

CARL ROGERS AND HUMANISTIC EDUCATION

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INTRODUCTION

Carl Ransom Rogers (1902-) was born in Oak Park, Illinois, the fourth of six children in a home which he describes as marked by close family ties, a very strict and uncompromising religious and ethical atmosphere, and what amounted to the virtue of hard work. He writes that he was "a pretty solitary boy." (1) When he was 12, his family bought a farm, as a hobby for his well-to-do father, but also, Rogers speculates, to keep the growing children from the "temptations" of suburban life. On the farm Carl became interested in and studied the great nightflying moths and became a student of scientific agriculture, a background which later led him to recognize the importance of research in evaluating the effectiveness of counseling or psychotherapy.

Rogers entered the University of Wisconsin to study agriculture, but, influenced by a religious conference, decided he would enter the ministry. He then changed his major to history, which he felt would be better undergraduate preparation. In his junior year (1922) he was selected as one of a dozen American student delegates to the World Christian Federation Conference in China. This experience, lasting six months in all, led to his recognizing that there were great differences in religious doctrines, and he broke with the doctrines of his parents.

After graduation from college in 1924 (Phi Beta Kappa), Rogers married a childhood sweetheart and, with her, went to Union Theological Seminary, where he spent two years. Here, he and some other students, dissatisfied with teaching in which they felt that ideas were being fed to them, asked for, and were allowed to set up, their own seminar (with an instructor sitting in). The result was that Rogers and some of the others "thought themselves right out of religious work." He had been interested in lectures and courses in psychology at Teachers College, Columbia University, and moved gradually into clinical psychology, working in child guidance. He obtained an internship at the just-established Institute for Child Guidance, where he came under the influence of Freudian psychology.

After receiving the MA degree from Columbia University in 1928, he was employed as a psychologist in the Child Study Department of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in Rochester, New York. In 1930 he became director of the department. He received the PhD from Columbia University in 1931, while continuing to work in Rochester. In 1938 he helped organize, and became director of, the Rochester Guidance Center. In 1939 his first book, *The Clinical Treatment of the Problem Child*, was published, based on his experience with children.

It was during the years at Rochester that Rogers began to question the effectiveness of the traditional directive, or "the-therapist knows-best," approach to counseling or psychotherapy. It was also during this period that he became aware of and influenced by the work of Otto Rank, through a social worker trained at the Pennsylvania School of Social Work.

In 1940 he accepted a position as professor of psychology at Ohio State University, and in 1942 published his second book, *Counseling and Psychotherapy: Newer Concepts in Practice*. This was a statement of an approach which came to be called nondirective counseling or psychotherapy, and later, client-centered counseling or psychotherapy. In 1945 he went to the University of Chicago as professor of psychology and executive secretary of the university counseling center, where he remained until 1957, and wrote *Client-Centered Therapy: Its Current Practice, Implications and Theory* (1951). In 1957 he was appointed professor of psychology and of psychiatry at the University of Wisconsin, where he directed a study of psychotherapy with hospitalized patients in a mental hospital, the results of which were published in *The Therapeutic Relationship and Its Impact: A Study of Psychotherapy with Schizophrenics* (with E. T. Gendlin, D. Kiesler, and C. B. Truax). In 1962-1963 he was a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University.

Rogers then went to the newly established Western Behavioral Sciences Institute in La Jolla, California, as a resident fellow. In 1968 the Center for Studies of the Person was formed by Rogers and others from the institute, and he has continued there as a resident fellow. During this period he became involved in the group movement and has extended his theory to the basic encounter group: In 1970 he published *Carl Rogers on Encounter Groups*. He also became interested in the application of his theory to education, and in 1969 published *Freedom to Learn*. More recently he has become interested in the marriage relationship, and in 1972 published *Becoming Partners: Marriage and Its Alternatives*.

Rogers has been visiting professor or has taught part-time at Columbia University, the University of California at Los Angeles, Harvard University, Occidental College, California Western University, and the University of California. He was awarded the Nicholas Murray Butler Medal (Silver) by Columbia University in 1955, and the Doctor of Humane Letters by Lawrence College in 1956. In 1956 he was among three psychologists who received the first Distinguished Scientific Awards of the American Psychological Association. In 1972 he received the first Distinguished Professional Contribution Award of the association. Rogers was a charter member and later a fellow and president (1944-1945) of the American Association for Applied Psychology. He is a fellow of the American Psychological Association, of which he was president in 1946-1947, and was president of its Division of Clinical and Abnormal Psychology in 1949-1950. He is a fellow of The American Orthopsychiatric Association, of which he was vice president in 1941-1942. He was a charter member, and president in 1956, of the American Academy of Psychotherapists.

Although Rogers began his clinical work with children, most of his experience has been with adults. His client-centered therapy has been widely taught and practiced, and has been the subject of more research than any other method of counseling or psychotherapy. This is no doubt because Rogers himself has been an unusual combination of therapist and researcher. He has also been interested in theory regarding the nature of the individual and human personality and development as revealed in the process of therapy. In his 1951 book he presented a theory of personality and its change, which he developed further, and more systematically, in a 1959 publication, which is the source from which the following summary is drawn. (2)

CONCEPTS AND THEORY

Certain basic convictions and attitudes underlie the theoretical formulation: (3) (1) Research and theory are directed toward the satisfaction of the need to order significant experience. (2) Science is acute observation and careful and creative thinking on the basis of such observation, not simply laboratory research involving instruments and computing machines. (3) Science begins with gross observations, crude measurements, and speculative hypotheses, and progresses toward more refined hypotheses and measurements. (4) The language of independent, intervening, and dependent variables, while applicable to advanced stages of scientific endeavor, is not adapted to the beginning and developing stages. (5) In the early stages of investigation and theory construction, inductive rather than hypothetico-deductive methods are more appropriate. (6) Every theory has a greater or lesser degree of error; a theory only approaches the truth, and it requires constant change and modification. (7) Truth is unitary, so that "any theory, derived from almost any segment of experience, if it were complete and completely accurate, could be extended indefinitely to provide meaning for other very remote areas of experience." (4) However, even a slight error in a theory may lead to completely false inferences when the theory is projected to a remote area. (8) Although there may be such a thing as objective truth, individuals live in their own personal and subjective worlds. "Thus there is no such thing as Scientific Knowledge, there are only individual perceptions of what appears to each person to be such knowledge." (5)

These attitudes, convictions, or assumptions may be taken as representing the approach of humanistic (and phenomenological) psychology. They underlie the theoretical statements which follow. Humanistic psychology focuses upon the experiencing person and his distinctively human qualities--choice, creativity, valuation dignity and worth, and the development of his potentials. Phenomenological psychology studies behavior from the point of view or frame of reference of the behaving person. Both thus emphasize the individual person, rather than group averages or characteristics. Both derive from an existential-phenomenological philosophy of human beings and their worlds.

Human Nature and the Individual

The common concept of human beings is that they are by nature irrational, unsocialized, and destructive of themselves and others. The client-centered point of view sees people, on the contrary, as basically rational, socialized, forward-moving, and realistic. (6) This

is a point of view developing out of experience in therapy rather than preceding it. Antisocial emotions exist--jealousy, hostility, and the rest--and are evident in therapy. But these are not spontaneous impulses which must be controlled. Rather they are reactions to the frustration of more basic impulses for love, belonging, and security. People are basically cooperative, constructive, and trustworthy, and when they are free from defensiveness their reactions are positive, forward-moving, and constructive. There is then no need to be concerned about controlling people's aggressive, antisocial impulses; given the possibility of fulfilling their basic impulses, they will become self-regulatory, balancing their needs against each other. A person's need for affection and companionship, for example, will balance any aggressive reaction or extreme need for sex, or other needs that would interfere with the satisfactions of other persons. Human beings are thus basically good, though with potential for aggressive or antisocial behavior, which is provoked by threat to or frustration of basic needs.

Individuals possess the capacity to experience in awareness the factors in their psychological maladjustment and have the capacity and the tendency to move away from a state of maladjustment toward a state of psychological adjustment. These capacities and this tendency will be released in a relationship which has the characteristics of a therapeutic relationship. The tendency toward adjustment is the tendency toward self-actualization. Psychotherapy is thus the releasing of an already existing capacity in the individual. Philosophically, the individual "has the capacity to guide, regulate, and control himself, providing only that certain definable conditions exist. Only in the absence of these conditions, and not in any basic sense, is it necessary to provide external control and regulation of the individual." (7) When the individual is provided with reasonable conditions for growth, his or her potentials will develop constructively, as a seed grows and becomes its potential.

Definitions of Constructs

The theory of therapy and personality makes use of a number of concepts or constructs. These are briefly defined prior to their use in the theory. (8)

Actualizing Tendency: "The inherent tendency of the organism to develop all its capacities in ways which serve to maintain or enhance the organism."

Tendency Toward Self-Actualization: The expression of the general tendency toward actualization in "that portion of experience of the organism which is symbolized in the self."

Experience (noun): All that is going on in the organism at a given time, whether in awareness or potentially available to awareness, of a psychological nature; the "experiential field," or the "phenomenal field" of Combs and Snygg. (9)

Experience (verb): To receive in the organism the impact of sensory or physiological events which are happening at the moment.

Feeling, Experience of a Feeling: "An emotionally tinged experience, together with its personal meaning."

Awareness, Symbolization, Consciousness: The representation of some portion of experience.

Availability to Awareness: Capability of being symbolized freely without denial or distortion.

Accurate Symbolization: The potential correspondence of symbolization in awareness with the results of testing the transitional hypothesis which it represents.

Perceiving, Perception: "A hypothesis or prognosis for action which comes into awareness when stimuli impinge on the organism." Perception and *awareness* are synonymous, the former emphasizing the stimulus in the process. Perceiving is becoming aware of stimuli.

Subceive, Subception: "Discrimination without awareness."

Self-Experience: "Any event or entity in the phenomenal field discriminated by the individual as 'self,' 'me,' 'I,' or related thereto."

Self, Concept of Self, Self-Structure: "The organized consistent conceptual gestalt composed of perceptions of the characteristics of the 'I' or 'me' and the perceptions of the relationships of the 'I' or 'me' to others and the various aspects of life, together with the values attached to these perceptions."

Ideal Self: "The self-concept which the individual would most like to possess."

Incongruence Between Self and Experience: A discrepancy between the perceived self and actual experience, accompanied by tension and internal confusion and discordant or incomprehensible (for example, neurotic) behavior. The discrepancy arises from conflict between the actualizing and self-actualizing tendencies.

Vulnerability: "The state of incongruence between self and experience," with emphasis on "the potentialities of this state for creating psychological disorganization."

Anxiety: "Phenomenologically, a state of uneasiness or tension whose cause is unknown. From an external frame of reference, anxiety is a state in which the incongruence between the concept of the self and the total experience of the individual is approaching symbolization in awareness."

Threat: "The state which exists when an experience is perceived or anticipated (subceived) as incongruent with the structure of the self" an external view of what is, phenomenologically, anxiety.

Psychological Adjustment: Complete congruence, complete openness to experience.

Psychological Maladjustment: The state which exists when the organism denies or distorts awareness of significant experience, resulting in incongruence between self and experience; incongruence viewed from a social standpoint.

Defense, Defensiveness: "The behavioral response of the organism to threat, the goal of which is the maintenance of the current structure of the self."

Distortion in Awareness, Denial to Awareness: Denial or distortion of experience which is inconsistent with the self-concept, by which the goal of defense is achieved; the mechanisms of defense.

Intensionality: The characteristics of the behavior of the individual who is in a defensive state--rigidity, overgeneralization, abstraction from reality, absolute and unconditional evaluation of experience, and so on.

Extensionality: Perception which is differentiated, dominated by facts rather than concepts, with awareness of the space-time anchorage of facts and of different levels of abstraction.

Congruence, Congruence of Self and Experience: The state in which self-experiences are accurately symbolized in the self-concept: integrated, whole, genuine.

Openness to Experience: Absence of threat; the opposite of defensiveness.

Mature, Maturity: An individual is mature "when he perceives realistically and in an extensional manner, is not defensive, accepts the responsibility of being different from others, accepts the responsibility for his own behavior, evaluates experience in terms of the evidence coming from his own senses, changes his evaluation of experience only on the basis of new experience, accepts others as unique individuals different from himself, prizes himself, and prizes others." Maturity is the behavior exhibited by an individual who is congruent.

Contact: The minimal essential of a relationship, in which each of two individuals "makes a perceived or subceived difference in the experiential field of the other."

Positive Regard: One's perception of some self-experience of another which makes a positive difference in one's experiential field, resulting in a feeling of warmth, liking, respect, sympathy, acceptance toward the other.

Need for Positive Regard: A secondary or learned need for love, affection, and so on.

Unconditional Positive Regard: Perception of the self-experiences of another without discrimination as to greater or lesser worthiness; prizing, acceptance.

Regard Complex: "All those self-experiences, together with their interrelationships, which the individual discriminates as being related to the positive regard of a particular social other."

Positive Self-Regard: "A positive attitude toward the self which is no longer directly dependent on the attitude of others."

Need for Self-Regard: A secondary or learned need for positive self-regard.

Unconditional Self-Regard: Perception of the self "in such a way that no self-experience can be discriminated as more or less worthy of positive regard than any other."

Conditions of Worth: The valuing of an experience by an individual positively or negatively "solely because of . . . conditions of worth which he has taken over from others, not because the experience enhances or fails to enhance his organism."

Locus of Evaluation: The source of evidence as to values, either internal or external.

Organismic Valuing Process: "An ongoing process in which values are never fixed or rigid, but experiences are being accurately symbolized and continually and freshly valued in terms of the satisfactions organismically experienced." The actualizing tendency is the criterion.

Internal Frame of Reference: "All of the realm of experience which is available to the awareness of the individual at a given moment"; the subjective world of the individual.

Empathy: The state of perceiving "the internal frame of reference of another with accuracy, and with the emotional components and meanings which pertain thereto, as if one were the other person, but without ever losing the 'as if' condition."

External Frame of Reference: Perceiving "solely from one's own subjective frame of reference without empathizing with the observed person or object."

A Theory of Personality (10)

Characteristics of the human infant. Infants perceive their own experience as reality; for them, their own experience is reality. They are endowed with an inherent tendency toward actualizing their organisms. Their behavior is goal directed, directed toward satisfying the need for actualization through interaction with their perceived reality. In such an interaction an infant behaves as an organized whole. Experiences are valued positively or negatively, in an organismic valuing process, in terms of their maintaining or not maintaining the infant's actualizing tendency. The infant is adient toward (approaches) positively valued experiences, and abient toward (avoids) those which are negatively valued.

The development of the self. As a result of the tendency toward differentiation (which is an aspect of the actualizing tendency), part of the individual's experience becomes symbolized in awareness as self-experience. Through interaction with significant others in the environment, this self-experience leads to a concept of self, a perceptual object in the experiential field.

The need for positive regard. With awareness of the self, the need for positive regard from others develops. The satisfaction of this need is dependent on inferences regarding the experiential fields of others. Satisfaction of this need is reciprocal in human beings, in that one's positive regard is satisfied when one perceives oneself as satisfying another's need. The positive regard of a significant social other can be more powerful than the individual's organismic valuing process.

The development of the need for self-regard. A need for self-regard develops from the association of satisfaction or frustration of the need for positive regard with self-experiences. The experience of or loss of positive regard thus becomes independent of transactions with any social other.

Development of conditions of worth. Self-regard becomes selective as significant others discriminate the self-experiences of the individual as more or less worthy of positive regard. The evaluation of a self-experience as more or less worthy of self-regard constitutes a condition of worth. The experiencing of only unconditional positive regard would avoid the development of conditions of worth and lead to unconditional self-regard, to congruence of the needs for positive regard and self-regard with organismic evaluation, and to the maintenance of psychological adjustment.

The development of incongruence between self and experience. The need for self-regard leads to selective perception of experiences in terms of conditions of worth, so that experiences in accord with one's conditions of worth are perceived and symbolized accurately in awareness, but experiences contrary to the conditions of worth are perceived selectively or distortedly, or denied to awareness. This presence of self-experiences which are not organized into the self-structure in accurately symbolized form results in the existence of some degree of incongruence between self and experience, in vulnerability, and in psychological maladjustment.

The development of discrepancies in behavior. Incongruence between self and experience leads to incongruence in behavior, so that some behaviors are consistent with the self-concept and are accurately symbolized in awareness, while other behaviors actualize those experiences of the organism which are not assimilated into the self-structure and have thus not been recognized, or have been distorted to make them congruent with the self.

The experience of threat and process of defense. An experience which is incongruent with the self-concept is subceived as threatening. If this experience were accurately symbolized in awareness it would introduce inconsistency in the self-structure and a state of anxiety would exist. The process of defense prevents this, keeping the total perception

of the experience consistent with the self-structure and the conditions of worth. The consequences of defense are rigidity in perception, an inaccurate perception of reality, and intensionality.

The process of breakdown and disorganization. In a situation where a significant experience demonstrates the presence of a large or significant incongruence between self and experience, the process of defense is unable to operate successfully. Anxiety is then experienced, to a degree depending on the extent of the self-structure which is threatened. The experience becomes accurately symbolized in awareness, and a state of disorganization results. The organism behaves at times in ways consistent with the experiences which have been distorted or denied and at times in ways consistent with the concept of the self, with its distorted or denied experiences.

The process of reintegration. For an increase in congruence to occur, there must be a decrease in conditions of worth, and an increase in unconditional self-regard. The communicated unconditional positive regard of a significant other is one way of meeting these conditions. In order to be communicated, unconditional positive regard must exist in a context of empathic understanding. When this is perceived by the individual, it leads to the weakening or dissolving of existing conditions of worth. The individual's own unconditional positive regard is then increased, while threat is reduced and congruence develops. The individual is then less susceptible to perceiving threat, less defensive, more congruent, has increased self-regard and positive regard for others, and is more psychologically adjusted. The organismic valuing process becomes increasingly the basis of regulating behavior, and the individual becomes more nearly fully functioning. The occurrence of these conditions and their results constitute psychotherapy.

A Theory of Interpersonal Relationships (11)

The conditions of a deteriorating relationship. "A person Y is willing to be in contact with person X, and to receive communications from him. Person X desires (at least to a minimal degree) to communicate to and be in contact with Y. Marked incongruence exists in X among the following three elements: his experience of the subject of communication with Y; the symbolization of this experience in his awareness, in its relation to his self-concept; [and] his conscious communicated expression (verbal and/or motor) of this experience."

The process of a deteriorating relationship. Under the above conditions, the following process occurs: "The communication of X to Y is contradictory and/or ambiguous, containing expressive behaviors which are consistent with X's awareness of the experience to be communicated [and] expressive behaviors which are consistent with those aspects of the experience not accurately symbolized in X's awareness. Y experiences these contradictions and ambiguities. He tends to be aware only of X's conscious communication. Hence this experience of X's communication tends to be incongruent with his awareness of same [and]..... his response tends also to be contradictory and/or ambiguous..... Since X is vulnerable, he tends to perceive Y's responses as potentially threatening." Thus he tends to perceive Y's response in a

distorted way, congruent to his own self-structure. He also perceives Y's internal frame of reference inaccurately and thus is not empathic. As a result, he cannot and does not experience unconditional positive regard for Y. Y thus experiences the receipt of at most a selective positive regard, and a lack of understanding and empathy. He is thus less free to express his feelings, to be extensional, to express incongruencies between self and experience, and to reorganize his selfconcept. As a result, X is, in turn, even less likely to empathize, and more likely to make defensive reactions. "Those aspects of experience which are not accurately symbolized by X in his awareness tend, by defensive distortion of perception, to be perceived in Y." Y then tends to be threatened, and to show defensive behaviors.

The outcome of a deteriorating relationship. The process of deterioration leads to increased defensiveness on the parts of X and Y. Communication becomes increasingly superficial. Perceptions of self and others become organized more tightly. Thus, the incongruence of self and experience remains in status quo, or is increased. Psychological maladjustment is to some degree facilitated in both X and Y.

The conditions of an improving relationship. "A person, Y' is willing to be in contact with person X', and to receive communication from him. Person X' desires to communicate to and be in contact with Y'. A high degree of congruence exists in X' between the three following elements: (a) his experience of the subject of communication with Y'; (b) the symbolization of this experience in awareness in its relation to his self-concept; [and] (c) his communicative expression of this experience."

The process of an improving relationship. "The communication of X' to Y' is characterized by congruence of experience, awareness, and communication. Y' experiences this congruence as a clear communication. Hence his response is more likely to express a congruence of his own experience and awareness." Y', being congruent and not vulnerable, is able to perceive the response of Y' accurately and extensionally, with empathy. Y' feels understood and experiences satisfaction of his need for positive regard. "X' experiences himself as having made a positive difference in the experiential field of Y'" X' reciprocally tends to increase in feeling of positive regard for Y' and this positive regard for Y' tends to be unconditional. The relationship Y' experiences has the characteristics of the process of therapy. "Hence communication in both directions becomes increasingly congruent, is increasingly accurately perceived, and contains more reciprocal positive regard."

Outcomes of an improving relationship. As a result of an improving relationship, all the outcomes of therapy may occur, within the limitations of the area of the relationship.

A tentative law of interpersonal relationship. "Assuming a minimum mutual willingness to be in contact and to receive communication, we may say that the greater the communicated congruence of experience, awareness, and behavior on the part of the individual, the more the ensuing relationship will involve a tendency toward reciprocal communication with the same qualities, mutually accurate understanding of the communications, improved psychological adjustment and functioning in both parties, and

mutual satisfaction in the relationship." (12) The concept of congruence is important. Congruence is the accurate matching of physiological experiencing with awareness, and the matching of these with what is communicated. When congruence is lacking, there is ambiguity in communication--words don't match nonverbal communication. When there is incongruence between experiencing and awareness, the incongruent individual does not recognize this. For example, a man may be unaware that his bodily actions and tone of voice communicate anger, while in words he is claiming to be cool, rational, and logical in an argument. An incongruence between awareness and communication may also be deliberate, however, when a person is deceitful and insincere. When a person is congruent, we know where he or she stands; but we don't know what an incongruent person really means or feels, and we have difficulty relating to or interacting with him or her. When two persons who are congruent interact, they are able to listen to each other without defensiveness, to understand each other empathically, to develop respect for each other, in short, to be therapeutic for each other. Each will benefit in improved psychological adjustment, becoming more unified and integrated, less in conflict, more mature, and more satisfied in the relationship. In the case of each person, the receiver of the communication must perceive the communication of the other as it is, or is intended, without distortion or misunderstanding. To the extent that each is congruent and to the extent that each does not feel threatened, this is more likely to occur.

A Theory of the Fully Functioning Person

The endpoint of optimal psychotherapy or of facilitative interpersonal relationships, the state of maximal psychological growth, is the fully functioning person. There are three characteristics, or aspects, of such a person, though they integrate in unitary organization or whole:

1. *Openness to Experience.* Having positive regard from others, and positive self-regard, the fully functioning person is free from threat, and thus free from defensiveness. The person is open to all his or her experiences, and stimuli are received and processed through the nervous system without selectivity or distortion. Though there is not necessarily a self-conscious awareness of organismic experiences, there is availability to awareness, there are no barriers or inhibitions to prevent the full experiencing of whatever is organismically present.

2. *An Existential Mode of Living.* Openness to experience means that there is a newness to each moment of living, since the same situation of inner and outer stimuli has never existed before. There is a fluidity of experiencing in which the self and personality emerge from experience since each experience is new, the person cannot predict specifically what he or she will do in advance. There is a participation in experience without complete control of it. Living is characterized by flexibility and adaptability, rather than rigidity. The personality and the self are in flux; openness to experience is the most stable personality characteristic.

3. *The Organism as a Trustworthy Guide to Satisfying Behavior.* The fully functioning person does what "feels right" and finds this to result in adequate or satisfying behavior.

This is so since, being open to all experience, she or he has all relevant data available, without denial or distortion of any elements. These data include social demands as well as the person's own complex system of needs. The total organism, including the person's consciousness, processes these data like a complex computer. The total organism is often wiser than consciousness alone. The organism is not infallible, since data may be missing or unavailable. But the resulting unsatisfying behavior provides corrective feedback.

The fully functioning person is characterized by optimal psychological adjustment, optimal psychological maturity, complete congruence, complete openness to experience, and complete extensionality. To help a person become fully functioning is the goal of optimal psychotherapy.

These characteristics of the fully functioning person have relevance to values and the valuing process. The locus of evaluation in the organismic valuing process is internal, within the individual. This is characteristic of the infant's approach to valuing, but in the process of socialization the locus of evaluation usually becomes externalized as the individual seeks love, acceptance, and social approval from significant others in his or her environment. Value patterns are thus introjected, rather than being the result of the person's own organismic valuing processes or experiencing. They are rigid, and though they often include contradictory values, they are rarely examined. They are often at variance with experiences, and this discrepancy, Rogers believes, is the basis of insecurity and alienation within the individual. In a therapeutic climate, in life or in therapy, some individuals achieve the openness to their experiences and the maturity which return the locus of evaluation to themselves. Although their valuing process is like that in the infant, it is more complex, involving all the individual's past experiences, including the effects or consequences of resulting behaviors on the self and others. The criterion of the valuing process, as in the infant, is the degree to which behaviors lead to self-enhancement or self-actualization.

The value directions which develop in persons as they become more fully functioning are not idiosyncratic or unique but have a commonality which extends through different cultures, suggesting that they are related to the human species, enhancing the development of the individual and others, and contributing to the survival and evolution of the species. These directions include, according to Rogers, being real rather than presenting a facade, valuing one's self and self-direction, valuing being a process rather than having fixed goals, valuing sensitivity to and acceptance of others, valuing deep relationships with others, and finally, and perhaps most important, valuing an openness to all one's inner and outer experiences, including the reactions and feelings of others. In other words, the older values of sincerity, independence, and self-direction, self-knowledge, social responsivity, social responsibility, and loving interpersonal relationships appear to have a universality arising out of the nature of human beings as they become, under conditions which have been found to be effective in psychotherapy, fully functioning persons. The characteristics of the fully functioning or self-actualizing person include the conditions for the development of such persons.

There are several implications of this concept which are of interest:

1. *The fully functioning person is a creative person.* Such a person could be, notes Rogers, one of Maslow's "self-actualizing people," one of whose characteristics is creativeness. (13) His or her sensitive openness and existential living would foster creativeness through allowing awareness of relationships not observed by others. He or she is not a conformist, and perhaps not always "adjusted" to the culture, but is able to live constructively and satisfy basic needs. "Such a person would, I believe, be recognized by the student of evolution as the type most likely to adapt and survive under changing environmental conditions. He would be able creatively to make sound adjustments to new as well as old conditions. He would be a fit vanguard of human evolution." (14)

2. *The fully functioning person is constructive and trustworthy.* The basic nature of individuals is good, individually and socially, when they are functioning freely. When we are able to free individuals from defensiveness, so that they are open to the wide range of their own needs, as well as the range of environmental and social demands, their reactions may be trusted to be positive, forward-moving, constructive. We do not need to ask who will socialize them, for one of each person's deepest needs is affiliation with and communication with others. When people are fully themselves, they cannot help but be realistically socialized. We do not need to ask who will control the individual's aggressive impulses, for when one is open to all of one's impulses, the need to be liked by others and the tendency to give affection are as strong as impulses to strike out and seize for oneself. The individual will be aggressive in situations in which aggression is realistically appropriate, but there will be no runaway need for aggression. When a person is open to all his or her experience, his or her total behavior, in these and other areas, is balanced and realistic behavior appropriate to the survival and enhancement of a highly social animal. (15)

3. *His or her behavior is dependable but not predictable.* Since the particular pattern of inner and outer stimuli at each moment is unique, fully functioning people are not able to predict their behavior in a new situation, but they appear dependable to themselves, and are confident that their behavior is appropriate. Upon later analysis by another person, a scientist, for example, the fully functioning person's behavior will appear lawful; the scientist can postdict but not predict it. Science cannot collect and analyze all the necessary data, even with a computer, before the behavior has occurred. This suggests that the science of psychology, when it deals with the fully functioning person, will be characterized by understanding (of the lawfulness of behavior which has occurred) rather than by prediction and control.

4. *The fully functioning person is free, not determined.* Science has shown that we live in a world where cause and effect operate. Behavior can be controlled by external or environmental conditions and events. Yet the individual can be free to choose how to act. Rogers reports his experiences with clients in therapy who in the process have made decisions and choices which have changed their behaviors and their lives. He says: "I would be at a loss to explain the positive change which can occur in psychotherapy if I had to omit the importance of the sense of free and responsible choice on the part of my

clients. I believe that this experience of freedom to choose is one of the deepest elements underlying change." (16)

This freedom is an inner freedom, an attitude or realization of one's ability to think one's own thoughts, live one's own life choosing what one wants to be and being responsible for one's self. It is something that is phenomenological rather than external. It is not a contradiction to the cause and effect apparent in the psychological universe, but a complement to such a universe. "Freedom rightly understood is a fulfillment by the person of the ordered sequence of his life. The free man moves out voluntarily, freely, responsibly, to play his significant part in a world whose determined events move through him and through his spontaneous choice and will." (17) It exists in a different dimension than external cause and effect.

Individuals differ in the extent to which they are free from influence and control by others and external events. Rogers cites the findings of several studies in which subjects who yielded or conformed or were susceptible to control in psychological experiments differed from those who did not conform. They panicked under stress, showed feelings of inadequacy and personal inferiority, were lacking in openness and freedom in emotional processes and in spontaneity, and were emotionally restricted and inhibited. The nonconformists, on the other hand, were able to cope effectively with stress, were more self-contained and autonomous in their thinking, had a sense of competence and personal adequacy, and were more open, free, and spontaneous. Thus the sense of personal freedom and responsibility make a difference in behavior.

Rogers points out the parallel between the characteristics of these subjects and of those individuals who experience freedom and responsibility as they progress in therapy, and the fully functioning person:

He wills or chooses to follow the course of action which is the most economical vector in relation to all the internal and external stimuli, because it is that behavior which will be most deeply satisfying. But this is the same course of action which from another vantage point may be said to be determined by all the factors in the existential situation. Let us contrast this with the picture of the person who is defensively organized. He wills or chooses to follow a given course of action, but finds that he cannot behave in the fashion that he chooses. He is determined by the factors in the existential situation, but these factors include his defensiveness, his denial or distortion of some of the relevant data. Hence it is certain that his behavior will be less than fully satisfying. His behavior is determined, but he is not free to make an effective choice. The fully functioning person, on the other hand, not only experiences, but utilizes, the most absolute freedom when he spontaneously, freely, and voluntarily chooses and wills that which is absolutely determined. (18)

The ideal fully functioning person does not exist. There are persons who can be observed moving toward this goal in therapy, and in the best family and group relationships, and in good educational experiences.

Summary

Scientific research and theory are attempts of man to order his experiences. Science begins as empirical observations, leading to inductive speculations and hypotheses and theory construction. Theory approaches truth, but we can never know objective truth; we live in our own personal worlds, the worlds that we subjectively perceive. One's experience of One's world is one's reality.

The infant thus creates its own reality, its own world, on the basis of its experiences with the physical and personal elements with which it interacts. Its behavior is directed by one basic motive: to actualize the capacities or potentials of the organism. Certain experiences are recognized as self-experiences and are organized into a self-concept.

With awareness of the self the need for positive evaluation or regard of the self from others, and of positive self-regard develop. But the regard of others is not unconditional and thus creates conditions of worth--the individual is more or less worthy of positive regard from others, and thus of positive self-regard. The need for positive regard, however, leads to selective perception of experiences, with those experiences which are inconsistent with positive self-regard being denied to awareness or distorted. There is then incongruity between self and experience, or psychological maladjustment.

Experiences which are inconsistent with the self-structure are threatening and lead to defensiveness to avoid anxiety. Rigidity develops. Where the inconsistent experience is strong, defense is unsuccessful, anxiety develops, and disorganized or inconsistent behavior occurs.

Reorganization or reintegration occurs when there is a decrease in conditions of worth, with an increase in unconditional positive regard from others in an empathic atmosphere. Positive self-regard increases, with congruence between the self and experience. The individual is more congruent, less defensive, and more open to his experiences, showing more positive regard for others. He is psychologically better adjusted, a more fully functioning person.

It is apparent that one's adjustment is a function of the nature of one's interpersonal relationships. In poor interpersonal relationships there is inconsistent or incongruent communication; lack of understanding--a failure to perceive another's internal frame of reference accurately; the feeling of threat, and lack of unconditional positive regard. In good interpersonal relationships, on the other hand, there is clear or congruent communication, lack of threat, empathy, and unconditional positive regard. These become reciprocal in each participant.

Human beings are characterized by a tendency to move from a state of maladjustment toward psychological adjustment. This is a manifestation of the tendency toward self-actualization. Good interpersonal relationships facilitate this tendency. The person who is free from external threat grows and develops. Although the capacity for negative,

irrational, aggressive behavior exists in people, such behavior is manifested under conditions of threat and frustration. When people are free from threat and experience congruence, unconditional positive regard, and empathic understanding from others, they are basically rational, constructive, and social. Such people are fully functioning, open to all their experiences, living existentially, and trusting their organism as a guide to satisfactory behavior. They are creative, constructive and trustworthy, dependable though not predictable in advance, and free rather than determined in their behavior. Their locus of evaluation is internal; their values are those which enhance the actualization of the organism and the self. These values are not self-centered or antagonistic to others; they are related to the needs of the human species and its survival, and are common or universal among cultures. They include the traditional values of sincerity or honesty, autonomy, responsibility, and love.

FREEDOM TO LEARN

In *Freedom to Learn*, Rogers brought his thinking and experience about education and teaching together in a book directed toward educators and teachers. This book, like a number of earlier papers, is based on his experience and research in psychotherapy. As his work in psychotherapy has focused upon the person and attitudes of the therapist rather than upon techniques, so does his writing on education and teaching focus upon the person and attitudes of the teacher rather than upon methods or techniques of instruction. He expresses this focus in his statement of the aim of education as the facilitation of learning:

We know that the facilitation of such learning rests not upon the teaching skills of the leader, not upon his curricular planning, not upon his use of audiovisual aids, not upon the programmed learning he utilizes, not upon his lectures and presentations, not upon an abundance of books, though each of these might at one time or another be utilized as an important resource. No, the facilitation of significant learning rests upon certain attitudinal qualities which exist in the personal relationship between the facilitator and the learners. (19)

The Crisis in Education

Education, says Rogers, is facing challenges the response to which "will be one of the major factors in determining whether mankind moves forward, or whether man destroys himself on this planet, leaving this earth to those few living things which can withstand atomic destruction and radioactivity." (20) The crisis is represented by a number of questions which he poses:

1. Can education free itself from the past and past goals and prepare individuals and groups to live in a world of accelerating change, if it is possible for human beings to do so?

2. Can education deal effectively with increasing racial tensions and prevent civil war among the world's races?
3. Can education prepare us to deal responsibly and communicatively with increasing irrational nationalism and international tension, and help us prevent nuclear destruction?
4. Can educators and educational institutions satisfy the revolt and objections of youth against the imposed curriculums and impersonality of secondary and higher education, or will learning move out of our institutions of learning, leaving them to indoctrinate conformity?
5. Can the conservative, traditional, bureaucratic, rigid educational system break out of the shackles of pressures for social conformity and deal with the real problems of modern life?
6. Will education be taken over by business, with more innovation and responsiveness, but with the motive of profit-making and emphasis upon producing profitable "hardware"?

These are not issues of technology; they are philosophical, social, and psychological issues. And they clearly relate not to the traditional subject matter of education, that is, information and knowledge, or even cognitive or intellectual development, but to the area of personal development and interpersonal relationships.

The Goal of Education

To resolve these crisis questions and to assure human survival, the goal of education must be the facilitation of change and learning. "The only man who is educated is the man who has learned how to learn; the man who has learned how to adapt and change; the man who has realized that no knowledge is secure, that only the process of *seeking* knowledge gives a basis for security. Changingness, a reliance on *process* rather than upon static knowledge, is the only thing that makes any sense as a goal for education in the modern world." (21)

This goal includes, but goes beyond, cognitive or intellectual education, to include the education of the whole person. It involves personal growth and the development of creativity and self-directed learning. The goal of education is the same as the goal of psychotherapy: the fully functioning person. Openness to experience; an existential way of living in which life is not static but an ongoing, flexible, adaptive process; and trust in the organism as the basis for behavior are characteristics of the person who is capable of continuing to learn and to adapt to change, to meet the issues involved in the crisis in education. The traditional concept of the "educated person" is no longer relevant to our modern society.

The educator of the future "must know, at the deepest personal level, the stance he takes in regard to life. Unless he has true convictions as to how his values are arrived at, what

sort of individual he hopes will emerge from his educational organization, whether he is manipulating human robots, or dealing with free individual persons, and what kind of a relationship he is striving to build with these persons, he will have failed not only his profession, but his culture." (22) This is a far cry from, but more fundamental and important than, concern with curriculums, methods, administration, and teaching techniques.

Two Kinds of Learning

Learning may be conceived of as falling along a continuum of meaning. At one end is meaningless learning--rote learning, exemplified by the learning, or memorization, of nonsense syllables. Such learning is difficult and does not last. Much of what is taught in schools involves such learning. The material has no personal meaning for the student, does not involve feelings or the whole person; it is learning occurring "from the neck up."

The learning which takes place in everyday life, experiential learning, has meaning and personal relevance. Such learning is quick and is retained. Learning a language in a native environment, as compared to learning it in a classroom, illustrates the difference. Even though the stimulus for learning in the first case may come from outside, from the necessity to adapt to the society, it is in a real sense self-initiated; it also represents a personal involvement. It is pervasive, influencing the total person, including attitudes and behavior. It is evaluated by the learner in terms of his or her needs--the locus of evaluation is internal. And its essence is meaning.

Education traditionally has involved the first, meaningless kind of learning, though many teachers and educators recognize the value of the second. To implement the second approach would amount to a revolution in education. The difficulties of implementing it in a practical way have stood in the way of those who accept it theoretically. Rogers proposes ways in which it can be implemented.

This second kind of learning is not noncognitive in nature. It involves cognitive elements or aspects; but it combines these with the affective elements involved in personal meaning. It recognizes that meaningful learning, even of a cognitive nature, involves the total person.

The Nature of Significant Learning

Significant--personal, experiential--learning is learning which makes a difference to the person, in behavior, attitudes, and personality. It is learning which leads to the individual becoming a more fully functioning person. Such learning involves certain principles (or hypotheses) which relate to the theory of human nature and of human behavior presented earlier.

1. Human beings have a natural propensity for learning. They are by nature curious; exploratory; desirous of discovering, knowing, and experiencing. Yet there is an ambivalence toward learning; significant learning involves some pain, either connected

with the learning itself or with having to relinquish earlier learnings. Learning to walk involves bumps and bruises. Learning that some others are better than oneself in some respects is painful. But the gains and satisfactions of learning, of developing one's potentials, are usually greater than the pain, and learning continues.

2. Significant learning takes place when the subject matter is perceived by the student as having relevance for her or his own purposes. A person learns significantly only those things which are perceived as involving the maintenance and enhancement of the self. Two students of equal ability learn quite different things, or amounts, depending on how they perceive the material as relating to their needs and purposes. The speed of learning also varies. The time for learning may be reduced by as much as two-thirds to four-fifths when material is perceived as relevant to the learner's purposes.

3. Learning which involves a change in self-organization, or the perception of the self, is threatening, and tends to be resisted. The self includes one's values, beliefs, and basic attitudes, and when these are questioned they are defended. To recognize that something new and different may be better, that one is behind in things or inferior in some way, or inadequate, is defended against.

4. Those learnings which are threatening to the self are more easily perceived and assimilated when external threats are at a minimum. Pressure, ridicule, shaming, and so on, increase resistance. But an accepting, understanding, supportive environment removes or decreases threat and fear and allows the learner to take a few steps or to try something and experience some success. Teaching machines incorporate this idea.

5. When threat to the self or self-concept is low, experience can be perceived in a differentiated fashion, and learning can proceed. This is why learning is inhibited by threat and assisted by its lack. Threat disorganizes thinking: It leads to distortion of perception, restriction of the perceptual field (a kind of tunnel vision), even, in strong threat, to paralysis of thinking and action. Freedom from threat to one's security, or ego, frees one to see the total situation and to examine it--to "take it apart," manipulate it, put it together--and to learn. Threats to the *organism*--even life-or-death threats-- can be handled or responded to with all one's powers; but threats to the *self* or the self-concept interfere with learning. Another way to view it is that threat to the self leads to all-out efforts to maintain the self as it exists, but not to change or growth in the self.

6. Much significant learning is acquired through doing. Experiential involvement with practical or real problems promotes learning. Meaningfulness and relevance are inherent in such situations.

7. Learning is facilitated when the student participates responsibly in the learning process. When students choose their own objectives and directions, formulate their own problems, discover their own resources, decide on and follow their own courses of action, and experience and live with the consequences, significant learning is maximized. Self-directed learning is meaningful and relevant.

8. Self-initiated learning which involves the whole person of the learner--feelings as well as intellect--is the most lasting and pervasive. The learning is the learner's own, and becomes incorporated in her or him; it is not something external or accepted on authority, and thus vulnerable to questioning or another authority.

9. Independence, creativity, and self-reliance are all facilitated when self-criticism and self-evaluation are basic and evaluation by others is of secondary importance. Creativity needs freedom, freedom to try something unusual, to take a chance, to make mistakes without being evaluated or judged a failure.

10. The most socially useful learning in the modern world is the learning of the process of learning, a continuing openness to experience and incorporation into oneself of the process of change. Change is a central fact of current life, and learning must be continuous.

Significant learning requires that we focus upon something other than the usual concerns of teaching or education. It makes the question of what should be taught, the curriculum, minor. Teaching as the imparting of knowledge is useful in an unchanging environment. But in this modern world, are we justified "in the presumption that we are wise about the future and the young are foolish? Are we really sure as to what they should know? Then there is the ridiculous question of coverage . . . based on the assumption that what is taught is learned...I know of no assumption so obviously untrue." (23) In a continually changing world, information and knowledge quickly become out of date or obsolete.

Significant learning involves the whole person; it combines cognitive and affective-experiential elements. It is a unified learning, yet with awareness of the different aspects. It does not separate the mind from the heart, from feelings, as most education attempts to do. Rogers quotes Archibald McLeish in this regard: "We do not feel our knowledge. Nothing could better illustrate the flaw at the heart of our civilization. . . . Knowledge without feeling is not knowledge and can lead only to public irresponsibility and indifference, and conceivably to ruin." (24) Personal meaning, relevance, significance involve feelings, attitudes, and beliefs.

Teaching and Learning

If the only learning which can significantly influence behavior is self-discovered, self-appropriated personal learning, can learning be taught? Rogers, on the basis of his experience both in psychotherapy and in teaching, has raised some serious questions. He states them personally as follows (not all are listed here):

It seems to me that anything that can be taught to another is relatively inconsequential and has little or no significant influence on behavior. . . .

Self-discovered learning, truth that has been personally appropriated and assimilated in experience, cannot be directly communicated to another. . . .

When I try to teach, as I do sometimes, I am appalled by the results, which seem a little more than inconsequential, because sometimes the teaching appears to succeed. When this happens I find that the results are damaging, it seems to cause the individual to distrust his own experience, and to stifle significant learning. *Hence I have come to feel that the outcomes of teaching are either unimportant or hurtful. . . .*

As a consequence, I realize that I am only interested in being a learner, preferably learning things that matter, that have some significant influence on my own behavior. . . .

I find that one of the best, but most difficult, ways for me to learn is to drop my own defensiveness, at least temporarily, and to try to understand the way in which his experience seems and feels to the other person.

I find that another way for me to learn is to state my own uncertainties, to try to clarify my own puzzlements, and thus get closer to the meaning that my experience actually seems to have. (25)

Such experience, he concludes, would imply that we do away with teaching, Learning would take place in groups of people who wanted to learn. But can this be done with children? What is the place of the teacher in the learning of children?

The Teacher as the Facilitator of Learning

Teaching, as usually defined and practiced, involves instruction, imparting information, knowledge, or skill; it is "to make to know," "to show, guide, direct." These are activities of the teacher. But are they necessary for learning, or even related to learning as defined earlier? "Teaching," says Rogers, "is a vastly over-rated function." (26)

The function of the teacher is to facilitate learning in the student by providing the conditions which lead to meaningful or significant self-directed learning. The objective is to develop a group, including the teacher, into a community of learners. In such a community, curiosity is freed, the sense of inquiry is opened up, everything is open to questioning and exploration. "Out of such a context arise true students, real learners, creative scientists and scholars and practitioners, the kind of individuals who can live in a delicate but everchanging balance between what is presently known and the flowing, moving, altering problems and facts of the future." (27) Such a community facilitates learning, or learning how to learn.

How can we achieve such a community of learners? We now have considerable knowledge about how to do so, about how to stimulate self-initiated, significant learning by the whole person. There are three major conditions, or qualities or attitudes, which, when present in an interpersonal relationship, facilitate such learning. These conditions were first identified and demonstrated to be effective in counseling or psychotherapy;

there is now evidence that they apply to classroom learning as well as learning in psychotherapy.

Realness is the facilitator of learning. Learning is facilitated when the teacher is not playing a role prescribed by the educational system but rather is himself or herself, genuine, authentic, honest. Relationships with students are direct personal encounters; the teacher is a real person, with no professional facade. He doesn't feel one thing and say something else; he doesn't conceal his feelings, either positive or negative. But in expressing his feelings he accepts them as his own, without projecting blame for his negative feelings onto the students. If he is irritated, he says "I feel irritated," not "You irritate me." He can be bored as well as enthusiastic. "He can like or dislike a student product without implying that it is objectively good or bad or that the student is good or bad. He is simply expressing a feeling for the product, a feeling which exists within himself. Thus he is a person to his students, not a faceless embodiment of a curricular requirement nor a sterile tube through which knowledge is passed from one generation to the next." (28)

A sixth-grade teacher who changed from the traditional teacher-dominated method to one which gave her students considerable responsible freedom found that she couldn't live with the mess which they made during the art period, though it didn't bother the students. She expressed her feelings: "One day I told the children . . . that I am a neat and orderly person by nature and that the mess was driving me to distraction. Did they have a solution? It was suggested there were some volunteers who could clean up. . . . I said it didn't seem fair to have the same people clean up all the time for others--but it would solve it for me. 'Well, some people like to clean,' they replied. So that's the way it is." (29)

It is not easy to be real in this sense, without evaluating, judging, or blaming others. Note that the teacher above did not say: "You are the messiest children I have ever seen. . . . You are just terrible." They may not have been excessively messy; they may have been excited and absorbed in their art work. It was the teacher who felt they were messy. Being real is not a license to judge and condemn others, to project one's feelings on others, to take out one's own anger and frustrations on one's students. Nor is using the "right" words or verbal formula being genuine if there is a judgmental attitude behind them. "Only slowly can we learn to be truly real. For first of all, one must be close to one's feelings, capable of being aware of them. Then one must be willing to take the risk of sharing them as they are, inside, not disguising them as judgments, or attributing them to other people." (30)

Prizing, acceptance, trust. If one is not to express judgments and evaluations, one must not be judgmental in one's attitudes. This is related to the second attitude which facilitates learning. The learner is accepted as a person of worth, a unique individual, and is respected; his or her feelings, opinions, and person are prized. The learner is seen as trustworthy. There is a caring for him or her. And all this is unconditional; there is no demand that the learner be different or conform in some way to be accepted and respected. Fears as well as satisfactions, apathy as well as enthusiasm, anger and

resistance as well as pleasantness and cooperation, are all accepted as aspects of an imperfect human being.

Underlying this attitude is a trust in the human organism, its capacity for developing its potential, choosing its own directions, given the opportunity. It is a confidence that the direction of change and learning will be toward the fulfillment or actualization of the person's potentialities, toward growth and development.

Empathic understanding. Empathic understanding is not the usual evaluative understanding based on a diagnostic analysis from an external point of view. It is understanding which comes from putting oneself in the place of the student to understand his or her reactions from the inside, to experience the student's perceptions and feelings about what is happening.

This attitude of standing in the other's shoes, of viewing the world through the student's eyes, is almost unheard of in the classroom. One could listen to thousands of ordinary classroom interactions without coming across one instance of clearly communicated, sensitively accurate, empathic understanding. But it has tremendous releasing effects when it occurs. (31)

Rogers goes on to suggest that if a teacher were able to make even one nonjudgmental empathic response to a student's expressed feeling each day, he or she would discover the power of such understanding.

The Student's Contribution to Learning

If the teaching-learning process is a relationship or an encounter between a facilitator and a learner, then the learner must be a participant in the process. There are three conditions involving the learner which are necessary for learning to occur.

Perception of the facilitative conditions. If realness, prizing, and acceptance and empathic understanding are to be effective in facilitating learning, they must be perceived or felt by the student. Students, because of their previous experience, may at first think that the genuineness or realness of the teacher is a new kind of phoniness whose purpose is to manipulate them. But students overcome this disbelief when the teacher is in fact not pretending or trying a new role, and recognize the realness and humanness of the teacher.

Awareness of a problem. Real learning occurs in response to a situation perceived by the student as a problem. Otherwise there is little if any stimulation to learn or to change. This is essentially the problem of relevance. It requires that if real learning is to be facilitated, education must present students with situations they perceive as real, as relevant, meaningful problems and issues regarding their existence which they must resolve.

Motivation. Conceivably, problems can be ignored, avoided, or resisted. But there is a natural motivation for learning in all normal individuals. This motivation is the tendency

to fulfillment or toward self-actualization. When faced with a problem, or an obstacle to self-actualization, the natural tendency of the individual is to face it, work on it, and attempt to solve it. Unfortunately, this natural motivation to learn is often suppressed rather than supported in our current educational system. (32) The school and the classroom are highly threatening to many students, and this threat inhibits the natural motivation to learn. The presence of facilitative conditions in the teacher minimizes threat and thus allows the motivation to learn to manifest itself.

When a facilitator creates, even to a modest degree, a classroom climate characterized by all that he can achieve of realness, prizing, and empathy; when he trusts the constructive tendency of the individual and the group; then he discovers that he has inaugurated an educational revolution. Learning of a different quality, proceeding at a different pace, with a greater degree of pervasiveness, occurs. Feelings--positive, negative, confused--become a part of the classroom experience. Learning becomes life, and a very vital life at that. The student is on his way, sometimes excitedly, sometimes reluctantly, to becoming a learning, changing, being. (33)

Implementing the Conditions (34)

The conditions for facilitating learning are attitudes, not techniques. Teachers may ask, however, just how they are to be real, to manifest their prizing and respect, and to express their empathic understanding. Some suggestions follow:

Being real. Being real does not mean simply venting all one's negative feelings on students nor does it mean uninhibited expression of feelings or behaviors such as directing, bossing, controlling, punishing, and disciplining. There is no place for the impatient, easily irritated, emotionally disturbed teacher in the classroom; nor is an authoritarian personality a facilitative teacher. The attitudes being expressed in being real must be attitudes of respect, warmth, caring, liking, and understanding.

The expression or explosion of pent-up irritations or accumulated negative feelings can be harmful to children. The teacher must be aware of such feelings and deal with them before they reach this stage. A student of the author reports an experience in student teaching in which she learned this:

Last semester I went through a traumatic and distressing time, in connection with my student teaching. I had been given advice by teachers on how to conduct a good classroom. I was told not to smile too much, to establish my authority at the outset, and never to show my emotions, because the students would then know they could "get my goat." For six weeks I labored to follow this advice, because it came from supposed experts. One day I became so angry at the noise in the classroom that I burst out in an emotional attack on the students, screaming at them for their terrible behavior. The students were startled; they felt that I had been unfair. If I had been more real in this situation I would have been able to tell the students that I got annoyed at the noise much earlier, and we could have worked out some sort of

compromise on the noise level. This realness could have avoided my personal attack on them as bad persons. It could also have helped me avoid my tremendous feelings of guilt; for even though my cooperating teacher felt that the students got what they deserved, I knew that I had been most unfair. In the future, when in the teaching situation, I will try my personal best to be real, to express my feelings as they occur in my awareness.

Being real means that teachers do not pretend that they know everything or have all the answers, or are perfect. Again, a student of the writer expresses this nicely:

If I am real, my students will be able to relate to me as I am--a human being with feelings and ideas, not an authority figure who issues mandates from above. They will realize that I am being my whole "self," and that I can and do make mistakes; furthermore, when I make mistakes, I will be able to admit them. It is only human to make mistakes, but very few teachers are accustomed to letting their students know that they are less than infallible. In my opinion, students would feel more at ease with a teacher who is able to admit errors, and who relinquishes his role of all-knowing authority. The teacher would also become a learner in the eyes of the student if he were able to admit that his ideas are not always absolutely correct.

Genuineness or realness is not a method or technique, something outside oneself, but a manifestation or expression of oneself as a person. A teacher who is real is thus not preoccupied with following a method or technique.

Manifesting prizing, trust, and respect. Prizing or respecting another is a positive thing; it is not simply a grudging acceptance. It is more than the gushing "I love all children." It is probably not possible for a teacher to like all children, or like them equally well. Prizing or respect does not require that the teacher like or accept all a student's characteristics or behaviors; the teacher prizes the student as a person worthy of respect. And it is also true that when one is really able to understand another, one almost always finds some basis for liking and respecting the other as a person. But if a teacher cannot feel some respect and liking for a student as a human being, then it is better that the child be placed with a teacher who can. Prizing or respect is manifested in certain behaviors in a teacher:

1. *Listening.* Studies of teaching have found that teachers in the classroom talk on the average about 75 percent of the time. Even when they are not talking, and students are talking, teachers often are not really listening, in the sense that they are really trying to understand and are interested in what the students are saying and why. Usually they are evaluating a student's answer to a question: Is it right or wrong?

Real listening to another is not evaluative, nor is it selective in terms of whether the other is sticking to the point, being relevant to the question, or logical. It involves attending to everything the other person says, and being interested in the other's thoughts, ideas, and feelings, recognizing them as worthy of being expressed and heard rather than rejecting or putting them down as inadequate, wrong, or poorly thought out or expressed. To facilitate real learning, the student must feel free to express ideas and feelings without

being negatively evaluated, criticized, or condemned for having them, even if they are negative. Such listening shows respect and prizing of the student.

2. *Responding.* In responding to a student the teacher communicates that she or he has been attending to what the student has been saying, that the student has been heard and hopefully, to some extent at least, understood. Such responses may be simply "yes," "I see," "I understand," "uh-uh." A simple restatement of what was said also indicates that the teacher has heard accurately. If the teacher does not understand, the response indicates this: "I don't understand," "I'm not sure I follow you," "Can you say that again," "I'm not sure I know what you mean," "Are you saying . . . ?" This can lead to clarification by the student. The student's feelings or thinking may be confused, and such responses help the student to try to communicate what is being expressed clearly. Ignoring a student who does not give the right answer or who is not clear or not understood happens all too frequently and does not convey respect. The teacher should not pretend to understand when he or she does not.

Understanding empathically. In addition to the manifestation of respect for the student, listening and responding to the student are the basis for empathic understanding and the communication of that understanding. Empathic listening involves putting oneself in the place of the other and trying to see things as the other sees them. If the teacher does this in regard to the student giving a wrong answer to a question, the teacher can often see and understand what leads the student to give such an answer, and is thus able to help the student understand the question. Empathic understanding goes beyond the cognitive aspects of what the student is saying. It also includes the affective or feeling aspects, which must be recognized and responded to if significant learning is to occur.

Facilitative teaching involves a personal relationship which includes mutual genuineness, respect and trust, and understanding. It is at its best a spontaneous personal encounter. It may involve disagreement, conflicts, or controversies which are resolved in a confrontation. Differences may not be resolved, but they are recognized, faced, and accepted. When the facilitative conditions are present the relationship is one which is free from the threat which inhibits exploration and learning.

Methods of Building Freedom

In addition to being concerned about implementing or manifesting the facilitative conditions, teachers will be interested in ways in which they can provide opportunities for self-reliant learning in the classroom. As in the case of implementing the attitudes, these methods of building freedom will be related to the style of the teacher, and many will be personal and in a sense unique. There are a number of approaches or methods, however, which Rogers indicates have been used successfully by teachers:

Building upon problems perceived as real. In education, as in our culture, we seem to attempt to insulate students from real problems in life. But "it appears that if we desire to have students learn to be free and responsible individuals, then we must be willing for

them to confront life, to face real problems. . . . Some real confrontation by a problem seems a necessary condition for this type of learning." (35)

Real problems derive from students, and the teacher must be sensitive to and willing to respond to and nourish those problems or issues which relate to the course or subject being taught. Because of the insulation of students from problems, it may be necessary for the teacher to confront them with situations which will pose real problems. Some of the following approaches are designed to do this.

Providing resources. In counseling or psychotherapy the resources are within the person; the therapist does not supply them. In education there are many resources which the teacher can provide for students without forcing them upon the students. The facilitative teacher, instead of spending most of the time organizing lesson plans and lectures, devotes it to discovering, obtaining, and making easily available the kinds of resources relevant to the needs of students. Resources include not only books, articles, laboratory equipment, tools, maps, films, recordings, and so on, but also human resources--persons who can contribute knowledge. The teacher, of course, is perhaps the most important resource, but his or her knowledge and experience is not forced upon students in lectures, but is offered and made available when students need and want it. "If we spent the same amount of time that is now spent on planning for prescribed curricula, lectures, and examinations on the imaginative provision of resources for learning, we would come up with all kinds of new ways of surrounding the student with a learning environment from which he could choose those elements which best met his needs." (36) Lectures or expositions of subject matter by the teacher are not, then, a necessary part of education, imposed upon all students, but may be a part of education when desired by students.

Use of contracts. Student contracts can give security to students as well as placing responsibility upon them. They provide a transitional experience between the requirements of a program or educational institution and complete freedom of the student. A student who for whatever reason (lack of interest in a required course, for example) wants only a passing grade in a course may make a contractual agreement with the teacher about just what he or she will do--perhaps reading certain material and taking an examination on it. A student who wants a higher grade may also propose a course of study, and when this is agreed upon with the instructor it also becomes a contract. Students know that if they perform their part they will receive the agreed-upon grades. Class discussions can become freer--students aren't worried about the effects on their grades of disagreeing with the instructor.

Division of the class. Freedom should not be imposed on those who do not want it. Thus, provision should be made for those who desire the alternative of conventional instruction; students should be free to learn passively as well as to initiate their own learning. Programmed learning provides another alternative.

Self-initiated learning also is perhaps more productive in small groups. Large classes can be divided in various ways, and the smaller groups can function in different ways, with the members assuming various kinds of responsibility.

The conduct of inquiry. The inquiry method of learning is a participative, experiential process. The subject (usually it has been science) is not considered as a set of absolute, already discovered facts. The teacher in inquiry learning poses problems and serves as a resource to the students in their solution of the problems. Students thus function as scientists. Whereas traditional educational methods make children less autonomous, less open, and less empirical as they progress in their education, inquiry methods lead to independent thinking and openness, as well as to new, deeper, and more lasting understandings. The inquiry method can, however, become a technique or routine in a teacher-imposed curriculum.

Simulation as a type of experiential learning. A simulation is a miniature or model representing a real situation--a family, a school, a corporation, a legislature, a nation, a world. A simulation experience requires knowledge of the system and some preparatory training before engaging in it. The experience has built into it certain situations, events, or problems, but the process and outcomes are partly determined by the responses and decisions of the participants. Consequences of responses and decisions are provided, based upon calculations following formulas developed for the simulation.

Simulation can provide students with experience with complex real-life processes involving decisions affected by incomplete or inadequate information, by difficulties in communication, by misunderstandings, and by interpersonal relations. The importance of these factors in decision making becomes impressed upon the student. Students become involved and feel that they learn about real-life situations. Responsibility for the conduct of the simulation is in the hands of the students once the teacher introduces it.

Programmed instruction as experiential learning. Programmed instruction may be used to facilitate self-initiated learning. A student who becomes aware of a gap in information or knowledge necessary for a problem or project in which he or she is engaged, can turn to an appropriate unit of programmed instruction to fill the gap. The need for the information or knowledge is real, and the motivation to acquire it is present. Students can obtain the material on their own, when they need it, at their own rate, efficiently and with a positive experience in learning. Programmed learning cannot be substituted for broader approaches to learning meanings and patterns of thinking, however.

The basic encounter group. An important new approach to experiential learning is the basic encounter group, or "sensitivity training." Although widely used in business and government, the encounter group has not been used extensively in education. There are many kinds of group experiences being advocated and practiced, but the basic encounter group is an unstructured experience in which facilitation helps the group express itself and the members to interact in such a way as to achieve a meaningful, mutually helpful experience. The facilitator does this by providing the conditions for facilitating learning which have been described earlier. Such an experience leads to the members of the group becoming more accepting, respecting, understanding, and genuine. (37)

Evaluation in Meaningful Learning

Significant learning, or personal learning, is difficult if not impossible to measure and evaluate in terms of external criteria. Rogers writes:

I believe that the testing of the student's achievements in order to see if he meets some criterion held by the teacher, is directly contrary to the implications of therapy for significant learning. In therapy, the examinations are set by life. The client meets them, sometimes passing, sometimes failing. He finds that he can use the resources of the therapeutic relationship and his experience in it to organize himself so that he can meet life's tests more satisfyingly next time. I see this as a paradigm for education also. (38)

Means of fulfilling the requirements for many life situations would be among the resources provided by the teacher or counselor in the school. These requirements include prerequisites for courses and requirements for graduation, for college entrance, for certain college curriculums, and for employment in various occupations. Certain scores on objective tests of achievement are required for some of these and other life situations. These requirements are set as tickets of entrance. The students would be free to choose whether they wanted to obtain a given ticket.

Self-initiated learning becomes responsible learning when one evaluates one's own learning. Goals and criteria are established by the individual, who decides to what extent he or she has achieved them, Self-evaluation must thus be a part of experiential learning.

There are various ways to incorporate self-evaluation into learning: mutual discussion between teacher and student, written evaluations and self-grading, demonstration of fulfillment of a contract; self-analysis in comparison with standards or norms or in discussion with other students.

Criteria may vary among students, so equivalent evaluations or grades do not always mean the same thing, which can constitute a problem in a conventional educational program or institution. There are other problems also in such situations, including the influence of competition for grades in a system and society where grades are so important in indicating educational progress.

Implications for Teacher Education

A combination of the cognitive and the affective in education and a focus upon the interpersonal conditions for facilitating significant learning, require changes in the preparation of teachers. Teacher education currently emphasizes subject matter and methods of cognitive learning. A basic question is "Is it possible to develop interpersonal qualities in teacher-education students?" It has been possible to do this in counselor education, so it should be possible in teacher education.

Such a program of preparation would require many capable facilitators of small-group processes. Task-oriented groups of staff members and students should be formed to consider the question "How can this school help the whole person learn?" These groups would not be limited to cognitive discussion, but would focus upon the whole person. The groups would consist of volunteers who were willing to become involved experientially as well as cognitively. They would meet together for three weeks of intensive group experiences, followed by weekly meetings, and a weekend session three months later.

Turbulence would be created among staff members, with innovators and traditionalists opposing each other. But no one would be discharged or punished for dissent. A probable outcome would be a "free university" type of teacher-training institution, "in which the students would form their own curricula, participate in the facilitation of learning, and find other means of evaluation than grades. And what would this student do as a new teacher in his own classroom? Most importantly he would simply be the attitudes I have already described, and because of this fact new participatory methods would emerge ." (39)

Implications for Administration

The approach to education described above has implications for the administration of a school or educational system. Administration would follow what D. M. McGregor calls Theory Y, rather than what he calls Theory X, or the traditional or conventional view of administration . (40)

In the conventional management pattern, a school administrator . . . sees his task as that of harnessing the energy of faculty and students so that the goals and requirements of the educational system will be met. In the first place he sees himself as responsible for organizing the available money, equipment, and people in such a way as to achieve the educational goal which he has in view. This means that he must motivate and direct his faculty, and through them the students. It means that one of his main functions is to control the actions and to modify the behavior of all members of the school in such a way that the educational goal will be achieved. Central to his policies is the view that both faculty and students would be, if left to their own devices, apathetic to, or resistant to, the educational goal. Consequently, they must be rewarded, punished, persuaded--through use of both the carrot and the stick--so that they work toward the goal which the administrator, or his board of trustees, or the state, has defined as "being educated." (41)

The administrator may be "hard" or "soft" (using aversive control or positive reinforcement), but in either case directs, controls, manages, and manipulates his or her subordinates, who are considered as apathetic, not willing or able to take responsibility, and needing to be guided and led.

This approach to administration has been questioned by research and experience in the behavioral sciences and industry. McGregor's theory Y exemplifies the newer approach.

This approach rests upon the view of human nature which underlies the approach to education described above.

In terms of this theory the educational administration is responsible for organizing the resources of the institution--the teachers, the students, the funds, the equipment and materials in such a way that all of the persons involved can work together toward defining and achieving their own educational goals. The mainspring of the organization is the motivation for development and learning which is inherent in each person. The task of the administrator is to so arrange the organizational conditions and methods of operation that people can best achieve their own goals by also furthering the jointly defined goals of the institution. (42)

The administration attempts to facilitate the ability of teachers and students to develop and use their potentials, though removing obstacles (such as red tape) and creating a climate of valuing, prizing, and trusting. Everyone participates in the organizational process, sharing initiative, responsibility, and authority. In-service training would be used to develop facilitative leaders--persons who could listen, accept, understand, clarify, and communicate--who could help individuals and groups grow and develop.

A PLAN FOR SELF-DIRECTED CHANGES IN AN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

The goal of and approach to classroom education developed by Rogers would require not only changes in teachers, administrators, and their preparation, but in the entire educational system, including parents. "A way must be found to develop a climate in the *system* in which the focus is not upon teaching, but on the facilitation of self-directed learning." (43)

The intensive group experience is such a way. As it can be used to change teacher education, so it can be used to change the educational system. The intensive group or "workshop" provides an unstructured situation in which participants have freedom for expression and exploration of personal feelings and for interpersonal exploration in a safe, nonthreatening atmosphere, promoted by the facilitator. The group experience is conducted intensively for periods of three days to two or three weeks. The objective is to bring about change in the organizational climate and structure in which the members work. Such groups have been successfully used since 1947 with industry and government executives and administrators, with professional groups, and more recently educational groups, including administrators, teachers, and student-teacher groups, student groups, dropouts, predelinquents and delinquents, and others. But few attempts have been made to use the intensive group experience to change a total educational system. Educators who have participated in the group experiences away from the school have returned to the same system, where their new attitudes and open behaviors have not been welcomed.

The first step in implementing a plan for change through the group experience in an educational system would of course be a commitment by the chief administrator and one or two of his or her associates or school board members. Then a group experience could be offered on a voluntary basis to board members and administrators, away from the locality, when school was not in session. Experienced facilitators from outside would be employed. Costs might be subsidized by an outside agency or foundation, though participants would pay part of the cost as evidence of their commitment. Small group experiences would be supplemented by presentations to the total group in general meetings.

Interpersonal feelings and relationships would be explored; the participants would get to know each other as they had never done in years of working together. Concealed negative feelings and antagonisms which had prevented real cooperation and progress would come to the surface and be resolved with increased understanding and acceptance. With trust and openness, ideas, ideals, and proposals would be expressed. The way would be open to plan organizational and system change. The chief administrator would be more open to innovative ideas; more person-oriented and acceptant of others; more democratic and able to utilize the potentials of staff members; more able to communicate clearly and realistically with superiors, peers, subordinates, and the board.

It is likely that the decision would be made to go ahead with planning for change, and to involve others in the system. This could include an intensive group experience for the teachers who wished it. Those who participated would be more open and able to listen to students, more sensitive to and accepting of students' feelings and creative ideas, and able to develop better relationships with them. They would become more humanistic teachers. Innovations developed from the group experience are more likely to be implemented than those coming from outside--they are self-chosen and are likely to be supported by their superiors who have had the group experience.

Students could be involved in a group experience with their teachers--not away from the school, probably, but with trained facilitators. Not all students in a large system could be involved, but those who were would be freer to express their feelings in class, would work with other students and teachers in cooperative ways, would take responsibility for their own learning, and would learn more because they would have greater motivation and more energy to devote to learning.

A school system which goes this far will arouse attention and interest in the community. Parents will want to be involved, and should be. A group experience might be offered to PTA officers and chairmen, or to parents of children involved in a group experience, in the form of a weekend session, 24-hour marathon, or weekly 3-hour evening sessions.

Finally, in addition to the group experiences for peers or near-peers, vertical groups could be attempted. On invitation, two each of school board members, administrators, parents, teachers, highly achieving students, failing students, and dropouts could form a group. Such a diverse group might have some difficulty getting started, and a theme such as "What I like and don't like about our schools and what I would like them to be" might be

suggested. Such groups can develop greater understanding among the various members and be the source of great change in individuals. In Rogers' words, "It scarcely has to be added that even a very few such vertical groups would drastically change the climate and flavor of any educational system." (44)

The holding of workshops before the academic year and each month during that year, each involving from one to ten small groups, would involve hundreds of people in the system and assure lasting effects. But a plan for continuing change should be built into the system. Opportunity for members of the system, selected on the basis of attitudes (nondefensiveness, realness, and genuineness in interpersonal relationships, awareness of and ability to express feelings, empathy with others, caring and concern for others) manifested in the group experience, should be given the opportunity for summer training as group facilitators. During the following year these people would serve as cofacilitators of groups with outside facilitators, and when ready, would themselves become facilitators, with outside facilitators serving as consultants. The system then would have its own facilitators for continuing the process, involving more members of the system.

The nature of these groups must be emphasized, since there is a negative reaction to encounter groups, by many who fear they will be forced to reveal themselves and will be attacked and criticized by others. It is true that there are some groups where this does happen, and group leaders who force or encourage such behaviors. But the groups discussed here are not of that type; they are built upon the facilitative conditions for learning which have been discussed earlier. (45) All participation would be voluntary.

The resulting process of change might not be smooth; constructive turbulence occurs in the process of significant or rapid change. Elements of the community might be threatened and resist any change of the traditional method of education; such persons would not be likely to become involved in the intensive group experience, and thus could not be reached or changed. Yet if change is to occur, it must be attempted, even though it is difficult and will be opposed by some. The process would be subjected to evaluation and assessment by those in the system and by outside professional observers and evaluators. More rigorous research programs could also be developed.

Self-Directed Educational Change in Action

The plan summarized above was tried in two school systems, one private and one public.

A private school system. The private system consisted of Immaculate Heart College (which included teacher education), 8 high schools, and 50 elementary schools in Los Angeles. Financial support was provided by private foundations and individuals,

The top administrators and many other leaders were enthusiastic about the plan. Forty-five administrators and College faculty members and thirty-six administrators and faculty from three high schools met for two weekends in encounter sessions in small groups. One-hundred-and-eighty teachers and administrators from twenty-two elementary schools met in small groups for two weekends over a period of time. Forty student

leaders from a high school met in three groups for one weekend, and for a second weekend a month later with faculty, who at first were reluctant to meet in small groups with students. Groups were facilitated by members of the staff of the Center for the Study of the Person; staff members also met with faculty on innovation in education and later on the encounter group program, discussing questions and criticisms. Staff members also participated in an assembly with the college students, which was also attended by a number of faculty members. Later, the administrative council of the college was helped to plan task-oriented groups. Workshops for teachers and principals of the elementary schools were held, some of which were disappointing and some highly successful.

Although there was some criticism of some of the facilitators and groups (too "pushy," too personal), the reactions of the faculty were generally positive, with faculty who were not involved in the first groups attending later groups. Interest in encounter groups for faculty and students within departments developed. Communication and relationships among faculty improved, and faculty meetings improved. After the first series of groups, others were conducted at the request of groups in the system. Faculty members instituted changes in their classroom teaching and relationships with students. The atmosphere of the schools changed.

Over the three-year period of the program other changes occurred. The administrative structure was changed to involve more participation, more student participation in both class and out-of-class functions was encouraged, with more faculty-student interaction and cooperation. After the experimental period ended, changes continued. Teacher education methods were changed to include more contact of the students with schools and classrooms. Several people from the system obtained training as facilitators so encounter groups could continue.

Project transition. In 1970 a similar program was initiated in the Louisville, Kentucky school system, with support from the U.S. Office of Education (which had declined to support the earlier program). Almost 60 percent of the more than 60,000 children in the district were black; over one-third were below poverty level or receiving welfare. Most of the poor and the black were in inner-city schools. The district had the highest number of underachievers, the highest dropout rate, the most delinquency, the highest student and teacher turnover, the highest unemployment, and the highest segregation in housing of any district in Kentucky. The project was supported by the three white and two black members of the school board and by the new superintendent (who had had encounter group experience).

There were three components of the project. One was an organizational development program throughout the system involving a series of weekend encounter groups (on paid time) for administrators, teachers, trustees, and some parents. The encounter groups for administrators were followed by communication laboratories and human potential seminars, and training sessions for administrators in group dynamics, conflict management, team building and interpersonal skills. Over 1,600 school personnel were involved over a six-month period. The objective was to improve communication and participation in policy and program decisions in the system. The second component

involved the teaching staff in proposing and developing programs directed at reaching the student population through more humanistic teaching, through more relevant curriculums, through differentiated staffing patterns, and through more flexible educational structuring. Team teaching, teacher corp interns, and parent volunteers were involved. The third component consisted of the decentralization of administration, with the development of neighborhood school boards which became involved in the development of school philosophy, curriculum selection, teacher selection, and teacher evaluation.

The project led to much ferment and turmoil, at the upper administration level and in individual schools. But positive results occurred, including greater interest of parents and students, with resulting lowering of dropouts and gains in student academic achievement. The continuing or long-term effects of the project have been lost or obscured by the turmoil following a court order for desegregation in the Louisville schools, which includes merging of the Louisville city schools with suburban schools in Jefferson County.

Summary

The necessity of adapting to a world characterized by rapid change and by tensions between groups and nations poses a crisis in education. The goal of education must be the development of persons who can adapt and change, who know how to learn. Such a person is the fully functioning person described earlier. Education must go beyond concern with knowledge and cognitive development; it must include the whole person and must promote affective development, personal growth, and creativity. The focus must be upon significant learning, which is personally meaningful learning rather than meaningless learning like the enforced acquisition and memorization of information and facts. Traditional learning has involved the latter, which has been the focus of research in learning and instruction. To promote the second kind of learning is the focus of, what is designated by many as humanistic education and requires a revolution in education. It does not reject cognitive learning, but combines it with the affective, recognizing that they cannot be separated.

Learning--significant learning--is a natural characteristic of the organism in its inherent tendency to maintain and enhance itself, to develop and utilize its potentialities. Such learning occurs when the subject matter is perceived as being relevant to this basic motivating tendency. But change, particularly change in the self-organization, is threatening, and tends to be resisted. However, such learning is more likely to occur when external pressures or threat are at a minimum when the environment is accepting, understanding, and supportive. When threat to the self or self-concept is minimized, learning is promoted, since experiences can be accurately perceived in a differentiated manner and can be explored, analyzed, taken apart, and reintegrated in a meaningful manner.

Learning is facilitated by the student's experiential involvement with practical and real (relevant) problems, with the student participating actively and responsibly in the

learning process. This is self-initiated learning, involving the whole person of the learner. Self-initiated learning, together with self-evaluation and self-criticism, leads to independence, self-reliance, and creativity, and to learning how to learn.

If significant learning is self-initiated, self-discovered, self-appropriated, and personally meaningful, questions arise about the nature and usefulness of teaching. Teaching, says Rogers, is vastly overrated; little if anything of a consequential nature can be taught. Rather than being an instructor, the teacher's function is to facilitate learning. The teacher does this by providing the conditions under which significant learning occurs. There are three major conditions which do this: realness, congruence, or genuineness in the teacher; a prizing, acceptance, and trust of the student; and an empathic understanding of the student.

If these conditions are to be effective, they must be communicated to and perceived by the student. The student must also be in a state of readiness to learn, which involves motivation. Unless something has happened to inhibit or destroy the student's natural drive toward the maintenance and enhancement of the self, motivation is present and is aroused in response to a situation presenting a real problem, something that is perceived by the student as relevant to his or her development. The presence of the facilitative conditions minimizes the threat which may exist in any new problem situation, allowing the motivation to learn to function.

These facilitative conditions are attitudes of the teacher rather than techniques or methods as such, divorced from the person of the teacher. They are, however, manifested in and communicated to the student in behaviors. Behaviors which implement the conditions include openness and honesty and admission of lack of knowledge and of mistakes. They include showing respect for students by listening to them to understand how they feel and how they see things, and by responding to communicate this understanding. Teaching becomes a personal relationship, a spontaneous personal encounter which frees the student to learn.

The teacher contributes to the student's freedom to learn by recognizing and centering education upon problems that are real to students. The teacher also provides as many resources as possible, including his or her own knowledge. Programmed instruction, small group methods, inquiry learning, and simulation may be used. The teacher allows students to select their own objectives and set their own levels of achievement, which may involve the use of contracts.

Evaluation of significant learning poses a problem in our present educational settings. Personal learning is difficult if not impossible to evaluate by external criteria of the kind usually available. If the individual sets her or his own goals and criteria, self-evaluation is the most appropriate form of evaluation. Beyond this there is evaluation in terms of the requirements of life situations, some of which can be provided by educators as part of the resources made available to students. In addition to the facilitation of cognitive learning, there are other outcomes of this approach to teaching and learning. Students enjoy learning, and motivation is not a problem. Students take responsibility for their learning.

They work harder and longer at their self-imposed tasks. They work together; there is cooperation rather than competition, sharing rather than hoarding of information. Students develop positive self-regard and positive self-concepts; they have confidence in their ability to learn. They develop positive regard and respect for others and the contributions of others. Creativity is manifested in the learning process. Students grow as persons. In short, they become more fully functioning persons.

This approach to education has implications for teacher education and for administration. Teachers must be prepared to function as facilitators of learning, and administrators must accept this approach to teaching and support it. Further, the educational system (and with it the community) must undergo changes, so that a climate for self-directed learning exists. The intensive small-group experience is a method for system change which has now been used in enough situations to warrant its introduction into any system where there is a desire to change on the part of top administrators and school boards.

EVALUATION

Origin and Development

The approach to education presented by Rogers is derived from his experience and research in counseling or psychotherapy, mainly with young adult and older clients. This experience and research has led to the recognition, definition, and measurement of the basic or essential conditions for positive personality or behavior changes. These conditions are certain characteristics of personal or interpersonal relationships.

If these conditions lead to changes in personality and behavior in psychologically or emotionally disturbed persons in counseling or psychotherapy, then the question presents itself, would they not also lead to changes in so-called "normal" persons, including children in educational settings? The relevance of this question is increased by the evidence of research that the kinds of clients, problems, and personality characteristics and behaviors which are affected by the conditions have been shown to be very extensive in kind or variety. Not only do the conditions lead to emotional or affective changes, but to cognitive or intellectual changes. Truax and Carkhuff summarize this as follows:

The person (whether a counselor, therapist or teacher) who is better able to communicate warmth, genuineness and accurate empathy is more effective in interpersonal relationships no matter what the goal of the interaction (better grades for college students, better interpersonal relations for the counseling center out-patients, adequate personality functioning and integration for the seriously disturbed mental patient, socially acceptable behavior for the juvenile delinquent, or greater reading ability for the third grade reading instruction student. (46)

The evidence for cognitive changes in children following classes taught by teachers who are empathic, respecting, and real in their relationships with students will be presented later. Here it can be stated that the concern of those who fear that such an approach to

education will neglect cognitive development is unfounded. Attention to and concern with the student as a person, a feeling person, fosters intellectual development as well as affective development.

The recognition of the importance of the personal relationship in learning is, of course, not a discovery unique with Rogers. Not only have the great and good teachers of all times manifested this in their teaching; it has been recognized by educators beginning at least with the early Greeks and continuing through Erasmus, Comenius, Locke, Rousseau, Pestalozzi, Froebel, and Montessori. (47) As Rogers notes, his experience was a rediscovery of effective principles which have been discovered over and over by competent teachers, and of principles which have been stated by others, including Dewey and Kilpatrick. (48) That experience in a different area, that is, counseling or psychotherapy, has led to the discovery of the same principles and is corroboration of their significance, makes it irrelevant and unjustified to criticize Rogers because he "has not thought it necessary to be a student of education before advocating a revolution " (49) and to belittle his contribution because Rousseau and Dewey wrote about meaningful learning.

Rogers and Humanistic Education

Rogers identifies himself with the movement known as humanistic psychology, being one of the founders of the American Association for Humanistic Psychology. Yet he does not use the term humanistic to designate his approach to education. In fact, he has no specific designation for it. Perhaps he is reluctant to use a label, remembering the difficulties and even misunderstandings associated with the terms *nondirective counseling* and *client-centered therapy* which he used successively (1942 and 1951) to designate his approach to counseling or psychotherapy-

Yet the term *humanistic education* is being widely used to refer to a concept or philosophy of education which is essentially that developed by Rogers. Unfortunately, however, many if not most of those who have written about humanistic education are unfamiliar with his work. Their writings lack an explicitly developed philosophical and psychological foundation and are thus unsystematic and fragmentary. Most of the attention and concern is devoted to techniques, rather than to principles and attitudes. Rogers' work provides the systematic foundation upon which humanistic education must be based. (50)

There are, however, some aspects of humanistic education which Rogers does not develop. Humanistic education may be conceived of as including two major aspects: (1) the general psychological conditions for all learning, and (2) affective education, or concern with the affective development of the student as well as the student's cognitive development. Rogers has focused upon the first. The general psychological conditions do apply to affective development as well as cognitive development; there are, however, additional aspects of affective development or affective education.

In providing the conditions of empathic understanding, acceptance, prizing or respect, and realness or genuineness, the teacher is fostering affective learning, or changes in personality, attitudes, and values. The teacher is doing this by example, or, to use the technical term, by modeling. Students who are exposed to a teacher who manifests these characteristics develop them in themselves or in their relations with others. Modeling is a highly effective method for teaching complex behaviors. Children learn from what the teacher does more than from what the teacher says. If the teacher is not the kind of person he or she is trying to teach students to be, he or she cannot successfully teach this, even though students may be told, "Do as I say, not as I do." This is a very important principle, since no matter how much the schools may claim that they do not teach attitudes and values, they cannot avoid doing so. It therefore is necessary that we be aware of what attitudes and values are actually being taught and decide if they are those that we want to teach or think should be taught.

Although indirect teaching through modeling is a powerful method and usually supersedes what is taught directly if there is inconsistency, direct or didactic teaching contributes to the efficiency of instruction. It helps to be able to put into words, in the form of principles, what is being modeled. The affective aspects of development, or humanization or human relations, can be taught in part through instruction. This can be done through the standard curriculum. (51) The course of study referred to earlier in the section on Bruner, called "Man: A Course of Study," is a deliberate attempt to do this.

Recently there have been many attempts to develop specific methods or curriculums in affective education. These approaches can be subject to a number of criticisms. One is that they are often forced into a standard curriculum format, complete with lesson plans and teacher manuals. They thus become subject-matter-oriented rather than person-oriented. Related to this is another difficulty: The structuring of affective experiences may become a matter of techniques, with neglect of the attitudes, which are basic. Simulations, games, exercises, and such can be useful, but they can also lead to unnatural, controlled, contrived experiences, rather than natural, spontaneous, real experiences. The development of commercial materials and expensive kits can foster this unnatural, technique-oriented approach. The emphasis upon structured, teacher-controlled techniques with predetermined specific objectives is inconsistent with the goals of affective education, which include spontaneity, student-initiated activity, open, free discussion and interaction in a natural setting, and self-directed exploration and learning. Even the current emphasis on social or interpersonal skills can result in neglect of the attitudes of respect, acceptance, and a desire to understand others, which are basic to good interpersonal relationships.

In addition to modeling and didactic instruction, there is a third approach to affective education. This is the experiential approach. Experiential learning is particularly relevant in affective education, which involves human or interpersonal relations. We learn to live with others most effectively by living with others. It is here that the basic encounter-group approach developed by Rogers is relevant. Not only is it useful educating teachers and changing educational systems; it is perhaps the most important and effective approach to educating children in interpersonal relations. Small-group experiences should

be a continuing part of the educational experience. Actual experience in groups seems so clearly superior to any other method of learning in human relations that it is difficult to understand why it has not been widely used in human relations education in the school. It has been widely used outside the school with adults.

A student sitting in a classroom with 30 other students, being psychologically alone, not really knowing the other students, not interacting with or relating to them, while listening to a teacher talk about "mental hygiene" or "human relations," is not undergoing a real learning experience. Nor is being in a classroom and going through a structured series of games or exercises the most effective way of learning to relate to others. In a small encounter group of six to ten students with a trained facilitator, without assigned subject matter or an agenda other than to talk about themselves or whatever is of concern to them, students can learn through experience to:

listen to others

accept and respect others understand others

identify and become aware of their feelings

express their feelings

explore their feelings

become aware of the feelings of others

experience being accepted and understood by others

develop greater awareness of themselves

recognize basic commonalities in human experience

change themselves in the direction of being more the selves they want to be

help others accept themselves

help others understand themselves and each other.

In such groups, learning occurs without the input of external content, in a natural setting, through experience. The teacher, while an expert in interpersonal relations, is a facilitator, teaching through modeling rather than didactically through providing content or subject matter. A cognitive understanding of the group experiences can be developed through analysis in discussion of the experience and through didactic teaching of the principles of human relations, as suggested earlier.

Research Support

There is now extensive research support for the effectiveness of the three conditions for facilitating positive personality change in individual and group counseling or psychotherapy. Support for the effectiveness of the conditions in classroom teaching is accumulating.

An early study of Emmerling (52) indicates that teachers who differ in their orientation toward teaching and students are perceived differently by students. One group of high school teachers saw the problems of teaching as helping children think for themselves and be independent, getting students to participate, learning new ways of helping students develop their maximum potential, and helping students express individual needs and

interests. A second group, on the other hand, saw the urgent problems as trying to teach children who don't even have the ability to follow directions, teaching children who lack a desire to learn or who are not able to do the work required for their grade, and getting children to listen. Students saw teachers in the first groups as more real, more acceptant, more empathic than they saw teachers in the second group.

In a study by Bills, (53) four teachers rated adequate and effective by their superiors and four rated inadequate were compared. The more adequate teachers were rated by their students as more real, more empathic, and as having a higher level of regard for their students than the teachers rated as inadequate.

These two studies used the Barrett-Lennard Relationship Inventory, first developed to measure clients' perception of empathy, level of positive regard, unconditional positive regard, and genuineness in their counselors or therapists, and then adapted to measure students' perceptions of these attitudes or conditions in teachers. In a study by Lewis, Lovell, and Jesse (54) an adaptation of another instrument which had been developed for use with clients was used (Teacher-Pupil Relationship Inventory). Sixth-grade students of teachers who were rated high (by students) showed significantly greater gains over the school year on the Iowa Tests of Educational Development than did the students of teachers rated low. For a group of ninth-grade students the difference in gains was greater for the students of high-rated teachers, but not significantly so, but the teachers (English teachers) had the students in only one class, while the sixth-grade teachers had the same students for the entire day.

A study by Macdonald and Zaret (55) analyzed recorded interactions of nine teachers and their students. The behaviors of teachers which were classified as "open"--clarifying, stimulating, accepting, facilitating--were followed by student responses which were classified as "productive"--discovering, exploring, experimenting, synthesizing. But when teacher behaviors were "closed"--judging, directing, reproving, ignoring, probing--student behaviors were "reproductive"--parroting, guessing, acquiescing, reproducing facts, remembering.

A number of studies have involved the use of rating scales of the teachers' empathic understanding, respect or positive regard, and genuineness or congruence. Aspy (56) used the Carkhuff scales of these attitudes or conditions to rate tape recordings of teachers' interactions with third-grade students in reading instruction groups. Ratings were obtained for two one-week periods, two months apart. The students of teachers of three classes who were rated high on these scales showed a significantly greater gain on the Stanford Reading Achievement Test than the students of teachers of three classes who rated low on these conditions. In a further study, Aspy and Hadlock (57) found that third to fifth-grade students taught by teachers rated high in genuineness, respect, and empathy showed a reading gain of 2.5 years during a five month period, compared to a gain of 0.7 years by students of teachers rated low on the conditions. Carkhuff and Berenson, reviewing these and other studies state:

When we look at the data, we find that high-level functioning teachers elicit as much as two-and-one-half years of intellectual or achievement growth in the course of a school year, while teachers at low levels of facilitative conditions may allow only six months of intellectual growth over the course of a year: students may be facilitated or they may be retarded in their intellectual as well as emotional growth, and these changes can be accounted for by the level of the teacher's functioning on the facilitative dimensions and independent of his knowledgeability. (58)

Summary

Rogers has extrapolated from his experience and research in counseling or psychotherapy and proposed an approach to education which focuses on teaching as a facilitative interpersonal relationship, in which the facilitator is characterized by three basic attitudes or conditions: empathic understanding; respect, positive regard, prizing, or trust; and realness, genuineness, or congruence. In doing so he has provided a systematic psychological foundation for what is becoming known as humanistic education.

Humanistic education does not neglect or minimize cognitive or intellectual development. The facilitative conditions promote such development, as well as fostering affective or emotional growth, which is considered an important aspect of education. Affective development centers upon interpersonal relationships. Such development can be fostered through aspects of the regular curriculum, through didactic teaching of human relations, and especially through experiential learning in basic encounter groups.

Research studies have supported the effectiveness of the facilitative conditions in counseling or psychotherapy. Similar research is now accumulating to support their effectiveness in classroom teaching.

Education of the future is described by Rogers as follows:

Education will not be a *preparation* for living. It will be, in itself, an experience in living. Feelings of inadequacy, hatred, a desire for power, feelings of love and awe and respect, feelings of fear, dread, unhappiness with parents or with other children--all these will be an open part of [the student's] curriculum, as worthy of exploration as history or mathematics. In fact this openness to feelings will enable him to learn content materials more readily. His will be an education in becoming a whole being, and the learning will involve him deeply, openly, exploringly, in an awareness of his relationships to the world of others, as well as an awareness of the world of abstract knowledge. (59)

SUMMARY

Carl R. Rogers, who has devoted his lifetime to practice and research in counseling or psychotherapy, has developed an approach to education derived from this experience and research. This approach is based upon a positive conception of the nature of man. Human beings, as they are experienced in Rogers' client-centered therapy, are basically rational,

socialized, forward-moving, and realistic. They are active and proactive, in addition to being reactive to stimuli in their environments. They are basically cooperative, constructive, and trustworthy. Antisocial emotions--jealousy, hostility, competitiveness--do exist but they are defensive reactions to threat and the frustration of more basic impulses for love, belonging, and security.

These positive capacities and tendencies are aspects of the single basic motivation toward the actualization of the individual's potentials, or toward self-actualization. The drive toward self-actualization is not simply an unfolding from the inside, automatic and without regard to the environment. Rather it requires certain conditions if it is to manifest itself and lead to the development of a self-actualizing or fully functioning person. These conditions are certain basic attitudes manifested by other human beings in their relationships with the individual. Three major attitudes or conditions have been identified and defined, and scales for their measurement have been developed on the basis of experience and research in counseling or psychotherapy. They are empathic understanding; respect, trust, or positive regard; and genuineness, congruence, or realness.

Self-actualizing or fully functioning people have a number of characteristics which can be described, although they integrate in a unitary organization with the person: (1) These people are open to all their experiences, since they are free from defensiveness. (2) They live in an existential mode, experiencing each moment of life anew. They are flexible and adaptable, changing with new experiences over time. (3) Their organisms are trustworthy guides to satisfying behavior, since, being open to all their experiences, these people incorporate all relevant data in their behavior. If any data are missing, openness to corrective feedback leads to modification of behavior and toward greater satisfaction of the need for self-actualization.

If one is fully functioning, one's locus of evaluation is internal, rather than external, though one will of course be influenced by external factors. One's values are one's own, but are not necessarily idiosyncratic or unique, since one shares the basic motivation and need of the species. Among the common values (which contribute to the survival of the species as well as of the individual) are realness, sensitivity to and understanding of others, and acceptance of and respect for others--that is, the conditions for the development of self-actualizing persons.

There are a number of implications of the concept of the fully functioning person: (1) One who is fully functioning is a creative person, since creativeness is fostered by sensitive openness to experience. (2) Since one is free from defensiveness, one's basically good nature will manifest itself; one is constructive and trustworthy. (3) One is dependable, but not necessarily predictable, since one will respond to the unique pattern of internal and external stimuli at each moment. (4) One is free, and not determined. Though the freedom-determinism issue is complex, there is a sense in which fully functioning individuals choose and experience freedom even though their behavior is determined, since being open to all elements in the situation, they will behave in a way that will be satisfying and self-actualizing.

The goal of education is or should be the development of fully functioning or self-actualizing persons. Only such persons can survive and thus make possible the survival of the human race--in a rapidly changing world characterized by tensions among races, nations, and other groups. The fully functioning person is adaptable and has learned how to learn.

To educate toward a fully functioning person requires that education cease focusing on imparting facts, information, and knowledge, that it go beyond the objectives of development of the intellect or of thinking persons, to concern for the development of the affective, emotional, and interpersonal relationship qualities of individuals. The whole person must be educated.

Learning related to the development of the whole person is significant learning, learning which is personal and experiential and which makes a difference in the person. The individual doesn't have to be motivated toward significant learning--the motivation is inherent in the drive toward self-actualization. Significant learning occurs when the learner perceives the subject matter as relevant for his or her own purposes. Significant learning for those whose self-concepts are formed may require a change in the self-organization, and this may be threatening, but in such cases learning is facilitated when external threats to the self are at a minimum. Freedom from threat enables the learner to explore, to differentiate, to try out new ideas, to change. Significant learning is facilitated by experiential involvement with real problems. Initiation of the process and participation in it by the learner fosters significant learning. Self-evaluation rather than external criticism and evaluation fosters independence, creativity, and self-reliance. Significant learning, involving all these elements, is learning how to learn.

Significant learning involves the whole person and requires that we change our focus in education from cognition to a combination of the cognitive and the affective, and from teaching and the teacher to learning and the learner. The teacher becomes the facilitator of learning by providing the conditions for self-initiated, self-directed learning.

There are three major conditions for such learning. They are, of course, the three conditions which lead to positive personality change in counseling or therapy, and to the development of fully functioning persons--realness in the facilitator; prizing and acceptance of or trust in the learner, and empathic understanding. The contribution of Rogers is significant in that it goes beyond traditional psychological and educational theories of learning, which consider learning almost solely in terms of individual or intrapersonal determinants and impersonal environmental stimuli, to recognition of the social or interpersonal relationship of students with the teacher and with each other and the atmosphere or psychological climate of the school .

Learning also depends, of course, upon the learner. Motivation is a normal, natural characteristic of human beings if it has not been suppressed or destroyed by mistreatment. Stimulation by problem situations also occurs naturally in normal persons. Finally, the learner must perceive the facilitative conditions in the teacher, and here, also, individuals

who have not been mistreated, deceived, conned, or turned off will be open to and recognize these conditions.

The teacher may need some help in implementing the facilitative conditions, and some suggestions are made. The real teacher does not know everything and does not pretend to. He or she can admit mistakes. The teacher manifests prizing, acceptance, and trust by really listening to the student, without evaluating her or him, and by responding to what the student says--to the attitudes and feelings expressed as well as to the content. Listening also evidences the attempt to understand, and responding attempts to communicate understanding. Teaching becomes a real, spontaneous, personal encounter with students.

The teacher also facilitates learning by building upon real problems in the lives and culture of students, by providing many easily accessible resources (including his or her own knowledge), by developing contracts with students through which they can develop their own learning programs, by providing programmed instruction units, by small group sessions and discussions or projects, by inquiry learning, by simulation learning, and by encounter-group sessions.

Evaluation of learning in self-initiated, self-directed learning should be done by the learner. Criteria are necessary, however. These should be realistic, that is, they should reflect the requirements of life, as set by society and its institutions, and made available to students by teachers, counselors, or others in the school. Students can then evaluate themselves in terms of these criteria.

It should be obvious that this approach to education and learning has important implications for teacher education and for school administrators. To use this approach teachers would need preparation which focused upon the teaching relationship and the facilitation of encounter groups. Administrators adhering to what McGregor designates as theory Y than what he labels theory X would fit into such a system.

Educational systems as they now exist would have to change considerably if they were to incorporate this approach to education. A plan for self-directed change in a school system is outlined. With the initiative and support of a few top administrators and school board members, a program of intensive small-group experiences could lead to such change.

This approach to education could well provide the basis for an integrated system, bringing together the cognitive contributions of Piaget and Bruner, the conditioning methods of Skinner, and the humanistic ideas of Montessori and of others currently developing humanistic education. It recognizes the involvement of the whole person in education--that cognitive learning involves affective elements, and that emotional and affective development must be a concern of education.

Our educational system is obsolete. It is obsolete not only in curriculum but in methods. Methods of instruction ignore much of what we know about the conditions of learning. The application of conditioning methods through the use of programmed instruction is

not a sufficient answer. Our curriculum focuses on cognitive learning and ignores affective learning, which is nevertheless occurring in an unplanned, haphazard manner. In the world in which we live and will be living, we need persons who are not only mature intellectually but effectively, who can not only think but who can feel and relate to others.

A humanistic approach to education addresses these problems. It provides an understanding of the psychological conditions of learning, of cognitive and affective development leading to self-actualizing or fully functioning persons. The conditions are the attitudes of respecting, prizing, and trusting others; of realness, genuineness, or honesty in dealing with others; and of empathic understanding of others.

To change our educational system in this direction will require a real revolution in education, since not only the methods but the goals of education must be changed. It will not be easy; there is and will be opposition, from those who see the change as displacing or detracting from cognitive education and from those who believe that affective education is the province of other social institutions, of the family and the church. But these institutions are not performing this task, a task which must be performed if society is to survive. If the school does not perform it, some other institution must be developed to do so. It would be inefficient and ineffective to attempt to split the individual into cognitive and affective elements, each to be educated in a different institution. The individual is a whole, and his or her cognitive and affective development intermesh and must be developed together. The same psychological conditions are essential for cognitive and affective development.

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