

ABSTRACT:

BACP is currently engaged in a wide ranging consultation on what it calls its "ethical commitments". Having recently been endorsed by the Government's Professional Standards Agency, it seems keen to position itself and its members firmly within the mainstream of health and social care. In doing so is it giving too much weight to the medical model, whilst simultaneously increasing the anxiety experienced by counsellors and psychotherapists, thereby both exacerbating a tendency towards defensive practice and inhibiting what Freud advocated, the cultivation of evenly suspended attention? Are these the early signs of the emergence of something we might call "state endorsed therapy"?