פרופ' ישראל טשרני
Prof. ISRAEL W. CHARNY, Ph.D.

מטפל ומדריך בטפול משפחתי מוסמך ע"י האגודה הישראלית לטפול משפחתי; מדריך מוסמך ע"י האגודה הפסיכולוגית הישראלית;
לשעבר, נשיא מייסד וראשון של האגודה הישראלית לטפול משפחתי

Fellow and Accredited Supervisor, American Association Marriage and Family Therapy; Diplomate in Clinical Psychology, American Board of Professional Psychology; Fellow, American Psychological Association

March 25, 1993

George Gerbner, Ph.D.
Dean
Annanberg School of Communications
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA, U.S.A.

Dear George:

Over the years, I have requested of oh-so-many colleagues to write letters of recommendation for me for tenure and/or promotion at Tel Aviv University where I have been Associate Professor of Psychology at the School of Social Work since 1973! I am writing now, in a group letter, to 'drop the other shoe' and complete the story.

The good news that I am pleased to share with you is that I am moving on to be Professor of Psychology and Family Therapy -- this is the first use of family therapy in an academic identification in Israel that I know of -- at the Hebrew Universisty in Jerusalem where I will be Director of the new program, "Program for Advanced Studies in Integrative Psychotherapy: Family, Couple, and Individual Therapy (an interdisciplinary program)" which is co-sponsored by the Department of Psychology and the Martin Buber Center. This program is intended, as its name implies, to provide advanced training for experienced therapists, from all the mental health disciplines, based on both family and individual therapies, separately and in combination, chosen for their appropriateness to the treatment case and its needs. Our students will be professionals who hold a minimum of a Masters degree and have several years of clinical experience. There will be three tracks, each a two-year program leading to a university certificate: Integrative Psychotherapy; Treatment of Psychosomatic Conditions and Illness; Supervision of Supervision in Family and Couple Therapy. There will also be a fourth track that allows students -- also including social workers with a Bachelor's degree and appropriate clinical experience -- to enroll in individual courses, and in this respect the program will offer a variety of advanced continuing education courses to the professional community. We are potentially in an excellent position also to develop creatively special programs, workshops, retreats, and think tanks which will be conducted by senior professionals both from Israel and from overseas as programs which will supplement our ongoing courses and diploma programs. I am, of course, very pleased and challenged by the opportunity of this post.

TEL AVIV:
Chaim Levanon 79 A
(Hauniversita St.)
Ramat Aviv 69345
Tel: 972-3-642-5385

JERUSALEM:
Ben Azzay 4
(behind Naftali 11)
Baka 93507
Tel & Fax: 972-2-720424

CORRESPONDENCE:
P.O.B. 10311
91102 Jerusalem, Israel
FAX: 972-2-720424
BITNET: IHGJM@CCSG.TAU.AC.IL

At Tel Aviv University, my story ends sadly but also with a battle win. Neither tenure nor promotion were ever forthcoming. I declined offers to have a special contract to continue teaching until retirement. Indeed, I asked my legal counsel to inform the university that I would be bringing suit within the framework of the labor laws which I felt had been violated in my case. The university backed down and negotiated with me a legal settlement which I accepted with the following terms: Next year I will be "on leave" with full pay and benefits, and the following year I will be retiring as an Associate Professor and receive the full amount of pension that I would have received had I continued until the legal retirement age of 68. In all cases, the settlement stipulates that I may undertake all other employment at another university during the same years.

In the meantime, the department in which I have served, and where I have successfully struggled to enjoy deeply my work with students -- especially in advanced clinical training in marriage and family therapy and in collaborative researches around their dissertations -- completes 20 years without a single full professor (the other outstanding candidate for such a post in the department was also forced out), and a sorry trail, that includes especially clinicians and/or several obviously creative and capable people who have been pummeled, bruised, beaten and forced out by a clique that has commandeered the reigns of power. At the same time, I confess, I feel that I have gained something from being chastened by having to contend both with the structural evil and with my failure, and that paradoxically these experiences have added some valuable dimensions to me.

As I was phasing out of Tel Aviv, I also accepted an invitation from Ben Gurion University of the Negev, in Beersheba, to be an Adjunct Professor of Psychology in the Department of Social Work, where this last year I taught a graduate course on supervision of therapists and therapeutic organizational systems, and next year I will be giving a graduate course on the psychology of aggression, violence, and Holocaust and genocide.

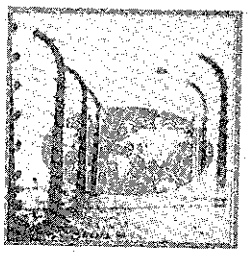
Correspondence address and communication numbers on this letterhead which are at my home office, continue to be an effective way of being in contact with me. I can also be addressed c/o Program for Advanced Study in Integrative Psychotherapy, Martin Buber Center, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Mt. Scopus, Jerusalem, Israel, departmental office telephone: 972-2-882660, departmental office fax: 972-2-322268. Our program and my specific telephone lines have yet to be assigned as indeed the final office space has yet to be defined (there is a possibility that it will be next door to the room which houses the original study of Martin Buber which has been preserved at the Univeristy).

Thank you for your support and assistance to me in the past.

Sincerely,

Israel

Israel W. Charny, Ph.D.



INSTITUTE ON THE HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE
of the International Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide
TOWARDS UNDERSTANDING, INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION OF GENOCIDE

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ISRAEL W. CHARNY
SHAMAI DAVIDSON (deceased)
ELIE WIESEL

Executive Director:
Prof. ISRAEL W. CHARNY
Tel Aviv University
Tel. 03-425385
Tel. 02-720424

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Granville, OH

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Williamsburg, VA

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Fayetteville, AR

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Boston University
Boston, MA

SIMON WIESENTHAL
Director, Dokumentations-
zentrum, Vienna

Rep. MU — 7/31/93

July 16, 1993

Dr. George Gerbner
Annenberg School of Communications
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Penna.
USA

Dear George:

My secretary is away, and I am half at a loss to find papers such as your current residence. I appreciated your note of congratulations on my new post at Hebrew University, where indeed I am enjoying very much setting up a major new program. But I am writing you now out of concern for the pressing needs of our INSTITUTE ON THE HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE in Jerusalem.

We were, to the best of our knowledge, the first institute in the world devoted to the study of genocides of all peoples, and to intervention and prevention. We remain the only institute in the world that pursues this work in memorial of the Holocaust and as an expression of the Jewish people's commitment to contribute to the prevention of genocide to all peoples.

It is hard, pioneering work. We are currently committed to work on a project on the denials of the Holocaust ('there were no gas chambers,' the Holocaust is 'a hoax') and to denials of the genocide of other peoples ('there was no state-planned genocide of the Armenians'), and denials of massacre and slaughter in our contemporary world (e.g., Tianamenn Square never happened, or denials by Serbs of ethnic cleansing).

Owing to a major breakdown of our computer system about a year ago, the full implications of which were not understood until some months later when

P.O. Box 10311, 91102 JERUSALEM, ISRAEL, Telephone 972-2-720424
FAX: 972-2: 720424; TELEX: 26144, BXJM IL, EXT 7118; BITNET: IHGJ @ TAUNOS

it became clear that even backup records were infested with viruses, we suffered a major setback in our work on a project towards creating the first Holocaust and Genocide Computerized Bibliographic Database for which we had received grants from several sources, especially an agency of the US government. The result was that we had to pour in funds from the Institute's modest running budget and from other projects. We will complete the Database this Fall, but we are in urgent need of financial assistance for our ongoing work, especially our project on Denials of the Holocaust, Genocide and Contemporary Massacres, one aspect of which is a Special Issue of Internet on the Holocaust and Genocide on the subject.

I am writing to ask you if you would be prepared to go to Walter Annenberg with a recommendation-request for a gift to the Institute. I have in mind a sum of $100,000. as being the assistance we would be grateful for immediately.

You should know that some years ago, Maurice Mitchell in CA (originally at the referral of Fred Praeger) proposed to Mr. Annenberg that he consider funding a World Genocide Early Warning System under our direction, and we were then talking about several million dollars. A propos, I have just completed an invited review of a book on early warning systems, and I see that no agency in the international system has yet achieved such a program--our theoretical work and proposal for such in the area of genocide were among the early scholarly works. So Mr. Annenberg may have positive recollections of what he learned about our work then, and this may help in his consideration of our more modest request now.

I hope you will be agreeable to undertaking this way of helping us in our work.

Sincerely,

Israel W. Charny, Ph.D.
Executive Director