



The round table “The person in the society of risks”

A.G. Asmolov

Today we have the round table “The Person in the Society of Risks”. This round table is due to the fact that the fifth psychological congress was started yesterday, on February 14, on St. Valentine’s Day. It brought together psychologists from all regions of the country, from Kamchatka to the European borders of Russia. More than 2000 psychologists discuss prospects of the psychological science and psychological practice in the main building of the Moscow State University. This sort of discussion is always connected with a problem of a peculiar and difficult relation to such problems as psychology and psychological practice in our society. What is psychology today? Can psychology construct the reality? Why do many politicians address with questions to the psychologist? A few years ago one of politicians, who aspired to the post of the president of Russia, addressed to me with a question which is still in my mind. He said, “Tell me, please, can you make me charismatic in imitation of a leader?” I pay attention to this question though he told not only about this problem. I say that psychologists are faced the most different expectations of our culture, our society. And psychology is everywhere today. Literally psychology starts with a person’s birth – the psychology of preschool age. Today there is a unique direction when one of the major ideals starts to prevail in culture; it is a safety ideal. The psychology of safety as one of the most serious directions, and also developmental psychology, psychology of tolerance, the psychology of a person’s behavior in a risk situation, more than ever all these directions become important today. Another of these directions is named laconically and capaciously; it is the Internet psychology. What is behind it? Behind it there is the fact that the worlds and realities around have been multiplied. In fact we started to see several worlds as a reality and sometimes many fantasts have never even dreamed of that. Differently:

- 1) the status of psychology in society has changed today; psychology became different; it became requested, and sometimes even excessively requested;
- 2) psychology became a mass profession today.

We face advantages of this situation and risks of this situation. We became extras and I wonder whether we will lose the main thing. Whatever school a psychologist follows (and there is no psychologist without it): the school of psychoanalysis, the great Freud’s school, the school of L.S. Vygotsky, the school of remarkable psychologists of Petersburg B. G. Ananiev etc., the main thing for a psychologist is to be the professional. And I lay a unique emphasis on the word “the professional”. Today there are those who define further ways of psychology development. And I present them to you with pleasure, though you have all names written, but sometimes, by the law of psychology, it is better to hear a name and the way one it pronounces. Near me there is the President of the Russian society of psychologists, Dean of the Faculty of Psychology of the Moscow State University, Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy



of Education Yury Zinchenko. If you excuse me, I will present them in our usual entertainment talk by names. I go further! Near me there is the First Vice President of the Russian society, one of heads of the St. Petersburg University, Pro-Rector of the St. Petersburg University, known expert in the field of psychology Larissa Tsvetkova. And then, by the laws of a gentleman genre, near Yury Zinchenko there is Yury Shoigu who deals with the psychology of safety in the Ministry of Emergency Situations. It is one of the most difficult and inconceivably demanded kinds of activity and I say it with a difficult shade. Further there is Vitaly Rubtsov, Academician of the Russian Academy of Education, Director of the Psychological Institute of the Russian Academy of Education, Rector of the Moscow psychological-pedagogical university, one of representatives of L.S. Vygotsky's school. Further... there is Edward Golozhinsky, Academician of the Russian Academy of Education, Dean of the Faculty of Psychology of the Tomsk University. I would remind you that Tomsk is the city of universities where every fourth person is a student, and there Edward Golozhinsky develops and conducts the direction of our Siberian colleagues in the field of psychology. But since I have told about Siberia, I jump from Siberia to the south, before me there is our colleague, Dean of the Southern Federal University, Academician of the Russian Academy of Education, master in the field of tolerance and at the same time in karate, Pavel Ermakov. So, I have presented all, my dear colleagues. I would like to give you the President of the society of psychologists Yury Zinchenko.

Y.P. Zinchenko

Thank you for gathering today. Psychologists arrange information forums not often. On the one hand, it is good, it means that everything is quiet, on the other, it is a great minus for the corporation because not always there is a possibility to tell about the sore, and also to share reasons. The congress began its work yesterday. Really, we didn't have such a number of psychologists gathered together and in such concentrated form for a long time. In the Moscow State University there has been made very important decision; except that the congress is accompanied by boring organizational decisions and specifications in any documents, as always, basic decisions were made.

There have been adopted an amendment to the Russian psychologist's ethical code; this is the document that fixes a system of relations between the psychologist and the client who addresses to him/her. This is not simply a certain document defining an order, responsibility and so on. It is some kind of a social contract between the corporation of psychologists, between the Russian psychological society and our society. The problem consists in that the corporation takes responsibility for those psychologists who practice and render certain services. It is no secret that now one may take a magazine, open an advertizing page and see, "I'll charm"; psychoanalysis and consultation all in one over one phone. This shouldn't happen probably.

We have no objections to existence of alternative or unconventional forms of interaction; this should be on conscience of those who is engaged in it. But, at least, they should be separated from us. Now there is a clear tendency; it is necessary to separate



where there is psychology and where there is something that they only name as psychology, and they make money etc.

Therefore the code, on the one hand, fixes these relations and a responsibility degree, and also a system of sanctions and the multicorporate responsibility of the psychologist. From here there appears a problem of creation of the national register of psychologists which will be on the RPO site. In a little while those who will pass a practical activity certification, will be marked there. It is a voluntary certification, i.e. it is not another body where one may come, pay 1000 rubles or other currency and receive the line in the national registry. It concerns a voluntary certification of own competences in relation to an individual practical activity. When it is a question of any organization: the health care system, the system of social protection, he/she works in the organization, there is a system of certification of this personnel. When one works individually as a psychologist, a degree of the responsibility should be reflected in our community, and on the site he/she will be directly included in this register. It corresponds to the all-European tendency, because now in Europe they create a uniform psychological register of practicing psychologists. The requirements they have we have also adapted for our Russian reality. And for those who will correspond to these requirements, this part of the national registry will be also available to the whole European space. For the first time through the European association of psychological associations we achieved that our current psychologists at implementation of the current requirements and necessary conditions with their competences can realize their activity in the territory of the Council of the union on a par with scientific psychologists. Probably we train psychologists not worse than France, Germany and never mind Japan. Therefore here we grew fast to the common European house of practical psychology.

On the other hand, there is a big issue for the society and parents in relation to faculties and higher education institutions, where to train to be a psychologist now. Now in the country there are more than 400 faculties and higher education institutions which train psychologists, likely, it is a lot, if not to say that it is too much. Therefore here it is needed the rating of faculties, the rating of higher education institutions where parents and entrants can honestly look at higher education institutions which can provide and realize training according to the program of experts. I know that there are three specialties of bachelors and masters of psychology: 5.5 years – the federal standard of training in clinical psychology and 5 years – training of psychologists in other directions. Thus, baccalaureate and magistracy remain. So, the rating should answer a question, “If I want be educated as a psychologist, does this education differ in these 400 higher education institutions?” It is a gentle rating, and it doesn't mean that the Moscow State University is the first and St. Petersburg is the second etc. The problem is not in this, the problem consists in that we must honestly answer the questions of parents and entrants where it is possible to be qualitatively educated, what higher education institutions are ready to train specialists/masters, what higher education institutions train only bachelors and which ones are not ready to do this. Since the diploma part (to write the curriculum according to a standard) is not very



difficult, therefore here we should be honest with our society. Hence it follows that it is necessary to create and implement the law "On the Psychological Support in the Russian Federation". We have a similar law "On the Psychiatric Support of the Russian Federation", there is a law "On Health Care" which also partially mentions our system of clinical psychologists, and the law "On Support" is necessary because it is necessary to paint the bounds of responsibility and rights of our practicing psychologists and psychology in general in minute detail. We perfectly understand that it is rather powerful instrument and there are situations when after an appointment with a psychologist, after meeting with a psychocounselor, the client may have suicide or any other need. In this situation who answers whether the psychologist was right, whether everything was made, whether he/she was a specialist-psychologist, and how this situation should be generally considered? The doctors who organize their activity sphere with participation of a large number of patients may also have some defects, but rather well detailed. It still remains "a blank spot" for psychologists therefore psychologists themselves put forward an initiative that there should be such a law which would regulate these relations within the psychological corporation, and our relations with clients. And all these problems were discussed at the congress; at the congress there have been adopted an oath of psychologists; now at graduation our students, like the students of medical schools, will swear an oath of the Russian psychologist which while has a ritual form. Working further we will also approximate it to those moral principles which we speak in our community. It is a participation degree, not only existence of a diploma, some kind of accession to the social contract and assignment of duties and responsibilities. There were many other questions, but, perhaps, I yield to other colleagues. Thank you for attention.

A.G. Asmolov

Dear colleagues, let us construct our dialogue in the following way. Further my colleagues will briefly state their positions, and then we'll pass to those questions which have arose both in your consciousness, and in your unconscious.

L.A. Tsvetkova

I'll continue that Yury Petrovich has told. I want to say that it is important to develop relations between our professional community and the nearest others, for example between journalists. Why not? Since they make clear some possibilities and restrictions connected with any profession, including the profession of a psychologist, for consumers. The psychologist is not a magician and healer. The psychologist can never change the world for the better after a visit for a certain sum of money. Therefore, in this sense the responsibility of any profession, and the profession of a journalist, consists in fair presentation of facts and, probably, not always in their interpretation. We have often met an unconscious information misrepresentation. It leads to the inexactitude of information perception and to the diffusion of the borders of possibilities and restrictions in the psychologist's activity. The professional community itself aspires to define them, and it seems to me, even now prognostic abilities of psychology are not fully used, because in any profession it is more difficult to treat, than



to prevent. Anyway, prevention is cheaper than treatment. Meanwhile any preventive intervention should be professionally constructed. Frequently, and especially we face this at the beginning of perestroika, they take a western program and impart it to us. But there is no result. Why? It's all because any scientific research should precede any intervention. The scientific professional community is on a position of a purely scientific reference to everything. A scientifically well-founded research program should precede a practice. After all, we have already started to speak about the risks among clients. For example, at all large leading universities within the framework of research projects there are ethical committees which consider both a plan of researches, and a consent informing which the qualified psychologist and researcher should sign with participants of researches. It is here where risks are mentioned, and the qualified and responsible psychologist can always render support, especially, when it is a question of a research of difficult population groups and risk groups, where the risk is raised. Since we face other risks when, for example, they conduct children researches, not giving a support to children and parents, when journalists, informing of something, speak about victims, putting the accent on it, may be can be unconsciously, without understanding what it means. Thereupon the professions of high responsibility to the society and person should know it fully, speaking about the ethical code and ethical committees which precede and in which there are considered all the projects directed on studying of people and even animals.

A.G. Asmolov

Today it has been spoken about the psychologist's goal connected with developmental psychology, social psychology of childhood, with psychological grounds of school education standards. I'm pleased to yield to Vitaly Rubtsov.

V.V. Rubtsov

Dear Alexander Grigorievich, dear colleagues, it seems to me that the distinctive feature of the present congress is that for the first time it has shown such a system communication of psychology with different branches and directions of a social practice. Now we say, "Psychology and education", i.e. it means that the psychologist, acting in the education system, also becomes a full-fledged participant of a team, who works with our children and with our childhood. What is a feature of this work, in particular of the work of psychologists of our psychological institute, university, the Moscow State University? The first feature has to do with the fact that our children have changed very much. Their superior psychological functions have changed. Children think differently; they have different forms of will, attention, memory and it should be considered in the educational process. How does it occur? What does the psychologist do there? The development approval and creation of a general education standard, primary education, for example, was very important and marquee event for us. Now it is the most developed material. What is the feature of this standard? First, it is made not simply with psychologists' participation, but on the basis of the modern scientific psychological theory; it is an activity approach and a cultural-historic school. What does it mean? It means that the activity of the child and the adult, the teacher and the



child, the child and the child becomes a leading form of work with children. Children have a kind of focal reorganization of competences. While they should know a subject well, they should have so-called metasubject competences and a personal educational result. It is from the standard. What is it in life? It means that at life there are already estimated such results as, for example, a child's possibility to be responsible for problem definition, for the ability to communicate with another, to understand each other, i.e. the whole range of abilities and ways which are not so simple. And, consequently, today we speak not about the school psychologist who estimates what occurs to this child. He/she starts to enter an educational situation. He/she starts to do what is registered and fixed in the standard: to support the educational process psychologically and pedagogically. First, he/she starts to participate in this process; secondly, the teacher should receive another kind of psychological training. This issue is very important. That's what occurs further. The standard establishes an individual kind of work with children, i.e. it is possible to construct these trajectories. How should future teachers do this? The standard of the teacher's training should change accordingly. We won't prevent such a standard from disaster without the teacher who becomes the central figure of the educational process. So, there was constructed the standard towards the psychological and pedagogical education which included such profiles as educational psychology and pedagogics of gifted children, for example, educational psychology and pedagogics of children with limited possibilities, i.e. the standard provides the organization of such educational activity situations which follow the child. The child focus, which is in the general education standard, was also substantially reflected in a standard of psychological and pedagogical education of future teachers and future psychologists who will enter the educational process. I want to say that it is an example of how different fields of social practice include the psychologist as a necessary participant of these situations. Times have changed, and the functional of psychological work have changed. The psychologist is not an accompanying observer anymore. The psychologist becomes an active participant of such situations. Look how interesting it is. We reach an absolutely different level. How should we study these results? In a modern science there is a very wide direction, for example, where the results of the teacher's activity are estimated according to the results of pupils. It is an absolutely new characteristic of the teacher's work assessment. Let me formulate my point of view. If we say "psychology and education", we speak about essentially different form of work of the teacher and the psychologist. It arises because the requirements to the very teaching and educational process, training process, have changed. The essence of these requirements is that there is a child orientation, orientation on his/her possibilities and dispositions. And then the work with him/her becomes individualized. And then the child involved in the educational process becomes the main figure of this process. It is the gifted child, the child with special needs, the child with special interests. Both the teacher, and the psychologist should construct this process. There is a new functional of psychological work which, along with the standard diagnostics and the standard consultation, places the psychologist of education in the



middle of this situation. It is an extremely important point which directly follows from the regularity of developmental psychology, as our teachers taught. Our remarkable native developmental psychology created by our remarkable psychodidacts: Elkonin, Davydov, Galperin, starts to work now and the new school waits for it. Here is a novelty of school; this school is focused on childhood. And it is possible to say that then developmental psychology will start to play the leading role here.

A.G. Asmolov

Once again I pay attention to the name of our meeting "The Person in the Society of Risks". About 20 years ago, the known western sociologist published the book "Risk Society". This construct concerns Europe, Russia, and the States. Alas, it concerns the modern civilization in whole. Beslan remains in our historical memory. At that time there was a note sent to the president of Russia, Putin, where it was suggested to create a special direction, disaster psychology. Today these thoughts ring more strongly. And today the psychologist who is an emergency situation psychologist, trying to help, assumes loads of a human grief. I ask the Director of the Center for Emergency Psychological Help of the Russian Ministry of Emergency Situations to share views with us.

Y.S. Shoigu

Good afternoon, dear colleagues. I am the head of the psychological service of the Russian Ministry of Emergency Situations. Our service is 13 years old. During this time there was created an effective system, an effective applied area, which allows to help those who suffered from disasters in the short term. The subject matter of today's meeting is devoted to the V congress of the Russian psychological society, and in the Russian society I represent the block of psychological services of defence and law enforcement agencies. Therefore I would like to speak about those concrete results which, it seems to me, were important within our yesterday's work, within yesterday's work of the congress. The first and the most important thing is that the professional psychological community began to take an active position, first of all, in the problems of the quality of training of those practical experts who work at defence and law enforcement agencies, at schools and other establishments. It seems to me that this problem is extremely important and it is very pleasant that our professional community takes an active position in solution of these problems, on the one hand, with a view to provide the quality of experts, and now the only guarantor of the quality is a certain individual professional responsibility and decency of experts, and on the other hand, with a view to create conditions for free orientation in a variety of methodical materials, diagnostic and correctional instruments. It is the greatest problem. Now there are a lot of diagnostic and correctional techniques. In a great variety they are presented in the modern market, however a certain practical expert who works with certain people has no criterion of its estimation, whether it is good and scientifically proved, whether we can apply it. Yesterday these problems were rather seriously discussed within the congress work. Therefore, it seems to me, they are actual and they are a reflection of rather a new, practical, active position of the professional commu-



nity. Problems of experts' certifications, creation of registers, and many other things that my colleagues have discussed are connected with this. I don't want to repeat the stated above. One more concrete result, which seems extremely important for me, is the result connected with the fact that now psychologists of defence and law enforcement agencies enter the Russian psychological society as a collective member. Now there are a lot of psychologists of defence and law enforcement agencies. There are more than 10 000 if to count at all departments, throughout the country. It is rather a large professional community which has its specific activity conditions, characteristics of this professional activity. In summary I would like to express my thanks to the colleagues for the work. Thank you, I've derived sincere enjoyment from it.

A.G. Asmolov

Along with the psychology of safety the psychology of innovations sounds more and more brightly today. At the end of the day, when we live not only in "the society of risks", but also in "the society of knowledge", in creative society, or we dream that it would appear, there are key problems. How is it possible to initiate innovations? How is it possible to transform our country from a blind appendage? I call on the author of the book "On Innovative Behavior Motivation" Eduard Golozhinsky.

E.V. Golozhinsky

Thank you, Alexander Grigorievich. Good afternoon, dear colleagues, I would want to note that, actually, the psychology status in society and in human sciences changes today. Obviously we endure the technological structure change. Today we speak about the post-industrial society, economy of knowledge, information society. But there is the only sense; there is a change of a base economy driving force. The human with the ability to creativity, ability to transcend, ability to produce innovations becomes this driving force. And, in fact, the production of innovations is a base characteristic of a successful structure today. So, there is a problem. If the human is the driving force of any economy (today not casually all states: China, India, the States, etc., entered the race to create new educational systems), what should be the quality of this capital. Can the clever become the rich? Yes, it is a problem of our economy. I would like to fix this important thesis. Today the features of thinking and motivation are geoeconomic. The potential defines the nation richness. Researches show, and here the role of psychology is extremely important and underestimated, that the achievement motivation increase definitely precedes the patent activity growth, power consumption growth. There is the achievement motivation term in psychology, i.e. the child aspires either to achieve something, or to avoid failure, to avoid the new, aspires to have a protective position. Definitely this connection shows that if in fairy tales, for example in any culture, this achievement motive is increased, within 20 years it is observed an enormous inflow of patents, innovative activity, intelligence quotient increase by 10 points on the average, almost GDP doubling. In this sense, I want to pay attention to that still the realized formation of such innovative strategies wasn't a subject of neither education, nor psychology. Such a person, let's call him/her a Bill Gates for convenience, grew ripe in culture, undergoing many severe trials,



broke. All successful people are very similar, similar by their psychological resources; they believe in their forces, in achievement motivation, they have a tolerant attitude to uncertainty. Uncertainty doesn't frighten them; they perceive it as a challenge and make a step forward. These things are formed during lifetime; these are cognitive resources; these things we should form in the education system today. We are engaged in this and it is behind the innovative personality concept. And we are deeply convinced that in old educational environments it is impossible to create such people; it is necessary to design an absolutely new educational system. It is an important thesis. Today we speak about the development of high humanitarian technologies, as some alternative of technocratization. It is clear; we need to overcome the Russian lag in technology. But the development of the technologies conformable to the nature of formation of the human in a human is the prospect and the major task of tomorrow. Since not a single, to be exact very many, initiative have stumbled over mental barriers and people's unreadiness to change. The second important thesis which we also underestimate is that today the whole closely-related field is formed. These are so-called cognitive sciences, cognitive psychology. In fact, it is an interdisciplinary field of knowledge where in a manner there is a work on the human nature change. Yes, there appear biological prostheses operated directly from the brain, there are researches of genetic and environmental factors of abilities in training, i.e. soon we will obtain the unique technologies promoting mechanized training, and in this sense psychology also plays an active role today. Researches in this field encourage. Thank you.

A.G. Asmolov

Thanks you Eduard! A few years ago my perception was surprised by a small program, the training program, to be more precise the psychological training, which was called "Tolerance Training for Riot Squad Groups". I pay your attention to the name of this program. Along with childhood psychology, safety psychology, psychology of innovations, today there is a special direction; it is tolerance psychology, the psychology which is engaged in risks of xenophobic behavior, xenophobias which turn upside down our country. Today this direction is rather seriously presented in many psychological researches. One of leaders of this direction is Pavel Ermakov.

P.N. Ermakov

Thank you, Alexander Grigorievich. Good afternoon, colleagues, I would like to start with a classical image of the psychologist in a society. Probably, it is the image generated by the western films. Basically it is a person sitting in an armchair, nearby there is a couch on which there lies someone, with hands behind the head; he/she discusses his/her life, and the psychologist makes inquiries about those problems which this person has. This is an ordinary opinion. Who is the psychologist? Who is the psychologist: an ideologist, who imposes own way of thinking, the way of thinking of a society, any certain group of a society, or the one, who helps the person to understand, to understand the identity, to understand the personal features, to understand what he/she is in this world and what he/she is in this society? We and the leading faculties of psychology on psychologists' training try to be guided by this sec-



ond model. He/she is the person who helps another to realize himself and to realize what this person is. For us, for the polycultural, polyconfessional, polyethnic state it is very important what Alexander Grigorievich has told. It is the idea of how to live in the Russian multipolar society, how we correspond to each other, how we respect customs, traditions, morals and manners of others, how we attitude to beliefs of other people and how these other people attitude to our traditions. Now I watch a scrolling text where last year according to the FSS head it has been annihilated about 50 heads of armed bands. But I would tell you that it is an iceberg top, but the iceberg remains. About 300 persons, young men, are annually recruited at armed bands of the south of Russia. Not all from them reach the weapon. But the most part, believe me, I tell it with competence, really, reaches the weapon. It is already terrible. Why is it youth, including student's youth? Remember an explosion of two Chechen girls near the hotel "National"? Excuse me, both have graduated pedagogical universities. Both are college-bred. One of them worked as a teacher. What promotes this? There are different reasons. One shouldn't think that any personal problems are main incitements. Therefore there should be an education, development of tolerant relations. Tolerant does not mean all-forgiving and all-understanding, turning the other cheek. It is nothing of the kind. Tolerance means all that should be in a normal human society. This is a respect for rights and freedom of another person, respect for rights and freedom of other ethnicity, other confessional belonging. Certainly, there are a lot of difficulties. Sometimes even you influence, about what we have already spoke here. You influence the consciousness, subconsciousness and ideology of people more, than professionals, than psychologists. But, nevertheless, this aspect of counteraction to the ideology of extremism, counteraction to the ideology of terrorism is one of the major problems of a modern psychological science and practice. Now it is needed, wherever the psychologist works. Yuliya Sergeevna has spoken about psychologists of the Ministry of Emergency Situations who realize a great work. They are the first at the frontiers of a human grief. The first, but it is an ambulance. What happens to these people further? Who supports them? How do they overcome everything that happened during any certain, concrete moment? It is behind the scenes. But these are practical psychologists, people who should guide our lives, generally speaking. Thank you.

A.G. Asmolov

Dear colleagues, here we have designated some directions in a palette of the modern psychological problems connected with new practices in psychology, new psychotechnologies. We could speak indefinitely, but psychologists don't want to bear a likeness to bores. As you remember the bore is a person, who when is asked, how he/she is, really starts to tell how he/she is. In these situations we wait for your questions. Please, introduce yourself, if it is possible.

I. Smirnova, "Personnel Management" journal

Alexander Grigorievich, my first question concerns the personality psychology. Society aspires to innovations. Many new technologies became available. How does it influence the personality? We know that now they work on the artificial intelligence



creation. Also there is the Internet. Now there are new possible prospects, but the personality psychology is the most unstable instrument, it is very easy to manipulate it. And now we see that blogs, many sites carry out researches and say that soon the most perspective and highly paid work will be a profession of the blogger, but the blogger, actually, makes nothing; the blogger can offer nothing valuable to a society. But he/she becomes a tribune. How can psychology help to dot its i's and cross its t's here? What is its benefit in this question? Thanks.

A.G. Asmolov

You have asked the question having a direct reference to the focus of our communication; it is "The Personality in the Society of Risk". As one of my colleagues has said, the matter is that the "diagnosis" of the person of the 21st century sounds paradoxical: psychologically healthy but personally sick. Pay attention to these words. Memory is normal, thinking is excellent. But personality is disorientated. Personality loses itself, as the great psychologist Victor Frankl said, "The person is constantly in search of the sense". In this situation the increase of a virtual reality, invincible virtual reality, raises great questions and challenges. There appeared a virtual identity concept. There appeared concepts of multiple virtual identities. Here they forget that in a virtual world there increases a responsibility loss. This is what is very serious. And when they ask a child of 5–6 years old how it is possible to solve a problem, he/she answers: "It depends on a weapon and the quantity of lives I have". I quote the answer concerning the problem solution. In this regard, we think that in the field of management, and in many other fields, there should work an anti-manipulation program. We mustn't be manipulated. We mustn't be puppets. The credo that we develop in the personality psychology may be expressed as follows: they are born individuals, become personalities, but individuality is to be defended. If the person turns into the person living according to a "how may I serve you?" formula, if he/she is a conformist, an automatic conformist, using the language of Fromm, there will be a very difficult situation. We will lose that creative, civil society to which we aspire. In this regard they develop a number of unique programs connected with the personality psychology. Noting that Pavel Ermakov has said, we develop the program of the psychology of negotiations at the psychology faculty. Have bloggers become negotiators today? Pay attention to this. But at the same time I want to pay attention to the stylistics of behavior of a number of bloggers. It has a character of expressional stylistics. When some bloggers make statements at squares, I look at them, and I am seeing double, with all due respect for them. I remember Kashpirovsky who said: "I give you an attitude!" The crowd, which they call "a clever crowd" in the Internet, may be clever, but its behavior is a behavior with absolutely different logicians and lines. Psychology is ready to this. Not casually, now there is a symposium or a round table of the Internet psychology. Now it is at our faculty and it will be in progress these days. Therefore once again I say that the Internet psychology is a serious direction. As for journalists, we had an article "A Competition Between Journalists in Blogs, Journalists-Bloggers, and Professional Journalists". This line has also been designated.



E. Ivanitskaya, "The First of September" pedagogical newspaper

I have a question to Pavel Nikolaevich, and may be to Alexander Grigorievich. Now I will name a certain group of our society to which the majority of us belongs, between ourselves. Meanwhile, this group is named by a word, which is inappropriate even to say, which is neglected. And when I'll say this word, everyone will start to hesitate. So, to cut a long story short, I speak about atheists. We have tolerance, multiconfessional tolerance in our society. I will not go into details here. Our society is irreligious. But, nevertheless, it dances and shuffles that it believes in God, because it is impossible to admit atheism.

A.G. Asmolov

I'll call on Pavel Nikolaevich, but I remember a situation they asked one of remarkable leaders of our country, Egor Gaidar, who has unfortunately passed away, "Tell us, please, are you an atheist?" And he answered journalists a remarkable answer after which they were silent. "I am an agnostic", he answered. I pay attention to this situation. There is a different self-consciousness of these things. In particular, I am responsible for the religion program at school on one of lines. At the same time, after Voltaire who has introduced a tolerance concept and who didn't represent either of faiths, I want to say that tolerance is much wider, than either of confessions. It is both inter-ethnic problems, and interconfessional problems. You know, there is a courage to be a religious person, but not less there is a courage to be an atheist. In this regard I'll remind you one more brief dialogue between Alexander Men, alas, passed away, and Fazil Iskander. When Men discussed with Iskander an "atheist – not atheist" problem, he has said the following: "It is much more difficult for the atheist, than for me. I have the God support, but the atheist should make own internal decision, making an internal choice, relying on self, relying on the person's strength and belief in the human". This Alexander Men's answer, who as, you know, was one of leading figures of our culture, is improbably important answer for me. Therefore answering those who are afraid to name themselves the atheist, I say that it is always difficult to be a personality, individuality. Today atheism has become an outlook choice, instead of the imposed outlook. And this is an important achievement of the civil society.

P.N. Ermakov

Colleagues, I think that we are not a society of atheists. We are a society of the stratified atheists. Who has a cross under your shirts, under clothes? It is on a question of atheists. Here is a simple example. It is close to me. I know well these facts. In the Stavropol Territory, according to the last census, 30 percent of the population practices Islam. Let's take the Muslim republics. I do not take Chechnya where is the largest mosque, it was probably endowed by the Federation. Let's take Dagestan. In Dagestan there are about two thousand mosques. About a half of them are registered, i.e. they are established legally, through administrative bodies, registered. What is a mosque? Is there a school behind a mosque? Surely there is. Is there a Sunday school behind a mosque? Surely there is. Are there people who go abroad to study in higher educational institutions, Islamic institutions, behind a mosque?



There are two thousands only in Dagestan. It is a simple example. Let's take Orthodoxy. In the Rostov Region there are inverse quantities: 70 percent of the population classes themselves as the Orthodox, about 15 percent practices Judaism, but these are normal figures for the Rostov Region, and a small, but rather active layer, about 10 percent, is the Muslim population. Are we atheists? Does somebody name himself an atheist?

E. Ivanitskaya, "The First of September" pedagogical newspaper

I am a firm, strong, clear atheist. I, naturally, become more and more rigid with pressure increase. Besides, it is talked of the inquiries which are carried out by either of centers. Besides a question "Are we the Orthodox?" responsible interrogators ask another question, "Do you believe in God?" The Orthodox is 70 percent, but "Do you believe in God?"... Further it becomes clear that ...

A.G. Asmolov

I'm sorry, let's come to other questions. The only thing I would like to say is the following. A most recent inquiry showed that when the course "Bases of a Religious Culture and Secular Ethics" was entered in Russia, in all regions of Russia parents (more than 60 percent) chose separately Islam, Orthodoxy, Judaism, i.e. greater parents' population chooses this ...

E. Ivanitskaya, "The First of September" pedagogical newspaper

It occurs because of pressure.

A.G. Asmolov

On the contrary, without any pressure! Colleagues, this question is very important for us. Please, other questions?

I. Perederzeva, "Rio" newspaper

It is fine that native psychologists face high aims. I would like to bring you back to earth, because we cannot yet jump to these high aims. I have three questions. First, what is Moscow from the point of view of the psychologist? From the point of view of the journalist and the Moscow-born and bred it is a crowd. It is not only the crowd of people, but also the crowd of nation. And, accordingly, it is a tolerance problem. On the one hand, the crowd of people requires adaptation from all of us. It stares us in the face now. On the other hand, sometimes we are completely whacked out. There is a concept of tolerance limits. To what extent is it possible to endure? It is the first question. Secondly, fashion magazines very often say, "Is everything bad? Buy a lipstick, and everything will be better". Shopping is a popular concept. Are there recipes, pills which would help the person with a deep depression to distract, switch over, cease to think that the world has failed, and he/she is nobody in this world? And here is the third question. There are professions which degenerate, for example, a driver. Everyone knows how to drive a motor car. The profession, of course, has the right to existence, but everyone is participating in it. Now everyone is a psychologist. Everyone may offer you an advice. Where is it possible to read? Where is it possible to train to be an applied psychologist? Who is to be trusted? These are three questions. Thank you very much.

**V.V. Rubtsov**

Concerning the first question I want to say that you can turn to us. At our university we have an ethnopsychology department where there was conducted a very serious research of ethnoculture in Moscow. There is a very interesting "map of intensity in Moscow". It is shown how it is in districts, regions and what is made to lower any things through the education system. We work with certain educational institutions. These are very terrestrial things. After all, we speak about terrestrial things. We will answer your question with pleasure. It is in reference to Moscow.

P.N. Ermakov

I would like to add some words on this issue. Look, when some decades ago the Germans began to invite the Turkish population, they counted that the West European culture would crush everything and everything would be uniform. But the most severe stratification came out of it. In Moscow, and the data of Academician Rubtsov are fair, everything is really so. There is the most severe stratification, including ethnic, confessional. When it is a time of namaz and some thousands of people get their mats and execute that they execute at Gorky Street, what is it called? From here there is what we do and what it is necessary to do.

A.G. Asmolov

Recently there appeared a huge two-volume book which is called "Tolerance Limits". It is an absolutely correct concept which shows that classical tolerance should be a choice. I can't be tolerant towards fascists, towards those who carry a message of humanphobia. It is necessary to understanding. The government of Moscow has clearly specified a principle which is called "Principle of Mutual Adaptation of Inhabitants of Moscow and Emigrants". And here the principle of mutual adaptation is rather difficult. Such programs are developed both in Moscow, and in Russia. As to the fact that everyone is a psychologist, here not everyone agrees. F.M. Dostoevsky literally shouted, "Don't name me a psychologist! I am a realist!" Concerning practical psychologists and where they are trained I call on Yury Petrovitch.

Y.P. Zinchenko

As to practical psychologists, we train them in the leading institutes of higher education. Even if you have no basic psychological education, after the first higher education it is possible to enter the program of additional education and to be educated as a psychologist during four-five years. On the other hand, we are against such approach which is also possible now. One may receive his/her bachelorhood at a fish university, with all due deference to fish, caviar etc., then enter the MA clinical psychology course at any institute of higher education, the Moscow State University, for example. Those, who sit here, can say that he/she would hardly enter the university. But this one crosses the road, goes to a commercial institute of higher education, presents the documents, pays for education at cashier's office, and receives a diploma at once. We are against such a system of psychological education, perhaps, you share our point of view. Therefore this two-gradualness among psychologists even in Europe, no less than among physicians, is distinguished in a separate monoprepara-



tion, i.e. in Europe one should be educated as a psychologist during not less than five years, not simply receiving a degree of the bachelor of any specialty, and then becoming the master of psychology. It is a monopreparation. Here we defend this system. As to the second higher education, we understand that there are short-term forms, short-term courses etc. But it is some degree of qualification in some concrete psychology problems. Therefore also there is a professional qualification. The professional qualification is a full-fledged second higher psychological education, and it should last not less than five years. Yes, there may be a law that it should be paid, but, nevertheless, it shouldn't be empty, artificial, fraudulent. We spoke about references. It will be necessary to finish the creation of this national register or the register of psychologists.

I. Perederzeva, "Rio" newspaper

I would like to add a little. It seemed to me that I said that I'm not supporting the people publishing "I Am My Own Psychologist" books. The question was where to go, if there is depression? Depression is a medical diagnosis. Only doctor can diagnose it. One mustn't diagnose himself and read this book. Initially it is a wrong approach. Yury Petrovitch told about it. It is called "the integrated master". It is impossible to receive bachelorhood at an institute of higher education and to make ideal and illusory plans that in two years it is possible to become a clinical psychologist and to arrange psychotherapeutic consultations. It seemed to me that the pathos of yesterday's certification discussion is connected with this. Now, unfortunately, the state policy is that it has shifted the responsibility for quality of services on professional communities. It concerns not only psychologists, but also some other professional communities, but including psychologists. And we took the responsibility to start this work, to create this register of professional psychologists. It is important from two aspects. On the one hand, it is made to secure the professional community. We guarantee and we know these certain people. But also consumers of these services know who to turn to. There is one more recommendation, after all one mustn't diagnose himself and read simple books; it is needed to leave this illusory representation that psychology is very simple thing and it is possible to compile some techniques to receive something. No, it needs teaching, teaching for a long time, six years, at least. It is necessary to understand it and this is the idea to introduce. Then there won't be any problems neither at the professional community, nor among clients.

P.N. Ermakov

Concerning the pills which are to be taken, usually it ends in alcoholism and narcomania.

A.G. Asmolov

Dear colleagues, there is a Cinderella situation when they say, "Your time is up". Our work is approaching completion. There remain four minutes. If someone has a question, which he/she have to ask not to become a neurotic, please, we listen to you. Since, the repressed question leads to neurosis.

**A. Puzova, "Russian News"**

Once at a youth hangout I got acquainted with a young girl; she was 24–25 years. She told that she worked as a psychologist, i.e. she had graduated. This is what surprised me. She says: "Here I'm dressed in this way – violet tights, ponytails – but at work I wear glasses, a strict black suit, I have a photo as if I'm married. At work we create an image of a family, serious woman, who is wonderful, fine. So the person who is in need of help sees that I'm positive, everything is excellent, I have a loving husband and a child". Actually, she doesn't have anything of these. I was simply shocked. A person comes with a problem and obviously all this help is based on deception. It was in Moscow.

A.G. Asmolov

Unfortunately, in any life and in any practice we face some deviations. Here you have also faced such a deviation. And, first of all, I think that psychologists are always ready to work with such a person.

L. Vinogradov, "Mercy.ru"

Yury Petrovitch, certification is remarkable, of course. But I wonder where all these offered services of charlatans, fast three-month, nine-month courses will disappear. They remain. People, who don't know that now there is the congress of the Russian psychological community, will go there as usual. What should we do with this?

Y.P. Zinchenko

Colleagues, the problem is solved jointly, but we perfectly understand that it never happens as if yesterday we made any decisions, today we wake up and suddenly the country starts to live in a different way. Such a thing never happens really, unless after a presidential election. It is collaboration of psychologists, i.e. we undertake these intra corporate activities of creation of transparent sites and available information on psychologists and those who aren't members of this corporation. Therefore it is your choice, either you go to those who are able to support competently, or you go to someone who isn't able. Therefore a choice problem is a consumer's problem. The second moment is mass media. After all, "Psychic Battle" is conducted not by psychologists. It is clear that there is a stage adaptation element. Therefore it is also a question of our general psychological culture in school, society and administrative structures. There is no need to think that we don't understand what occurs at Bolotnaya Square, somewhere else. That is we sit here, and outside the building everything is differently. Actually, psychologists perfectly understand it. Now, probably, psychology itself is in a situation of nuclear physics in the thirties of the last century, when the resources of technology allowed theoretical physics to create certain perceptible and tangible things in the form of nuclear power sources, on the one hand, and on the other hand, in the form of the nuclear weapon. Now all technologies around: the Internet, mass media, information technologies, have approached the possibility when the academic university theoretical psychology becomes the real weapon. All revolutions in North Africa and everything that occurs in the world is a psychological weapon that deprives us of management without blood. There is no need to explode a bomb; it is enough



to spread something in a blog. It is not necessary to kill a large number of people; it is enough to spread any mythologically constructed construct which is perfectly built in. And a person becomes its part, points to a square, comes out on streets, and further participates in something. Everything concerns the question which was asked, may be in a perfunctory manner. Are we atheists or not atheists? Are we believers or not believers? The problem doesn't consist in the value system one shares. What is a system of values inside of me? Earlier during seventy years the state declared that there is a moral code, may be it correlated with something from the Bible. There were such interpretations. But this problem concerns that now the state has no message and the system of values which one is ready to share and to live with them every day. When we speak about this subject, we speak about the American dream, about something, but the Russian dream, which is shared by the most part of society, is not offered yet. Therefore the "atheism – not atheism" problem is slightly higher. In general it concerns the system of values. And if Orthodoxy gives me that system of values which is close to me, which I share, Orthodoxy occupies an axiological niche inside of me and is the main vector of my spiritual life. Therefore now psychologists, journalists and the society itself have to work out this axiological superstructure, i.e. the system of values which would be close to the majority of the population of our Russia. In Russia there always were two parties: one, which possessed centripetal forces, and another which possessed centrifugal forces. They were named differently. During either of the periods some was in advance, the other was behind. We endure these periods and these moods in Russia now. Therefore it is necessary to realize, where it is our choice and where it is a result of someone's manipulation. The reflection of this is an important point in the question the quantity of atheists among us.

L. Vinogradov, "Mercy.ru"

I've never heard any reasoned example concerning atheists. I've never heard that somewhere they have been manipulated and they impose something on them. Unfortunately, time shows that after 70 years of atheism these are atheists who are more often not ready to dialogue.

Y.P. Zinchenko

It is a question of tolerance, therefore we have many occasions and possibilities for collaboration, both psychologists, and journalists. Since, only with your help together we can increase our general psychological competence, general psychological culture, without imposing, gradually, trusting each other deeper, wider.

L.A. Tsvetkova

I would like to present you more optimistic statistical data concerning the psychological competency of the population. We have made an analysis in the Northwest. If 10 years ago about 13 percent of people knew about existence of the professional community and could distinguish the psychologist from the psychotherapist and the psychoanalyst according to features of professional activity, it is 30 percent this year. It seems to me that, in general, the psychological competence of the population has increased. These are mutual efforts of the professional community and journalists who



can help us, all people, to increase this competence. You say that nothing changes with certification. You say that nothing is behind it. Yes, nothing is behind it, if not to explain to people where it is possible to turn to. If one wants to turn to a magician and healer, it is possible to go there. If one needs a professional psychologist, it is possible to go this way.

V.V. Rubtsov

Larissa Aleksandrovna, I would like to support you. There is Moscow data. Over the last three years parents' visits concerning their children increased. If earlier generally it concerned preschool children and junior schoolchildren, now it concerns teenagers. Teenagers address by themselves. We have a site named "The Child's Psychologist". Five thousand people visit this site. It is a serious figure. It increases. Now in connection with events which were connected with suicides, teenagers' addresses increase, i.e. the psychological competency of the population increases. It is a very good result of the psychological community work.

L.A. Tsvetkova

But, unfortunately, this data is in Moscow, the Northwest and St. Petersburg.

A.G. Asmolov

Dear colleagues, we finish our communication. We have no doubts that not casually this XX–XXI century many people call as "a human century", and sometimes we call it "a century of psychology" as the leading human science. It is not our megalomania. It is our dream. And saying this, we understand that thereby we, psychologists, those who have gathered for our fifth congress, take the responsibility to what occurs to the personality in this world, in creation of scenarios in the society of risk. Thank you very much.