



WILLIAM ALANSON WHITE  
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of Psychiatry, Psychoanalysis & Psychology

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The Executive Committee of the William Alanson White Institute of Psychiatry, Psychoanalysis & Psychology has unanimously endorsed the following statement in support of NYS A.6664/S.4495:

State Assemblyman Richard Gottfried and State Senator Tom Duane have proposed legislation for New York State which would prohibit the participation of licensed health care professionals in torture and improper treatment of prisoners. The William Alanson White Institute of Psychiatry, Psychoanalysis and Psychology supports NYS A.6665/S.4495, an Act set forth to amend the public health law, education law and labor law, to prohibit any complicity or participation in torture or improper treatment of prisoners by licensed health care professionals including mental health practitioners.

The William Alanson White Institute, incorporated under the New York State Education Law on October 18, 1946 as a non-profit Educational Corporation, is an association whose primary function is the training of resourceful psychoanalysts. It provides psychoanalytic and psychotherapeutic treatment for a broad range of people and offers a vast array of training programs for practitioners of all kinds. In its manifold functions, the Institute expresses its faith that people, through the enhancement of their own capacities, may more efficiently cope with the fantastic problems of being simply human.

The White Institute's philosophy takes note of the psychological, socio-cultural and biological factors in human behavior. It fosters study of the depths of human experience, focusing on the person as a social being, and on human behavior as interpersonal communication.

As such, The William Alanson White Institute strongly supports the passage of this bill to prevent involvement with or complicity in the commission of torture by licensed health care professionals.

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