

**Special Introduction. In Mishpacha Betipol ('A Family in Therapy')  
(hebrew ed. of A Family in Therapy, 1989.).  
Jerusalem: Israel Association of Family Therapists.**

The publication of this book gives me great pleasure. It is especially meaningful as it is now published in my mother tongue in the country in which I was born and spent my first twenty-two years. The journey to publication is very special. It is not a commercial venture, but happened because of the commitment and support of the Israeli Association of Family Therapy who have underwritten the book financially. Some of its members volunteered to translate a chapter each, a most unusual collaborative effort in translation.

However, without the enthusiasm and energy of Batya Washitz, the translation of A Family in Therapy would not have been achieved. With her commitment and organizational skills, the Hebrew edition has eventuated in this unique way.

I wish to thank all who contributed to this venture and most particularly, my heartfelt thanks to Batya who made it possible.

As a beginning psychologist in the 60's I felt very frustrated at the scarcity of actual record of what took place in the privacy of the consulting room. I found myself frequently wondering what the therapist actually said and did.

I recall vividly the great excitement a few years later when I discovered Family Therapy which offered the possibility of seeing the video-tapes of some well-known therapists at work and reading the transcripts of actual therapy.

This book is a contribution to this openness of therapy and offers the reader a full record of everything that was said and done by the family and the therapist. It also includes the thoughts, comments and analysis of the authors, and in addition commentaries by experts of different backgrounds. This hopefully encourages multiple views of the phenomenon of therapy and yet by offering the actual raw data, leaves it possible for the readers to draw their own conclusions.

We tend to see creativity or ingenuity as residing in a single mind, resulting from the conscious deliberation of an individual. We seem reluctant to see it as emerging from the interaction between people. Yet, the totality of my work with the Black family can be seen as a collaborative effort between the family and myself. I am pleased that in the end, my role was to help the family to implement its own solutions to its own problems. This book is the result of a lengthy collaboration between Peter McCallum and myself and the Hebrew edition similarly was a co-operative effort of many people.

Peter and I spent some years studying the material and found to our surprise that we became increasingly absorbed. It has been particularly pleasing that our reviewers have found the book "a good read", "a mystery story", a Greek drama", having captured the struggle, complexities and excitement we felt in our work. I hope this feeling is retained in the translation to a different language for people of a different culture.

**Moshe Lang**

27 July, 1991  
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