others or their government. Social manifestations of human bioemotional sickness *and* health must be clearly recognized and addressed from a medical/psychiatric perspective, not from an ideological/political one.

Neither the conservative nor the liberal is aware of the prerequisites for personal health and the health of society. Independent and responsible living on the part of the public requires healthy sexual functioning, an intact work function and a capacity for rational thinking. Recognizing and understanding the emotional plague's operations is particularly important in today's anti-authoritarian, socialist-oriented social environment.

Since there is no sign of a reversal in the qualitative, downward spiral of social, economic and cultural life in America, the following questions demand immediate attention: What does the public have a *legitimate* right to ask for from an *honest* public servant in public office? What determines the legitimacy of these expectations? What are the qualities of an honest public servant? On what basis do people currently make the decision to vote for a particular candidate? To what extent are these decisions rationally based on core contact? And, most importantly, what will it take for people to *see through the illusion* that party politics is the way to provide the answer to the problems of humanity?

The answers to these questions goes to the heart of addressing people's emotional state of health. This requires a clear recognition of the *distinction between healthy, core biological needs and the pathological, neurotic and destructive needs originating from the sick middle layer*—core needs must be protected and *at the same time* the needs that have destructive consequences must be suppressed through appropriate parenting of children and social armor. The degree to which this can be achieved depends on the state of emotional health of society.

Today, more than at any other time in the history of America, an increasing number of people are unwilling or unable to assume

responsibility for their lives. Instead, people from all walks of life, not just politicians, have taken it upon themselves to assume that they know what is best for others and to tell them what they should or should not be thinking and doing. As history shows, the solutions are always the same, that is, they deal *not* with people's *internal* state of emotional health and sickness, but with the need to *blame others* and to change *external* social, political or economic conditions.

What the masses desperately need is exactly the opposite of what is currently being offered to them. They must first stop running from themselves. Then can they be in better *emotional contact*. If this qualitative change happens, it will spontaneously lead to a *greater level of emotional well-being and a greater opportunity for each individual to function independently and with self-determination*. First and foremost, all able-bodied people must be expected to take care of themselves emotionally and physically to the best of their abilities. Helplessness must be recognized as a symptom of emotional illness and discouraged when possible. Those who are emotionally helpless must be encouraged *not* to seek "free" assistance or salvation from others, especially their government. They must be made aware of their unique individual strengths and, to the best of their abilities, rely on their own resources. Many of these people have highly developed neurotic social skills designed to deceive themselves and manipulate others into thinking that they indeed are in need of being cared for. These traits must be recognized as potential assets and then turned around and used in the service of gaining independence. Unfortunately, these are the same traits that leftist politicians exploit to satisfy their emotionally crippled constituency.

Only by assuming emotional and financial responsibility for their own lives will people actually become freer and less likely to get caught up in the nostrums of plague-ridden political freedom peddlers. Only when leaders expect their constituency to be responsible will politicians be acting honestly, courageously and as responsible public servants. These are recommendations that no self-serving politician would ever privately entertain much less share with the public.

Except for those who genuinely need to be cared for by government, people's inability to work and function independently must be recognized and understood as a sign of severe emotional sickness. Unlike economic conditions in Third World countries that prevent people from working, there is always the opportunity to work in America. Therefore, the state of being helpless and poverty-stricken in America is an emotional problem, not the result of social or economic conditions. It is an endemic, biopsychiatric phenomenon of gigantic proportions manifesting in the socioeconomic realm. The helpless poor in America are among the emotionally sickest members of society. Since this is a medical condition, it must be recognized as such and treated by qualified mental health professionals.

My clinical experience with patients from all socioeconomic levels over many decades has shown that every case of work disturbance resulting in unemployment is based on underlying emotional problems in the patient. When these problems are addressed and resolved in therapy, the patient's work functioning improves, often dramatically. Patients who had been unemployed for years become capable of earning a living. Those who were marginally capable of employment are able to find more satisfying and better paying work. High functioning individuals such as judges, physicians, nurses and attorneys find that their professional skills and their satisfaction in work improves.

Public recognition that work disturbances are rooted in people's troubled emotional life, and are therefore primarily a biopsychiatric problem, will make it possible to remove many of these individuals from the welfare rolls. Hopefully, they can also be freed from the grasp of opportunistic politicians, most having nothing more than a law degree as their only qualification, and from the embrace of bleeding-heart social workers whose coddling and support of the irresponsible behavior of the able-unemployed does everyone, especially the unemployed person, a gross disservice.

Self-serving, freedom-peddling politicians who use the poor and poverty as political tools to promote their egalitarian agenda, as well as

the helpless public who share a sense of entitlement, are the ones most afflicted with and suffer from a particular manifestation of the emotional plague. In effect, these politicians reward those who do not work by doling out “free” money to them and at the same time they punish those who do work by “redistributing” their earnings to the poor through so called “progressive” taxation.

Granted symptomatic measures that can address only the most superficial layers of emotional pathology are not the final answer. Yet, in dealing with any individual or social problem, the place to start is the social surface: for people to *recognize and stop their destructive behavior*. Before getting to the depths of individual and social pathology, it must first be recognized and acknowledged that attempts at political solution to the world’s social problems must be stopped because they don’t and *cannot* work. The underlying sources of social problems can never be remedied through sociopolitical, judicial or religious programs from either the Left or the Right *because these problems originate from the biological depths of armored people*. They do not originate from the more superficial psychological or sociological realms in which they manifest and from which they are currently being viewed and addressed. Political attempts to blame the social system are not only useless, they function as obstacles that *prevent* finding genuine answers and by so doing exacerbate social problems.

The social policies advanced by the Kennedy and Johnson administrations serve as an example. Their anti-poverty programs were based on the alleged premise that “structural poverty” exists, that is, poverty embedded within the nature of the economic system that will not be eradicated simply by economic growth.¹³ Its elimination, according to the proponents of this view of poverty, required radical surgery through massive government intervention including the transfer of wealth from high to low income groups. This resulted in the helpless masses becoming even more dependent on government than they were before. It placed large, new segments of able-bodied Americans on the public dole. This manifestation of the emotional plague is being repeated once again now that the leftist Obama

¹³Murray, C. 1984. *Losing Ground*, page 27.

administration is stepping in to “solve” social and economic problems with governmental measures, programs and mandates, including its “stimulus package.” The latter, the stimulus package, is supposed to “jump start” the economy. It will do no such thing. At the same time, the underlying reasons for the economic crisis are completely ignored. When in the future it becomes clear that this remedy only made economic conditions worse, the culprits responsible for creating the situation will have long since vanished.

In conclusion, the ability to think functionally can provide a true understanding of natural, unarmored human behavior and its aberrations, neurotic behavior and the emotional plague. The current application of the mechanistic-mystical paradigm to all areas of life is a barrier to genuine knowledge and is, itself, a manifestation of the plague. Those who are emotionally invested in using it will employ every attempt to continue to do so.

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Practical Functional Economics (Part I)

The Functional Nature of Exchange

Robert Harman, M.D.

Abstract

This article establishes and explains the following findings:

- *Economics is the science of the relationship between the biological work function and the emotional plague.*
 - *The functional unit of economics is a credit exchange, in which one participant gives something of value to another, who is obligated to reciprocate in the future.*
 - *Simple barter is a degenerate (“non-living”) breakdown product of credit exchange.*
 - *Money is an instrument of credit. In terms of monetary functioning, gold isn’t gold without paper, and paper isn’t paper without gold.*
 - *Money has a structure which is ever-changing.*
 - *Although the work function is international, the functioning and structure of money varies from country to country.*
 - *Orgonometrically, the participants in barter have a functional interrelationship of simple variation.*
 - *Individual transactions between customers and suppliers take the form of alternating opposition.*
 - *In their long-term relationship, businesses and their customers arise spontaneously as variations, in simple (attractive) opposition, of the CFP (biological or social “need”) which governs them.*
 - *Because of the cosmic properties of time, the operations of credit exchange spontaneously give rise to powerful, durable and flexible organized connections among large groups of people.*
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The sum total of all natural work relationships we call *work democracy*. These work relationships are *functional* and not mechanical. They cannot be arbitrarily established or organized; they can only develop spontaneously from the work process itself. The mutual interdependence of carpenter and blacksmith, of researcher and glass grinder, of painter and paint producer, etc., results in itself from the interlacing of work *functions*. ...

[If] the work functions are, intrinsically and independently of man, rational—then we see before us two vast fields of human activity which are diametrically opposed to each other: vitally necessary work as rational life function, and emotional plague as irrational life function.

Wilhelm Reich, *The Mass Psychology of Fascism* (1946, pages 303, 322)

A Definition of Economics for Practical Applications

There are many different definitions of economics. An economist doing fundamental research may have a different definition from one seeking to apply economics for specific, practical tasks such as investing and analyzing the current state of the global economy. Over the last 35 years, my research in economics has been in the latter category and the following two-part definition has proved itself to be the most useful:

- Economics is the science of the spontaneous movements of the human biosocial work function (what Reich called “living productive working power” and “work democracy”) and of its relationship of antagonistic opposition to the emotional plague.
- In studying armored societies, economics is determined by the fact that all institutions represent either the emotional plague or the superficial layer, and none represent the biological, work-democratic core.

The Fundamental Functional and Structural Relations that Determine the Course of Economic Activity

The first part of the above definition applies both to armored economies and to the one known example of a genital economy (the Trobriands). In any known economy, armored or genital, the predominant *functional* relationship is the relationship of antagonistic opposition between work democracy and the emotional plague, a relationship in which each function is a threat to the other's existence and each strives to "sequester and eliminate" the other. "[T]he basic function of sequestration of the unassimilable, foreign intruder governs both the realm of fully functioning life and the crippled, armored or otherwise handicapped life, from the desert plants on to highly developed social conflicts." (Reich 1955, pages 106, 105)

In an armored world, such as ours, the most important *structural* fact of economics is the fact that the emotional plague and the superficial layer are represented in social institutions, whereas work democracy has no direct representation.

The biological context of economics is as follows. Every organism must satisfy its biological needs. Orgastic potency makes it possible to satisfy material needs through work and sexual needs through love. In birds and mammals, work and love are differentiated and developed to a very high degree. In humans, unlike other mammals, love and work *continuously* create new forms of social living which take on a life of their own and give rise to new kinds of functional units: clans, tribes, nations, specialized workers, professions, firms, industries, etc. Economics deals with the biosocial work functions that *create* these functional units and *operate* within and between them.

Where Economics Fits into Orgonomic Science as a Whole

Orgonomic science is divided into five realms: cosmology, physics, biology, sociology, and medicine. Economics is the division of sociology that deals with work functions.

In his examination of a human genital society, the Trobrianders, Malinowski discovered that the natives had an extremely well-

developed, sophisticated and complicated system of exchange. (Malinowski 1929, 1959, 1961, 1978; Reich 1942, 1971)

[An] error more or less explicitly expressed in all writings on primitive economics, is that the natives possess only rudimentary forms of trade and exchange; that these forms play no essential part in the tribal life, are carried on only spasmodically and at rare intervals, and as necessity dictates ... and if we consider for the moment the numerous theories which see nothing in primitive economics but simple pursuits for the maintenance of existence—in none of these can we find reflected even a hint of the real state of affairs as found in the Trobriands; namely, that *the whole tribal life is permeated by a constant give and take*; that every ceremony, every legal and customary act is done to the accompaniment of material gift and counter gift; that wealth, given and taken, is one of the main instruments of social organization, of the power of the chief, of the bonds of kinship, and of the relationship in law. ... Everything in tribal life has an economic meaning. Even food is valued as a means to satisfy the desire of display and enhancement of social prestige through possession of wealth. (Malinowski 1961 pages 166-169, italics added)

This finding shows that economics cannot be separated out as a subdivision of the sociology of work. This motivates a division of functional sociology into two branches: the sociology of work (economics) and the sociology of love (sexology).

In an armored society, characterized by mass orgastic impotence, in contrast to that of the Trobrianders, neurotic work gratifies both neurotic material and neurotic sexual wants, as does neurotic love. Underlying this is pathological sexual (Oedipal) revenge and mass helplessness. Consider the following real-life example. The CEO of a large commercial bank squandered hundreds of millions of dollars in an ill-advised foray into investment banking and publicly declared, with a tone of bitterness (revenge), that he'd had enough fun in investment banking to last him for a lifetime. The content of his words was that he had lost all desire for further conquests in the investment banking business. His tone and manner implied the opposite. One year later he unexpectedly purchased a large investment bank known

to contain tens of *billions* of dollars in worthless toxic assets. His shareholders passively accepted this, assuming that their money was being safeguarded despite all evidence to the contrary. They lost 70% of their wealth in a matter of weeks. To emphasize how universally pervasive this type of dysfunctional behavior is, on the part of leaders and the helpless masses, it can be pointed out that the CEO in question is justifiably considered to be above-average in decency and competence and that the situation was one in which the objective facts made far greater than usual clarity possible. In other words, the neurotically destructive actions cannot be explained away on the grounds of unusual individual misconduct or turmoil. The revenge-tainted (sadistic) ambition of the CEO and the passive (masochistic) behavior of the shareholders are, in an armored society, perfectly normal and acceptable forms of behavior. Clearly, the sociology of neurotic work cannot be separated from the sociology of neurotic love.

Nonetheless, in terms of *basic*, underlying functions, we can separate out economics (the sociology of work) as a scientific discipline, distinct from the sociology of love, and apply the knowledge gained to both *genital* and armored economies.

Exchange as the Basis of Economics

The definition of economics given above can be compared to that given by Konia (2010).

- Economics is defined as the science treating people's exchange of goods and services.

There is no contradiction between the two definitions because the functions of exchange regulate the biosocial work function at every level. The spontaneous movements (operation, self-regulation) of the biosocial work function are, generally speaking, forms of exchange. As shown above, in a genital society such as the Trobriands exchange is based on *give and take*. In an armored society, individuals are unable to give and are always "reaching" to "get" something beyond their grasp, whether this be by taking advantage of others or by allowing oneself to

be victimized in the futile hope of getting some longed-for fulfillment or of getting something for nothing.

Nonetheless, the core function of work democracy expresses itself in exchange, even in an armored society, and this means that the operations of give and take express themselves despite the impotence of armored individuals. However, mass helplessness means that core functions have no social representation, even though they are expressed and govern human life. In an armored society, every form of work-democratic exchange has a parallel type of exchange in the realm of the emotional plague. Furthermore, as we shall show, the nature of the operation of the functional unit of exchange makes it possible for work democracy to govern the work of society, despite having no direct representation in the social structure.

As a final clarification, it must be remembered that in every sociological contact, not just economic contact, individuals alternate between being the percipient and being the excitant. Any episode of contact, because it consists of this type of alternation, could be loosely called “an exchange.” However, economic exchange is restricted to those exchanges that involve goods or services.¹

Exchange in Conventional Economics vs. Functional Economics

The biosocial work function cannot be fully understood if we restrict our understanding of exchange to that of conventional economics, which limits itself to the *relative* motion of *quantities* of goods and services between individuals and/or organizations. The problem of reaching a functional understanding of exchange is compounded by the stilted way in which it is approached by conventional economics.

In conventional economic theory, the prototypical exchange is direct barter: two nomads meet and exchange 10 sheep for 1 cow. Direct barter is believed to be the functional unit underlying all modern day forms of exchange. This, we shall see, is a serious error.

¹Throughout his work, Hayek refers to all objects of economic value as “services” because the economic value of a “good” consists exclusively of the services it provides to the user. An overcoat is valuable only because of the service it provides in keeping us warm and dry. For functional economics, Hayek’s mode of expression on this point opens up new realms of thought and is preferable. However, for the purpose of explaining functional economics to the lay reader, we will use the traditional term “goods and services” to avoid confusion.

Another error is the companion belief that barter was primitive man's original form of exchange and all subsequent forms of exchange "evolved" from barter. In this view, simple barter developed into indirect barter involving certain valued goods, such as gold; indirect barter developed into money; money developed into credit; etc. This view of economic history is explicit in Adam Smith, Marx, Hayek and von Mises, and is implicit in every other school of economics.

In functional economics, as we shall show, the functional unit of exchange is, not simple barter, but a credit transaction, that is, one in which a supplier (the creditor) supplies something of value to a debtor, and in which the debtor *later* discharges the debt by supplying something of value to the creditor. During the intervening period the creditor possesses the right to be repaid at a future time, and the debtor carries the obligation (responsibility) to reciprocate the initial transaction. Bioenergetically, the debtor is *charged* with the work of *discharging* the debt (Konia 2008, pages 191-192). Credit, as the functional unit of exchange, takes many different forms in addition to such well-known forms as buy-now-pay-later and borrowing money with interest. Observation shows that virtually every living form of exchange, including using a dollar bill to buy an apple at the grocery store, is best understood, functionally, as a credit exchange. This will be explained below.

Credit Exchange vs. Simple Barter Exchange

Barter is a degenerate² form of exchange, in other words, a product of the breakdown of the functional unit of exchange (credit exchange) or an incomplete form of the functional unit of exchange. Functional biology provides a good example of the breakdown of a functional unit into degenerate forms—bions are the functional unit of life and bacteria are degenerate, non-living products of the breakdown of bions. Protozoa are the simplest form of truly living things.³ Functionally, barter exchanges (insofar as they are breakdown

²"Degenerate," not in the moral sense, but in the sense of being a product of the degeneration of some more complete form. Typically, a degenerate form is less than a complete functional unit and is, therefore, not capable of functioning independently, but only as part of some larger system in which complete functional units operate.

³Mechanistic biology regards bacteria, or even viruses, as the prototypical and most primitive form of life and does not recognize the existence of bions.

products of the functional unit) are similar to bacteria. Like bacteria, barter exchanges are an important part of the natural world, but are not living, functional units. We could call barter a “non-living” form of exchange. The use, here, of the terms “living” and “non-living” may seem extravagant, but it has substantial validity. In establishing the U.S. monetary system in 1790, Alexander Hamilton used the following description.

Gold and silver, when they are employed merely as the instruments of exchange [that is, as instruments of indirect barter] and alienation, have been not improperly denominated dead stock; but when deposited in banks, to become the basis of a paper circulation, which takes their character and place, as the signs or representatives of value, they then acquire *life*, or, in other words, *an active and productive quality*. (1963, pages 306-307, italics added).

The “life” to which Hamilton refers derives from the credit exchange that is the basis of the “paper money.” Hamilton’s “paper circulation” consists of instruments of credit and a piece of paper⁴ money is not merely a warehouse receipt for deposited gold. Every dollar of the paper circulation is backed by a dollar’s worth of working power in some form, typically involving a debtor charged with the obligation of expending one dollar’s worth of human working power to discharge the debt.

A simple experiment will show how living working power is attached to credit money. Give a subject three objects, each worth one dollar: a consumer good, say, a candy bar; a small granule of gold; and a dollar bill. Instruct the subject to destroy the objects by throwing them in a garbage dumpster, tearing or grinding them to pieces, or flushing them down a drain. The subject will experience a mild feeling of distress at the act of destroying three perfectly good objects of value, but the feeling of distress will be far more acute in the case of the dollar bill. The same will happen with, say a penny and a small copper disc of equivalent size. People respond to money as if it were a living thing. One can concoct any number of explanations for this

⁴“Paper” is a figure of speech referring to any transferable credit obligation recorded in a definite form, whether the credit is embodied on paper, electronically or by other means.

phenomenon⁵, but the most accurate is based on the well-defined, living, human working power that the money embodies. It is no coincidence that almost all money, since its earliest inception, displays an emotionally charged representation of living working power, usually a picture of a human being, sometimes an emblematic animal, or an object or phrase that represents the deity.

If our idea of all money being based on a credit exchange is correct, then we would doubt the truth of the conventional account that the earliest money, issued by rulers in Asia Minor, Persia and Greece, fulfilled its functions because it was merely pieces of metal of a standard size and weight. The function of the money, we imagine, must have been based on *both* the intrinsic value of the precious metal and some obligation that the ruler needed to discharge relative to the money. Part of the ruler's obligation was simply the obligation to rule over a thriving commercial economy, to guarantee the weight and purity of coins, to stand behind their value, or to enforce their acceptance in commerce. In the earliest phases, more may have been required. The first true money, in the modern sense of the word, was issued by Croesus, the king of Lydia in what is now western Turkey, around 560 B.C.⁶ He was the first to possess the metallurgical technique to separate silver from gold and to issue gold coins for international commerce and silver coins for domestic trade. Croesus, and later the Persian kings and Phillip of Macedon (the father of Alexander the Great), were obligated to retain, buy and sell vast stores of both gold and silver coins in order to maintain a constant ratio of exchange of gold and silver (10:1 in Lydia and Greece) in the face of market fluctuations, and to finance an army large enough to defend an ever-wealthier kingdom from being plundered by its envious neighbors. The Persians first instituted (ca. 500 B.C.) tax payments in money rather than in kind. This required the government to purchase what it needed in the open market, rather than expropriating goods directly from the producers (Bernstein 2009, pages 33, 34, 42)

⁵Psychoanalysis, for example, takes note of pre-genital (often anal) libidinal attachment to money. Such explanations are not without some truth, but none of them accounts for *how* the libidinal attachment occurs and *persists on a mass basis* in an entire population.

⁶About a century before Croesus, the kingdom of Lydia was the first to exploit techniques to extract large amounts of alluvial electrum, an amalgam of silver and gold, from river deposits, and to issue primitive coin-like tokens made of that metal on a very large scale.

The Relationship between Paper Money and Gold

When a bank creates and issues paper money, in the form of currency or balances in checking accounts, it is not merely printed to be spent or to pay the bank's expenses. Rather, the bank creates and issues paper money *only* to borrowers deemed creditworthy, in exchange for the obligation to repay the amount issued. The new money enters circulation when the borrower spends it.

It is a common misconception that a bank takes in deposits and uses them to create loans. On the whole, the opposite is true. Banks make loans and thereby create deposits (either when a deposit account is created for the borrower, or when the proceeds of the loan are spent and then deposited in a bank). This is not only true in terms of present-day operations, the sequence of loans giving rise to deposits also occurred historically. Deposit banking as a widespread institution first occurred in Scotland. It was preceded by lending giving rise to circulating banknotes, beginning in the 1760s. At that time (and well into the 19th century worldwide) there was no government paper money. Paper money was issued by individual banks and circulated widely. A new bank would be created, with capital provided by investors, and would make loans greatly in excess of the capital to worthy borrowers. If a borrower borrowed, say, 100 British pounds, he would be given 100 pounds in banknotes, which he would then spend for his business purposes. The banknotes would then circulate in the community, and because their use increased business activity and economic development, they were immediately recognized as a valuable institution. The acceptability of the banknotes depended on the reputation of the bank and its owners. Over the years, the steady circulation of the banknotes and the bank's success in prudently making and collecting loans established widespread trust in the bank. This did not happen overnight. In fact it was only after the banknotes had circulated reliably for *29 years* (1767-1792) that people trusted the bank enough to deposit their money, either in the form of banknotes or gold and silver coins, in the bank. Once the critical level of trust had been established, deposits flowed in very rapidly (Bagehot 2005,

pages 64-65, 242). Within a few years after 1792, the nature of the bank, of loans, and of money itself, had changed completely.

The amount of paper money issued, in Hamilton's time, was roughly two to three times the amount of gold and silver that stayed in the bank vault to back up the paper. In Hamilton's time the monetary unit was denominated as a constant amount of silver and a variable amount of gold. By the 1870s an international standard was established based on the British pound as a global monetary unit, with convertibility of other currencies into pounds based exclusively on gold. The gold backing of London bank deposits was 11% (*ibid.*, page 230), but if bill brokers and country banks are included the gold backing was less than 5%. Other countries had to have more gold backing to guarantee access to pounds, 12% for the United States, which had a well-developed banking system; 25% for France and 47% for Germany, which had less developed banking systems (*ibid.*). The international system, which was extremely stable, is called "the gold standard," but it was really a paper/gold system. Ludwig Bamberger, the father of the German gold standard and the founder of Deutsche Bank, justified the tremendous sacrifice needed to replace his country's silver reserves with gold, saying, "We chose gold, not because gold is gold, but because Britain is Britain." (Bernstein 2009, page 250)

Paper money derives its value from the productive capacity and established credit of the borrower and the issuer. This is why Hamilton advocated the "life [and the] active and productive quality" of the paper circulation over the "dead stock" of gold and silver. This is not to belittle the role of gold and silver relative to the paper circulation. During the height of the global gold standard, 1876 to 1914, total U.S. currency and demand deposits were backed approximately 13% by gold.⁷ At November, 2010 prices, the Federal Reserve's 8,133 metric

⁷There are numerous ways of calculating this, and figures for earlier years are difficult to interpret, but the general ratio runs around or below 13%. In 1914, for which the best figures are available, currency and demand deposits were \$19,965 and U. S. gold stock was \$1,526 for a ratio of 7.6% (all dollar figures are in millions). If, however, gold coin in circulation, silver dollars, and the metallic silver that backed silver certificates are included, the total precious metal backing was \$2,686 for a ratio of 13.5%. (U. S. Bureau of the Census 1960, pages 646-649).

tons of gold is worth \$368 billion dollars and provides 20% backing of currency and demand deposits of about \$1,800 billion. We could argue, in this very limited regard, that the U. S. in 2010 has more gold backing than during the height of the international gold standard.

In the present economic crisis, every nation is eager to support its industries by devaluing its money relative to that of other nations.⁸ In the days of a gold standard, there were times when a country had a legitimate need to devalue its money (this is not to say that every devaluation was based on a legitimate need). This could be done, immediately and definitely, by government decree. Without gold, however, paper lacks the monetary flexibility, believed to be inherent in paper, that it once had. Most nations now find that, without a gold standard to devalue *against*, it is impossible to implement a decisive devaluation. China does so, but only at an expense of more than two *trillion* dollars and at the cost of imposing capital controls which institute crushing and destabilizing distortions that are rapidly undermining their economic system, despite the illusion of economic strength. The author believes it can well be said that, in terms of monetary functioning, gold isn't gold without paper, and paper isn't paper without gold.

There are legitimate differences of opinion about what role, if any, gold should play in monetary systems. What is not legitimate is the contempt that is inevitably shown toward any serious attempt to explore the relationship between gold and paper money. In 2009, the director of economics of the Council on Foreign Relations published a book arguing that gold still plays a monetary role and speaking favorably of "a private gold-based monetary system" (Steil and Hinds 2009, pages 233-236). Although the book was published by a major university press and bore dust-jacket endorsements from the chief economist of the European Central Bank, a former head of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, and prominent professors from Harvard and Columbia, it was utterly ignored. Eighteen months later,

⁸This encouragement of exports via currency debasement is, generally speaking, neither rational nor constructive. The example above is given merely to show how the qualities of "paper" change depending on whether or not its monetary functions are connected with gold.

in November, 2010, Robert Zoellick, President of the World Bank, proposed a new monetary system which “should ... consider employing gold as an international reference point” (Zoellick 2010). The proposal garnered a great deal of attention from economists and the media, most of which was arrogantly dismissive.

Credit Paper Money vs. Fiat Paper Money

Fiat paper money is money printed by a government solely for the purpose of spending or distribution and derives its value only from the willingness of the public to accept the opinion or command of the money-printer. Credit paper money, on the other hand, is backed up, dollar for dollar, by the productive working power of *borrowers*. Whereas gold provides a stable structure because it is an asset that is no one's liability, credit paper money expresses a moving function because it is an asset that is *always* someone else's liability. That “someone else” must also possess some other asset equal in value to the paper money to back it up. Fiat money, and counterfeit money, are assets that are no one's liability. In this respect they are like gold, but with no intrinsic value. With credit paper money, by contrast, for every dollar in a wallet or purse or bank account, there is a person or organization somewhere that is charged with performing a dollar's worth of work to discharge an obligation.

Even today the paper circulation of the U. S. and almost every other country is credit money, not fiat money.⁹ Fiat money is an unusual aberration that occurs *after* the economic structure of a country breaks down completely, for example during the French Revolution, the Confederacy during the U. S. Civil War, Germany in 1923, Hungary in 1946 and Zimbabwe in this century.¹⁰ The reason I

⁹In Hamilton's time the borrowers behind paper money were almost exclusively businessmen borrowing for specific productive enterprises and governments; in the U. S. today 32% of non-financial borrowing is for home mortgages and 7% is consumer credit, mostly credit cards and automobile loans (Federal Reserve 2009, page 64).

¹⁰Von Mises (1971, page 61) regards it as an open *historical* question whether or not fiat paper money has ever really existed. In other words, cases such as the money of the German hyperinflation of 1923 might best be regarded as still being credit money. Functionally, however, the *qualitative* differences between credit operations in ordinary credit money and rampant hyperinflationary disasters are clear enough to make the distinction appropriate.

emphasize this distinction is that as long as money remains credit money, as it currently does with only rare exceptions, every exchange involving money contains the underlying credit exchange that underpins the money.

The Structure of Credit Money

The total amount of money in a nation is generally thought of as if it were a pool of a uniform substance, such as gold or a paper substitute for gold. In this view, one can speak of “the money supply,” measure its quantity, and observe its movements through the various parts of the economic system, just as one can observe the movements of a fluid through a hydraulic system. Nothing could be further from the truth. Because money embodies credit and every credit transaction has its individual and ever-changing *qualities*, then a theory based strictly on quantities will always misapprehend the spontaneous motions that are being observed.

One of the consequences of money being based on the spontaneous motion of credit is that *new* forms of money will always come into existence. Even a strictly mechanistic economist is obligated, sooner or later, to recognize the existence of the new forms of money and to acknowledge the structure that results. For example, it is widely recognized that money is divided into cash, checking deposits, savings accounts, certificates of deposits, money market funds, etc. Reports of the “money supply” include various categories such as M1 (currency plus checking accounts), M2 (M1 plus savings accounts, small CDs and small non-retirement money market shares), MZM (M2 minus small CDs plus institutional money market shares) and M3 (M2 plus large CDs, repo loans, Eurodollars and institutional money market shares). However, because the mechanists have no way of understanding the qualitative differences between different types of money, the divisions have little practical value. New forms of money are overlooked until it is too late. The relationship between money, interest rates, and capital (material and social productive assets) is

completely misunderstood. In the end, the practical conclusions of the economists are reached by treating money as if it were a single, quantitative, uniform and amorphous substance.

Thus, the history of conventional monetary theory, from the classical economists to the monetarists and neo-Keynesians, is a monotonous repetition of the following sequence:

- Every theory of money deteriorates into one in which money is conceived as a uniform and amorphous substance.
- The theory, which ignores the ever-changing qualities of different kinds of money, and the potential for new forms of credit money to develop, blunders badly. Economically decisive events occur that the theory had considered impossible, and government and business policies based on the theory lead to disaster.
- New theories are formulated which attempt to delineate a structure in which different types of money, based on different types of credit, behave in various ways.
- The viewpoint of most economists deteriorates as above and the cycle is repeated. The best theorists avoid this, but nonetheless reach a dead end because they lack knowledge of the nature of functional spontaneous motion.

For the functional economist grappling with today's rapidly changing international economic events, most of which center around monetary issues, it is useful to trace out how several cycles of the type described above occurred in history.

According to Hayek, a "great part of the argument of the classical [early 19th century] writers on money proceeded on [the] assumption of a 'purely metallic currency,'" that is, money as a uniform, quantitative substance, in this case gold. This led to the "practice of assuming that the conclusions arrived at from these assumptions can be applied immediately to the monetary systems actually in existence.

This belief was due to their conviction that the existing mixed currency systems not only could and should be made to behave in every respect in [this way, but that] in England since the Bank Act of 1844 the total quantity of money was *actually* made to behave in this way.” (Hayek 1937, pages 341-342) From 1844 to 1880, monetary theory was consumed in heated, but senseless, arguments about whether the pure gold standard was the best system, ignoring the fact that the development of checking accounts meant that the system, the continuation of which was so passionately supported or opposed, had never existed. This had several destructive consequences, one of which was the development of a separation between economic theorists on the one hand and bankers and businessmen on the other, which has persisted to the present time.

In addition, the idealized view of the English gold standard was carried over to the international gold standard that was established later in the 19th century. The result was the illusion that a truly international monetary system and economy (so-called globalization) had been established and would form the basis of permanent peace and prosperity. In fact, the globalization was based on massive loans from Britain, France and Germany to the U.S., Russia, Canada, Australia, Argentina and Brazil.¹¹ (Brender and Pisani 2010, page 27) There were profound differences in banking, monetary, social and economic functions between lenders Britain and Germany (Oliver 1915, pages 94-98, 186-188). Similarly, there were profound differences between borrowers U.S. and Russia. These differences created extreme divergences in social and ideological development, which were ignored. The illusion of a homogeneous, smoothly functioning system was a major factor in the breakdown of international relations that led to World War I and the Great Depression.

More recently, in the first decade of the 21st century, the development of new types of money, the so-called “shadow banking system,” was ignored by almost all economists and underestimated by those who did call attention to it. This system was based on commercial

¹¹U.S. net debt to the rest of the world, as a percentage of GDP, reached a level in 1894 that has never been exceeded, even today. (Brender and Pisani 2010, page 27)

paper, asset-backed securities and investors' assets that had been used as collateral (rehypothecated) by investment banks. According to one estimate (Singh and Aitken 2010, page 9) the shadow banking system, in the U. S. alone, was over 10 *trillion* dollars. By 2009, the system had contracted to less than 6 trillion dollars, a total contraction of more than 4 trillion. Since M1 money supply is only 1.8 trillion dollars, the impact of both the increase and the collapse of these new forms of money¹² was profound. Because conventional monetary theory is ill-equipped to deal with such phenomena, the ongoing impact of alternative forms of money on the economy of 2010 is grossly underestimated.

One of the most important principles of functional economics is that the biological work function is international. Marx, Hayek and Reich always insisted on this. As Reich pointed out, "If a politician once transgressed the borders of his country, he became useless and could no longer take root socially. If, on the other hand, a working man went over the borders of his homeland, he was able in any other land, sooner or later, to get back on his feet again professionally and materially, if he was not blocked by politicians. This *one* fact contains a gigantic truth. Politics is nationally and locally limited. *Work is truly international and free from the confinement of any borderlines.* (Reich 1953, page xvii, italics in the original) Any attempt to observe and understand an economic phenomenon from the perspective of a single nation is doomed to failure.

The fact that the work function is international makes the differences in monetary types between nations even more important than the differences in monetary types within a given nation. There is "a hierarchy of different types of money within each country, a complex organization which possessed a definite structure, and which is what we really mean when we speak of the circulating medium of a country as a 'system.' It is probably much truer to say that it is the difference between the different kinds of money which are used in any one country, rather than the differences between the moneys used in

¹²We use the term "new forms of money" even though many of these types of assets were not new. What was new was that they began to function like money, as a result of new types of "financial engineering" that made it possible to use them as the basis of highly liquid credit.

different countries, which constitutes the real differences between different monetary systems.” (Hayek 1937, page 344) In the current precarious situation of the world economy, these differences are crucial. Conventional monetary theory treats all money as if it were interchangeable and flowing between different national systems affecting money supply, inflation, and trade flows in roughly the same way. For example, because the dollar is the world’s reserve currency, an increase in the U. S. money supply causes an even larger increase in the money supply of China. This effect is recognized but underestimated in the prevalent monetary theories. What is overlooked is the qualitative changes in the functions of money as it travels between countries.

These changes have been overlooked before and after every unexpected shift and crisis. After World War II the global financial system was based on vendor financing provided by the U. S. until the mid-1950s. Since that time, it has gone through a series of major shifts each of which was unintended and unexpected, as part of what has been described as “the chaotic progression to financial globalization” (Brender and Pisani 2010, pages 29-42):

- Until the end of the 1960s, the acquisition of foreign assets by U.S. firms, financed by European central bank additions to reserve currency balances.
- During the 1970s, economic booms in Mexico, Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela, financed by Middle Eastern oil money, culminating in the debt crisis of 1982.
- During the 1980s, the revitalization of the U.S. economy, financed by fiscal restraint and the end of exchange controls in Europe and Japan.
- During the 1990s, an Asian industrial, real estate and stock market boom, financed by foreign direct investment and short-term interbank loans from Europe and Japan, directed

through poorly constructed Asian bank systems with inappropriately pegged currencies, culminating in the Asian crises of 1998.

- During the 2000s, an unsustainable global economic, stock market and real estate boom, financed by Asian savings. In addition, there was a similar boom in the peripheral Eurozone, financed by north European savings distributed in southern Europe to weak banking systems in the form of bonds and to shaky businesses and homebuyers in the form of loans. This was greatly exacerbated by an inappropriate, fixed currency in the form of the Euro. Pegged or fixed currencies meant that unsustainable export industries were created in the lending countries.

Hayek, in the 1930s, was the first to fully appreciate, albeit from a conventional perspective, the phenomena described here. For ten years he struggled to formulate an integrated theory of global monetary systems and their relationship to interest rates and capital. In the end, he was compelled to give up, and he moved on to other areas of research. His frustrations resulted from the lack of a complete functional perspective. Since every quantitative credit flow is a movement of organotic excitation from one place to another, it must be governed by one of the two variations of the function of Relative Motion: the Pulsation function and the Spinning Wave function. Capital, on the other hand, can only be understood as a manifestation of the functions of Coexistent Action. Otherwise, it is impossible to discern the lawful behavior present in spontaneous economic movement. In addition, it can be shown in every case that an economic situation makes sense only with full knowledge of the superficial manifestations of credit exchange, the underlying work democratic functions that govern them, and the operations of a series of parallel emotional plague functions.

The Orgonometry of Simple Barter vs. Retail Purchase

To understand the phenomena of credit exchange underlying money transactions, and the distinction between simple (direct) barter and a functional unit of exchange, contrast an act of simple barter as it occurs in Melanesia (where the Trobriands are located) with the purchase of an apple at the grocery store.

One form of simple barter in Melanesia involves two farmers living on different islands, whose status permits them to engage in “international” trade: Each will obtain some manufactured goods that are made only on his island; for example, one obtains a supply of pottery and the other spoons. When they meet, for the primary purpose of transacting a series of long-term credit exchanges (too complex to describe here), they will also conduct a simple barter transaction of pottery for spoons. This part-exchange is described by the following orgonometric equation:

$$\text{Farmer/Trader who has spoons} \quad \text{f} \quad \text{Farmer/Trader who has pottery}$$

Figure 1.1

The two traders are in a functional relationship of *simple variation*, because they are identical in their functioning, like two identical daughter amebas. Like every functional pair, they are simultaneously identical and antithetical, but here the antithesis concerns incidental features (which type of manufactured goods is native to each individual’s particular island) rather than the basic way of functioning in the exchange. More specifically, we can say they are antithetical, in the sense of variation, but not to the point of being *opposites*. This is in contrast to, say, the relationship between male and female, where the two functions are opposite, and form a lasting attraction to each other as part of that opposition.

The overall long-term relationship between the grocer and his regular customer (and the vast majority of grocery customers are

regular, not transient, customers) is represented by a different orgonometric equation:

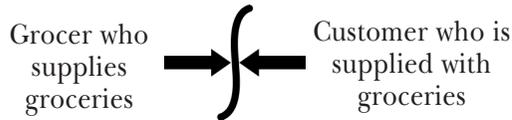


Figure 1.2

This is a relation of *simple (attractive) opposition*. Because they are opposite, an attraction occurs which is the basis of a lasting relationship. The attraction continues to exist during the intervals between the customer's visits to the store. The roles are well-defined, one is always the seller and the other is always the buyer; one is always a specialist in sourcing and marketing groceries and the other is always a consumer of groceries.

This relationship may not appear to be a credit exchange, but it is so on several grounds. For example, the customer comes *regularly* to the store on the understanding that the store will be open during its posted hours and that a good selection of items will *always* be available. If, say, the store were not open, or did not have bread, even 10% of the time, the customer would be dissatisfied and patronize another store. It is only because grocers and customers can each reliably expect the future performance of the other that grocery stores exist. There is no formal or enforceable obligation, but the institution and its daily transactions operate only because of the clear expectation of future performance, and this is the essence of a credit exchange.

However, the most important aspect of credit exchange in the grocery transaction is the role of credit money. Suppose an apple is purchased for a dollar. The dollar has value because it is backed by the legally enforceable obligation (albeit of some unknown party) to perform a dollar's worth of work. As long as he possesses the dollar bill, its owner is a creditor engaged in a credit exchange with the unidentified debtor. When he spends the dollar bill, the credit exchange is terminated and a new one is formed between the recipient

of the dollar bill and the unidentified debtor.¹³ This is represented in the following equation (Konia 2008, page 189) which shows the credit exchange features of the transaction.

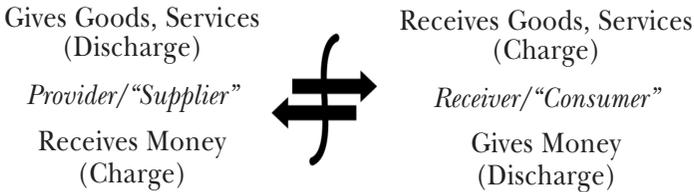


Figure 1.3

In the Trobriands, transactions in foodstuffs were done as relatively long-term credit exchanges between individuals in permanent partnerships, say, between farmers and fishermen or as open-ended transactions between a man and his brothers-in-law.¹⁴ In civilizations prior to money (5,000 B.C. to 700 B.C.) transactions in foodstuffs were done as credit exchanges or bulk purchases. It was only with the development of money that retail trade began to appear (Herodotus 1952, page 22) and it became possible to go to a marketplace or store and obtain, say, a week’s worth of fresh groceries. In all three cases, relatively long-term credit exchanges underlie the transactions, but in the modern case the long-term credit exchange is inherent in the money itself.

Suppose that the customer gives the clerk a dollar bill and 10 seconds later the clerk hands the customer the apple. There are three parties whose positions can be described in the ordinary language of

¹³Technically, the dollar bill is a “Federal Reserve Note,” that is a debt obligation of the Federal Reserve, and that institution, for the last several decades, books the note as a liability, offset by an equal quantity of short-term Treasury bills (T-bills) held as an asset. A check is technically an obligation of the bank, which books the checking account deposits as a liability, offset by the loans it has made, reserve deposits at the Federal Reserve, and other credit assets such as corporate or government bonds. Functionally, however, the ultimate debtor is the individual or corporation who received the loan or issued the bond, or the taxpayers who are obligated to pay into the treasury of the government that issued the T-bills or bonds. The working power of these debtors continually discharges the obligation inherent in the money, and is continually replaced with the working power of new debtors. If total borrowing (i.e., total amount of future working power bound in credit exchanges) decreases, as happened during the Great Depression, then there is a violent contraction of the money supply.

¹⁴A Trobriander receives a little over half of his income from his wife’s brother and pays a comparable amount to his sister’s husband.

bookkeeping, the grocer, the consumer, and the unknown-debtor¹⁵. Their mutual possessions and obligations, relative to this transaction, can be described, in terms of assets and liabilities, in three stages:

- **Prior to the transaction:**

The grocer:

Assets: the physical possession of an apple

Liabilities: none

The consumer:

Assets: one dollar's worth of working power owed by the unknown-debtor

Liabilities: none

The unknown-debtor:

Assets: Either the productive asset¹⁶ he purchased with the dollar he borrowed, or a dollar's worth of working power in his possession.

Liabilities: the dollar's worth of working power owed to the consumer.

- **After the dollar is given to the clerk:**

The grocer:

Assets: the physical possession of an apple, and one dollar's worth of working power owed by the unknown-debtor (represented by the dollar bill)

Liabilities: one apple owed to the consumer

The consumer:

Assets: one apple owed by the grocer

Liabilities: none

The unknown-debtor:

Assets: Either the productive asset he purchased with the dollar he borrowed, or a dollar's worth of working power in his possession.

Liabilities: the dollar's worth of working power now owed to the grocer.

¹⁵Since all money is interchangeable it is more accurate to lump all the "unknown debtors" together under the awkward-sounding heading of "portion of the nation's working power that is embodied in money-backing debt."

¹⁶Productive assets (capital goods) can be regarded as crystallized working power from previous work.

- **After the apple is given to the consumer:**

The grocer:

Assets: one dollar's worth of working power owed by the unknown-debtor

Liabilities: none

The consumer:

Assets: one apple

Liabilities: none

The unknown-debtor:

Assets: Either the productive asset he purchased with the dollar he borrowed, or a dollar's worth of working power in his possession.

Liabilities: the dollar's worth of working power now owed to the grocer.

The charge that develops during the ten-second period while the customer waits for his apple is not insignificant and forms part of the biophysical excitation of shopping. However, the much longer-term credit exchange represented by the dollar bill is what makes institutions such as retail establishments possible. This is proven by the fact, cited above, that retail institutions did not exist prior to the development of money around 560 B.C. The understanding of the functions of credit exchange explains the riddle of why retail trade did not develop earlier, even though standardized measures of grain and silver had existed, as stores of value, means of exchange, and units of account, for over a thousand years (since 1800 B.C. and probably earlier).

The Long-Term Relationship between Supplier and Consumer

The creation of new businesses that supply new needs must, of necessity, be an essential feature of work democracy. This can be seen by considering the problem of unemployment created by economic progress. Workers strive to do their jobs better and faster by finding new ways of organizing themselves and new tools to produce more

efficiently. Any increase in productivity creates unemployment. If workers in an industry find a way to produce ten times as much per person, then 90% of the workers will lose their jobs. How, then, can the world avoid continually increasing mass unemployment? The answer is that new industries are created to better meet human needs and these new industries employ the displaced workers. For example, in the U. S. in 1935 there were 32 million people living on farms, but by 1957 only 20 million (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1960, page 47). Were the streets of America, in 1957, filled with 12 million homeless and starving farmers? Of course not. The farmers found new jobs, often making products that had not existed in 1935. Basic biological needs do not change, but the ways of meeting them do change. Two hundred years ago many people wore dirty clothing and what laundering was done often damaged the skin of the women who did that work, sometimes with crippling or fatal results. No one imagined that there was a need for washing machines, or the electricity to run them, until after these things had been invented, made affordable and marketed successfully.

The process of finding new ways to meet biological needs is inseparable from the creation of new long-term relationships between suppliers and consumers, or, in different terminology, between businesses and customers. In each case, the two functions develop and increase together, as is typical for functional variations in simple, attractive opposition. The creation of these new relationships is well-summarized in Drucker's classic description of 1954:

If we want to know what a business is we have to start with its purpose. And its purpose must lie outside the business itself. In fact, it must lie in society since a business is an organ of society. There is only one valid definition of business purpose: *to create a customer*.

Markets are not created by God, nature or economic forces but by businessmen. The want they satisfy may have been felt by the customer before he was offered the means of satisfying it. It may indeed, like the want for food in a famine, have dominated the customer's life and filled all his waking moments. But it was a theoretical want before; only when the action of businessmen

makes it effective demand is there a customer, a market. [Drucker is not saying that hunger is theoretical. He means that, in the case of a famine, if there is no one supplying food at an affordable price, the hungry person is only theoretically a customer. He becomes a customer in reality only after a businessman finds a way of supplying the food. In other words, the consumer does not truly become a consumer until the supplier becomes a supplier.] It may have been an unfelt want. There may have been no want at all until business action created it—by advertising, by salesmanship, or by inventing something new. In every case it is business action that creates the customer.

It is the customer who determines what a business is. For it is the customer, and he alone, who through being willing to pay for a good or for a service, converts economic resources into wealth, things into goods. What the business thinks it produces is not of first importance—especially not to the future of the business and to its success. What the customer thinks he is buying, what he considers “value,” is decisive—it determines what a business is, what it produces and whether it will prosper.

The customer is the foundation of a business and keeps it in existence. He alone gives employment. And it is to supply the consumer that society entrusts wealth-producing resources to the business enterprise. (Drucker 1993, page 37, italics in original)

Functionally, of course, the business does not really “create” the customer. They arise simultaneously as variations of the CFP that governs them, a biological or social function felt as a psychological “need.”

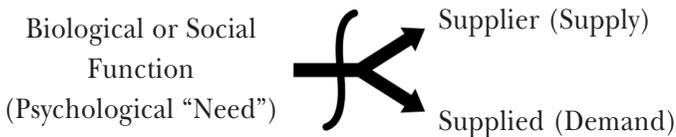


Figure 1.4
(Konia 2008, page 188)

Some General Features of Credit Exchange

Our next task is to understand how credit exchanges embody *spontaneous* motion and how credit exchanges lead to the spontaneous,

continuous, ongoing organization of society into economically productive and socially stable units of organized working power. We will begin this task here with some general considerations and continue it in the next installment of this series with some detailed examples and an exploration of exchange from the perspective of the organic physics of time.

Unlike simple barter, the give and take of a credit exchange takes place over *time*, often over a period of years. At any moment during this period, the operation of the credit exchange is related to the past and the future. The actions of the individuals involved are inseparably connected with their feelings and judgments about what they have given and received in the past and what they expect to give and receive in the future. There is pleasure and satisfaction from the act of working, knowing that the work is discharging a future obligation. There is also satisfaction in holding an obligation from the past and anticipating the receipt of the payoff because of the human social relationship of give and take.

Consider an employee working for a paycheck. When he works, he experiences gratification in producing something of value, but also in giving his work to discharge his obligation to his employer. When he receives his paycheck, he experiences gratification in acquiring the money (and what it will buy), and also in seeing the reliable discharge of his employer's obligation. There are four separate sources of gratification: producing, consuming, giving and receiving. All four of these occur with simple barter, but in a credit exchange the gratification is stronger because a charge accumulates. Any moderately healthy person has his own experience of the distinct feelings that accompany each of these four biophysical aspects of exchange.¹⁷

One commonplace example of the power of credit exchange is the oft-noted phenomenon that people perform a task better, more cheerfully and more efficiently at a job than doing the same task for themselves. I recall a hospital employee who filled out hundreds of

¹⁷Even in this simple "paycheck" example, there are many other credit exchanges operating. A partial list includes the employee's obligation to be loyal, to develop his skills, to relate constructively to other workers, to respect the employer's authority, and the employer's obligation to provide a workplace, to develop and market products that are worth making and that will sell, to manage the company prudently, and to exert and maintain his own authority.

insurance forms every day and enjoyed doing so. One of the physicians remarked that it had taken him over an hour to fill out one comparable form at home. The employee replied that it took her two hours when she did it for herself at home and she hated it as much as anyone else. The difference is the excitation of the orgonotic charge (obligation to perform a task for the employer) and the pleasure in discharging it, the human biosocial process of producing, consuming, giving and receiving.

All of these factors build up an ever-intensifying pleasurable charge *and* create strong biophysical connections between people. These connections are extremely stable because, over the duration of a credit exchange, anticipation and charge increase with the passage of time.

(to be continued)

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Working with the Wilhelm Reich Archives at the Countway Library of Medicine

Steven Dunlap

In March and June of 2009, as part of the ACO's Project Protozoa, I worked with Wilhelm Reich's original manuscripts in his archives at the Countway Library of Medicine in Boston, MA. The original purpose of these visits was to copy pertinent information related to Reich's bion research to augment and enhance previous knowledge gleaned from Reich's published works in *The Cancer Biopathy* and *The Bion Experiments*. Primarily, I was interested in his research notes related to the organization of protozoa and centered my visits around this information. However, I also included other manuscripts not directly related to Reich's discoveries in the biological realm. I reasoned that all of the research notes were connected at a common level of energy/matter interaction and transmutation.

My first trip in early March was arranged with Mr. Jack Eckert, the Countway public services librarian, after approval was obtained from The Wilhelm Reich Infant Trust Archive Committee. Two days were reserved for working with the Reich archives. The Countway rules allow only one person per day to research the Reich Archives. I felt two days for this first trip would be adequate to form an understanding of how much material I would need to copy and study.

The reading room is located in an underground level of the medical library. It is a quiet, separate room with several large tables supporting reading lamps. The librarian described the rules to me: manuscripts cannot be removed from the folders and must be handled very carefully. Also, only pencils and other writing material are allowed in the reading room. All three boxes I requested were already in the

reading room. I chose a table and began with box number M9 containing much of Reich's research notes on the organization of protozoa. This was a unique experience—I was very excited, and enthralled with the opportunity to view this material first hand.

I was struck by the huge amount of information in these pages, both typed and handwritten. Reich was extremely prolific with a highly active mind. I encountered his notations and corrections throughout the pages. I made instant contact with his way of thinking and was reminded of the recognition I experienced with Reich's concepts while reading through his books at the Philadelphia Library many years ago. The manuscripts clearly demonstrated that Reich viewed life as energetic functioning first and foremost. This focus is demonstrated again and again throughout the manuscripts in text as well as in his drawings of bion formations developing into more complex entities. The organization of life from pulsatory orgone energetic functioning into matter whether it be protozoa organization or human body functioning and behavior patterns was prevalent in his manuscripts.

Reich viewed life from the primordial energetic level which led to his profound insights into life's manifestations in the human sphere because of his recognition of the common functioning principle that all life, from the simple, single-celled organism to the complex human organism, follows very basic energetic principles in its functioning. It was clear from the manuscripts that Reich was studying the function and organization of the protozoa in order to augment his understanding and research on the formation and functioning of human behavior, as well as the biopathies. Both simple and complex systems are governed by the same energetic principles. I understood this and clearly saw this in his writings. Reich sometimes placed notations, either pasted text or handwritten notes, describing his observations of protozoa with reference to similar observations of his patients on the couch.

I picked up on the high energetic charge of these manuscripts as I was reading and copying. The Countway Library personnel take great pains to provide an extremely quiet and unintrusive environment

which was conducive to the intense concentration required by this very profound material. Again and again I observed and felt how Reich's mind functioned while I read and handled these pages. I can't stress this observation enough. This contact was on an energetic as well as an intellectual level. This was a very powerful experience. I took few breaks during each day of working in order to cover as much material as I could in the limited time I had and felt intensely drawn to these pages as though toward a magnet—very highly charged, very moving.

Reich's material is all interrelated because of his unique ability to view all of life from its common functioning principle, that all life functions are governed by primary orgone energy. The clinical research notes, for example, have a direct connection to the biological manuscripts.

I am thankful for the opportunity to have direct contact with Reich's written work. These manuscripts have very great historical and scientific significance capturing the original thought processes of his genius.

Questions and Answers

Question

What is wrong with pacifiers?

Answer

Oral contact between the nursing infant and the mother's breast is essential not only for nourishment but also for healthy emotional development. When full energetic-emotional contact does not occur a block at the oral stage results with two possible outcomes. If there is no oral contact at all, or if the mother's nipple is not excited and erect, alive, then energetic contact and satisfaction is not possible and the infant will be left orally repressed. If there is some contact, and some satisfaction of the infant's oral needs, the infant will be left chronically unsatisfied.

In either case there is a likelihood that speech will be affected. With oral repression, speech is underdeveloped, monotonous or laconic. With oral unsatisfaction, the person is excessively talkative.

What about the effect of the pacifier? A pacifier provides substitute contact with an inanimate object in a mechanical fashion and there is an absence of emotional contact. In a recent study, it was found that preschoolers with speech disorders were three times as likely as other children to have been given a pacifier for at least three years.¹ In addition to the pacifier trend, children in this group were three times as likely to have been started on bottle feeding prior to nine months of age.

From a bioenergetic perspective there is no doubt that pacifiers are harmful to emotional development. Placing a plastic nipple in the infant's mouth is equivalent to a dead nipple. It may keep baby quiet but it is at the expense of disturbing contact with self and the outer world.

Charles Konia, M.D.

¹Pacifiers Tied to Speech Disorders, 2009. *The Wall Street Journal*, November 3.

Question

Does an entitlement mentality in society foster more criminality?

Answer

A sense of entitlement is always the result of a disturbed work function, to varying degrees. Those in America who have an intact work function do not feel as if the world owes them a living, in large measure because of their emotional health and because they are capable of working. Most people with a disturbed work function are dependent on others or on the government to take care of them and have a sense of entitlement. They generally support or at least see no harm in socialist government programs that, in a vicious cycle, increase their helplessness and dependency by encouraging them to feel even more entitled and thus even less capable of working. These individuals, however, do not become involved in criminal activity. Criminals are people who are capable of expressing their disturbed work function directly from and through their destructive secondary layer. In fact, some criminals are so “productive” in their “work” one wonders what they might have accomplished if they functioned from their core.

Charles Konia, M.D.

Communications and Notes

Announcements

The spring/summer 2010 season of the ACO social orgonomy public lectures began on June 5th with a presentation by Dr. Dale Rosin, “Armored Language: Why Do People Use Words to Disguise What They Really Mean and Feel?” The talk was held at the Princeton Public Library and was sponsored by Jack and Jean Sargent.

A month prior to “Armored Language,” on May 5, 2010, Dr. Rosin was invited to address the yearly meeting of the Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP). Dr. Rosin’s topic was “Job Burnout,” and explored how to recognize, manage and avoid the all-too-common emotional toll of “downsizing.” An estimated 125 research project managers, study coordinators and physicians among other professionals involved in clinical trials attended representing various pharmaceutical and biotech companies. The theme for the event, “Doing More With Less,” measured the impact of research staff reductions in the current economy.

Dr. Theodota Chasapi gave a social orgonomy presentation, “The Roots of Love and Hate,” at the Princeton Public Library on October 2, 2010. Dr. Chasapi discussed the principles of natural expression, armor and genuine contact with infants.

Looking ahead to 2011, an open discussion on *Today’s Doctor/Patient Relationship—Making Each Visit Count* will feature Drs. Edward Chastka and Peter Crist presenting their observations and fielding questions. This timely presentation will be held on Saturday, February 5, 2011 at the Paul Robeson Center for the Arts in Princeton NJ from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Thanks to the generous support of Jack and Jean Sargent there is no admission charge, although donations to the ACO are welcome.

A four-day laboratory workshop that encompasses both the Introductory and the Advanced Workshops in Ergonomic Science will be offered at the ACO in Princeton on the second weekend in June 2011 from Saturday, June 11 through Tuesday, June 14. The curriculum and lab exercises are structured to allow qualifying participants to take the entire four days as the Advanced Workshop and, for those just beginning their scientific studies, the first two days comprise the Introductory Workshop. Descriptions of the courses, requirements for participants, and fees are described below under the heading Available to the Public.

Available to the Public

Therapy Referral Service

The referral service provides qualified therapists for individuals seeking treatment. For more information contact the College by telephone, fax, or e-mail.

Invitational Lectures, Seminars and Workshops

The American College of Orgonomy periodically presents lectures and seminars at its headquarters in Princeton as well as onsite at other locations. Individuals or organizations interested in having a presentation on a specific topic should contact Peter Crist, M.D. at the College.

Website

The American College of Orgonomy has an extensive website designed to introduce the science of orgonomy and the American College of Orgonomy to the world. A wide variety of articles selected from the *Journal of Orgonomy* are presented in their entirety including many case histories illustrating the theory and method of medical orgone therapy. Also available at this site is a news section and

information about the College and its programs. The ACO website address is www.orgonomy.org.

Introductory Laboratory Workshop in Orgonomic Science

This two-day workshop is offered periodically. It is given so that interested individuals with or without scientific training can have the opportunity to observe orgonomic phenomena through hands-on use of the microscope and other laboratory apparatus. The educational approach includes demonstrations, lectures, and film. The workshop includes the microscopic study of bions, the natural organization of protozoa from grass, and an introduction to the Reich Blood Test. Atmospheric orgone is observed and measured thermally and electroscopically. The effects of the orgone energy accumulator are observed and its principles demonstrated. Orgonomic principles of weather formation and cosmology are elucidated.

The workshop is organized under the direction of Dee Apple, Ph.D. The teaching staff includes Drs. Dee Apple, Howard Chavis, and Peter Crist, Mr. Steven Dunlap, Drs. Robert Harman and Raymond Mero, and Mr. Jack Sargent. The fee for the introductory course is \$400. Application forms are available from the College.

The Advanced Laboratory Workshop in Orgonomic Science

This four-day advanced workshop allows the student to more thoroughly explore orgonomic biology and physics through direct experience and experiment. It is reserved for those with medical or other scientific training. This course is a prerequisite for certification by the American Board of Medical Orgonomy.

The workshop includes in-depth microscopic study of bions, the natural organization of protozoa from grass, the development of life from mass-free orgone energy, an introduction to the Reich Blood Test, and the study of blood and tissue of cancer mice. The atmospheric orgone is observed and measured thermally and electroscopically. The effects of the orgone energy accumulator are

observed and its principles elucidated. Time is allowed for individual research projects which are presented in brief on the fourth day.

The workshop is organized under the direction of Dr. Peter Crist. Dr. Charles Konia contributes his long experience in organomic research to discussion of the individual projects. The fee for the advanced course is \$800. Application forms are available from the College.

Reich Blood Test

The Reich Blood Test for the evaluation of bioenergetic charge is available by physician request and is performed at the Elsworth F. Baker Oranur Research Laboratory in Princeton, NJ. For more information contact Howard Chavis, M.D. at the College.

College Subscription Sponsorship Program

The American College of Orgonomy accepts sponsorship from individuals interested in offering in-print issues of the *Journal of Orgonomy* (volume 11 to current) to an alma mater or university library. The cost is only \$75. A subscription to the *Journal of Orgonomy* will then commence at the standard subscription rate. If you are interested in sharing advances in organomic science with others, please contact the College.

Available to Professionals

The American Board of Medical Orgonomy is an authoritative and responsible body of physicians whose primary function is the setting of standards and testing for qualification to practice organomic psychiatry and medicine. Board certification in medical orgonomy requires that candidates have graduate training in psychiatry, pass the specialty board examination in that discipline, undergo characterological and biophysical restructuring by a qualified medical orgonomist, receive at least three years of didactic, clinical, and laboratory instruction by qualified instructors in medical orgone therapy, and pass written and oral examinations in organomic theory and practice.

Training in Medical Orgonomy for Physicians

The American College of Orgonomy offers training in medical orgonomy to qualified physicians in the fundamentals of orgonomic medical science, clinical assessment of character structure, character analysis, and psychiatric orgone therapy. Training consists of personal characteranalytic and biophysical restructuring, laboratory workshops in orgone biology and biophysics, didactic and clinical seminars, and clinical case supervision. The program was originally designed and directed by Elsworth F. Baker, M.D., who was appointed by Dr. Reich in 1950. It is now under the direction of Charles Konia, M.D., Chairman of the Committee on Training and Education. Members of the Committee include Peter Crist, M.D. All interested applicants can request an application form from Charles Konia, M.D., Director of the Medical Orgonomy Training Program, at the College.

The seminars include:

- **Didactic Training Seminar:** This seminar, which meets eight times a year, is a prerequisite for individuals accepted into the training program. It is designed to provide an understanding of emotional illness and its treatment based upon characteranalytic and functional energetic theory and principles. The three-year course is under the direction of Dr. Peter Crist.
- **Principles of Characteranalytic Technique:** A monthly continuing case seminar for physicians on the use of characteranalytic technique, under the direction of Dr. Peter Crist.
- **Orgone Therapy—Beginning Phases:** A monthly seminar that focuses on diagnosis based upon characteranalytic and orgonomic theory, under the direction of Dr. Charles Konia.
- **The Elsworth F. Baker Advanced Technical Seminar:** A monthly seminar that focuses on case management and medical orgone therapy technique, under the direction of Dr. Charles Konia.

Social Ergonomics Training Program

The Social Ergonomics Training Program of the American College of Ergonomics (ACE) offers training in the application of ergonomic principles within the social realm.

We accept application from candidates in two categories:

1. Social ergonomics therapists are individuals engaged in clinically oriented work in fields that address interpersonal dynamics and problems within social structures including work with individuals, families, and work organizations. The requirements for training in this category include character-restructuring with an approved medical ergonomist on the training faculty, completion of or active enrollment in an advanced degree program in an appropriate field of social intervention such as psychology, social work, nursing, marital and family therapy, or organizational development.
2. Other individuals who are not engaged in providing therapy but may apply the knowledge of social ergonomics in a wide range of fields such as those who work as teachers, administrators, politicians, writers, businessmen, attorneys, managers, etc. The requirements for training in this category include character-restructuring with an approved medical ergonomist and at least a bachelor's degree.

The curriculum focuses on the application of bioenergetic principles to interactions in the social realm and begins with the Didactic Training Seminar. This is followed by an advanced social ergonomics didactic seminar, ongoing case seminars, and individual supervision.

Following recommendation by the candidate's therapist the process of enrollment begins with a written application, which is provided by the ACE upon request. This is followed by a personal interview with the Social Ergonomics Training Subcommittee and ACE Training Committee who together approve candidates for training.

Seminar in Orgonometry

The American College of Orgonomy Seminar in Orgonometry is available to medical and non-medical professionals who have completed the Didactic Course and are enrolled in one of the College's training programs. Requirements include being recommended by a medical orgonomist affiliated with the College and a personal interview. Orgonometry is the science of functional thinking using a form of mathematics that incorporates qualities as well as quantities. Specialized mathematical training is not required. The seminar meets five times a year, on a Saturday afternoon for about two hours. Tuition is \$600 a year. There is a \$100 application fee. Students may begin the seminar at any time. Those interested should contact the ACO at (732) 821-1144.

Contributing Authors

Dunlap, Steven, Associate Investigator in Analytical Microscopy, Dupont Experimental Station. Research Associate, American College of Orgonomy.

Harman, Robert A., M.D. Medical Orgonomist, Kingston, NJ. Diplomate in Psychiatry, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. Diplomate, American Board of Medical Orgonomy. Member, American College of Orgonomy.

Konia, Charles, M.D. Medical Orgonomist, Easton, PA. Diplomate in Psychiatry, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. Diplomate, American Board of Medical Orgonomy. Fellow, American College of Orgonomy.

Whitener, Virginia L., Ph.D. Psychologist.

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