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**WHAT TURNS ME ON — AND OFF!**

(as a Counsellor-Person)

I find myself
between **HOPE** and **Despair**
and very aware of each,
and this experience is becoming clearer to me as integral in being
alive and human

What turns me on is the increasing sense of solidness I have inside
myself — about my skills — my professional competence — counselling
processes that are effective

and especially my own sense of worth
to myself — and in relationship to others.

It is within this context that a basic religious stance has become
meaningful to me. Theological words that a long time ago became
dead
anachronistic
— and sterile

Also the church as an institution

But I am experiencing with persons a sense of
Hope and Joy — The Discovery of Life (even in
the painful empty-agony of depression).

What turns me on is seeing people come **ALIVE** — and myself
being a part in that process!
— who were blocked
— at an impasse
— Dead Ended

And so a Resurrection Process makes sense to me as a way of looking
at this phenomenon.

And also a profound sense of the HELL in which quiet people lead
their desperate lives . . .
My greatest satisfactions:
To see, experience, respond to the Christ in every man
the aliveness and potential in
the lives of the Janes and Johns with whom I am in relationship.

And a Counterbalance
lies for me in the area of
FEAR of STAGNATION
and Failure

and perhaps the ultimate irrelevance and
uselessness of all this — counselling theory
— and practice

This has centred for me in the failure to be an effective change agent
in the midst of an educational institution. And I know in my head that
the Internal Change Agent from an Organizational Development point
of view faces a tough task:

— to sell — and exert influence from within an organizational system

At the same time, why aren’t such basic issues as:
—The Education of the whole
   person
—The Search for Selfhood
—the importance of Social and Emotional
   Growth in Persons
just as obvious to my colleagues in History — Economics — and
even Psychology as they are to
me ??

At this point in my life, the End Result is . . .
that I feel very, very HUMAN
There is little fantasy time for SuperMAN, for
around
the corner
I can experience myself as a
mite

There is a sense of Reality in continuing Awareness that I am Human . . .
. . . STRONG
and
. . . weak

. . . and that’s O.K., too!

It’s the Reality in BEING ALIVE and Owning MYSELF AS A PERSON
—human person
—in Counselling