

April 6, 1950

Dr. Edward Bibring,
82 Marlborough Street,
Boston 16, Massachusetts.

Dear Dr. Bibring:

In reply to your letter of March 30th asking us to give you the reasons for the formation of another Institute in Los Angeles, we trust that the following will clarify the situation for you.

As in all Institutes there have been minor scientific difficulties among various members since the inception of the present existing Institute. Unfortunately these minor scientific difficulties have been associated with major emotional reactions on the part of some members of our Educational Committee.

When knowledge of the present schism in our group reached our students they requested representatives of both groups to meet with them in order to have them explain the scientific difficulties. We, that is Drs. Grotjahn, Miller and Romm came to the meeting. The representatives of the other group refused to attend and sent the enclosed statement of March 3, 1950. We chose the following example as one of many because it is symptomatic of what has existed here since the foundation of the Los Angeles Institute for Psychoanalysis.

The implication that we, trained in Freudian concepts and in the spirit of Freud's investigative attitudes, do not practice psychoanalysis or teach it adequately can only be the result of emotional bias on the part of the analysts who drew up the enclosed statement. The emotional disturbance of the candidates created by the statement referred to cannot be over estimated.

Because of this unfortunate existing situation it is clearly evident that the two groups cannot work together. We request that in view of the urgency of this situation, authorization and recognition of the Los Angeles Institute for Psychoanalytic Medicine be granted at the April meeting of the American Psychoanalytic Association.

Sincerely yours,

Martin Grotjahn, M.D.

Norman A. Levy, M.D.

Milton L. Miller, M.D.

May E. Romm, M.D.