

## ***Psychoanalyst Overview***

The central issue in this game—whether it be voiced in the selection of experiments to be run via the grants committee or in the classification of mental illness in the nomenclature committee—is the the nature of the scientific investigation of the human mind. For the psychoanalysts, as opposed to the behaviorists, the science of the mind is not about predicting and controlling behavior. It is about discovering the true things about our minds. Thus, a treatment or theory is judged as 'good' or 'working' not if it changes the behavior of a person, but whether or not that person gains insight into their own mind.

When practicing a technique like free association or transference, a psychoanalyst does not seek to discover what a given symbol means *to everyone*, as a matter of a law-like generalization. Rather, a psychoanalyst seeks to discover what a given symbol means to *the person being analyzed*. It follows that a given discovery may not generalize over individuals. But that does not mean that that discovery is wrong or false. It stands to reason, then, that the truths of psychoanalysis are fundamentally individualistic, and as a result, one does not have the ground to criticize psychoanalysis until one has experienced psychoanalysis first hand.

The central task for this game will be to create a coherent notion of 'mental illness' or 'mental disorder' — homosexuality is only the tip of the iceberg. When the game reaches that point, all psychoanalysts must work together to preserve a psychoanalytic understanding of mental order and mental disorder in terms of the dynamic hypothesis (see the game book for a definition). The proposed definition should be something like:

A person is mentally ill when he or she suffers from internal conflicts that may be subconscious or unconscious, manifesting behavior that is unwanted or disturbing to the individual or the society.

## ***Robert Hopcke, MD***

### **Your Biography**

You are Robert Hopcke. Your character is actually a bit of a historical anachronism.

The other characters in this game are were actually around in the early 1970s, typically in their 40's and 50's at the time. You were not. In fact, your first book doesn't appear until 1989. That means that today, in 2011, you are active in psychoanalytic circles. Your autobiography is available online at <http://www.robhopcke.com/MyProfessionalExperience.en.html>. I'll quote the summary here:

I have two degrees in counseling: a Master of Arts in Theology, with a Pastoral Counseling emphasis, from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, which is the degree under which I received my Marriage and Family Therapist license in 1986, and a second Master of Arts in Clinical Counseling from California State University, Hayward (now Cal State East Bay). My background encompasses a number of different models and approaches. I am most known for being a Jungian-oriented therapist but also important to my professional identity has been formal training in pastoral counseling and spiritual direction, long-term object-relations psychodynamic treatment, cognitive-behavioral approaches to depression, health and sexuality concerns, and many years of being an "out" gay male therapist and activist in the Bay Area GLBT community. I am a best-selling author, public speaker, teacher, supervisor and professional consultant.

We've included you in the game to voice a gay-positive Jungian perspective. Jung, himself, was not very gay-friendly. And those who follow his theory strictly continued that tradition throughout the 1970's. Thus, in order to find a gay-positive Jungian, we have to break the historical accuracy of the game. As a matter of actual history, you didn't publish this perspective on Jungian psychology until the late 1980's, but that's not important here.

## Game Objectives

Working with your fellow psychiatrists (MD's), create a proposal to limit the treatment of the mentally ill to medical doctors. This should be presented in 1972. Expect a furious response from Albee, and maybe even Szasz. You may choose to work out a compromise with Albee via E. Hooker, who, like you, has multiple degrees.

Your role in this game is to represent the aspect of the Jungian psychoanalytic tradition that was friendly to homosexuals. Jung himself was not. Your primary work has been to reformulate a version of Jungian theory that is consistent with the new taxonomy of sexuality in the DSM. You should present that vision as a paper in 1975.

You should oppose any attempt to remove psychoanalytic language or categories from the DSM. At the same time, you should make sure that the Jungian perspective is protected in the manual.

**When, and if, the game reaches a point of trying to define mental illness**, you must pass a psychoanalytic interpretation of mental disorder / illness.

**Fission:** Split to the ApsaA

## Must Read

Hopcke, R. (1988) "Jung and Homosexuality: A Clearer Vision" *Journal of Analytical Psychology* 33, p. 65-80

Hopcke, R. (1989). *Jung, Jungians & Homosexuality*, Resource Publications

## Secondary Sources

Bostock, C. "Synchronicity: A conversation with Robert Hopcke" available at: [http://  
www.soulworks.net/writings/paradigms/site\\_047.html](http://www.soulworks.net/writings/paradigms/site_047.html)