

June 6, 1967

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Dear Arthur,

I am enclosing the draft copy of the answer to Hollister's editorial. You will note that I have made a number of small suggested changes in the text and please be at liberty to use any of these or not as you wish.

However, there are two important criticisms which I do have and which I would like to share specifically. On page two, the second paragraph makes a specific *ad hominem* reference to Dr. Hollister and this is unnecessary. I would suggest that it might be just as useful to say "but it is difficult for anyone to say that the sample sizes from which experienced clinical investigators..."

On page three in the third paragraph, the third sentence makes an allusion to the regulatory agencies, and this is not pertinent to the letter and would save some unnecessary embarrassment if it were deleted.

My only major criticism is on page six, where two more *ad hominem* references to Dr. Hollister are made. The first is at the end of the top paragraph and this sentence adds little to the text. The principal sentences that should seriously be deleted are those in the center of the main paragraph on page six beginning with "His criticism..." and ending with the phrase "...such claims to knowledge." This is much too strong and while it may satisfy our feeling today, will not be good in print tomorrow on long-term reflection.

Finally, to dilute the importance of clinical psychiatric training in the next sentence "Our viewpoint is that of the clinical psychiatrist or psychologist" is unfortunate and we can avoid another issue by simply changing part of the phrase to "Our viewpoint is that of the clinician - researcher."

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If the suggestions for page six are acceptable, then I am pleased to have my name added to the participants in this letter. If it is felt necessary to include the *ad hominem* statements, then I would request not to be included in the signatories.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this dialogue.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry

MF:kp

cc: Dr. Itil  
Dr. Hollister