the contributors' essays offer a variety of evaluations of Freud's life, theories, and influences.

To a certain degree, the exhibit covers many of the conflicts that have arisen from Freud's thinking and the impact of his ideas on his, and now our, contemporaries. The material on Freud's family, personal, and professional relations brings him to life as a person. His ideas, interests, and ways of working are clearly and elegantly displayed. A fascinating set of objects from Freud's office and study includes a replica of the iconic psychoanalytic couch and ancient artifacts from his collection, which

Antz angst. Z on his psychoanalyst's couch.

suggest that Freud was interested in unearthing the past in more than one way.

Nevertheless, the most controversial aspect of Freud's work (and the one with the highest potential to generate controversy) is entirely ignored. This aspect is the role of Freud's theories in the treatment of the mentally ill today. There is a general feeling that science is poised to unravel the biology of major mental disorders; with each issue of *Science* or *Nature* one expects an article reporting a genetic mutation that causes schizophrenia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, or bipolar disorder (manic-depressive illness). But as yet, in spite of an enormous amount of research, the causes of all major mental disorders are still unknown and, consequently, today's treatment strategies in psychiatry are not based on attacking known causative agents, either at a biological or psychological level.

Biological treatments (drugs or electroshock, for example) work to alleviate symptoms, but they do not cure mental illness. Some types of structured psychotherapy also work. To my knowledge, there are no scientific studies proving the efficacy of psychoanalysis for psychiatric disorders. Very few practitioners of psychiatry or psychology, however, will deny the existence of the unconscious (which has now been captured by functional brain imaging), that patients develop a transference to the doctor or therapist, or that those in turn develop a countertransference to the patient. Thus, the degree (if any) to which Freud's theories are applicable to psychiatric treatment today is a key point for discussions of Freud's work and his legacy. Regrettably, this important issue was left out of the exhibit. I would have enjoyed reading about the controversies between psychodynamically oriented practitioners and biologically oriented psychiatrists that such a topic would have created. Maybe it would have been too provocative to give these factions such an obvious bone of contention, but Freud himself never refrained from saying something because he was afraid it would be provocative.

We are left with a superb, albeit noncontroversial, exhibit on controversy. The exhibition is undoubtedly worth attending, and I highly recommend the companion book. As Jacques Derrida might have said, the problems are not with what is there, but with what is not there, and why it is not there. Sadly, the curator and organizers (and maybe all of us, as individuals and as a society) are still unable to let dyadic opposites play in a non-hierarchical way.

Notes

1. A Web site devoted to the exhibition is at http://lcweb.loc.gov/exhibits/freud/
2. Future dates and venues: the Jewish Museum, New York, April to September 1999; the Sigmund Freud Museum and Austrian National Library, Vienna, October 1999 to February 2000; the Skirball Cultural Center, Los Angeles, March to June 2000; Museu de Arte de São Paulo, Brazil, summer 2000; Museu de Arte do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil, fall 2000; the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, early 2001.

NEW MEDIA: SOFTWARE

Statistical Buddy

Brian R. Shmaefsky

Identifying the kind of statistical analysis appropriate for a given data set is crucial for any scientific investigation. Data Desk can help with this problem. It is a basic statistical analysis and plotting package that provides a useful statistical environment and recognizes the needs of neophytes. Although lacking some features of comprehensive statistical packages, such as database storage or spreadsheet displays, the program allows rapid calculations in an easy-to-understand manner.

Data Desk 6.0
Data Description Inc.
Ithaca, NY. $650; $795 (with ActivStats).
(607) 257-1000
www.datadesk.com

The author is in the Department of Biology/Environmental Sciences, Kingwood College, Kingwood, TX 77339, USA. E-mail: bshmaefs@nhmccd.edu

Data Desk was designed initially as an educational accessory, but grew to become a useful research tool. The program's author, P. F. Velleman, also designed the tutorial program called ActivStats that accompanies Data Desk. Using the multimedia capability of the CD-ROM to its fullest, ActivStats provides videos and hands-on demonstrations of computer-based statistical analyses. It can also assign practice exercises and provide access to preinstalled Internet software. ActivStats is especially useful for the novice.

Data Desk's startup window provides functions that guide the user through the program. HyperView windows pop up for each command and permit the user to perform operations by clicking on icons. A quick review of the Data Desk handbook is recommended, however, before attempting to understand the subtleties of the HyperView windows.

Data can be entered in the data table window, imported in text formats from Microsoft Word or Works or in spreadsheet format from Excel, or pasted from the clipboard. Statistical analyses are performed by assigning variables to the data. Users can then access the program's calculation and plotting options. Several parametric and nonparametric analyses can be performed with the "calculate" function. Data Desk provides common statistical functions for researchers in the physical, biological, and social sciences, including data summaries, measures of central tendency, analysis of variance, and moments.

Output can be in the form of bar charts, histograms, line graphs, pie charts, plots, or tables. Graphical displays are simple white-on-black backgrounds that can be modified with colors. Selected parts of a plot can also be isolated, cropped, and rescaled. Data summaries and analyses can be stored as collections (folders) or templates for later work. Templates provide an unalterable framework for repetitive analyses and can also store pictures and notes. The program can be used to create slide shows and contains powerful "what if" analyses that allow the user to see how small, defined changes in data can alter the results.

Data Desk 6.0 runs on Windows 95, Windows NT, or Macintosh operating systems, but not on Windows 98. At least 8 Mb of RAM is required for efficient operation, but only 3 Mb of hard drive space is used. The well-written Data Desk 6.0 handbook and reference manuals provide detailed information about the program. Online help is available at techsupport@datadesk.com.