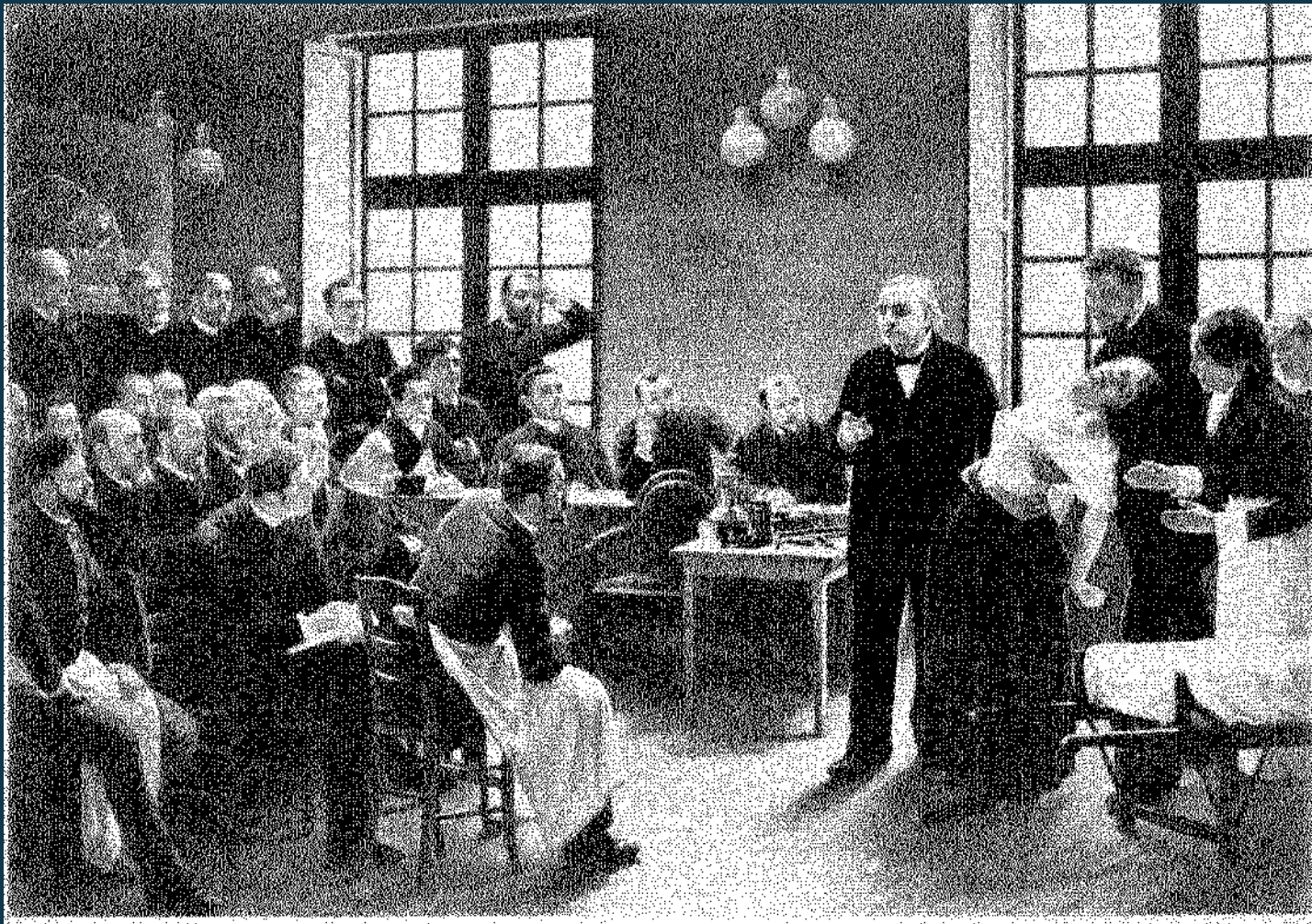


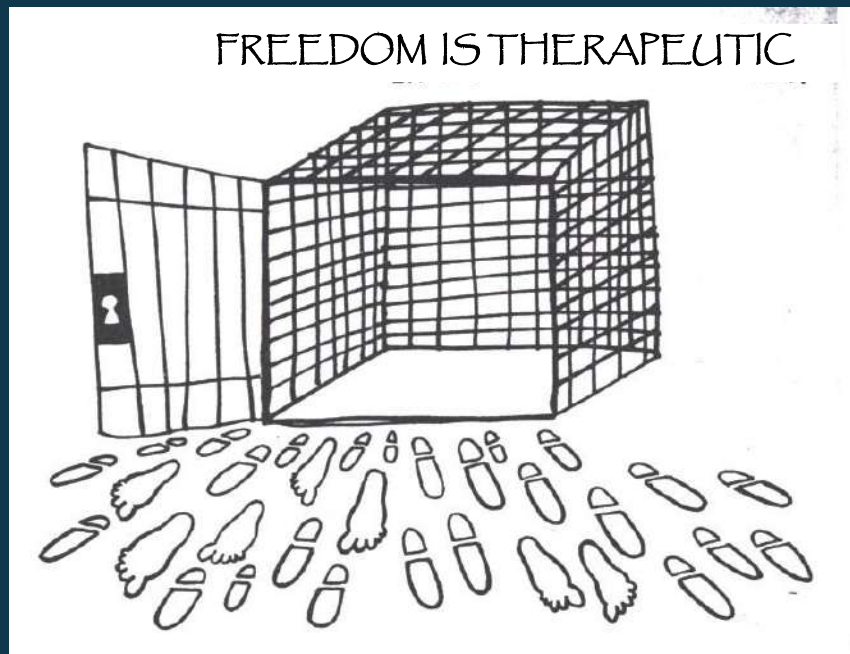
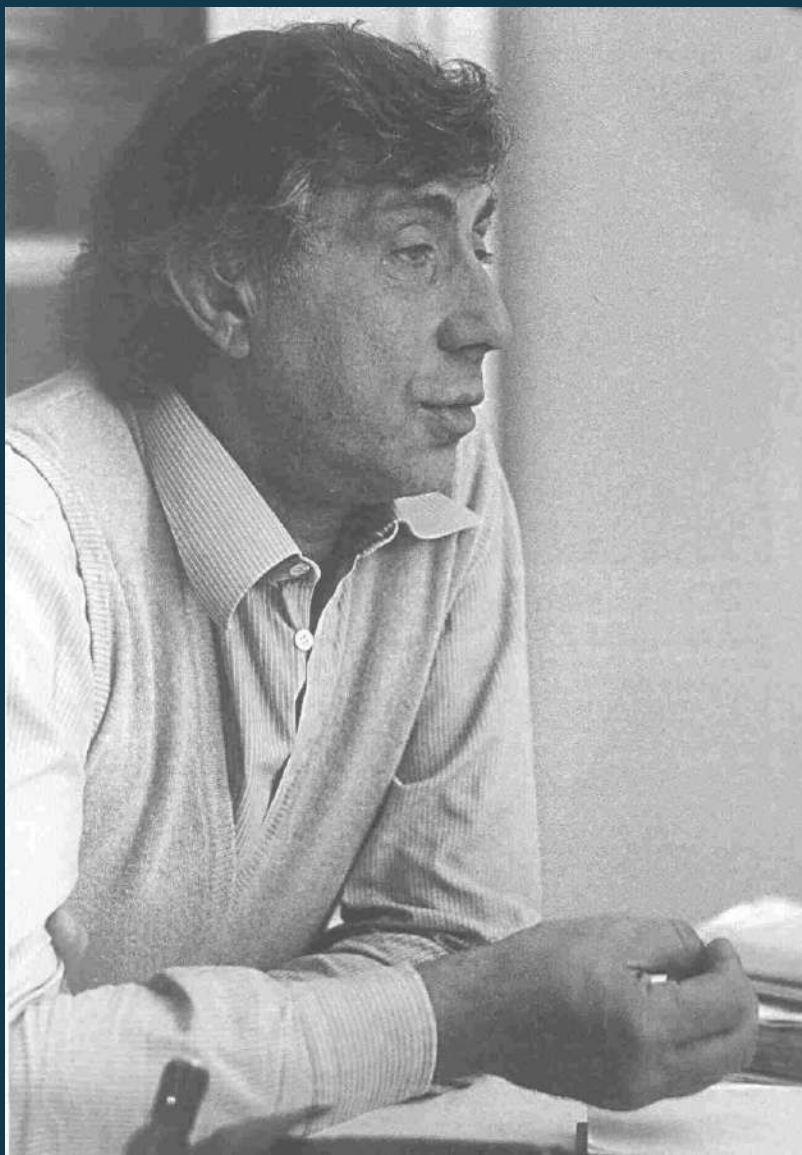


Soteria: a classical experience in the history of true psychiatry, still healthy today





The Soteria Paradigm: Reframing schizophrenia. In Memoriam of Loren Mosher. Hamburg, Nov. 6-7, 2004





Dinosaur or astronaut? The



non professional staff

No neuroleptics

Absense of formal therapy



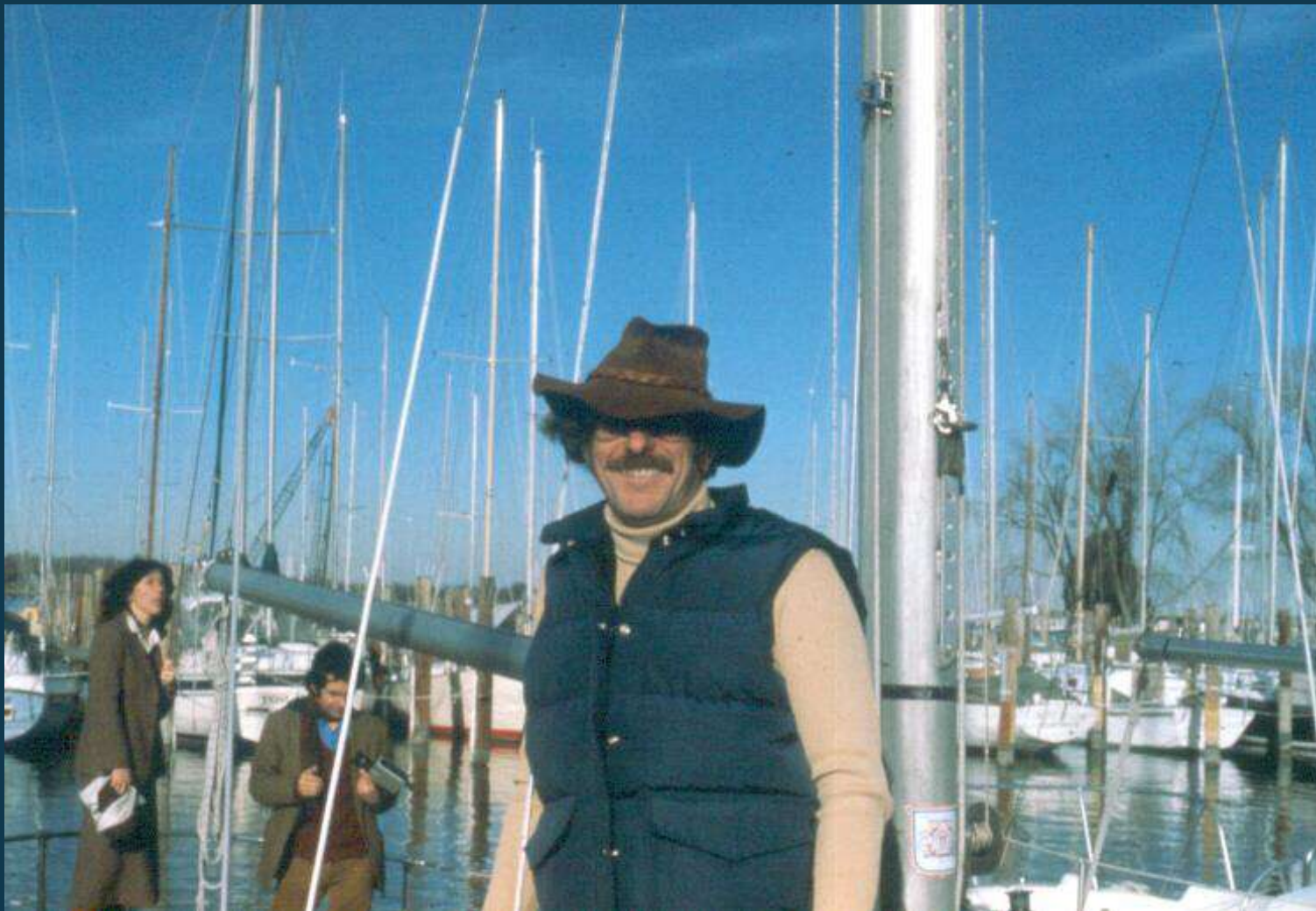






The Soteria Paradigm: Reframing schizophrenia. In Memoriam of Loren Mosher. Hamburg, Nov. 6-7, 2004







Alternatives to hospitalization



Reasons to limit the use of psychiatric hospitalization

- **Decontestualization:** when the person is removed from his usual physical and interpersonal environment
- **Dehistorification:** the hospital routine violates the person's sense of individuality
- **Further decontestualization:** the diagnostic process transforms the "problem" into a "disease"
- **Negative attributions:** the diagnostic and treatment process is based on negative attributions



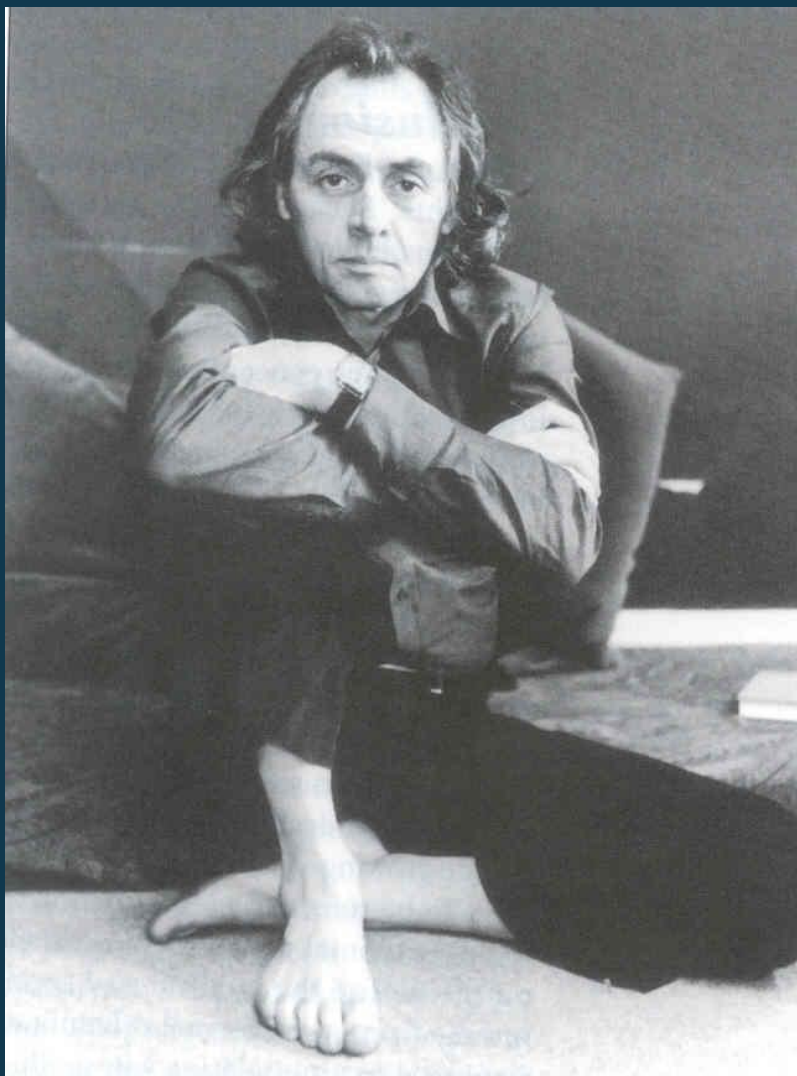
Reasons to limit the use of psychiatric hospitalization

- **Humanitarian:** the institution treats persons like objects
- **Moral:** hospitals are known to cause the iatrogenic disease “institutionalism”
- **Economic:** inpatient care consumes 70% mental health dollars
- **Scientific:** 19 of 20 studies comparing inpatient psychiatric hospitalization with a variety of alternative forms of care found the alternatives as effective and less costly



Background culturale

- **Trattamento morale del XIX secolo**
- **Tradizione psicanalitica della terapia interpersonale intensiva (Sullivan, 1931; Fromm-Reichmann, 1948)**
- **Esperienze di terapeuti che hanno descritto la crescita attraverso la psicosi (Perry, 1962)**
- **Tradizione di Philadelphia Association (Laing, 1967)**



Kingsley-Hall of Philadelphia Association: therapeutic community established by Ronald Laing in the 1960s



Type of intervention:

Essentially psychosocial



Principi e pratiche della comunità terapeutica

(Daniels, 1975)

- La comunicazione tra staff e pazienti è aperta e diretta;
- I pazienti sono incoraggiati a partecipare attivamente al proprio trattamento;
- L'organizzazione gestionale offre a staff e pazienti l'opportunità di partecipare alle decisioni amministrative e terapeutiche;
- Benché lo staff continui a mantenere la responsabilità ultima, gran parte delle decisioni operative sono nelle mani dei pazienti;
- Spesso esistono organismi rappresentativi ed esecutivi dei pazienti, modellati secondo i principi della società democratica;
- Il reparto e l'ospedale rimangono in stretto contatto con la comunità esterna, con frequenti comunicazioni e relazioni tra il dentro e il fuori;
- di solito, il reparto ha la porta aperta e i pazienti godono di libera circolazione all'interno dell'area dell'ospedale.



Soteria: results

- **Comparable reduction of psychopathology at 6 weeks in both groups**
- **Psychosocial adjustment at 2-year follow-up. Experimental subjects:**
 - **Higher occupational status**
 - **More independent living arrangements**
 - **Fewer hospital admissions**
 - **Considerably lower neuroleptic drug treatment**
- **Comparable costs**



Treatment of acute psychosis without neuroleptics: two-year outcomes from the Soteria project.

Bola JR, Mosher LR.

The Soteria project (1971-1983) compared residential treatment in the community and

Newly diagnosed DSM-II schizophrenia subjects were assigned consecutively (1971 to

Multivariate analyses evaluated hypotheses of equal or better outcomes in Soteria on

Endpoint subjects exhibited small to medium effect size trends favoring experimental

Soteria treatment resulted in better 2-year outcomes for patients with newly diagnosed schizophrenia spectrum psychoses, particularly for completing subjects and for those with schizophrenia (when considering schizophrenia subjects separately, results indicate even more favorable outcomes in the Soteria-treated group).

In addition, only 58% of Soteria subjects received antipsychotic medications during the follow-up period, and only 19% were continuously maintained on antipsychotic medications

DMC



Therapeutic process at Soteria: results

- **Therapeutic environment:** Soteria resulted superior to the hospital in involvement, support and spontaneity (Was and Copes scales)
- **Staff attitude:** Soteria staff were more intuitive, flexible and tolerant, and paid more attention to residents' feelings,
- **Therapeutic relationship:** at Soteria it allowed the discovery and understanding of meanings in one's psychotic experience; residents were encouraged to recognize precipitating events and emotions and reframe them in the continuity of their lives



Essential therapeutic ingredients: Soteria

1. Positive expectations of recovery and learning from psychosis
2. Acceptance of psychotic persons' experience of themselves as real-event if not consensually validatable
3. Tolerance of extremes of human behavior without need to control it except when there is imminent danger
4. Staff's primary task is to be with the disorganized client; it must be specifically acknowledged that staff need not do anything
5. Flexibility of roles, relationships and responses
6. Normalization and usualization of the experience of psychosis by contextualizing it, framing it in positive terms, and referring to it everyday language
7. Sufficient time in residence (one to three months) for development of surrogate family relationships that allow imitation and identification with positive characteristics of staff and other clients
8. Sufficient exposure to positively valued for problem-solving that provide a new sense of efficacy, mastery and competence
9. Readily available post-discharge peer-oriented social network with which contact is begun while in residence

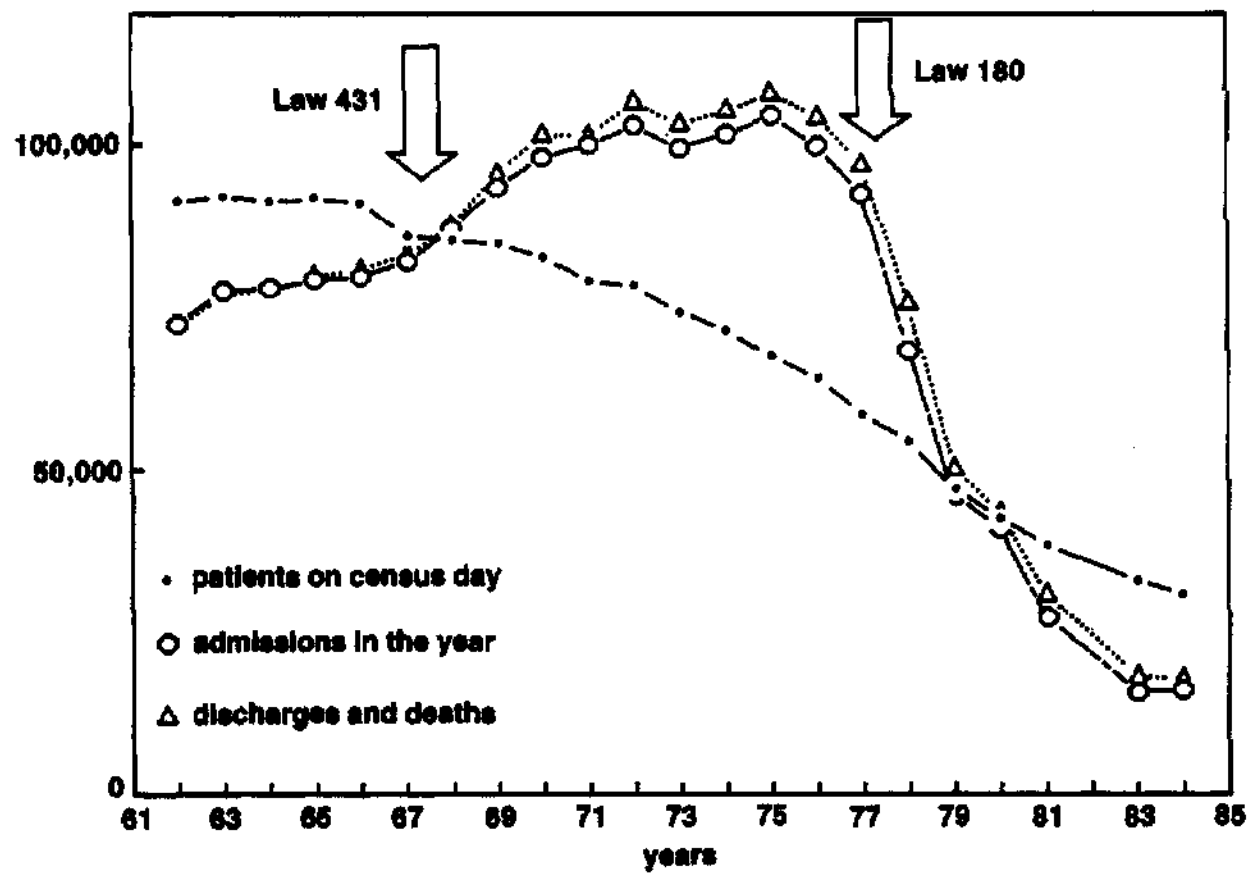


The Italian psychiatric reform: Law 180

- Prohibition of all admissions to state
- Implementation of community-based
 - Voluntary and involuntary hospitalisations only in emergency situations, in small units (no more than 15 beds) in general hospitals.



Effects of Law 180 (1)

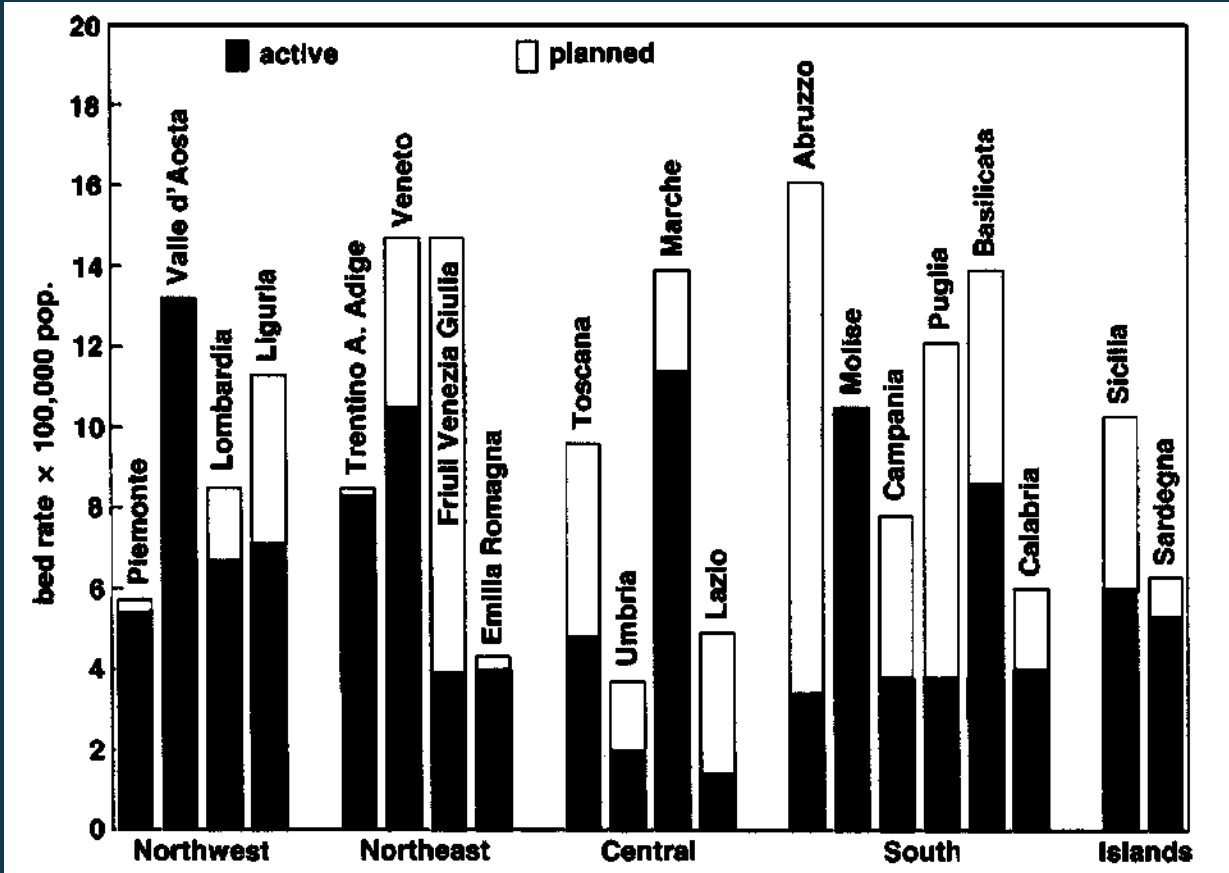


Data from ISTAT, 1964-1986.

FIGURE 13.3
Italy: State Mental Hospitals (1962-1984)
Indices of Hospital Activity



Effects of Law 180 (2)



Data from CENSIS, 1985.

FIGURE 13.6
Psychiatric Units in General Hospitals by Region
Italy (Dec. 31, 1984)

Assuming responsibility for a Catchment area





Essential therapeutic ingredients: South-Verona

1. **Multi-disciplinary team-work:** the team model is peer-oriented. Hierarchy is minimized and personal competence is valued irrespective of role
2. **Continuity of care:** same staff remain in charge of the same users through different treatment environments
3. **Long-lasting personal relationships** between staff and users are highly valued and encouraged
4. **Ongoing responsibility towards users:** *once in charge, in charge forever* policy
5. **Commitment to the more disturbed users** in the least restrictive environment: community services *replace* the mental ospital; they are not an add-up to treat less disturbed users
6. **Meeting users' needs:** all needs, including basic ones
7. **Contextualization:** a family and ecological approach is used
8. **Crisis intervention to prevent hospitalization:** community team-work, home visits, community mental health center
9. **Crisis prevention through ongoing follow-up:** users are seen on a regular basis and assertive community treatment is used when needed



Essential therapeutic ingredients in community mental health: South-Verona

1. Multi-disciplinary team-work: the team model is peer-oriented. Hierarchy is minimized and personal competence is valued irrespective of role
2. Continuity of care: same staff remain in charge of the same users through different treatment environments
3. Long-lasting personal relationships between staff and users are highly valued and encouraged
4. Ongoing responsibility towards users: *once in charge, in charge forever* policy
5. Commitment to the more disturbed users in the least restrictive environment: community services *replace* the mental hospital; they are not an add-up to treat less disturbed users
6. Meeting users' needs: all needs, including basic ones
7. Contextualization: a family and ecological approach is used
8. Crisis intervention to prevent hospitalization: community team-work, home visits, community mental health center
9. Crisis prevention through ongoing follow-up: users are seen on a regular basis and assertive community treatment is used when needed



Therapeutic ingredients of Soteria relevant for community mental health

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.

Only indirect influence on the model used in Verona. Commitment to the more disturbed

Continuity of care: same staff remain in charge of the same users through different treatment environments

Meeting users' needs: all needs, including basic ones

Contextualization: a family and ecological approach is used

Crisis intervention to prevent hospitalization: community team-work, home visits, community mental health center

Crisis prevention through ongoing follow-up: users are seen on a regular basis and assertive community treatment is used when needed



Am J Psychiatry. 1982 Feb;139(2):199-203.

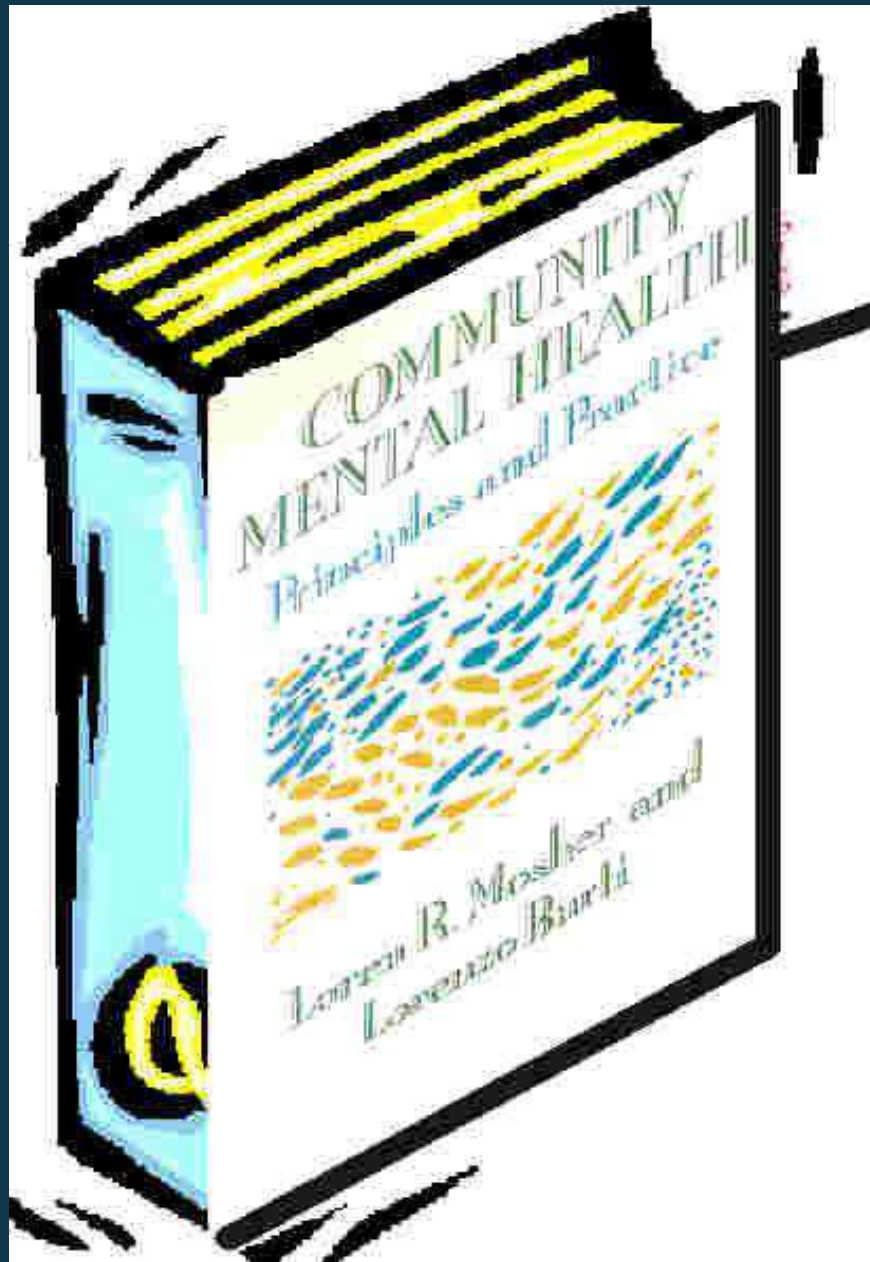
Am J Psychiatry. 1986 Dec;143(12):1580-4.

Training psychiatrists in the community: a report of the Italian experience.

Burti L, Mosher L.

They describe a model program and training design of a 4-year residency in which psychiatrists learn the skills for community work while actually working in the community. The residency differs from most U.S. residencies in having trainees responsible for patients wherever they are being treated (residents are not rotated between services), its strong team orientation, and the value placed on community work.

PMID: 3789212 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]





Nonspecific factors in psychosocial treatment

1. **Healing context:** the client perceives the helper and the facility as helping or providing context where the client can help himself
2. **Confiding relationship with helper:** building a working alliance
3. **Plausible causal explanation:** clinician and client evolve a shared definition of how and why the problem developed. This should lead to consensus about goals and strategy to achieve them
4. **Therapist personal qualities generate positive expectations:** therapist conveys clear, consistent, realistic, positive expectations
5. **Provision of success experiences:** the helping process starts by remoralizing the client and provide opportunities of success



Relational principles

(in parenthesis the paired nonspecific factor/s)

1. *Atheoretical Need to Understand* (Plausible Causal Explanation): to encourage relationships that are open, non-judgemental, tolerant, and respectful
2. *Continuity of Relationships* (Confiding Relationship): a team of three or more persons should be each client's primary therapeutic case manager/consultant
3. *Response Flexibility* (Confiding Relationship, Success Experiences): workers alert and responsive to changes in the client/situation
4. *Being With* (Confiding Relationship): positive, attentive presence without an expectation of doing something to the client.



Relational principles (2)

(in parenthesis the paired nonspecific factor/s)

5. ***Concrete Problem Focus*** (Success Experiences. Plausible Causal Explanation): it will also provide successes that are remoralizing and relationship building through gratitude (“doing with”)
6. ***Consultation*** (Healing Context. Positive Expectations): focus is on a return to functioning rather than a “cure”; it is collaborative, self-help, and peer-oriented
7. ***Partnership*** (Success Experiences): to develop *reciprocal* relationships over time. It preserves client power and minimises the staff's role as “experts.”
8. ***Expectation of self-help*** (Healing Context): clients are encouraged to evolve problem-solving strategies themselves and are helped to try them

At issue: predicting drug-free treatment response in acute psychosis from the Soteria project.

Bola JR, Mosher LR.

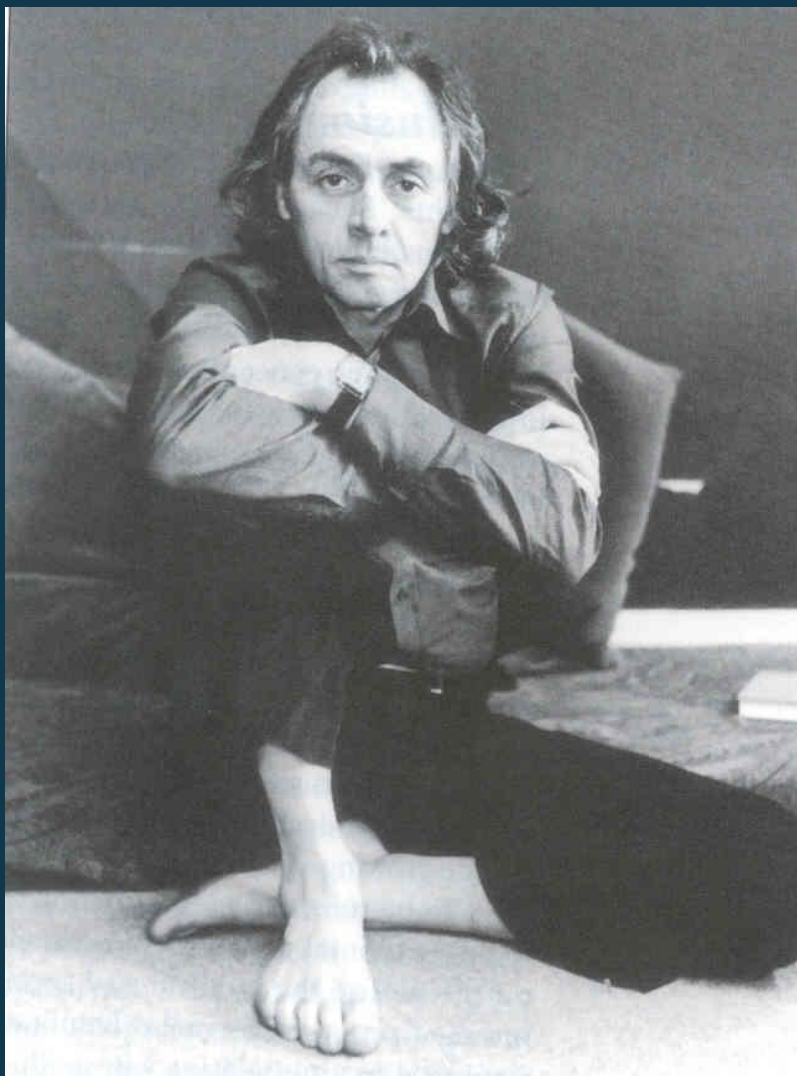
Although an estimated 25 to 40 percent of acute psychoses remit without antipsychotic

This retrospective exploratory study uses baseline information from the Soteria project

Forty-three percent of experimentally treated subjects received no antipsychotic

A predictive model using three variables (age, the Goldstein Adolescent Social Competence Scale score, and number of diagnostic symptoms) correctly identified this subgroup 79 percent of the time (boot-strapped 95% confidence interval [CI], 65-90%).

These data advance the hypothesis that an identifiable subgroup of individuals with early episode psychosis might fare better when receiving specialized psychosocial intervention and minimal or no use of antipsychotic medications.



**Kingsley-Hall della
Philadelphia
Association:
comunità
terapeutica fondata
da Ronald Laing
negli anni 1960**



Tipo di intervento:

Esclusivamente psicosociale



Principi e pratiche della comunità terapeutica

(Daniels, 1975)

- La comunicazione tra staff e pazienti è aperta e diretta;
- I pazienti sono incoraggiati a partecipare attivamente al proprio trattamento;
- L'organizzazione gestionale offre a staff e pazienti l'opportunità di partecipare alle decisioni amministrative e terapeutiche;
- Benché lo staff continui a mantenere la responsabilità ultima, gran parte delle decisioni operative sono nelle mani dei pazienti;
- Spesso esistono organismi rappresentativi ed esecutivi dei pazienti, modellati secondo i principi della società democratica;
- Il reparto e l'ospedale rimangono in stretto contatto con la comunità esterna, con frequenti comunicazioni e relazioni tra il dentro e il fuori;
- di solito, il reparto ha la porta aperta e i pazienti godono di libera circolazione all'interno dell'area dell'ospedale.



Caratteristiche essenziali degli ambienti efficaci per la psicosi acuta

- 1. Piccole dimensioni (6 clienti), come in una casa**
- 2. Operatori non impegnati ideologicamente**
- 3. Ricerca di un rapporto fra pari, fraterno**
- 4. Conservazione del potere personale**
- 5. Sistema sociale aperto (facilità di accesso e di uscita)**
- 6. Responsabilità dei partecipanti per la manutenzione della casa**
- 7. Differenziazione minima dei ruoli**
- 8. Gerarchia minima**
- 9. Incoraggiamento all'uso delle risorse del territorio**
- 10. Autorizzazione/incoraggiamento dei contatti dopo la dimissione**
- 11. Assenza di terapie formali all'interno della casa**



Funzioni essenziali dell'ambiente terapeutico a Soteria

- controllo delle stimolazioni
- appoggio temporaneo o rifugio
- protezione o contenimento
- supporto
- validazione
- struttura
- coinvolgimento
- socializzazione
- collaborazione o trattativa
- pianificazione

Funzioni
precoci

Funzioni
tardive



Caratteristiche auspicabili nel personale

- Forte senso del sé: tollera bene l'incertezza
- Vedute aperte, atteggiamento di accettazione, non censorio
- Paziente e non invadente
- Orientamento pratico, rivolto alla soluzione di problemi
- Flessibile



Caratteristiche auspicabili nel personale

- **Empatico**
- **Ottimista e incoraggiante**
- **Gentile ma fermo**
- **Dotato di humour**
- **Umile**
- **Pensa in termini di contesto**



Caratteristiche da evitare nel personale

- Fantasia del salvatore
- Costante distorsione delle informazioni
- Atteggiamento pessimista
- Sfruttamento dei clienti per i propri bisogni
- Troppo autoritario, ha bisogno di *fare* per gli altri
- Sospettoso, incolpa gli altri



Selezione del personale: esperienze di vita significative

- **Ha affrontato problemi di vita reale**
- **Ha vissuto con malati mentali**
- **Arti marziali**
- **Impegno nella comunità locale**
- **Addestramento a osservare e capire le proprie reazioni (ad es.: psicoterapia, supervisione)**
- **Ex utente**



Burnout: descrizione

- Scarsa energia
- Disinteresse per i clienti
- Clienti vissuti come frustranti, senza speranza, cronici, non motivati, incurabili, che non seguono le cure, dediti all'*acting out*...
- Assenteismo
- Elevato *turnover*



Burnout: cause

- **Setting troppo gerarchico—personale privo di potere**
- **Troppe regole introdotte dall'esterno—mancanza di autorità e di responsabilità locale**
- **Gruppo di lavoro troppo ampio o poco unito—manca lo spirito di équipe**
- **Stimoli troppo scarsi—routine**



Burnout: prevenzione e cura

a) principi

- **I successi concreti sollevano il morale**
- **Il personale deve avere potere**
- **Il personale si deve sentire membro di un'équipe che lo appoggia**
- **Impiego di esperienze di gruppo per promuovere la fiducia reciproca e lo spirito collettivo**
- **Offerta di nuove esperienze di apprendimento stimolanti**



Burnout: prevenzione e cura

b) tecniche specifiche

- **Didattica per gruppi su argomenti specifici e rilevanti per il lavoro**
- **Al bisogno, tenere un gruppo per la soluzione dei problemi tra membri dello staff**
- **Regolari discussioni dei casi problematici con un consulente**
- **L'équipe impara e applica nuove tecniche**
- **Supervisione dal vivo**
- **Feste**
- **Amicizie**



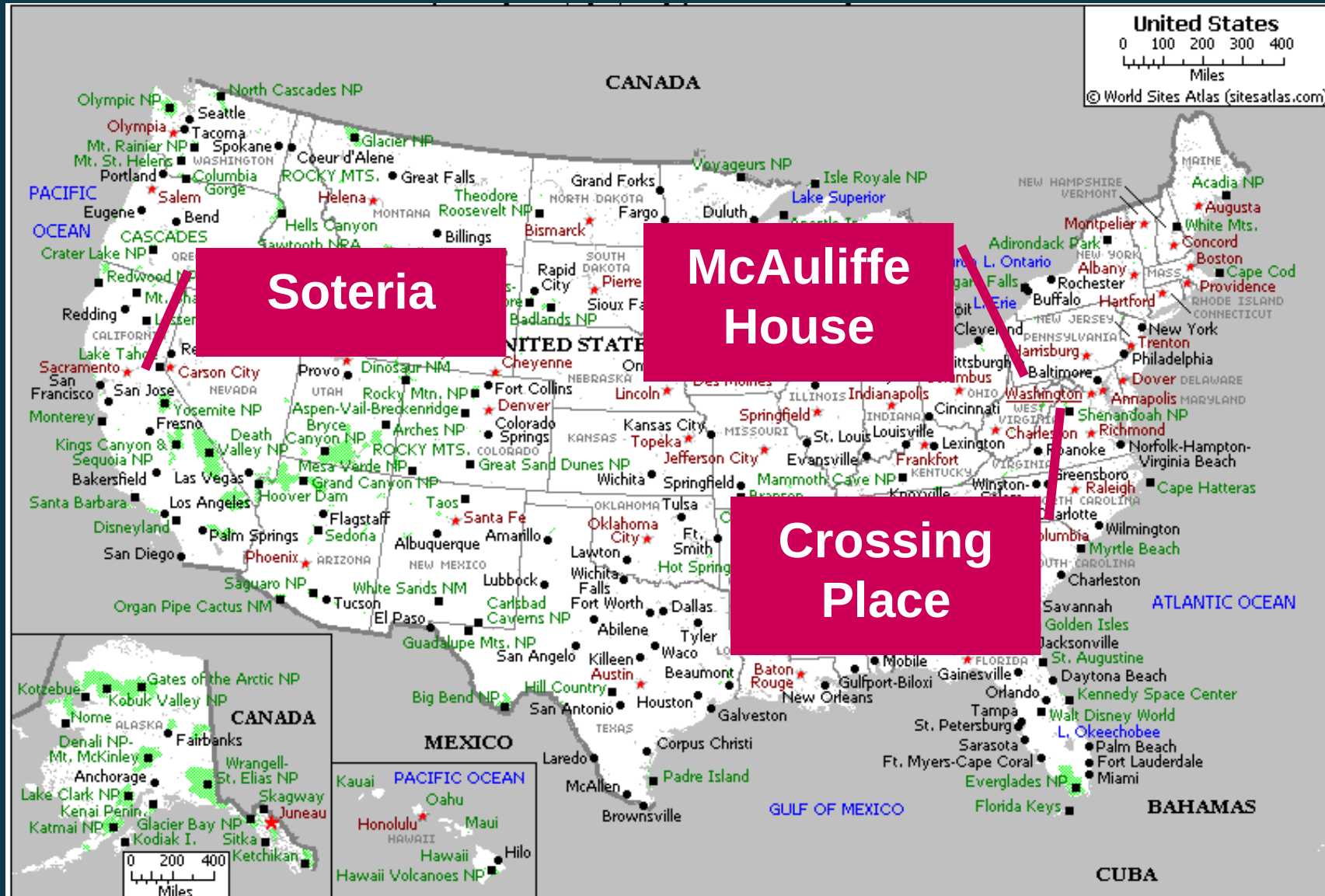
Repliche di Soteria

Il modello è stato replicato anche in Europa (Soteria Berna, di Luc Ciompi) ed è stato utilizzato, sempre da Mosher, anche per pazienti diversi da quelli all'esordio psicotico, inclusi i pazienti veterani del sistema psichiatrico ("cronici"): Crossing Place e McAuliffe House presso Washington





- **‘Soteria Berna’, aperta ormai da vent’anni, ha conseguito risultati simili: i soggetti sperimentali trattati nella comunità con basse dosi di antipsicotici presentarono un esito paragonabile a quello dei soggetti ricoverati in ospedale ed esposti ad alte dosi di farmaci.**
- **In aggiunta, nel gruppo sperimentale, i soggetti trattati con dosi minori, mostrarono una tendenza ad un esito migliore.**





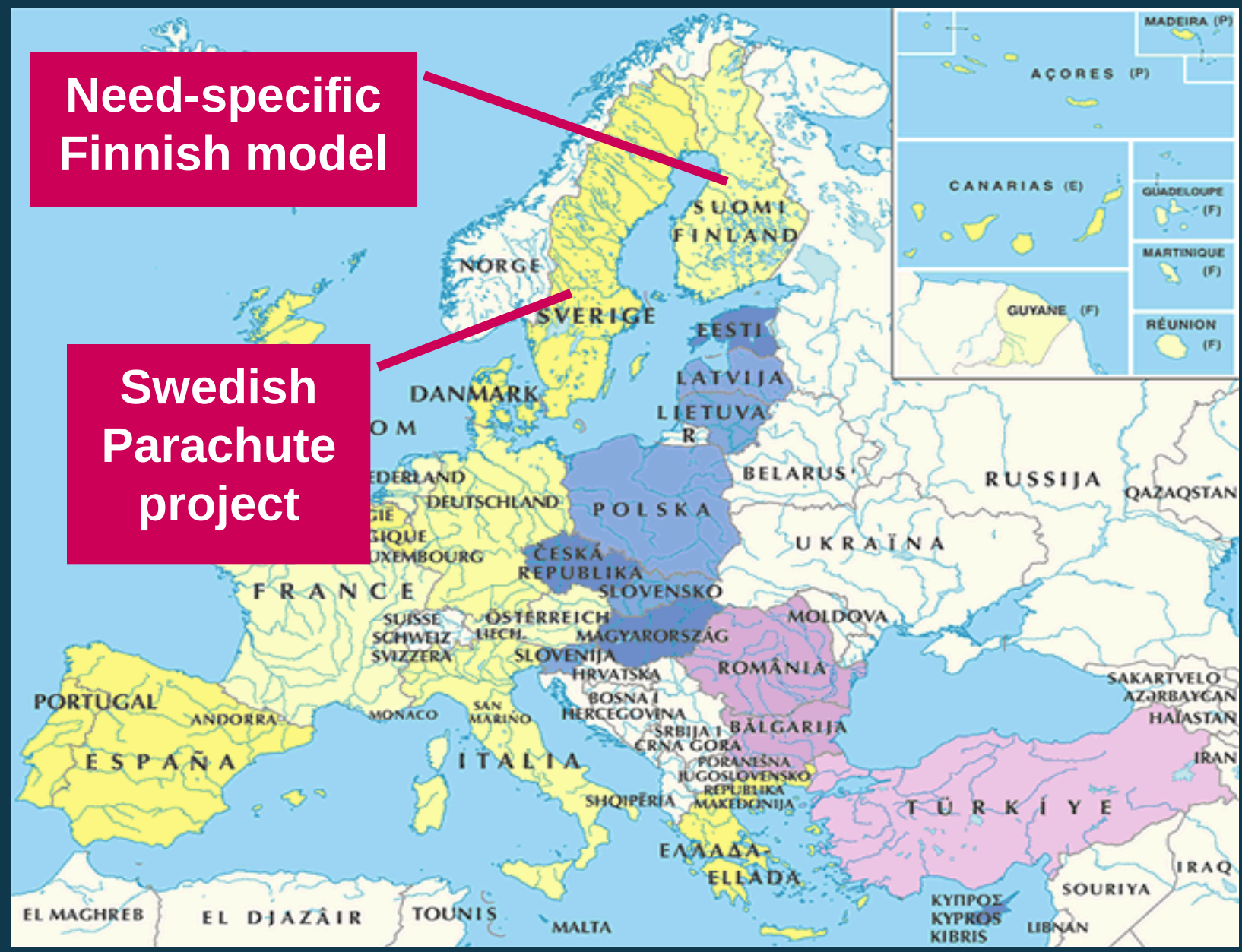
Caratteristiche degli ambienti efficaci per i pazienti veterani del sistema psichiatrico

- Chiara definizione dei comportamenti specifici che richiedono un cambiamento
- Programma strutturato, orientato all'azione (non alla spiegazione)
- Aspettative ragionevoli, positive, progressive, pratiche, con crescente responsabilità del cliente
- Continuazione del programma di terapia residenziale in vivo nel territorio
- Continuità delle persone
- Largo impiego dei gruppi per agevolare la socializzazione e la costruzione di una rete sociale



Need-specific
Finnish model

Swedish
Parachute
project



Two-year outcome in first-episode psychosis treated according to an integrated model. Is immediate neuroleptisation always needed?

Lehtinen V, Aaltonen J, Koffert T, Rakkolainen V, Syvalahti E.

In this multicentre study the two-year outcome of two groups of consecutive patients

No alternative treatment facilities were available in the study sites. The two study groups

Total time spent in hospital, occurrence of psychotic symptoms during the last follow-up

In the experimental group 42.9% of the patients did not receive neuroleptics at all during

The main result was that the outcome of the experimental group was equal or even somewhat better than that of the control group, also after controlling for age, gender and diagnosis. This indicates that an integrated approach, stressing intensive psychosocial measures, is recommended in the treatment of acute first-episode psychosis.

psychosocial measures, is recommended in the treatment of acute first-episode psychosis.

Publication Types:

- Clinical Trial
- Multicenter Study



- **Intervento, preferibilmente domiciliare, tempestivo, da parte del team 'Parachute'**
- **Riunioni precoci congiunte tra terapeuti e paziente assieme alla famiglia, per raggiungere un consenso sulla comprensione della reazione psicotica alla luce dell'approccio vulnerabilità-stress**



- **Garanzia di continuità terapeutica nell'arco di 5 anni**
- **Impiego di antipsicotici alle dosi più basse possibili (1/2-1 mg di aloperidolo-equivalenti) e tentativo di evitarli del tutto nelle prime due settimane**



- **Possibilità di accoglienza notturna in piccole comunità di crisi, di tipo familiare, a bassa stimolazione**
- **Queste unità di crisi sono situate fuori dell'ospedale, in un appartamento o in una casa; ospitano solamente 3-6 psicotici al primo episodio**

The Finnish National Schizophrenia Project 1981-1987: 10-year evaluation of its results.

Tuori T, Lehtinen V, Hakkarainen A, Jaaskelainen J, Kokkola A, Ojanen M, Pylkkanen K, Salokangas R, Solantaus J, Alanen Y.

This study reports the 10-year evaluation of the Finnish National Schizophrenia Project.

The aims of the national project were achieved. The number of long-stay schizophrenic

Both the treatment of schizophrenic patients and the structure of mental health services

The major innovations of the Project are the acute psychosis teams now serving over

The 10-year evaluation of the Finnish National Schizophrenia Project shows that it is possible to conduct successfully nation-wide projects to develop the treatment of schizophrenic patients and psychiatric practices across an entire country.

One-year outcome in first episode psychosis patients in the Swedish Parachute project.

Cullberg J, Levander S, Holmqvist R, Mattsson M, Wieselgren IM.

OBJECTIVE: Implementing a system designed to treat first episode psychotic (FEP)

METHOD: FEP patients (n=252) from 1998-2000, followed up for 1 year.

RESULTS: A total of 175 patients (69%) were followed up through the first year of
Satisfaction with care was generally high in the Parachute group. Access to a small

CONCLUSION: It is possible to successfully treat FEP patients with fewer in-patient days and less neuroleptic medication than is usually recommended, when combined with intensive psychosocial treatment and support.



- **Esistono trattamenti alternativi all'ospedalizzazione e all'impiego di farmaci antipsicotici per persone con diagnosi recente di psicosi?**



- E' curioso come queste esperienze e questi studi non abbiano ricevuto alcuna attenzione nel nostro paese dove peraltro già esiste una ricchissima rete comunità terapeutiche per la residenzialità medio-lunga, che potrebbero essere facilmente adattate per accogliere *anche* casi acuti.
- Possibili spiegazioni di tale mancanza d'interesse comprendono un prevalente orientamento medico nel trattamento dei casi acuti di psicosi, compresi quelli all'esordio, una eccessiva fiducia nell'approccio standard della psichiatria di comunità per prevenire la cronicizzazione e la mancanza di incentivi per dirottare i fondi dall'ospedale a programmi e servizi territoriali alternativi.



Image gallery





DMSP-psy

The Soteria Paradigm: Reframing schizophrenia. In Memoriam of Loren Mosher. Hamburg, Nov. 6-7, 2004