



Letter to the Editor

Letter to the WCPRR Editor

Goffredo Bartocci

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Dear Prof. Daina Crafa,

It is with a particular state of mind that I write, after all this time, on the pages of our journal.

I am obviously delighted that your commitment has allowed the resumption of WCPRR publication, an important journal specifically because it is what we might call “atypical”, since from the first edition in 2006 it has coherently followed WACP multicultural premises and deeply humanistic oriented criteria.

I have had the opportunity to speak with Prof. Crafa during a Zoom meeting between WACP Past Presidents’ Group chaired by Prof. Roberto Lewis Fernandez. From the first meeting with Daina I had the pleasant impression that we could easily have a profitable exchange of opinions, confirming my impression from our first letters. Therefore, I have no doubt on the capacity of our standing Editor-in-Chief and on her Editorial Board to continue the course of our founding values and principles, which respect the fundamentals of a freestanding association like WACP: free from pre-arranged cultural and psycho-geopolitical conditioning.

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In this historical moment, from my Roman observatory, it appears mandatory that psychiatry should not indulge in specific polarization of theories kept alive surreptitiously by the aim to maintain cultural supremacy. Since ancient times, we have been accustomed to repeating Cicerone's refrain "o tempora o mores", to reveal the scandal of the local decline of values and costumes in the masses and in the cone of authority... briefly in culture. WACP World Congress has always respected the cultural beliefs of worldwide populations, maintaining a phenomenological neutrality. In fact, we have avoided criteria of assessment only based on our (Western) psychiatric paradigms. At the same time, we are conscious that a monastic self-referred way of evaluating what we call "psychopathology" gives us an enormous responsibility, since we claim to be the best model of democracy and civilization.

As we discussed at the WACP World Congress at Columbia University in New York, the focus of our attention should be on how psychiatry frames human phenomena, not only on individual delusion but also on cultural delusions. This is our profession as scholars in Cultural Psychiatry.

Anyway, it is not the moment for personal academic reflections. Today we must concentrate on congratulating the editorial group, wishing them the full success they deserve! So let me send my deepest wishes to you all. Bravo.

Prof. Goffredo Bartocci
WACP Co-Founder and Past President
WCPRR Founder and first Editor-in-Chief