

Martin, Raymond, 1996, *Education and training of Psychotherapists. Three Irish Schools: A Critique*

ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION

There exist many schools for the education and training of psychotherapists, both in Ireland and worldwide. The characteristics required of a 'good' psychotherapist have been described often. How an education and training system could help someone to develop these characteristics is hardly ever addressed at all.

In this dissertation the development of both the Irish Association of Humanistic and Integrative Psychotherapy and the Irish Council for Psychotherapy are examined. The education and training methods of three schools that set out to graduate psychotherapists in Ireland is detailed. The method used to acquire the necessary information for this work was the use of audiotaped interviews with training directors of each school and also with present students and practising psychotherapists who had graduated, one from each school. Finally, the practices of these schools is looked at in the light of standards accepted in the broader context of psychotherapy as seen in international texts and journals.