

Norell

REMINISCENCES OF SUPERVISION WITH ERICH FROMM

The following short personal essays were written by psychoanalysts who have worked with Dr. Erich Fromm at various times during the past 11 years.

MY FIRST PERSONAL MEETING with Dr. Fromm was in June, 1970. He gave a public lecture on aggression to a large audience in Stockholm, and a seminar to members and candidates of the Swedish Holistic Society.

My own situation as an analyst was, at that time, a rather lonely and frustrating one. Meeting Dr. Fromm felt like the opening of a door to a long desired possibility for more of inner freedom and clarity. What followed has been two short periods of working intensively together with Dr. Fromm on personal problems, problems of patients, and of our Swedish group.

I have always found therapy with many of my patients to be a highly personal matter. Still it is astonishing to experience in one's own life how true this is. The truthfulness, openness, warmth, and wide perspectives I met with in Dr. Fromm opened myself to contact down through layers of experiences, fears, and in-

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ternalized relationships, and filled me with that feeling of wonder and thankfulness, which is a strong incentive for continued self-analysis. Another aspect of these sessions has been the friendly and concerned pointing to possible solutions in organizational matters and human interaction, if personal fear and need for dependency can be overcome.

The experience of an analyst who is wholly awake and fully alive is my deepest personal experience with Dr. Fromm, and this is without measure.

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