

F. Keller
66

January 10, 1966

Dr. George S. Goldman, Director
Department of Psychiatry
College of Physicians & Surgeons of Columbia University
722 West 168th Street
New York, New York 10032

Dear Dr. Goldman:

In response to your letter concerning Dr. Richard B. Resnick, I am pleased to write this summary of my experiences with him.

My acquaintance with Dr. Resnick is as supervisor during his Residency Training Program at Hillside Hospital during 1958-1960, approximately. Dr. Resnick was a bright, interested, and enthusiastic resident physician. He accepted his responsibilities and related well both to patients and to the staff. He read avidly and was among the better informed of our resident group.

He took an active interest in the research programs of the Department of Experimental Psychiatry. At that time we had a number of double blind studies. He participated with enthusiasm and shared with us his guesses and his interest in the individual patients. He was among the residents who returned at the end of each study period to review his cases and demonstrated a special interest in the follow-up periods.

Subsequent to leaving Hillside he went to Montefiore Hospital where he was in the laboratories of Dr. Robert L. Kahn. On a number of occasions when I visited those laboratories I met Dick and found him to be well acquainted with the projects, and an active participant in them. I was told by Dr. Kahn that Dr. Perlin had given Dick responsibility for some of the patient populations in the Out-Patient Department and that he had discharged this responsibility well.

When I had the opportunity to establish these laboratories in Missouri, I thought highly enough of Dr. Resnick to invite him to join me in this research program. I regreted that he found that his personal commitments and interests were in New York and that he had no desire to leave.

January 10, 1966

I have considered him one of the better residents who have been in training with me during the past thirteen years. I would have no hesitation in recommending him for continued study at the Psychoanalytic Clinic. Your inquiry regarding his personality raises the single question which was an issue during his residency program. At that time, he was dissatisfied with the poorly structured training program at the Hillside Hospital and expressed his dissatisfactions to the staff at the appropriate meetings. In part, because of this dissatisfaction he spent considerable time in the research laboratories and also in the Out-Patient Department as these provided more direct supervision than the remaining programs at the Hospital. As I got to know him in his later years, I believe this attitude of protest was dissipated and I would doubt that the criticism which was then expressed would still be expressed today.

I would recommend Dr. Resnick heartily to the Psychoanalytic Clinic for continued training.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

MF:kp