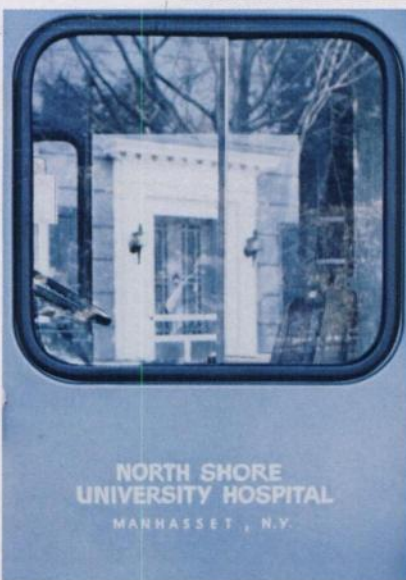


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H·O·M·E



The Home Oncology Medical Extension Program

Summary

In the treatment of cancer, particularly when pain is a serious symptom, psychological support of a patient is important and can, in fact, facilitate ongoing oncologic treatment. Hypnosis represents a psychological technique of great potency for reducing pain, increasing patients' life-enhancing attitudes, and helping pa-

tients deal with death and separation.

Ultimately, the value of hypnosis lies in enabling an individual to potentiate inner capacities for creating psychological quiescence and physical comfort. For a suffering cancer patient, relief that comes from within can provide a much-needed experience of personal efficacy and strength. ©

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WAR AND PEACE

It is the greatest tragedy of the scientific community that so large a proportion of its activity is devoted to the learning of war and so little to the learning of peace. It could well be that because of this the overall long-run impact of science is to bring closer the day of human extinction.

Nevertheless, science is also the greatest hope of the human race.

From: Boulding KE: Science: our common heritage. Science 207:836, 1980. Copyright 1980 by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

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HUMAN KNOWLEDGE AND HUMAN NATURE

Human knowledge becomes particularly insecure when we move into unfamiliar regions of a field or system. Experimental science tends to deal with the familiar, for the laboratory, after all, is a clear descendant from the kitchen. This may sound a little insulting to the practitioners in the cathedrals of high energy physics, which move into unfamiliar regions of size (in this case the very small), but even this region of experimental science can only deal comfortably with events that are common within the field of the experiment.

From: Boulding KE: Science: our common heritage. Science 207:832-833, 1980. Copyright 1980 by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

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NOTES OF A BIOLOGY-WATCHER

It is hard for us to imagine anything taking place in the brain of an insect that bears any resemblance to the events in our own heads. We take it for granted that insects are little whirring machines, programmed by their genes to do this or that insect-like thing, but we recoil from the notion that the bug is a conscious, thinking creature. We do this partly because we feel superior, and partly because we know that we could never do so reproducibly what beetles do.

It could be that simple animals possess the same kind of awareness as ours, but that they are conscious of fewer items . . .

From: Lewis Thomas, M.D.: Notes of a biology-watcher: on artificial intelligence. N Engl J Med 302:507, 1980.

The California legislature, in 1969, enacted one of the most enlightened statutes in the United States on the subject. This statute provides that a child born to a woman as a result of conception through artificial insemination, to which her husband has consented in writing, is legitimate if the birth occurs during the marriage or within 300 days after the marriage has been dissolved.⁵

Future Developments

Further research on frozen spermatozoa and sperm banks will depend primarily on the attitude of physicians who must use frozen sperm clinically. Besides the indecision regarding the real clinical need, certain religious, legal, moral, and political considerations inhibit most physicians and governmental agencies from pursuing work in this area. ©

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REAL NUMBERS?

Quantification for the most part is a prosthetic device of the human mind, though certainly a very useful one. Anyone who thinks that numbers constitute the real world, however, is under an illusion, and this is an illusion that is by no means uncommon. It could be argued, indeed, that quantification is simply a result of certain defects in the human nervous system that do not permit us to form complex images of topological structures.

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