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Book Review of Psychiatry, the Clergy, and Pastoral Counseling, editors, Dana L. Farnsworth, M.C. and Francis J. Braceland, M.D.

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which the mother reported, after the weeks of thought, that she could not think of one good thing about her daughter.

Lastly, I am concerned about what I see as a growing trend in the family movement toward separation not medicine. The medical model is deweeded, the illness model is cultura-pathogenic with the implication that the less medical one is, the more family therapist one will become. Attacks are medical but the nonmedical disciplines can hardly disagree. Here too, we see processes of such attacks by family therapists. I encourage more study of family therapists who by nonphysicians who are adequately encouraged in their contention that proper training, they are equally qualified in psychiatric problems; that medical training is not only necessary, but detrimental. I have observed bright students and adherents that help to reinforce the preferance for nonmedical mental help. And so it goes around. If this trend grows, we decrease the chances of integration, of the catecholamine hypothesis, we studies of the family process in depression; we return to either dichotomies, the body-mind dualism.

ADDITIONAL READING
1. The journal, Family Process, publishes twice a year, offers a varied selection of people and ideas.

Book Review...

**PSYCHIATRY, THE CLERGY, AND PASTORAL COUNSELING**

Editors: Dana L. Farnsworth, M.D., and Francis J. Braceland, M.D. Publisher: St. John’s University Press, Collegeville, Minnesota xii, 340 pp. 1969. $6.50 in hardback, $3.50 in paperback.

"Psychiatry, the Clergy and Pastoral Counseling" is a collection of 26 essays by 17 of the nation's outstanding psychiatrists, of whom are Past Presidents of the American Psychiatric Association. Originally, these were lectures, in a slightly different form, given over a period of years at the psychiatric-pastoral workshops of the Institute of Mental Health at St. John's University, Minnesota.

Each essay is a complete unit in itself, and can be read without reference to the others. However, there is a unity and an orderly arrangement binding all of them so closely that they are rightly called chapters. All of the chapters contribute to the twofold purpose of the book as stated in the preface, (1) to furnish the clergyman or other counselor with a summary of basic knowledge about human beings and their quandaries, and (2) to illustrate how a dialogue between clergyman and psychiatrist and psychologists was organized and maintained.

The first 5 chapters are more or less introductory. One of the best chapters in the book is in this section: chapter 3, on techniques of Pastoral Counseling.

Chapters 6 through 13 deal with problems of people in various age groups: children, adolescents, adults, the middle aged, the elderly, and the dying.

The next 10 chapters concern matters on which parishioners or their relatives seek help from the clergyman: depression, suicide, the paranoidishioner, alcoholism, drugs, various aspects of sex, marriage counseling, and the unwed mother.

The last 3 chapters are in a different category and might be called miscellaneous. Confidentiality is of prime concern to any counselor. Priests will note that confidentiality in counseling is not identical with the seal of the confession.

"Schools of Psychotherapy" gives a brief but very good summary of the best known schools of contemporary psychotherapy. The final chapter, quite fittingly, is about "Community Mental Health and the Future of Pastoral Counseling".

If a clergyman were to ask me for the best book on pastoral counseling, without any hesitation I would reply that this is it. In the first place, the authors are among the best psychiatrists in the entire country. Then too, the editors have selected the subjects that the clergy at the St. John's workshops have asked about most frequently. The authors have not set themselves up as authorities on theology or even morality. But they have offered the benefits of psychiatric insights into the problems that are most frequently brought to the clergy.

One of the many things I liked about the book is that none of the authors ever forgot that he was writing for clergyman. They did not address them as though they thought clergymen would become psychotherapists or auxiliary psychiatrists.

While this is true, it is also true that others besides clergymen can benefit from this book: social workers, youth leaders, teachers, school counselors, and others.

The chapters are so short that they can be read at one sitting. The longest chapter is 22 pages. Most of the others are only half that length.

The hardback edition sells for $6.50, but there is a paperback edition for only $3.50.

Rev. Wilbur F. Wheeler