

# MECHANISTIC MEDICINE AND THE BIOPATHIES

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The concept of biopathy is new in medicine. It is Reich's term for all pathological conditions which are due to a disturbance in the functioning of the autonomic nervous system.<sup>1</sup> This disturbance is always an interference in the contraction-expansion impulses of the organism, caused by character rigidities and muscular tightnesses formed in early life.

A biopathic disturbance is never confined to just one part of the body's functioning but may make itself felt in one way so strongly that our attention is focused on that condition and a specific diagnosis made. For example, a person with severe gastric ulcer might have a mild anxiety tightness in the cardiac area, and neurotic character traits not deep-seated enough to stand out as the main biopathy. Another person with predominant mental symptoms of schizophrenia would have somatic disturbances also but less noticeable. The selection of the field of the strongest biopathy is not yet clear, but we know from Reich's discoveries that it may be any place in the psychosomatic sphere under the control of the autonomic nervous system.

Of course, there are many pathological conditions to which the body is subjected which have causes other than autonomic dysfunctioning. Infections, specific and non-specific, injuries to body structures as a result of trauma, etc., do interfere with natural pulsation, but only secondarily.

It would be interesting, if it were possible, to have figures on the prevalence and severity of the different biopathic symptoms. How startled the world would be to know the actual number of frigid

women, impotent men, the prevalence of chronic nervousness, mild and severe, the intestinal conditions from a slight constipation to a severe colitis, the small number of people who can sleep "like a baby," etc., etc. All of these, and many more, are biopathies and, unless they are studied from the sex-economic viewpoint, are not and cannot be understood. This accounts for the confused and ever changing treatments given them by orthodox medicine.

There are some biopathic disturbances which, due to their severity, lead from mere functional conditions to actual organic lesions. These find their way into vital statistics when death is the result. The psychoneurotic biopathies also reach the records when their increasing severity leads to a diagnosis of actual insanity. To understand what is going on in the field of human illness, biopathic and non-biopathic, one may use the records of the New York State Department of Health for the last twenty years, as an example.

*Deaths, chief causes, New York State, per 100,000 population*

Year	Pulm. Tuber. Pneumonia		Diphtheria			
	D.	%	D.	%		
1921	9,503	88.6	10,645	99.3	1,702	15.9
1925	9,162	78.9	13,571	116.8	1,001	8.6
1930	8,146	64.6	12,908	102.4	656	5.3
1935	6,847	52.4	11,018	84.4	102	0.8
1940	5,793	42.9	6,143	45.5	15	.01

First we examine the figures showing the progress in the fields of *Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Pneumonia, and Diphtheria*, the three most common non-biopathic causes of death. One must regard with admiration the splendid results of modern therapy in lowering the incidence of death

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Wilhelm Reich, *The carcinomatous shrinking biopathy*. *This Journal*, July 1942.

from these infections. The steady decline in the number of deaths, and of the death rate, makes comment unnecessary. Here is progress, definite and sure. Now, let us look at the corresponding figures for Cardiovascular Disease and Cancer.

	Cardiovascular		Cancer	
1921	36,594	341.4	11,163	104.1
1925	43,370	373.3	13,201	113.6
1930	48,487	384.5	15,144	121.8
1935	55,109	422.1	18,600	142.5
1940	64,987	481.3	21,384	158.4

Here, the figures are not so pleasant to examine. The two great killers in the field of biopathies, *Cancer* and *Cardiovascular diseases*, are steadily increasing, each year more alarmingly, in spite of the millions of dollars spent annually for all types of research directed at their cause and treatment. Nothing could demonstrate more clearly the fact that orthodox medicine is entirely out of touch with these conditions. The relation of sex-economic disturbances to cardiovascular diseases has been described many times by Reich and his co-workers. In going through character-analytic vegetotherapy, one of the outstanding experiences is the change from a condition of an anxiety-laden, tightened cardiac area to one which feels only vegetative freeness and relaxed functioning in the whole cardiovascular system. As to cancer, Reich's research and clinical experience leaves no room for doubt as to the biopathic nature of the scourge.

It might be interesting, at this point, to cite the figures on convictions for crimes, misdemeanors, etc., during the period of 1920-1940.

1920	40,691
1925	77,202
1930	175,530
1935	363,743
1940	1,155,986

*Crime* may be said to spring from one or both of two causes, i.e., disturbances in the individual character structure, and dis-

turbances in the social structure. These nourish each other, and no lasting progress in crime reduction is possible without attacking both.

Also on the increase is that other indication of a sorely disturbed society—*suicide*.

	Suicides	
1920	1,442	13.5
1925	1,664	14.3
1930	2,135	17.2
1935	2,180	16.7
1941	2,188	16.2

Whether stimulated by a social condition or not, suicide may be considered a type of biopathy, since only one with disturbed vegetative processes would be moved to actually take the step.

#### Insane in New York State

Year	Males	Females	Total	% per 100,000 Pop.
1920	19,515	21,265	40,780	390.0
1925	22,667	23,858	46,525	413.6
1930	28,674	27,737	56,411	444.0
1935	36,124	33,943	70,067	493.0
1941	45,870	43,393	89,263	664.2

It is difficult to study these figures dispassionately. In a generation, the number of insane has more than doubled. What is going to prevent its redoubling in another twenty years?

Here we have the most severe biopathy in the psychic field comparable to the strongest biopathy in the soma, i.e., cancer, and in both cases the figures show a tremendous increase.

Surely, a society which takes its natural, bubbling-with-life children, and causes so many to develop such severe disturbances, is sick. Since, without characterological and muscular tightnesses these conditions could not exist, the only hope for their prevention lies in the mass recognition of the child's right to an upbringing which would insure his ability to develop and function, making living a vital, pleasurable experience. This is the aim of sex-economy.

# **Projeto Arte Org**

## **Redescobrimo 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 microfimes (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 da Orgonomia Bifísica.

Texts from the area of Biphysical Orgonomy

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