

*F. letters*

May 23, 1966

Dr. Leo Alexander  
433 Marlborough Street  
Boston 15, Massachusetts

Dear Leo,

It was a pleasure to have you Chair the session in Atlantic City. I trust that I did not give you too much difficulty.

Your characterization of the denial personality as the "sweep things under the carpet" personality is a magnificent description. I am enclosing a review article in which we summarized some of our observations and the references are all cited. I am also taking the liberty of sending you a few of the personality papers which Bob Kahn and I produced when I was at Hillside. I am convinced, and this is more than eight years after we finished the studies, that the personality characteristics are as important a factor in the therapeutic response to convulsive therapy as the neurophysiological changes themselves. I am somewhat disappointed that very few people have undertaken such personality studies, and my disappointment is focussed also on myself for I believe that I was seduced into psychotropic drug studies much too early. There is still much valuable information in the convulsive therapy process, and, for example, the little study done by Blachly and demonstrated at the meeting shows much merit.

My best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry

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