

Religion and Psychiatry in
Cooperative Endeavor

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Rel. Leaders feel responsible for their people.
Protestant "Pastor" - Shepherd.
Catholic "Father" - Confessor

The "Rabbi" is a teacher -- did not assume
a role of personal care - congre. took care of
self.

Modern times: rabbi's function changed.
Reasons: 1. Change of character of community
2. Influence of Xtian ministry

Today modern rabbis trained in counseling,
and in pastoral Psychiatry.
Required. Pioneers in field. Liebman, Glazer

We are at home in this field, information from
psychiatry and psychology indispensable for
running of a significant temple program as
well as for personal guidance

I find the reason in a basic definition.
Rel. like psychiatry in its understanding
of ~~healthy~~ the nature of man -- both aim
to enable us to grow wisely and realistically
into a healthy and continuing adjustment
to the facts of life - birth & death,
joy and sorrow
enjoyment and pain
ability and inadequacy.

The nature of Judaism in general and Reform in
particular is intuitively understanding
of this principle.

Realistic. Human emotions handled wisely
Learned art of sublimation: Mitzvos which
direct feelings away from self to God and others.

So rabbi is often bridge between a problem laden
vid and more intensive psy treatment.

In a way Rabbi has more freedom than the psychiatri

The x Psy must wait until patient grows into a
desire to do something.

Rabbi may counsel thru advice and direction-- including, of course, referral to a consulting psychologist or psychiatrist.

Frequently futile.

Psychiatrist has not won voluntary receptivity of many who do not hesitate to come to the rabbi.

Still important: every problem, emotional upset, behavior deviation, worry or fear is not in my judgement indicative of need for psychiatric therapy.

People need ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ assurance, support, a medium in which they can work out their own problems. Neither the rabbi nor the psychiatrist will give quick easy ready answers.

Our need then: 1. Understand basic working relationship between liberal religion and psychiatric principles from pt of v. of preventing personal deterioration and enhancing growth and healthy maturation.

2. Cooperation between the representatives of each field and referral from each to each.

Too much about tensions.

Not enuf said about the means we have today to handle them.