

of-fact parent does not try to "influence" a child toward good behavior, since the child holds the whip. In place of such mistaken effort, the parent will do only his part within the framework of any given situation and wait patiently until the child understands that it is necessary to meet others half way at all times.

We often forget that no child is personally responsible for being a problem--he is only the victim of a mistaken attitude toward social living. Where did he get the idea that he could live always like a worm in an apple? Our own eagerness to smooth out his path has resulted in his getting the impression that our function is to serve him; and that "getting what he wants when he wants it" is the criterion of each moment. We have not made it possible for him to discover that it is just as much fun to give as to receive! Since our ambition for

his success and our anxiety for his safety have led him into this mistaken life-attitude, we must gradually retrace our steps and give back the independence we have taken from him. If it pains or frightens us to see him fumble in his efforts, then we must strengthen our own courage before expecting similar growth in him.

Problem-behavior in a child, then, is no product of spontaneous generation. It is the product of an interaction between the child and his immediate environment--the reaction of a growing personality to his family's ambitions and timidities! If we are able to detect in him the shady side of our own personality, we can help him by changing the manner in which we relate ourselves to him. Since the fault is not wholly his, he is not the only one who ought to change! Fellowship is a job for two (or more) members of the human race.

R E V I E W S

"Psychopathological Disorders in the Mother" by Mabel Huschka, Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease, 1941, Vol. 94, pp. 76-83.

"In a group of 488 problem children, 203 of the mothers, or 41.6 per cent, were found to be suffering from psychopathological conditions. Of these mothers, the 30 who were examined or treated in the psychiatric out-patient department suffered primarily from various psychoneurotic disorders. The pathology which they presented was complex, and in each case the mother's pathological state was an essential factor in the problems of the child who had been referred for psychiatric help. These mothers were peculiarly hard to treat because they had the firmly established habit of projecting their difficulties upon their children. The patterns underlying the ~~symptomatic~~ behavior of these women are distinctly individual and do not lend themselves readily to classification into subgroups with common characteristics...The essential point to be determined is why the mother behaves as she does, why she shows the

child too much love or too much hostility." This study gives ample statistical support to Adler's finding that of the social-environmental influences shaping the personality of the child, the mother's personality is the outstanding one.

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"Psychoanalysis and Individual Psychology" by P. H. Ronge, Nederl. Tijdschr. Psychol., 1939, 7, pp. 199-209. Freud as the older was influenced more by the older psychological trends (associationism, apperceptionism), Adler as the younger, more by intentionalism and actionism. Thus Freud sees more separate, relatively inactive elements, Adler more movement and activity. Also the personalities of the two play a part. Adler's was a restless nature with which theory came in second place; Freud was more bookish. Freud as an oldest child was more authoritarian, Adler as a second child (who is frequently opposed to authority), more democratic.

--H. L. Ansbacher (Brown University)