

HCO POLICY LETTER OF 11 AUGUST 1974

Remimeo

Data Series 36

ENVISIONING THE IDEAL SCENE

If one cannot envision the Ideal Scene, one is not likely to be able to *see* a Situation or get one.

A SITUATION IS THE MOST MAJOR DEPARTURE FROM THE IDEAL SCENE.

Thus:

ONE MUST BE ABLE TO ENVISION AN IDEAL SCENE TO FIND A SITUATION.

A lot of "Ideal Scenes" you see are just glib. An afterthought.

Some people know the proper scene so well they at once recognize that a departure from it has occurred, which is fine. But such people do not realize, when they are teaching evaluation or correcting evals, that others may not know the proper scene well enough to get an idea of what *the* Ideal Scene should be. Thus, a wrong target occurs. The teacher or corrector keeps putting attention on the incorrectness of the Situation given in the eval instead of noticing that the Ideal Scene is adrift.

An Ideal Scene is FUTURE.

When one is stuck on the time track it may seem pretty difficult to envision a *future*.

In politics this is called "reactionary" or "conservative". These mean any resistance to change even when it is an improvement. The bad old days seem to be the good old days to such people. Yet the old days will not come again. One has to make the new days good.

"Liberals", "Socialists" and such make great propaganda out of this. They inveigh against (criticize) conservatives and say the future must be reckoned with. And they hold up some often incredible future scene and say the way to it is by "revolution" or destroying everything that was.

Both viewpoints could be severely criticized. The conservative tries to stick on the time track with no reality on the fact that today will be yesterday in 24 hours. The super-liberal skips tomorrow entirely and goes up the track 5 or 10 years to a perfect state which can never exist or is falsely represented as possible.

In between these two viewpoints we have the *attainable*.

And we come to an Ideal Scene that *is* possible and *will* occur if the Why is right and Handling is correct and done.

Envisioning an attainable future requires some connection with reality.

There is no harm at all in dreaming wonderful dreams for the future. It's almost the bread of life.

But how about giving oneself a crashing failure by disconnecting from any reality?

Some laborers do this to themselves. Taking no steps to attain it, they daydream themselves as kings or some other grand identity. Well, all right. But that isn't an "Ideal Scene". That's a delusion engaged upon for self gratification in a dream world.

One can not only dream a *possible* Ideal Scene but he *can* attain it.

So an Ideal Scene is SOMETHING THAT CAN BE ATTAINED.

It should be quite real.

Some people setting unreal quotas are really setting some impossible Ideal Scene. "Complete this work in 1 hour!" to someone working hard on a job that will take 4 days is delusory. It is setting, without saying so, the Ideal Scene of having a worker who is really a magician! Well, maybe if he were audited and hatted he would be. But that's sure some Ideal Scene! The here and now is a guy sweating it out and trying. And that's an Ideal Scene that is missed!

And so are many Ideal Scenes missed. The offices neat and orderly might not even be imagined by someone who has seen them in a mess for two years. He may think that's the way they're supposed to be! And be quite incapable of envisioning the offices in any other condition!

Thus, if one cannot see the offices should be clean, he does not see that they are dirty and messy as a *Situation*. Thus when he is told the public won't come into the place, and even if he finds the place is full of old dirty junk, he can't evaluate it as a clean orderly place would not be envisioned by him. So he doesn't get "dirty place" as a valuable datum, doesn't get "A clean orderly place that is inviting to the public" as an Ideal Scene, doesn't get "Office so dirty the public won't go near it" as a *Situation* and so cannot find a *Why* to lack of public! And so as he didn't find *Why* it was so dirty and disorderly, it wouldn't handle. So there would be a failed eval.

Yet the teacher or evaluation corrector would not realize the person could not envision an Ideal Scene and so keep telling the person to find the *Situation* whereas the Ideal Scene was what was out.

You can get some very beautiful Ideal Scenes AND attain them—if you can evaluate!

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