



FIGURE ONE

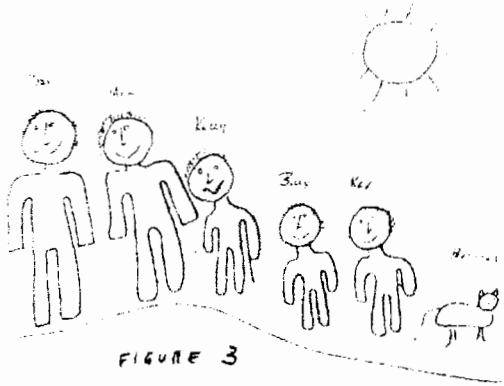


FIGURE 3

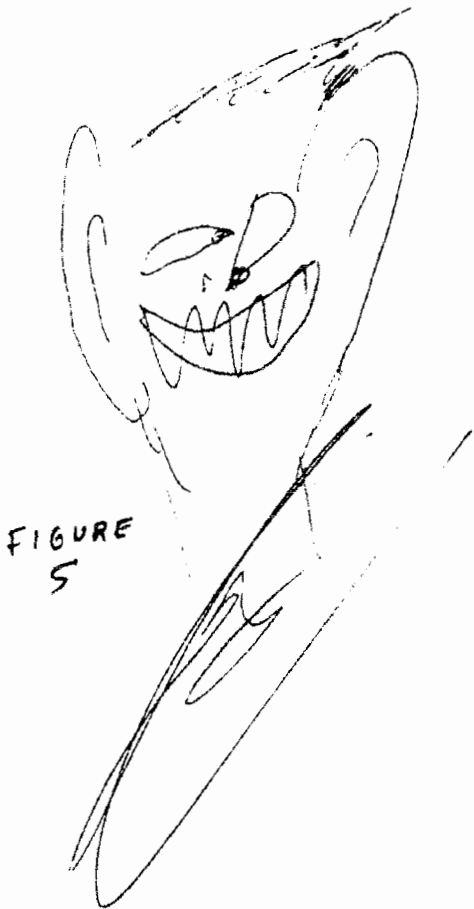


FIGURE 5

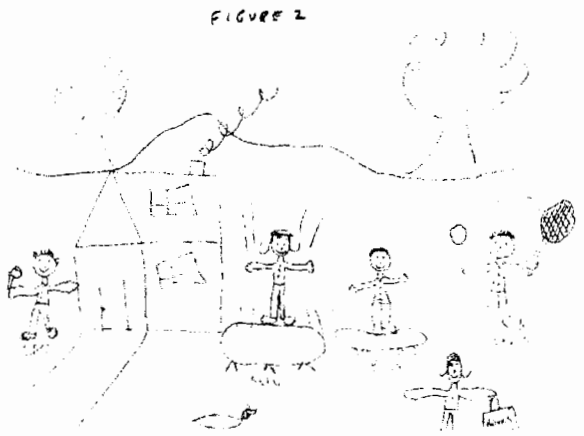


FIGURE 2



FIGURE 4



FIGURE SIX

ANGRY AND IMPOTENT (NO HANDS): AND ALL WERE UNSURE OF HOW TO PRESENT THEMSELVES TO OTHERS (INAPPROPRIATE GRINS), AND FEELING TOTALLY EXPOSED (NO CLOTHES).

THE BOYS WERE ANXIOUS TO GO TO THE SAND-PLAY ROOM, SO THE DESIRED SHARING OF THE PICTURES DID NOT OCCUR. SINCE THIS WAS THE FIRST FULL FAMILY SESSION, I WAS ASSESSING THE OVERALL SITUATION TO DETERMINE THE MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD TO TREAT THIS FAMILY. WE WENT TO THE OTHER ROOM, WHERE THE OLDER SON WORKED FRENETICALLY IN THE SAND, TOSSING IT TO AND FRO. IT SEEMED AS IF HE COULD NOT DO ENOUGH. HE CHANGED HIS SANDPLAY SCENE AT LEAST THREE TIMES BEFORE PRODUCING ONE THAT ILLUSTRATED INDIANS AND A BURIAL GROUND. THERE WERE MANY FIGURES ON THE EDGE OF THE SAND BOX, INDICATING THAT HE WAS NOT YET SURE WHETHER TO ENTER FULLY INTO THE PROCESS. THE BURIAL GROUND MIGHT HAVE INDICATED BOTH HIS WISH TO BURY THE FACT OF HIS SISTER'S HOSPITALIZATION AND TO ILLUSTRATE THE ANXIETY AND RAGE THIS ENGENDERED IN HIM. HE FOLLOWED THIS WITH ANOTHER SCENE IN WHICH WAS AN ARMY COMMUNICATION CENTER THAT HAD A AMBULANCE IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER. I FELT THAT HE WAS TRYING TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT I HAD RECEIVED THE MESSAGE (IN HIS FIRST SCENE) OF ANXIETY, SHAME AND ANGER AND THAT HE SAW THE POSSIBILITY FOR FAMILY HEALING REPRESENTED BY THE FIGURE OF THE AMBULANCE.

THE OTHER BOY MADE A WAR SCENE WITH A LAKE IN THE CENTER AND DIVER IN THE LAKE. BECAUSE THESE WERE THE BOYS' FIRST SAND CONSTRUCTIONS, I WITHHELD VERBAL COMMENTS. BOTH OF THE BOYS' SCENES WERE WARLIKE AND GRAPHICALLY PORTRAYED THEIR STRUGGLE. THE SECOND OF THE OLDER BOY'S SCENES (DESCRIBED ABOVE) INCLUDED ATTEMPTS AT COMMUNICATION, WHICH WERE WHAT THIS FAMILY DESPERATELY NEEDED.

MY IMPRESSION AFTER THIS FIRST FAMILY SESSION WAS THAT THE ELDER SON WAS THE FAMILY SPOKESMAN, AS FAR AS ENACTING THE UNDERLYING DYNAMICS. HE DEMONSTRATED THE ANGER AND FRENZY THAT WERE FELT BY ALL. WHEN THE SESSION WAS ENDING HE DID NOT WANT TO LEAVE AND ASKED WHAT WE COULD DO NEXT. WITH ONLY A FEW MINUTES LEFT, I OFFERED THE BOYS NON-HARDENING CLAY. THIS IS GOOD FOR MONSTER MAKING AND SMASHING WHICH ALLOWS FOR RELEASE OF ANGER. BOTH BOYS MADE MONSTERS AND SEEMED TO ENJOY SMASHING THEM. (I HAVE A LARGE HAMMER CALLED A "SCHMUSSER", FORM THE MAKERS OF "OOGLIE CLAY" FOR THIS PURPOSE.)

THE GIRL REMAINED IN THE HOSPITAL FOR ALMOST SEVEN WEEKS. FAMILY SESSIONS CONTINUED, AND COULD BEST BE DESCRIBED AS "VOLATILE," WITH THE FOCUS OF ATTENTION ALTERNATING BETWEEN THE TWO SONS. THE ELDER SON BECAME EXTREMELY ANGRY DURING ONE SES-

SION AND RAN OUT OF THE OFFICE. DAD BROUGHT HIM BACK AND WE ALL GATHERED IN THE SAND ROOM. HE SAID THAT HE ONLY WANTED TO GO HOME AND EXPRESSED HATRED TOWARDS ME. HE ADDED THAT HE WOULD KILL ME BY BRINGING A KNIFE FROM HOME NEXT TIME. I RESPONDED BY SAYING THAT I KNEW HE WAS VERY ANGRY, BUT THAT I BELIEVED IT WAS RELATED TO THE CONFUSION IN HIS FAMILY AND THE FACT THAT THE FAMILY WAS COMING HERE BECAUSE OF ALL THE FEARS RELATED TO HIS SISTER'S HOSPITALIZATION. AT ANOTHER POINT DURING THAT SESSION, HE REFERRED TO THE FACT THAT HIS SISTER WAS IN A "MENTAL HOSPITAL." I ATTEMPTED TO EXPLORE HIS FEELINGS ABOUT THAT, BUT HE REFUSED TO ANSWER. IT SEEMED THAT HE IDENTIFIED ME WITH ALL OF HIS PROBLEMS. WHEN THIS DYNAMIC WAS INTERPRETED TO HIM, HE VEHEMENTLY DENIED IT. QUITE OFTEN IN THIS TYPE OF EXPLOSIVE SITUATION A FAMILY MEMBER WILL EXTERNALIZE THE PROBLEM UNTIL THE TIME THAT HE IS ABLE TO ACCEPT INTERPRETATIONS.

NEAR THE END OF ANOTHER SESSION, JUST AS I WAS ABOUT TO PHOTOGRAPH THE YOUNGER BOY'S PICTURE, HIS BROTHER STOMPED OVER TO THE BOX AND WIPED OUT ALL OF HIS BROTHER'S WORK WITH ONE AGGRESSIVE SWOOP OF HIS ARM, CAUSING THE MAKER OF THE SCENE TO SCREAM AND CRY. THE VICTIMIZER THEN VIOLENTLY MANIPULATED THE SAND, OVER AND OVER. HE SEEMED TO BE TRYING TO CALM HIMSELF IN THIS WAY. AS THE FAMILY WAS LEAVING, I ASKED THE MOTHER TO CALL ME THE FOLLOWING DAY BECAUSE I HAD SERIOUS CONCERNS ABOUT THESE VIOLENT OUTBURSTS. I PLANNED TO DISCUSS A REFERRAL FOR A PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION FOR HIM, AS I FELT THAT HE, TOO, MIGHT NEED MEDICATION. AFTER WE SPOKE, SHE AGREED TO THE PSYCHIATRIC REFERRAL AND AN APPOINTMENT WAS SCHEDULED. AFTER SEVERAL EVALUATIONS, MEDICATION WAS ALSO PRESCRIBED FOR HIM.

AFTER THE SEVENTH WEEK OF FAMILY THERAPY, I MET THE DAUGHTER FOR THE FIRST TIME. THE ORIGINAL PLAN HAD BEEN TO HAVE A SESSION WITH HER AND BOTH PARENTS, BEFORE THE BOYS WERE INCLUDED. HOWEVER, NO BABYSITTER WAS AVAILABLE, SO DAD STAYED HOME WITH THE BOYS AND THE SESSION WAS HELD WITH ONLY MOM AND HER DAUGHTER. I FOUND THE TEENAGER SOMEWHAT SUBDUED AND SHE ALLOWED MOM TO DO MOST OF THE REPORTING. SHE DID CONTRIBUTE, HOWEVER, THAT SHE WAS NOT SUICIDAL AND NEVER HAD BEEN. SHE SAID SHE HAD BEEN MERELY "EXPERIMENTING" WITH ALCOHOL. THE NEXT SESSION, AGAIN WITH ONLY MOM AND DAUGHTER, FOUND HER EXTREMELY BELLIGERENT AND UNCOOPERATIVE. HER AFFECT WAS VERY MUCH LIKE HER SIBLINGS. THROUGHOUT THE SESSION SHE SEEMED TO BE QUITE LETHARGIC, AS WELL AS ANGRY AND DEFENSIVE. THE LETHARGY PROBABLY STEMMED FROM THE MEDICATION WHICH SHE WAS NOW TAKING.

THE TENTH SESSION WAS THE FIRST ONE THAT WAS ATTENDED BY ALL FIVE FAMILY MEMBERS. WE