



9-27-2017

Letter from the Editor

Kristin L. Hansen

Brigham Young University, kristinlanghansen@gmail.com

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Recommended Citation

Hansen, Kristin L. (2017) "Letter from the Editor," *Issues in Religion and Psychotherapy*: Vol. 38 : No. 1 , Article 4.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/irp/vol38/iss1/4>

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Letter from the Editor

KRISTIN LANG HANSEN

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

In this issue, you will find a thoughtful paper by Gantt and Thayne exploring what constitutes a safe space for believing psychotherapists and their clients. They delineate how a Rogerian therapy approach leaves a false promise of creating safety, and they provide a solution—“love unfeigned.” Williams connects with Gantt and Thayne, taking their insights further. He emphasizes the falsity of validating others or the self and the safety that comes in the “giving over” of our agency to God. Jackson points out the unavoidability of value conflicts in therapy and the need to learn how to love well. Fischer praises Gantt and Thayne for being trilingual in philosophy, psychology, and gospel knowledge and encourages us to be so as well. Richardson asks that we don’t abandon Rogers completely, recognizing the good aspects of his theory. Furthermore, Richardson emphasizes that we, as gospel-centered psychotherapists, could be better at finding common ground with scholars who maintain differing views from our own.

Also, in this issue are interesting and insightful papers on the parents of missionaries who return early from the mission field written by Doty-Yells, Packer, Drake-Brooks, Warne, and John; the role of grace in working with a perfectionistic client by Draper, McGraw, Sturtevant, and Draper; understanding perfectionism and religion in more depth by Peer and McGraw; and, finally, a special tribute to our much-loved colleague and friend, Dr. Robert Gleave. Robert Gleave, a gifted therapist and a deep thinker, has been involved for a long time with AMCAP and will not be with us much longer due to a terminal illness. Many of his students and colleagues share some of the life and professional lessons that they have learned from Robert Gleave. Robert Gleave, in turn, has written his testimony for us, a testimony filled with wisdom and deep understanding.

I hope that you will be as enriched as I have been by these contributing authors’ papers.

Kristin Lang Hansen, PhD

Editor, IRP

