# The Gnostic Academy Relaxation & Biofeedback Laboratory College of Medicine Howard University

December 21, 1978

Dean Kraft
Foundation for Psychic - Energetic Research, Ltd.
250 East 63rd, Street
New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Dean Kraft:

Enclosed is the copy of the Proposal for our research together. At last it is finished! I am very sorry to be this long in getting it to you. I had to check it with Dr. Anyaibe and some of the others of on team also gave some helpful suggestions. Now at least I am satisfied with it. It is up to you now and your Foundation to review it and determine if you are willing to accept it and approve it.

If it is approved, then we are ready to go ahead with the research as described. There are other more specific details to be worked out, which we can do as we go along. In terms of the budget, Dr. Anyaibe suggested that <sup>1</sup> include everything, knowing that not all will be funded immediately. However, we would all know what the entire cost would be and you would have a figure to aim towards.

I will certainly appreciate whatever your Foundation can do to further this research. The needs are as stated in the proposal itself. We will have to decide where to start. The chart recorder is realy the basic instrument we need immediately. However, if we do have that ammount to start, we can do more preliminary trials. Dick Lavigne feels that this instrument is the first basic requirement, so see what can be done.

I enjoyed very much getting to know and work with you. You are a very exciting person to be around! I look forward to our future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Dorothy D. Harrison, Ph.D. Director, Bibfeedback Lab.

#### PILOT RESEARCH PROPOSAL

December 15, 1978 Dorothy D. Harrison, Ph.D.

The purpose of this pilot study will be to determine objectively if and how Dean Kraft is able to enhance a subjects ability for self regulation of specific biological functions to improve his health, as monitored with biofeedback type equipment.

As background, it is reported in various publications, mainly news media, that Dean Kraft has the following types of abilities:

- 1. To improve the health status of at least 70% of the persons whom he treats 40% have exhibited "definite clinical improvement" and 30% experience changes in psychological attitude dealing with their illness.
- 2.To exert a "power", a concentration of energy in his hands which is transmitted to a subject both by touch and by placing his hands directly over an area of the body which he intuitively selects.
- 3. Using the above "treatment" he affects a subject's brain wave activity, specifically the production of occipital alpha waves.
- 4% The following conditions have been reported improved or cured, which this study will attempt to document: chronic pain and discomfort, stubborn skin conditions(psoriasis), minor depression, hypertension, vison problems myopia and hyperopia and arthritis.

Dean Kraft states that he believes that in some way he catalyzes the other person's healing system. He does this first by consulting medical texts to study the pathophysiology involved, followed by a discussion with the subject on his attitude and subjective feelings.

The present investigator has been using biofeedback and relaxation to assist persons in their control of: hypertension, obesity, headache, low back pain, anxiety and tension and insomnia.

Dean Kraft has provided the opportunity for the present investigator to make some preliminary observations of his work and collect some data using biofeedback instruments. This provided us the opportunity to observe first hand the methods employed in order to begin to develop meaning questions for future investigations. A brief report and summary of these observations is attached.

Total number of subjects seen: 9

Conditions: hypertension - 3, headache 1, low back pain - 1, viston - 1, obesity and depression - 1, non-specific pains and weaknesses - 2 Number of times seem: once only - 4

twice - 3 4 1 5 x 1

Cumulative amount of time treated per subject:

15 min - 1 60 min - 2 90 min - 2 120 min - 2 140 " 1

All subjects were monitored with EMG. EEG, temperature and/or blood pressure probes Dean Kraft was monitored with temperature probe to his nands and EEG

Change By Total Time Seen.

Change		+	<b>+.</b> + - ≥ <sup>1</sup>		
15		1	·		
30 - 45					
60		1	1		
90			2		
120 - 180	1	1	2		
TOTAL	. 1	· 3	<i>5</i>		

TABLE 1

#### Code:

- subject felt no better after treatment
- + Subject felt slightly better after, but not too sure
- ++ Subject very positive about feeling much better after treatment

TABLE 2
Subjects Seen By Date, Diagnasis, And Monitoring

Case No.	Problem	Dates seen	EMG	Subje EEG	ct's Temp	B.P	Dean EEG	Kraft Temp.
K - 1	Hypertension	9/21/78				) 	<u> </u>	х_
K - 2	Hypertension	9/21	×		×	×		×
. ,		12/6_		<u> </u>		х		
K- 3	Hypertension	9/21	×			×	<u> </u>	 
		9/22	x			×	<u> </u>	
К -4	Obesity & Depression	9/22	х		×	×	<u> </u>	 
K- 5	Tension Headache	9/22	х	<del></del>	×	×		
		10/30	x					x
		10/31	×		×	_	]	ж
		12/4	×	×	×	ж	ж	×
		12/6	×				х	x
к-6	Back Pain	10/30	×		×		_	
		10/31	×		×			х
K-8	Pack Pain	10/30	ж		ж	x		х
		10/31	×		×	ж		x
K-9	Anxiety	12/4	×	х	х		х	ж
K-10	Vision	12/4	×	ж		•	х	х
		12/6	x	ж.			_	
	TOTALS	18	16	5	10	9	4	11
			,					

As seen on the accompanying tables, monitoring was done more on a sampling basis, just to see if it were possible to detect any changes with the instruments available. Using the various subjects as described, this was ascertained, but there were several shortcommings which this preliminary work pointed up. The monitoring of Dean Kraft was most inadequate. The most important deficit was that the same parameters were not monitored and recorded for both healer and healee at the same time, However, results are indicative that further study is in order, for while changes are recorded, definitive statements cannot be made until more data is collected.

Therefore, a study will be planned that will attempt to find answers to the following questions:

- 1. What happens when Dean Kraft concentrates on healing, as can be monitored by all the instruments available?
  - a Electroencephalograph recordings right and left brain

b - Electromyograph recording - frontalis muscle

hand and arm muscles

c = Hand Temperature - palmer surface

- d Kirlian Photograph before, during and after session
- e Other physiological functions pulse and respiration
- - a- Is the response in the same parameter same instrumental recording? How does the magnitude compare?
- 3. How is the response in the patient related to actual change in the health problem of the patient?
- 4. What is the relation between the subjects belief in the treatment and his awareness / participation in self regulation, gained through biofeedback training to the efforts of Dean Kraft?
- 5. What does the subjects personality and motivation have to do with the chagnes and improvement?

#### <u>Methodology</u>

#### A - Subjects.

Subjects will be divided into two groups - one will recieve biofeedback training alone, and one group will recieve biofeedback training plus treatment by Dean Kraft. Two matched groups will be formed, as closely matched as possible by age, sex, degree of illnes and diagnosis in the following categories:

A. Pain - back and headache 6
B. Hypertension 6
Q. Anxiety and depression 4

#### B - Monitoring.

Subjects will be monitored each session with EEG, EMG, blood pressure & temp. to the same sites and for the same length of time.

Dean Kraft will be monitored with EEG, alternating left and right brain; EMG, Hand temperature, pulse and respiration simultanemsly for the same period of time with each subject

A continious simultaneous recording of these parameters is required for meaningful data.

#### C- Length of Treatment.

Each individual session will be a standard period of time. Previous work with Dean Kraft seems to suggest that 20 minutes is his optimum time per session. If this is agreeable, 30 minutes per subject will be allotted, allowing time for attaching sensors and other preparations. Each subject will have a standard number of sessions. Two plans are possible, based on previous conversations - daily for five days ( 1 week) and two days a month for four to six months.

#### D - Preceedures.

- 1. Registration into program all subjects will first have the following:
  - a. medical history, psychological testing; personality, anxiety, depression, attitude towards illness, attitude towards treatment; medical evaluation.
  - b. Baseline biofeedback measurements
- Post treatment evaluation.
  - a. Medical evaluation
  - b. Biofeedback changes
  - c. Ability in self regulation and manipulation of biofeedback tones.
  - d. Ability to regulate condition without biofeedback instruemnts.

#### Research Team

Dr. Dorothy Harrison, who presently conducts a biofeedback training program with subjects with the same conditions will serve as coordinator and project director. She will monitor instruments and make assignments to team.

Mr. Richard Lavigne, electrical engineer will assist in technical supervision of instrumental functioning and recording of data. He may also serve as a control in the healing experience.

Mr. Ian Richmond, healing counsellor, will serve as observer and assist in the analysis of the data, and assist in the interviewing of subjects.

Ms. Careen Mayer, psychologist, will conduct the psychological tests, assist with interviewing and make observation of Dean Kraft - pulse and respiration.

Mr. Dhirendra N. Ghosh, Biostatistician and mathmatician, interested in healing energies, who worked with Dr. Harrison for many years and was involved with her study of Dr. Harold Burr and his Fields of Life. He will do statistical analysis.

Dean Kraft, Psychic energetic catalytic healer, the object of study, who desires to have his ability subjected to rigorous scientific inquiry, so that he himself may have a better understanding of what he is doing. Dean Kraft is also concerned with improving the standing of this type of healing in the medical world by having it better understood by the scientific community.

Dr. Stephen Anyaibe will serve as senior advisor and medical consultant.

Another physician may be added to the team to assist with the medical evaluations.

#### BUDGET

The budget, as itemized below represents the best judgement of the Research Team of the requirements for this study.

The most pressing need to conduct the above study is a multichannel continious strip chart recorder, which can simultaneously accept data from Dean Kraft and his subject all during the session, rather than alternating back and forth. Inasmuch as it is not definitely known in which parameter changes will be significant or the timing of such changes, all of the data as outlined in question # 1 will have to be monitored continiously and multaneously. The present digital computer does not have this capability. This information will be particularly important for the answering of question # 2. Mr. Lavigne, the electrical engineer on the team has located an eight channel recorder which he recommends for the program, which is far below the usual cost of such an instrument.

Another important budgetary requirement is for the upkeep of all of the instruments. All the instruments as described above, presently used by Dr. Harrison are not only complex, but delicate and require continious maintenance if the data they produce is to be reliable from a research point of view. This is particularly true due to the sensitive nature of this study.

The next important item is for a part time research assistant who will devote her entire energy to this project in terms of forms and records, scheduling, filing as well as the maintenance of confidentiality for the study.

Lastly, it is recognized that this project is not able to pay Dean Kraft's expenses in comming to Washington for the conduct of this research. It is hoped that the Foundation that sponsors him will take this into consideration.

With all of this in mind, the following budget is presented:

8 Channel stripchart recorder \$5,000.00
Intrumental maintenance by
electrical engineer inc. supplies. 2,500.00
Research Assistant, ½ Time 6,000.00

(Dr. Harrison is donating her time and use of her laboratory as setup)

It is requested that all funds granted for this study be in the form of checks made to: The Gnostic Academy. This is an Academy developed by Dr. Harrison, which has as one of its objectives:

"To sponsor, coordinate and encourage basic and applied research leading to a better understanding of ancient wisdom and esoteric practices with special emphasis on health and healing."

Ian Richmond, Dhirendra Ghosh and Dr. Charles Frye are all members of the Academy. Dr. Frye assisted in its formation. It would be the most appropriate channel for the furtherance of this research.

#### Constraints and Guidelines for This Study.

Members of the research team will be guided by the principles outlined by Dr. Stephen Anyaibe as of December 6, 1978. The following points were agreed to by Dean Kraft and the other members of the research team in order to conduct a high level research study and produce a report that can stand on its own merit:

- 1. None of the findings will be released to any news media or given any other type of publicity, except as specified below. News media will get their information from the Journals, following their guidelines. (the Journal's)
- 2. The report of the study, in papers prepared for publication will only be submitted to recognized, first class scientific journals.
- 3. In submitting reports for publication, we will accept and follow the guidelines of the journal primarily the New England Journal of Medicine.
- 4. Nothing in any of the reports prepared by this research team will refer to any personal biases in favor of Dean Kraft.
- 5. In doing this study we cannot guarquitee successor positive results. At this point, it is just as likely that results will be negative. It will be up to the objective data to disprove the null hypothesis.
- 6. The report will be based on objective data, obtained primarily from the instruments, standard psychological tests and scientifically designed research questionnaires. It will not be based on anecdotal subjective remarks of subjects.
- 7. This proposal will describe everything that will be done during the course of the study, and nothing else will be reported upon without the approval of the entire team.
- 9. The grantors cannot make any other demand upon the research team, or attempt to influence the course or outcome of the study in any way.
- 10. The grantors will be due a progress report one year after the grant and not before this time. One year is the minimum time needed to prepare for, conduct the study, analyse findings and produce a report.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Department of Community

Health and Family Practice

### Gnostic Academy

February 20, 1979

Foundation for Psychic-Energetic Research, Ltd. 250, East 63rd, Street. New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Sirs:

It is with a great deal of pleasure that we acknowledge receipt of your check in the amount of three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) as a contribution towards research in healing, which is an important objective of the Gnostic Academy. Also, as a medical anthropologist in the Department of Community Health and Family Practice here in the College of Medicine, I am very interested in holistic health, and adding to present medical knowledge a greater understanding of ways of dealing with illness known to other cultures. The final objective is to assist Medicine in finding solutions and helping more people. Thus Your work is of particular interest to me, and I am happy to collaborate with you.

As you know, because this goes outside of traditional medicine, it is difficult to get research funds to further such study. Therefore we appreciate your interest and contributions. We are most pleased that not only have you personally been most supportive and cooperative in everything so far, but you have also brought your wife to give some general assistance in the carrying forward of the program. We appreciate her help as well.

I have assembled some of my most respected and trusted colleagues and associates to form a strong research team for this important work. We are now in the process of tightening up the original proposal, in the light of our last meeting with you. We will be meeting regularly, and when the revision is complete, we will ask you to come again and go over it with us and Dr. Anyaibe before we begin recruiting subjects. We are also ordering some smaller pieces of equipment and supplies for the work. The revision will include a new budget to reflect the needs for the enlarged scope of the program.

We all look forward to this most exciting and rewarding research which we will be doing with you. With best wishes for your continuing success.

Sincerely,

Dorothy D. Harrison, Ph.D. Associate Professor and

Director of Gnostic Academy.

# HOWARD UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON, D. C. 20059

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
Department of Community
Health and Family Practice

## Gnostic Academy

March 19, 1979

Mr. Dean Kraft 250 East 63rd Street New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Mr. Kraft: (Reow

Our research group has had several meetings since your last visit with us in Washington. Dr. Anyaibe has returned and we have also met with him. We now feel that we have all of the ambiguities cleared in the proposal and have made all of our final decisions. We are now at the stage where we would like to have the final discussion with you. I am therefore writing to see when you can come down.

I am wondering if you can make your next visit some time in early April? At that time, I would like to do a real very careful baseline evaluation of you. The last time we did this too much was going on and we were all more concerned about the waiting taxi and I would therefore prefer to get new readings. Also, Dick Lavigne is building a light panel which may be ready by this time. It would therefore be very helpful to the program if you could come around this time. If you will let me know when it will be convenient for you, I will alert the other members of the group and we can finalize the proposal.

We are looking forward to seeing you soon again. With best wishes for your continued success in your exciting work!

Sincerely,

Dorothy D. Harrison, Ph.D.

Assoc. Professor