Psychology and Natural Science

In *Listening with the Third Ear*, Theodore Reik makes an extended criticism (pp. 441-450) of Reich's *Character-Analysis* which requires refutation.

1) Reik quotes Reich as saying that his endeavor is "to establish a standpoint, both general and particular for each case, by which we may apply the data to the technical handling of the case according to natural law, and to know exactly in every interpretation what is its basis and what its purpose..." This is either a misquotation or an erroneous translation from the German. Nowhere does Reich write that he applies "a natural law" to each case. Quite the contrary, throughout *Character-Analysis* he repeatedly answers this erroneous interpretation. On p. 26 (Character-Analysis, 1949 ed.), he writes: "... We do not impute the schema, the rule, or the principle to the patient, but we view the patient without preconceived ideas and gain our orientation from his material, his behavior, from what he hides or misrepresents... The orientation can be gained only from material of the given patient." And on p. 113, he writes: "[These cases] will make citar the meaning of the contention which I have made for years: that for each and every case there is only one technique which has to be derived from its individual structure."

2) Reik criticizes character-analysis for being a "pre-arranged" and "fixed" march into the unconscious which banishes the free play of the analyst's intuition from the therapeutic process. We have already refuted the "pre-arranged" and "fixed" idea under 1). As for the banishing of the analyst's "intuitive" acts, Reich writes: "... As far as the finding of the resistances and the divining of their present meaning is concerned, there can, of course, be no hard and fast rules; it is largely a matter of intuition; this is where the non-teachable analytic art begins. The subtler and the more secret the resistances are, the more the patient deceives, the more reliable will the intuitive acts of the analyst have to be. In other words, the analyst must be free of inhibitions and must have a special gift in addition" (p. 28). But unlike Reik's kind of analysis which has no clear-cut criterion of health around which it is oriented, the character-analyst's intuition knows where it is going: it has to analyze the patient's resistances consistently and to dissolve his character armor so that infantile memories can come forth with an emotional aliveness and so that orgasmic potency can be established and the patient's energy household brought into order. Reik's analysis, on the other hand, is centered around the ideas, and not the emotions of the patient, which leads to a blind wandering in an entangled maze; Reik even celebrates this wandering as the only genuine analytic procedure and goes so far as to say that so long as there is "inner truthfulness... it is of small importance whether our choice of material is from memory or from the sphere of the actual, or whether we are concerned with the interpretation of meaning or of resistances."

3) Reik writes that Reich promises "a smooth, easy and elegant descent into the netherworld." This is an incredible distortion. Reich writes repeatedly that character-analysis puts far more of a strain on both the patient and the analyst than does an analysis which does not deal with the patient's total character. Regarding the patient, Reich writes: "Character-analytic destruction of the characterological compensation creates a condition which equals a breakdown of the personality... Character-analysis creates in every case violent emotional outbursts and often dangerous situations..." (p. 77). Regarding the analyst Reich writes that the avoidance of a consistent resistance therapy by the analyst is due not to his distrust of "a smooth, easy and elegant" technique, as Reik would have it, but to his "fear of strong and stormy transference situations... Hence the tendency to circumvent the resistance instead of bringing it to full development" (pp. 78-79).

4) In discussing Reich's emphasis on analyzing the formal element, i.e., not just what the patient says, but how he says it, his whole mode of deportment, Reich writes that this is "nothing new." "Where," he asks, "shall we find an analyst who has not ascribed full importance to the deportment of a patient?" But Reich does not claim to have discovered the formal element any more than he claims to have discovered the negative transference. What he does maintain is that while these factors were known theoretically, clear-cut experiences in technical seminars showed again and again that they were almost completely overlooked in the actual practical work. Furthermore, while the introduction of the formal element was not peculiar to character-analysis, the therapeutic dissolution of the
character armor and the establishment of orgasmic potency as the goal of therapy were. Reik does not discuss at all these two cardinal facts, but instead inveighs against a kind of character-analysis that does not exist.

These questions of analytic technique which created such an upheaval within the psychoanalytic movement twenty years ago have far more than merely technical interest. On them hang the most decisive issues not only in psychiatry, but in sociology and natural science. For it was Reich's energetically oriented therapy and no other kind of analysis which opened up the bio-energetic depths of the organism; these bio-energetic depths revealed, on the one hand, the muscular armor and the extent of human pleasure-anxiety, and, on the other, the life-formula (tension-charge-discharge-release) and a new, hitherto unstudied kind of healthy biological functioning. The emotional storms first observed in character-analysis led eventually to the discovery of the organismic orgone energy, the core of emotional life. From there, the road led in physics to the discovery of the same energy (cosmic orgone energy) functioning outside the human organism, and, in psychiatry and medicine to an understanding of the biopathies in general and the cancer and schizophrenic biopathies in particular. When one surveys these fruits derived from the consistent plumbing of human character, Reik's criticisms of character-analysis appear not only grossly inaccurate, but far removed from basic scientific issues.

Whereas Reik, as a representative of psychology, moves away farther and farther from natural law in man, Reich as a representative of the natural-scientific principle in psychology, succeeded in integrating psychology with the natural-scientific, i.e., energegetic principle of natural functioning generally. Whereas Reik's psychology leads man farther and farther from his roots in the universe, Reich has brought man home again to his origin in the cosmic orgone ocean.

It was the true natural scientist, Sigmund Freud, who introduced the principle of energy into psychology, thus for the first time breaking the deadlock which stymied the integration of psychology within natural science. But this was only a beginning. What Freud postulated as the energetic core of psychic functioning, i.e., sexual energy, was discovered to be a true physical energy within and without the living organism; finally, the living, and with it, the mind, can be understood as a part of nature.
Projeto Arte Org
Redescobrindo e reinterpretando W. Reich

Caro Leitor
Infelizmente, no que se refere a orgonomia, seguir os passos de Wilhelm Reich e de sua equipe de investigadores é uma questão bastante difícil, polêmica e contraditória, cheia de diferentes interpretações que mais confundem do que ajudam.
Por isto, nós decidimos trabalhar com o material bibliográfico presente nos microfilmes (Wilhelm Reich Collected Works Microfilms) em forma de PDF, disponibilizados por Eva Reich que já se encontra circulado pela internet, e que abarca o desenvolvimento da orgonomia de 1941 a 1957.

Dividimos este “material” de acordo com as revistas publicadas pelo instituto de orgonomia do qual o Reich era o diretor.
01- International Journal of Sex Economy and Orgone Research (1942-1945).
02- Orgone Energy Bulletin (1949-1953)
03- CORE Cosmic Orgone Engineering (1954-1956)

E logo dividimos estas revistas de acordo com seus artigos, apresentando-os de forma separada (em PDF), o que facilita a organizá-los por assunto ou temas.
Assim, cada qual pode seguir o rumo de suas leituras de acordo com os temas de seu interesse.
Todo o material estará disponível em inglês na nuvem e poderá ser acessado a partir de nossas páginas Web.

Sendo que nosso intuito aqui é simplesmente divulgar a orgonomia, e as questões que a ela se refere, de acordo com o próprio Reich e seus colaboradores diretos relativos e restritos ao tempo e momento do próprio Reich.
Quanto ao caminho e as postulações de cada um destes colaboradores depois da morte de Reich, já é uma questão que extrapola nossas possibilidades e nossos interesses. Sendo que aqui somente podemos ser responsáveis por nós mesmos e com muitas restrições.

Alguns destes artigos, de acordo com nossas possibilidades e interesse, já estamos traduzindo.
Não somos tradutores especializados e, portanto, pedimos a sua compreensão para possíveis erros que venham a encontrar.

Em nome da comunidade Arte Org.
Textos da área do funcionalismo orgonômico

Texts from the area of Orgonomic Functionalism.

International Journal of Sex Economy and Orgone Research

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01 Theodore P. Wofe. The Sex-Economic Concept of Psychosomatic Identity and Antithesis 1942
International Journal of Sex Economy and Orgone Research Volume 1 Number 1 1942
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02 Wilhelm Reich. Biophysical Functionalismo and Mechanistic Natural Science 1941
International Journal of Sex Economy and Orgone Research Volume 1 Number 2 1942
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03 Wilhelm Reich. Orgonotic Pulsation I 1944
International Journal of Sex Economy and Orgone Research Volume 3 Numbers 2 3 1944
Interval 1-54 Pag. 97-150

04 Wilhelm Reich. The Living Productive Power, Working Power of Karl Marx (1936) 1944
International Journal of Sex Economy and Orgone Research Volume 3 Numbers 2 3 1944
Interval 55-68 Pag. 151-164

05 R. H. Attkin. Mechanistic Thinking as the Original Sin 1947
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Interval 51-54 Pag. 95-101

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01 Wilhelm Reich Cosmic Energy and Ether 1949
Interval 3-11 Pag. 143-159

02 Notes Editorial. Basic Natural-Scientific Research 1949
Interval 24-24 Pag. 184-185
01 Wilhelm Reich The Developmental History of Orgonomic Functionalism A 1946
Wilhelm Reich-Orgonomic Functionalism - Vol I. I
Interval 6-20 Pag. 1-29

02 Wilhelm Reich The Biological Revolution from Homo Normalis to the Child of the Future 1950
Wilhelm Reich-Orgonomic Functionalism - Vol I. I
Interval 21-43 Pag. 30-74

03 Wilhelm Reich A Note on Sympathetic Understanding.
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Interval 43-47 Pag. 75-82

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Interval 47-55 Pag. 83-99

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Wilhelm Reich-Orgonomic Functionalism - Vol II. II
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Wilhelm Reich-Orgonomic Functionalism - Vol II. II
Interval 29-41 Pag. 50-74

11 Wilhelm Reich The Developmental History of Orgonomic Functionalism C 1947
Wilhelm Reich-Orgonomic Functionalism - Vol III. III
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13 Wilhelm Reich The Evasiveness of Homo Normalis 1947
Wilhelm Reich-Orgonomic Functionalism - Vol III. III
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McF 319 CORE. Vol. 7, No. 3-4, Dec. 1955
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