



to the convener. Unfortunately the president of the company could not restrain himself and interjected with "What they mean is ..." Thus endeth discussion.

What to do? The best of these managers are like physicists the day after the atom bomb went off. They intellectually knew it happened, but they could not let go of what was deep inside. They could not let go of what they always knew was true.

Bringing in a high powered program to jump start a company is intellectually acceptable to many managers. Unfortunately, like the physicists, they are still dealing with their old *s.r.* and analogs. Before attempting to shift gears dramatically, preparing to change by identifying the roadblocks to change would enhance the probability of success.

Like a farmer who prepares his field prior to introducing the seed, consider the benefit derived from preparing managers before introducing costly new programs. Instead of a plow, 20 to 30 hours of solid general-semantics training, spread over several weeks, would work wonders dislodging old *s.r.*, raising the consciousness of map-making, identity, etc.... Once this is accomplished, then any good program (they would have learned that there is not just one right way) would prove beneficial, and not be just another fad to be tolerated until the CEO found another fancy.

## LIFE AS A JOKE (AND THAT'S NOT FUNNY)

*Headline compliments of Jeffrey A. Mordkowitz*

"...We may smile but we are dealing with 'facts'. I tell you a joke, for instance, and you break into laughter about it, because

somehow you have made an **extensional** analysis about it. You have reconstructed the facts about it. In the joke, the words say nothing, but the contrast-territory, the facts, map-language made you laugh. You have reconstructed the facts, and the laughter comes from an **extensional** reconstruction of the facts **behind** the words. The moment we reconstruct facts behind the word sounds, life orientations begin. This is an example of a difference in orientation by which unfortunately we will make an extensional orientation about a joke, but we will not do this when serious life problems are concerned. One of the reasons is that we know so little about life in general. The joke example is easy to reconstruct. But, life is not so simple to readjust, or to reconstruct."

Quote from *General Semantics Seminar 1937*.  
Transcription of Notes from  
Lectures in General Semantics Given at Olivet College by Alfred Korzybski.  
Lecture 13, page 77.

## REVIEW AND COMMENT



### SENATOR MOYNIHAN AND FIREARM VIOLENCE

For those of our readers who are not constituents of Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan (Dem. NY) and those who may have not received or read his "Letter to New York" of October 23, 1992, his approach to what is termed "gun control" and he now terms "firearms violence" moves a step closer to "reality" and suggests a new solution.

Senator Moynihan summarized the

development of the concept that the federal government has a responsibility for highway safety, in which he played an important role, and then develops an analogy to firearms violence, stating that it is clearly a government responsibility.

He cuts through the familiar abstractions such as "Guns don't kill people, people kill people", and directs our attention to the real cause of injury and death: bullets.

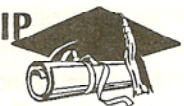
The Senator says: "We can go on about gun ownership as much as we like. But we have a two century supply of guns already and they won't go away. Most parts of the country are 'gun-saturated'. But at most we have a four year supply of bullets."

Senator Moynihan for six years has introduced legislation to forbid or limit the manufacture, import or sale of .25 and .32 caliber ammunition — the rounds most frequently used in holdups and fired at police. His only success has been a law banning armor-piercing ammunition.

This raises an interesting constitutional question. Does a law banning the sale, etc. of bullets infringe on the "right to bear arms"? The Senator apparently sees no problem.

Walter W. Davis

## STUDENT MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY



At the February 15, 1993 meeting the Board of Trustees established the new membership category of student. Offered at half the cost of a basic membership, this category applies to currently enrolled students in an accredited, degree-granting institution.

Article originally appeared in *IGS Newsletter XI, No. 2*, 1993, published by the Institute of General Semantics.

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