

"WILL" AS A FOUR-LETTER WORD:

THE SUBVERSION OF MORALS BY PSEUDO-SCIENCE ----- Elliott #1695

ironic "My Turn" (NEWSWEEK 4Apr83, p.13) essay by Rex Julian Beaber, "Stress--And other Scape-goats." Anti-will pseudoscience is the "diseasing of America." Restore will and dignity!

Tonight's news (2Apr83) reports that due to the antireligious pummeling of TV, 90% of the French do not "sin," though 57% commit "errors." By backdefinition, humans are no more than other organisms: all organisms fall into "error," but it takes WILL and REASON and NORMS and VALUES and, funally, a heterocentric SOURCE of will-reason-norms-values--a source we are faithful to ("righteousness") or betray ("sin"). Cats don't have morals; and, increasingly it seems, neither do humans, which are larger chemophysical organisms. Traditional moral philosophy calls this degenerate condition ANOMIE (the breakdown, due to uprootedness or other factors, of social norms and values, accompanied by the collapse of concern into the organism itself, as socially visible in its being directed by urges to instant gratification; psychiatrically, congenital defect of the moral sense). This thinksheet is concerned, in this diagnosis of our personal/interpersonal/societal ills, with pseudoscience's evil contribution.

1. Science cannot deal with will as (religio)moral category, and states it's beyond the realm of science: pseudoscience commits hubris, claiming that what science cannot deal with does not exist (cf. the old linguistic analysis). Darwin, Marx, and Freud are the evil geniuses of pseudoscience, the demonic triumvirate ruling "the principalities and powers" of our globe today; usually right in what they affirmed, usually wrong in what they denied--or at least not, as they affirmed, "scientifically" right in their denials.

2. Since "will" exists, evil things happen when its existence is denied or neglected. Hypo-, it goes flaccid: "the children have come to birth, and there is not strength to bring them forth." Hyper-, it's inflated to promethean-faustian proportions (Nietzsche, Adler, Hitler, Assagioli, est's Werner Erhart).

3. TV's "Nova" is sometimes scientific, sometimes pseudoscientific--the latter in a Mar/83 program on obesity, which began and ended with sentences denying a volitional element in fatness (so as to set aside, as scientifically unmanageable, "gluttony," one of the Seven Deadly Sins). No reference to the old anti-obesity adage that the best exercise is to push yourself away from table.

4. Education can train the public against pseudoscience's hubris. E.g., it's clear and clearly teachable that Darwin's "generation" and "selection" are anthro-metaphors, projections from human experience ("selection" as human action, "generation" as human action and observation). Metaphors are poetry, not science. When Darwin adds an adjective to each of these nouns, it's equally clear and clearly teachable that he's removing us an additional step away from science, this time by violating the law of parsimony (minimum hypothesis): life originated in something for which he uses the anthro-metaphor "generation," but his science does not require him to the atheistic speculation that it was "spontaneous"; and something continues to happen which our "selection" process as humans indirectly illumines, but it's not Darwin's science that requires him to the excessive notion that this process was "natural" instead of preternatural or supranatural or supernatural (all nonscientific terms, of course--but neither antiscientific nor pseudoscientific)....I leave it here with Darwin, forgoing illustrating the same dismality with Marx and Freud. To think that my tax money goes to push pseudoscientific nonsense!

5. "All the evis of the world have fallen prey to the most powerful of scientific weapons: explanation." Hooray for a brilliant,

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will reaching out as intention (1) to control or shape (2, as moral will) according to an ideal or moral vision or "Torah" (instruction-guidance from God) or norm or value.

6. The current alienation of church/school and parent/child has this pseudoscience as a root replacing the biblical root which integrated church/school and parent/child. This pseudoscience is antibiblical bio-cosmically (Darwin), sociologically (Marx), and psychologically (Freud). Equally, it is anticlassical (the Greek, Roman, Hellenistic moral sense and sensitivity, revived in the Renaissance and Enlightenment). This pseudoscience has, in theory and increasingly in reality, destroyed all the moral foundations of our civilization--fraudulently in the name of "science"! The Amish cure is looking less nutty: keep children out of the public schools, which systematically destroy morals and religion. The so-called "Moral" Majority offers a cure almost as obscurantist as that of the Amish, but the conviction that it's time for action is right and right-on. The recent establishment of thousands of so-called "Christian" schools teaching antiscience is only a slight improvement over the parallel public schools teaching pseudoscience. (Historical parallel: dug-in Judaism against Hellenisticism and Christianity.)

7. What anomie is sociologically, abulia is psychologically: the moral will in eclipse. Psychopath and sociopath lack the moral sense, are anomic (Horney): that's the view from outside. Seen from within, these persons are abulic, volition being impaired or lost. A good word here for psychiatry, which is an art skilled also in science: in contrast to pseudoscience, the PSYCHIATRIC DICTIONARY (4th ed., Ox/70) deals extensively with will, as in these articles: *abulia, abulic-akinetic syndrome, hypobulia, motivation, platonization, will therapy, disturbances of the will, will-to-be-above, will-to-be-up, will-to-power*. People-helpers cannot help but know that they are dealing with will, its strengths and deformities and weaknesses: scientists as scientists cannot deal with will (or even with people as humans): pseudoscientists deceive themselves into thinking that "science" can deal with humans without remainder, so without will and the moral sense.... In Marxist metaphysics, "will" is located outside of humanity, in an ineluctable Hegelian-historical process whose dynamic is economic. Politicized, this "will" alienated from persons becomes state-will, etatism: government has rights, people do not. In Nazism, the will-displacement was from people to the German *Geist*. In Freudianism, the will-displacement was from human consciousness to *libido*, which curiously was understood as primarily s-e-x. In Darwinism, the will-displacement was onto "evolution," which as Darwin dropped God added mystical properties to its basic process idea and became a holophrase for God (thus, *evolutionism*).

8. In the UCC Statement of Faith, God "seeks to save all people from aimlessness and sin." Theology here yields to cultural analysis: our culture is now abulic, aimless, and therefore hedonist and narcissist, faddist, with some oscillating between accidie and "causes," others robot-like in apathy--with desires unforthcoming into human action, and with disjunctive motivation (Sullivan's term, antonym to conjunctive, for immediate-gratification strivings substituting for strivings directed to long-range satisfaction of real needs). No replacements yet for the old aims, viz., the glory of God and the American Dream. "Justice," while a fuzzy and utopian notion, has some of the qualities of both of the older aims (both of which incorporate versions of justice). I stick with "to glorify and enjoy God forever."

9. Greek has many roots/stems for willing: *boul, thel, proaires, gno, noe, diano*. The 3rd is graphic: "seize beforehand," the