

laudable intentions. It appears that he is unaware of the fact that statistically significant data can be obtained which have little bearing on the issue being investigated. Given the available data, one could propose several alternative explanations which would seem more plausible and economical than the one given. Cannot schizophrenic (and perhaps normal) subjects think it more likely that a man would commit an aggressive act of the type illustrated than a woman? If so, similar aggression by a woman would be more frightening. A more apt title for the paper would be "An Experimental Study of the Expected Sex of an Imagined Aggressor", and the findings would merely confirm what most people knowing our culture would have guessed. One might have hoped that the author would have employed (or the Editors would have demanded) some simple controls, such as cartoons showing other forms of aggression which have little relation to castration (or will the "sophisticated observer" interpret any aggression as castration?). Note also the shift as the questions in the protocol proceed from "man or woman?" to "mother or father?", producing a probable halo effect and obtaining a response from the subjects about parents as aggressors which might otherwise not be forthcoming.

An experimental design which does not eliminate such obvious sources of bias is hardly better than the *a priori* techniques which have been thus far employed in confirming analytic theory, and only serves to cloak its deficiencies under a pseudo-scientific guise.

Yours faithfully,

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ANGLO-GERMAN PSYCHIATRIC CONFERENCE

DEAR SIR,

I would be grateful if you will allow me to draw the attention of your readers to the Anglo-German Psychiatric Conference which will be held in Edinburgh from 14 May to 16 May, 1964. I will be pleased to supply anyone interested with further details of the Conference.

Yours faithfully,

FRANK FISH, *Senior Lecturer.*

2 George Square, Edinburgh, 8.

Correction

The following misprints in the article **Male-Female Differences in Underwater Sensory Isolation**, by Cathryn Walters et. al., which appeared in our March number, are regretted:

page 290, column 1, paragraph 2, read *Our first exploratory study*

page 292, Table III, first part—line beginning "Error"—for the three question marks substitute the figures 16, 117, 7·3

page 293, Table V, section headed "Medical Students"—remove decimal points before the noughts in columns 1 to 4

page 293, Table VI, column headed "Females", line 2: read "1 out of 18 ‡" instead of "1 out of 18 *", i.e. $p < .001$ instead of $p < .025$