

## ERRATUM

Due to a printing error two columns in the section TEACHING were left out of " REFLECTION " by Carol H. Meyer Vol. 2#1, 1995 (pp. 47,48). The entire article is reprinted here.

## REFLECTION



*This is a narrative of my 50 years in social work. The stories told are intended to reflect the times and the then current issues. Through this device, I have discussed my practice and academic career with a view toward finding my own coherence and offering to others a sense of hope and vision.*

By Carol H. Meyer

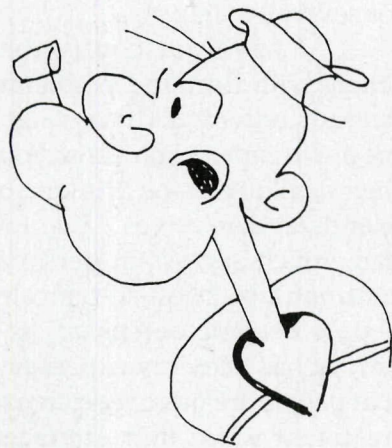
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"All writing derives from, is the product of, helps to construct, lives... autobio-graphical writing centres the knowing subject and makes the basis of its knowledge-claims available for analytic scrutiny." <sup>i</sup>

"I yam what I yam." <sup>ii</sup>  
WHO, ME?

Reflections on what? My critiques of the profession? My obsession with preserving practice? My impatience with pretension? My rebellious conceits? Perhaps these quibbles are all threads in the same weave, and as I reflect upon them and see how they all played out in my practice, teaching, and writing, I will learn something about myself. A few things I know already, and I learned them the hard way. One of my work evaluations included the comment that "she doesn't suffer fools gladly." I resented that criticism a lot, and it still rankles, although it was said eons ago. But it is probably true. The flip side of that idea is my impatience, always wanting to move on even before an idea has been digested. This flaw probably explains why I have always been a little "outside" of the professional mainstream. Then (and certainly not finally...) there is my tendency to make light of things, to joke when things are serious. For those who do not know me, this can create some misunderstanding.

This is the context of what follows. I am glad to tell this story, because it allows me to derive some personal and professional coherence from looking backward. I also want to offer to the person who reads this the assurance that one can span 50 years in the profession of social work and come out of it only slightly scathed, not burned-out, and still hopeful. If that reader connects with some ideas, gains some of her or his own insights, and finds courage to push on, then these reflections will have been worthwhile.



## NOTE

REFLECTIONS invited Dr. Meyer to write this "Brief Reflection."

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