

4.8.- INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATION

The procedure also contemplated an individual psychological evaluation of each of the program participants. The purpose of these evaluations was to see if we could define a common personality "profile" or determine if there existed some type of associated psychopathology related to the disruptive behaviors exhibited by the students who were referred to us.

In reality, this evaluation was only done in the three cases in which we suspected that the adolescent was suffering from some type of psychopathy. We only dealt with these cases because the majority of the students did not want to participate in this type of evaluation, especially since most of them were not very enthusiastic about coming to our Unit in the first place. We thought that insisting on this evaluation might interfere with our ability to do effective therapy (either family or group).

The three participants who were interviewed could be described as follows:

- One was referred to the Children's Mental Health Service where he was diagnosed with Hyperactive Attention Deficit Disorder. This case was not then recommended for family therapy. He was also not eligible for participation in the maturation groups.
- The second case showed signs of an Dysocial disorder, associated with the family context. Family therapy was recommended in this case.

Neither of these two students were eligible for participation in the maturation group because they did not meet the basic requirements (see inclusion criteria).

- The third case was a 17 year old girl who showed symptoms of anxiety related to an Adaptive Disorder. She was put into a maturation group. The family was not open to the idea of family therapy.