

INTERNATIONAL PRIMAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

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NEWSLETTER

October, 1975

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Dear Member:

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I had not considered running for President of the IPA before I got to Estes Park. I'm not feeling especially "official", and probably never will, so this is a personal statement. I'm happy that you elected me. I feel so good knowing so many people I care for and respect trusted me enough to vote for me. Thank you.

Our Congress in Estes Park was a good one. The presentations on therapy and centers were the kind of sharing we need to expand ourselves as professionals. But the part of the Congress that makes me feel the best is the growing interest in primal living. We had presentations on primal babies, primal parents, and primal marriage. I hope our sharing in this area will grow. I need to learn what others are doing with the therapy itself, but, even more, I need to feel and talk and feel some more about living in the world as a primal person.

Israel & Primal**Prospective Primalees and Israel:**

We have had some unfortunate experiences in recent months with primalees who interrupted their therapy in the United States and came to Israel with unreal hopes. THE ISRAELI ATMOSPHERE IS NOT CONDUCIVE TO PRIMALLING. The kibbutz is not the warm, supportive community of your dreams; Israel is not the loving parent you have never had. Our skills and facilities at Tivyon are limited and we cannot work with the defenses you will put up as you become submerged in cultural shock, separation anxieties and the very real struggle for survival. (Nor are there currently any other primal, Reichian or neo-Reichian therapists in Israel).

If you've completed your primal therapy and would like to live in Israel despite all the problems, welcome! We offer you our support and physical facilities and invite you to share your energies with ours. (You're also welcome to join us if you're here on a brief vacation during your therapy).

What it's like:

The very real threat to existence is a more powerful and pervasive influence than apparent on the surface. It leads to very pronounced defenses, suspicion and flight from feeling. Few native Israelis are willing to risk getting in touch with their primal feelings and very few stay long in the group. Most of our primalees have been recent arrivals from English-speaking countries; their presence is almost a sine qua non for sabras to learn to primal. "Unfortunately" for us, in the course of their primalling they learn to give up false expectations and false ideals and get in touch with their true here-and-now needs; they discover that their real needs can best be met away from Israel and the resolution of some of their childhood conflicts makes possible their return "home". Our most strongly motivated primalees have left us and are now primalling in Boston, Toronto, New Orleans and California. Two of the three Israeli participants in

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a professional primal training workshop in May's Landing in 1973 decided then and there that their real needs could best be met by leaving Israel it's tough being the lone survivor.

We invite:

Experienced primal therapists (also neo-Reichians bioenergetics analysts, etc.) to conduct workshops here. Our fees are very low and we can't pay visiting leaders much, but they will find much personal satisfaction in working here. Come to talk to groups of laymen or of professionals, conduct a weekend workshop, or a longer training group for professionals, or conduct some individual primal sessions or intensives. If you're really gutsy and well qualified you might even think of setting up a primal practice here; we'll give you all the help we can.

(Mark and Alice Sharron gave a primal demonstration in 1973 that set the ball rolling; Bill Swartley and Barbara Markovits conducted a weekend workshop here in 1974; Nadine Scott conducted a series of training and growth workshops in bio-energetics in 1971 and subsequent bio-energetics leaders from abroad have included Moshe Blatt and Miriam and Richard Dror. Mona-Lisa Boyesen conducted some workshops for an independent group in Jerusalem some months ago; due to faulty communications, we were not aware of each other until too late).

Some of our needs:

We welcome donations of books, papers, manuscripts, journals (and subscriptions to journals) tapes and moview on primal therapy, bio-energetics, and all related topics.

We are seeking patrons to help subsidize the expenses of bringing selected trainers to Israel. (Pledges of \$100 and up; we'll call on you as the occasion presents itself).

We are looking for leads to brief, clear articles on primal therapy, suitable respectively for

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circularizing, to,

psychiatrists and psychologists who have never heard of the subject, prospective primalees who have shown some interest, the general press to encourage them to write about primal therapy in general and facilities available in Israel.

We welcome your contacts from out there. It may not do much for our primal alone-ness but it feels nice in the here and now. (if you don't get a response from us right away, please bear with us and our pressures).

Shalom, with feelings

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