

During the time that the staff has been working with their own role definition and problem solving, the young women will have been given work in a self-discovery, and the understanding of their social and institutional role.

At the heart of the training program will be a portable video communications system. It will serve the whole school as an ongoing report, evaluation (feedback producing), and educational tool.

A fifteen minute "program" of news relevant to the staff and the students will circulate through the houses on a regular schedule (perhaps just after meal time so that after six days of lunchtime, dinnertime playback all the houses will have been covered and the cycle can begin again). The program will consist of short segments from the various training workshops, brief information pieces, in-depth interview segments with key staff members, news reports from the outside which have to do with the world of the institution or the world of the young women, and perhaps an entertaining insert. The play-back will be followed by a brief discussion period designed to clear up any misinformation, to request additional information in areas covered or to suggest areas to be covered, but most of all to keep the institution current on the status of the training program. New pieces will be added each day and stale ones replaced. By the time the cycle is complete, it will be a new show. This video-information system will be supervised by a member of the S.R.A. student staff, but participation in the selection and editing of the pieces will be encouraged from the staff and from the students. It will be regarded as a "X" system and not part of the specific training design. It will be run as an "extra-curricular activity".

By opening these channels of communication, the overall level of mistrust will be reduced. The staff, teachers, social workers, houseparents and the young women will come to know each other better. It will make the helping relationship easier, and it will reduce the resistance level to being helped.

abram engelman and tom johnson

"When any profession, institution or system seeks to further itself without due regard to, or at the expense of, its clients and services, that profession, institution or system may be justly deemed psychotic."

Chaim Greenbaum

