

Caution!

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DVNLP left by all good Spirits?

Predetermined breaking point fascistoid-totalitarian slips and loss of self-control

from Thies Stahl, 02.06.2016, update 17.01.2020¹

Is the German Association for Neuro-Linguistic Programming (DVNLP) abandoned by all good spirits? Has he sold his soul, forgotten his roots? Where has the spirit of Virginia Satir gone? Where are the systemic-communication-theoretical insights of Gregory Bateson and the Palo Alto Group, where the cybernetic ethics of a Heinz von Foersters, which underlies the original credo of NLP (transforming environmental variables into decision variables), which sets the increase of choices as its consistently highest goal - and not the elimination of options? And certainly not, as its worst consequence, the elimination of humans.

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In the DVNLP, has the "hierarchical world view", so described by Virginia Satir as hostile to life, with its "right-wrong" and "you-may-be-(so)-and-you-not" thinking, with its overt and covert discrimination and devaluations, ultimately triumphed over Virginia's life-oriented "organic world view", which promotes development, growth and integration through the appreciation of difference and diversity?

Has the DVNLP even mutated into a DVNSNLP, a "German Association for *Non-Systemic* NLP", in which choices, liveliness and people-eliminating fascistoid slip-ups and totalitarian derailments are tolerated? As excrescences and variants of the hierarchical world view, which should be particularly embarrassing for us in Germany? Communications-free exclusion of members of an association of professional communicators? Is discrimination as a high school of communication exemplified by the association management, which primarily communicates in formal legal terms in the event of a crisis? Communicative and physically violent elimination of people as the strongest form of discrimination?

Or has the humanist NLP, which was originally meant to be revolutionary-free, degenerated only to a new form of bourgeois-violent communication, whose main goal - as an expression of all variants of the hierarchical world view - is to establish and maintain power structures? Is it corrupted by the power and wealth preserving policies of the functionaries of the large German training association DVNLP, which has arrived in the comfortable middle of society? Such or similar questions have certainly been asked by some of its members, to whom the NLP, like me, is still very close to their hearts, in view of the recent conflicts in the DVNLP.

I was astonished by the high degree of untruthfulness, denial and repression among DVNLP members. Many of the members (approx. 1700 of nearly 2000) informed by me several times by mail about the monstrosities in their association want, as some literally said, *"to hear nothing of it"*. My argument with the DVNLP is *my* argument and it would have *"not interested"* them, again literally - i.e. the topics of the conflict concerning the association, its politics and its handling of the method and the users of NLP were apparently not taken note of by many members at all. As a direct consequence of corresponding partly misleading and partly false representations of the board of directors, most members perceive exclusively a kind of private war of a certain Thies Stahl with the DVNLP association leadership.

This unwillingness or even -ability to perceive the conflict topics and derailments in the association, which I clearly mentioned in several mails to the members, corresponds in my impression with the phenomenon of the lack of empathy and indignation of many DVNLP members, which I ²described in my article "Violence,

² My articles The kind of mistreatment is evident in my texts: *"The Perverse Triangle as a Recursive Pattern in the DVNLP"*, *"Violence, Abuse, Double Morals and the Return of the Repressed in the DVNLP"*, *"DVNLP Abandoned by All Good Spirits? predetermined breaking point fascistoid-totalitarian slips and loss of self-control"*, *"The NLP and the madmen. The DVNLP corrupts its method"*, *"My beautiful delinquent German Association! DVNLP completes*

abuse, double standards and the return of the repressed in the DVNLP". There I present this phenomenon as the result of a superimposition of two taboos: the taboo of the 1986 murder involvement of NLP co-founder Richard Bandler and the taboo of "prostitution", both as a general social one and as a very specific one in the historical context of NLP. This two-layered tabooing seems to have led - in addition to the corresponding misrepresentations of the association leadership - to the fact that the suppression and cover-up of several abuse complaints and other dark machinations of DVNLP functionaries in this association could in fact hardly be perceived.

A similar phenomenon of untruthfulness and denial I have encountered in discussions about DVNLP on Facebook and in Internet forums. There it seemed to me like a non-awareness, for lack of suitable categories: Quite similarly to what is reported about the South American natives that they did not have a category "large sailing ship" and therefore could not actually see the ships of their subjects at first, perhaps many DVNLP members (like myself in my first shock) had no categories at all for the perception and naming of the monstrosities in the association. Just as the South Americans could see smaller boats on the water, at least near the land, but not something so big that appeared on the horizon and approached bigger and bigger, many DVNLP members could not name the monstrosities that happened in the association and, due to the lack of suitable categories, could not even notice them - although they became more and more stunned with each of my info mails to the members.

With the help of the mental-cognitive processes of analogy formation, which are normally freely available and unhindered for all people, the DVNLP members could perhaps have made suitable categories accessible to themselves, if it were not for a further limitation of their perception and thinking, in addition to the one caused by the systematic misrepresentations of the board of directors: an unprejudiced discourse about what happened was apparently hindered by a further layer of taboos, which is reflected in the "speechlessness" of the members of this association of professional communicators. As a characteristic of the current crisis of the DVNLP, this is, in my opinion, closely connected with the renunciation of the use of certain historical-social analogies, in relation to which - with good reason - most Germans impose a strict restraint on themselves. We are talking about the "Taboo Nazi comparisons". This taboo has the positive function of placing the extra hurdle of a "dear once more thinking" in front of an ill-considered use of fascism and totalitarianism analogies that only serves a discrediting rhetoric.

I had used one of these analogies, e.g. to speak of the "deployment of a Schutz-Staffel" in the 2014 general meeting - still in shock and emotionally upset - in one of the discussions spontaneously in order to be able to name the derailments in

perpetrator-victim conversion", "Perpetrator Association DVNLP - Silence, Denial and Repression", "DVNLP + GNLC hide suspected sex offender" and "Psychiatry. Not funny", as well as "DVNLP relies on lying managing directors", "DVNLP lies. Chronic" and "For what crimes is the DVNLP pilloried?"

question in this general meeting. After corresponding criticism, I have refrained from this comparison in the further discussion, or rather from the discussion about these derailments in the DVNLP as a whole. For what I wanted to express could not be described and named at all without this analogy, at least not in the shocking monstrosity in which I felt this use of "dull-brown" violence.

Since the criticism of this and another Nazi comparison I used was understandable to me - after all, they relativize the immeasurable suffering of millions of people - the categories of description made possible by these analogies were not available to me for a while. The violent reaction, also and especially of the other participants in the discussion, who otherwise agreed with me regarding my criticism of the board, had intimidated me and made³me temporarily mute.

I assume that many DVNLP members did not feel fundamentally different when they tried to talk about the events in their association - but with the presumable difference that most of them were probably less motivated than me to comment on the derailments in their association: As commercial still-members of the DVNLP, who rely on the DVNLP certification seal for their customers, they seem to have rather refrained from trying to name these events clearly as what they are. In contrast to this, it is indispensable for my reputation as a founding board of directors, which was excluded from the deceived and manipulated general meeting⁴ on 31.10.2014 in a night-and-mist action, to point out these monstrous lapses in the association and the misrepresentations of the DVNLP board of directors regarding the conflicts within the association and regarding my person - and their possible bad consequences, not only for the development of NLP in general, but also for my professional situation.

With some distance and longer reflection I would like to come back in the following not only to the analogies and comparisons I used at that time, which might be problematic, but also to add some more. I will make clear to what extent the categories and terms made available with the help of these historical analogies seem to me to be indispensable for an adequate description of the events in the DVNLP. For only all these analogies together make the extent of the monstrousness of the events in the DVNLP clear - considered against the background of German history on the one hand, but above all also against the background of the humanistic, systemic and communication-theoretical tradition of NLP (above all Virginia Satir, Gregory Bateson and their colleagues of the Palo Alto Group of the Mental Research

³ Record changed, see FN#1.

⁴ "The General Assembly 2014 has been deceived and manipulated by the Board with incomplete and false information!" On 24 October 2016, the Hamburg Regional Court, in its *reasoning for the lifting of the interim injunction*, I am not allowed to say, pointed out that there were sufficient connecting factors for the statement in dispute, which was to be understood as an expression of opinion. And, in soothing clarity, the judge added "Moreover, the dissemination of the passage in question is likely to be permissible simply because the defendant was excluded from the general meeting. ... because of this illegal act, the defendant was unable to defend its position at the general meeting."

Institute), i.e. the spiritual tradition of the method that this association wants to represent.

The lapses in the DVNLP violated - on the historical background of two fascist or totalitarian regimes in Germany - not only my, but certainly also the ideas of a majority of DVNLP members about what should be taken for granted for a German Methodist Association today, e.g. regarding

- the preservation of democratic structures and processes in the association, which enable a free decision-making process, i.e. the relevant committees and the general meeting may not be ignored or excluded from essential information
- an inviolable separation of powers within the association, which guarantees the basic rights of all members vis-à-vis the functionaries elected by them, e.g. by ensuring that, if necessary and after appropriate appeal, the arbitration committee and, by setting up an investigative committee, also the general meeting of the association can and must control its executive board, and that the appeal to such committee by the executive board must not be prevented under any circumstances
- the obligation of the functionaries and office-holders of the Association to ensure that in their own dealings with the members of the Association and in the dealings of the members with each other at all times, human dignity is inviolable - and of course the integrity of the membership rights of the members of their Association.

The violation of these fundamental socio-political and organizational standards and values by the wrong decisions and actions of the DVNLP board of directors alone, as described in detail⁵ in the chronology of the "DVNLP case" published by me, is outrageous enough. But beyond this indignation, I was shocked and shaken by the poor and erroneous thinking of the association's leadership, which underlies the unspeakable policy of the executive committee: The DVNLP represents a method whose humanistic, communication and systems-theoretical tradition would have required of its leadership a qualitatively very different way of thinking and acting than that which it was obviously only able to do in this crisis of the association. Gregory Bateson would certainly have criticized the "sloppy epistemology" of the executive committee and especially its pathogenic communication patterns, Jay Haley his entanglements with members of the association in several highly dysfunctional organizational "perverse triangles", Virginia Satir the relapse of the association into fascist-totalitarian and even medieval variants of the hierarchical world view and Fritz Perls might have seen a disaster that he believed to be overcome and remembered his emigration from Nazi Germany. Watzlawick would have commented with a few biting jokes on the naivety of the first-order (final) solution attempted by the board of directors, and Heinz von Foerster would have

⁵ Link: *Causa DVNLP - the chronology*

commented on the disastrous ignorance of this association leadership with regard to the option-generating "cyber-ethics" proposed by him. The elimination of options and, as their worst consequence, the elimination of people as well, which has certainly occurred in the association, violates all the values of this tradition, which are sacred to me, since I immersed myself in the systems and communication theory world of the Palo Alto Group in 1974 and got to know NLP, which is part of this very tradition, at and through Virginia Satir in 1979.

With this tradition the DVNLP association leadership has now thoroughly broken with its system-blind and communicative deaf and violent actions as well as with its ill-considered decisions on the regulars' table level. Predetermined breaking point: A method association has cut its roots and has failed as a quasi-professional organisation with regard to its most important task - that of self-control.

The procedure in the association is, from its basic premises and attitude, incompatible with Virginia Satir's organic-systemic world and human image, which was originally fundamental for NLP. The board of directors and the advisor of its chairman, the senior member of the training and further education commission, Martina Schmidt-Tanger, as well as the speaker of the DVNLP specialist group mediation, Anita von Hertel, as well as all other association members practicing NLP must be measured by the knowledge and skill level, as well as by the ethics, spirit and heart of this demanding tradition.

Discrimination and dilettantism

The lapses in DVNLP can be described as violations of values and criteria that are probably important for most (German) NLPers. These are, as just indicated, both those originating from the humanistic and communication theory tradition of NLP and those on which the society we live in today is based and which strives to be democratic and constitutional.

In the following, the satirical concept of the hierarchical world view will serve as a conceptual basis and frame of reference for these two areas of violated values and criteria. With its help, Virginia has described basic forms of problem-creating thought and action in the families and communities of Western post-war societies - devaluation, prejudice, discrimination and exclusion.

What is important about this concept for our context is that these fundamental forms and consequences of poor thinking and acting can be understood as a continuum in their extent and intensity: One pole of this continuum can be seen as the "normally" restricted, often life- and option-hostile world and human image of American or German families (of Virginia Satir's 50s to 80s, but certainly also beyond that until today) with all its limiting beliefs about the possibilities of human development, and the other pole can be seen as the thinking that leads to the extremely life-hostile and inhuman discrimination, Patterns of communication and action which, in the case of a fully flourishing fascist-totalitarian regime, can capture an entire people, who as a result of this finally start killing parts of themselves.

Seen in this broader framework, fascism and totalitarianism analogies are also indispensable for the clarification of the current crisis of the DVNLP and the derailments in this association. But first - for the orientation of those readers who are not familiar with my previous critical texts on the DVNLP - a short description of these events, which at first should get along without the aid of "analogy formation through historical comparisons".

As the chronology published by me shows, the events in the association can be described as a sequence of wrong decisions and questionable procedures of an overburdened board: as a series of organisational dilettantisms, examples of "pathogenically perverse" leadership behaviour⁶ and of poverty testimonies of discriminatory violent communication, accompanied by breaches of statutes, shyster tricks and covert machinations of association officials who celebrate dirty coalitions with members against members behind the scenes and clumsily and permanently expose themselves to the suspicion of committing dishonourable vandalism on official Wikipedia pages.

In this chronology I have described that and how association officials hide their own abuses of power and in what ways the DVNLP board of directors protects several DVNLP teacher trainers and coaches who have been charged with abuse of power and sexual violence: The executive committee prevented the handling of the complainant's abuse complaints within the association in accordance with the statutes and did not shy away from massive discrimination against her person by violently-manipulatively pathologising her, criminalising her and excluding her from internal association communication.

At the beginning of June 2014, he excluded the complainant from a crisis meeting with the Association's management planned with her and Thies Stahl in June 2014 during a DVNLP event in Göttingen (as a first meeting ever) - on the grounds that the Association's lawyer had argued that she did not have the "psychological stability" necessary to attend a seminar (with Lucas Derks) belonging to this DVNLP event. This reasoning was of course - typical of covert discrimination - a pretext, since the complainant had been successfully certified as a Practitioner (DVNLP), Master (DVNLP), Trainer (DVNLP), Advanced Master (DVNLP) and Systemic Coach (DVNLP) at all DVNLP training levels by the DVNLP trainers Ralf Hungerland, Thies Stahl, Stephan Landsiedel, Carlos Salgado, Clemens Groß and Martina Schmidt-Tanger.

For this pathologisation, which extremely violated the complainant's personal rights, the chairman Dr. jur. Jens Tomas and the association lawyer Torsten Harms twisted a sentence from one of their letters to the Hamburg State Criminal Police Office into its exact opposite. It is questionable whether the association lawyers Tomas and Harms⁷

⁶ See *"The Perverse Triangle as a Recursive Pattern in DVNLP"*.

⁷ Compare my comments on the manipulated LKA memo in *"Das NLP und die Verrückten. The DVNLP corrupts its method"* and the *"dossier perpetrator-victim-reversion"*.

can or want to rely on further defamatory statements by opponents of the complainant's conflict in this "diagnosis" of the mental state of a member of the association, which is in any case not admissible and can even be prosecuted under criminal law - in addition to that of the member of the Training and Further Training Commission Martina Schmidt-Tanger, who is extremely involved in conflict with the complainant. The latter has defamed the complainant, her former coach-training participant, as mentally ill within the association and in violation of her personal rights and, together with another trainer from her institute "NLP-professional", belongs to the group of persons reported to the court, against whom the person concerned also makes serious accusations within the association. The aforementioned trick of the DVNLP chairman Dr. Jens Tomas and the association lawyer Torsten Harms was rounded off with the threat by the association lawyer against her, criminalizing the complainant, that the board of directors would make use of its domiciliary right in the conference rooms of its Göttingen event *"should you, contrary to expectations, still want to arrive and participate"*.

In September 2014, the DVNLP had its Managing Director announce as official *"DVNLP Association Information"* in the DVNLP Member Forum and in the XING NLP Forum, which has a good 11,600 members: *"For clarification: According to our information, there was no abuse within the Association.* This announcement implies (for the public already involved in the forums at that time) that the⁸allegations of abuse not dealt with and suppressed by the complainant within the Association and known outside the Association (as submitted by her within the Association and present there) would be false accusations. With this official statement, the DVNLP Board of Directors has lost its neutrality towards the complainant and her conflicting parties, all members of the association, and discredited the complainant, **prejudging** her, publicly and violating her personal rights, as a liar and implausible person. And as such, according to available reports, the board of directors also presented the complainant to the "Tribunal General Assembly" one month later and thus further stigmatized her in her absence - as a continuation of the pathologization, criminalization and exclusion of her person through her association-lawyer's discharge from the Göttingen DVNLP event.

One month later, the executive board forcibly denied her access to the 2014 general meeting despite her existing membership rights, only to finally commit an official character assassination on her: With great effort, the management of the association kept the 86 members present unaware of the actual contents and the persons actually involved in the conflicts that had arisen in the association in a two-hour beamer-supported presentation, in which only the complainant's opponents were allowed to speak during her absence, which was violently enforced in violation of the statutes.

⁸ Parenthesis new.

Months before this general meeting, the association's leadership had already lost its neutrality and had completely sided with the complainant's conflicting parties: She took over their internal mobbing, which had begun in a DVNLP master training group and was directed against her, and brought it to an official end - now as a "final" one - in the general meeting of the association: *character assassination* through pathologisation and criminalisation of the complainant, who was then finally *excommunicated from the Association for Professional Communicators without any communication*.

I, an honorary member supporting the complainant and member of the DVNLP founding board, was tried by the association's leadership during my efforts to help her in the association not only with her membership rights but also with her human rights, to muzzle *official DVNLP officials with the help of unofficial dirty tricks* (see below). In addition, I and the complainant were excluded from the misinformed 2014 General Assembly - before the latter could have set up a committee of inquiry into the derailments in the association, as requested by me and several other DVNLP members.

In the remaining 23 hours between the delivery of the exclusion notice and the beginning of the MA, the Board of Management (which had already repeated this procedure several times before, and then above all) prevented and blocked the appeal to and involvement of the Arbitration Commission by means of tangible violations of the Statutes and formal legal tricks.

The obviously overburdened management of the association allows a textbook-like process of perpetrator-victim-reversion to take place, which is probably primarily the responsibility of the member of the training and further training commission Martina Schmidt-Tanger and the chairman Dr. jur. Jens Tomas. Neither of them, and probably some of the DVNLP instructors denounced by the complainant and protected by the executive committee of the association, can prevent them from obtaining dubious places of honour in the decades-long series of extremely violent (not only communicative) perpetrators of the sectarian network of violent relationships of the complainant, from which she has managed to leave⁹.

None of these DVNLP members helped her to quit. On the contrary, according to their reports, some of the DVNLP teaching trainers in and by the association, who have remained unscathed to this day, have in part become deeply involved in this system and have made themselves and their children criminally liable to prosecution. She had to leave her children, whom she has not seen for over four years today¹⁰, in the corresponding context of forced prostitution and exploitation - probably not least as a result of the derailments and wrong decisions in the association. The latter

⁹ See "*Background to abuse complaints*".

¹⁰ Since August 2012.

probably supported and perpetuated the violent system described by the complainant.

This is done by the management of the association on the one hand by the discrimination, stigmatising pathologisation and criminalisation of the complainant, which has not been revoked, and on the other hand by the direct support, which is concealed from the public of the association, of one of the DVNLP teacher trainers who has been charged with rape and complicity in forced prostitution in the context of the complainant: In legal proceedings against me (I would have made the complainant's accusations¹¹ against him my own), i.e. in a conflict between two DVNLP members that was not mediated within the association by the DVNLP Arbitration Commission due to breaches of the statutes, but was conducted by a court outside the association, the DVNLP allows an association official and functionary to supply one member with confidential information within the association as ammunition against the other. From DVNLP chairman Dr. jur. Jens Tomas, Martina Schmidt-Tanger abuses her office as a senior member of the DVNLP's training and further training commission by forming a coalition with one association member in court in a "perverse triangle"¹² against the other in order to gain her own economic and personal advantages. (In these proceedings, the complainant was heard as a witness for a total of four and a half hours on 16 October 2015 and 22 April 2016. It was suspended in the summer of 2016, as the public prosecutor's office is investigating the DVNLP instructor who was reported to the police as of 11.05.2016¹³).

For their place in the circle of perpetrators who were also psychologically extremely violent towards the complainant, the DVNLP chairman, Jens Tomas, and the member of the training and further training commission, Martina Schmidt-Tanger, generously used the DVNLP offices awarded to them - whereby they were, however, at the same time able to successfully avert an imminent economic damage from their training institute "NLP professional" (run together with one of the DVNLP teaching trainers who were also reported and protected by the board of directors). Here's a little something in her honor.

Magic thinking of the association management

The DVNLP has achieved something here that is otherwise only known from pathogenic family systems: a member of the system, in the DVNLP the complainant, is declared an "index patient" and, in the course of a corresponding pathologization and criminalization, is excluded from communication and finally sacrificed by the system, i.e. eliminated. After that everything that had to do with her is declared taboo.

¹¹ The insertion between "made)" and "DVNLP members", see FN#1.

¹² *"The Perverse Triangle as a Recursive Pattern in DVNLP"*

¹³ Court information updated.

Thus, only I, who had stood up for her membership and human rights in the association, was granted a meeting with the Arbitration Commission, she was not. She was not to be talked about any more, she was considered to be no longer existing, i.e. she was not allowed to participate in the meeting of the conciliation commission¹⁴, which had to decide on her and my exclusion decided by the executive committee - which, after the first conversation with the commission and while it was still dealing with my texts and documents, led me to leave this association with its systemically rather illiterate leadership.

In families, the exclusion of people with a heavy fate is based on the magical belief of the family collective that the evil and threat that such a fate poses can be averted by exclusion and tabooing¹⁵. The same applies to the DVNLP: The member of the Education and Training Commission, Martina Schmidt-Tanger, and the DVNLP chairman, Jens Tomas, were both emotionally unable to deal with the intensity of the terrible situation in the life of the complainant. Martina Schmidt-Tanger and Jens Tomas have both been unable to see the complainant as a person and as a human being, so panicky they reacted to details of their reports from their history of violence and abuse (in telephone calls I had informed both of them, at the complainant's request, about the background of their complaints in the association - both with regard to their history as a child passed around in paedophile groups, and as a training participant and client abused by NLP trainers and coaches). Martina Schmidt-Tanger said she would not want to hear about it anymore, because she could not sleep at all. Jens Tomas said that he couldn't bear to hear anything more about it, he would only have to think about his little daughter and he wouldn't be able to stand it.

The fact that the complainant is a textbook example of resilience and that she has also worked through her history therapeutically and thus, after leaving her violent relationship network, has come astonishingly far, could not be perceived by the most influential functionaries in the association in their own distress with these difficult issues. They have tried, amateurishly and unprofessionally, to banish this emotional threat to their own souls by excluding the complainant as a member of the association and former coach training participant (a repetition of another taboo story in the NLP world¹⁶).

Comparisons and analogies

Analogies and metaphors can make implicit things explicit and thus describable. They are useful to indispensable for the speaker as well as for the listener, in order to

¹⁴ See *Causa DVNLP - the chronology*.

¹⁵ Quoted after a workshop handout by Dagmar Ingwersen, private clinic Bad Zwischenahn

¹⁶ See: "*Violence, abuse, double standards and the return of the repressed in the DVNLP*".

clarify, emphasize and: sometimes even to make them perceptible in the first place¹⁷.

When reading this brief description of the events in the Association, some readers probably could not prevent certain, possibly even historical comparisons from coming to their minds anyway. Furthermore, in this description, which I announced as being rather free of comparison and analogy, there are several analogies and metaphors, such as "night-and-mist action", "character assassination", "dirty tricks" or "perpetrator-victim-reversion" - and with "vandalism" there is also a historical analogy, however not from the recent past, but from a more distant past. People cannot not make analogies: As cognitive spontaneous phenomena, they constantly occur in the current experience of an observer, narrator or listener.

The latter was the case with me - sometimes when I pondered the events in the association afterwards, sometimes when I came back from the complexity trances or the shock stances triggered by the monstrous events in question. Sometimes they even appeared directly during one of these incomprehensible events, for example at the 2014 general meeting.

"Security Squadron" - four men and a Woman in Black

I couldn't help feeling reminded of fascist-totalitarian episodes of our German history when I wanted to describe the events at the DVNLP general meeting 2014 for my blog. This concerned first and foremost and especially the deployment of a five-man security service, which the DVNLP board of directors had hired especially for the previously planned but statute-breaking expulsion of two members, the petite complainant and the then 64-year-old honorary member, that is, me.

"The complainant, who was excluded by the board of directors without a hearing by the responsible committees in violation of the statutes and who was officially *shouted out* in this general meeting, hit the cobblestones in front of the event building lengthwise when being thrown out by the muscle-bound security guards in black suits - hard.

When I wanted to describe this event on the train to Hamburg for my blog after the initial shock, a film scene appeared in me in which an SS squad stormed into the second floor of a house that was being "cleaned" by Jewish roommates, drove the residents out onto the street and unceremoniously threw the grandfather of the Jewish family in question, sitting in his wheelchair, from his balcony onto the street. A spontaneous analogy.

Later, in a discussion on my Facebook page, I spoke of the deployment of this not squeamishly acting security force as that of a "Security Squadron" (SS). For some of them, I had thus already thoroughly transgressed the taboo of "Nazi comparisons". In spite of all the similarities that were even conceded, they preferred to sort by

¹⁷ Colon inserted.

differences, in NLP jargon. One of them, a DVNLP and former board member, apparently found it easier to be indignant about my SS-Nazi comparison than about this use of "dull-brown" physical violence for which the DVNLP board was responsible.

"Enabling Act"

Another historical analogy that is difficult to close when describing the processes in the DVNLP is that of "empowerment". It is based on the similarity of two events.

One of them is the "**Declaration**" of the 2014 General Assembly: *"The General Assembly supports with great consternation and after detailed discussion about the exclusion of Thies Stahl and ... (the complainant) the board of directors and the board of trustees in all previous and further steps in order to protect participants, the association and the reputation of the entire NLP in Germany and elsewhere"*.

With this declaration the misinformed, i.e. the deceived and manipulated¹⁸ general meeting authorized the leadership of the association - in forced absence of the two members entitled to vote who had been "deported" by the "security squadron" of the association a few minutes before by force from the meeting room - to arrange and bring to an end their exclusion as *"association-damaging"* members (original sound of DVNLP executive committee) at their own discretion. And this after the board of directors had withheld the motions of several members for the establishment of an investigative committee from this general meeting and had already lied to the association members in an official statement in April 2014 to the effect that the committee responsible under the statutes, the Arbitration Committee, would have dealt with the complaints of Thies Stahl and the complainant.

The other is the **Enabling Act** - an event from recent German history during another assembly, in the course of which another leadership received a fatal blanket power of attorney - among other things also for discriminating against, *deporting* and *eliminating "people-damaging"* members. This authorization was declared in this general meeting (of the German Reichstag) during a similarly misplaced and threatening presence of SS and (mainly) SA members, even, as 81 years later in the DVNLP, in the absence of previously forcibly removed voting members: Members of the Reichstag were forcibly prevented from attending this general meeting of the Reichstag so that they could not speak and vote.

"summary judgment" - in absentia

Two DVNLP members - he with his arm turned on his back and her by her hair - were first removed from the 2014 general meeting despite existing statutory rights and then sentenced in the same meeting for "association-damaging behaviour" in their absence and past the responsible bodies of the association (arbitration commission and training commission): There was no right to be heard - without a hearing, the 86

¹⁸ Compare FN #4.

misinformed DVNLP-members present were "sentenced by the district court" to the complete loss of their membership rights, which had already been violated several times by several violations of the statutes.

This deprivation of rights was immediately "enforced¹⁹" by the general meeting, which was held in ignorance: On the one hand, by following the proposal of the Board of Directors to no longer allow the motions for the appointment of an investigative committee to investigate the treatment of members in violation of the statutes and the suppression of complaints of abuse, which had been submitted in writing by these two members as well as (which was certainly not mentioned in the meeting) by several other members, to be put to the vote, and on the other hand by the declaration of "empowerment" of the association's management, to completely and finally eliminate the two members just before their eyes forcibly removed from the general meeting from the community of the association with all means that can be used at their own discretion.

The basis for the implementation of such a kind of "summary court martial" in the DVNLP was - apart from dubious formal legal constructions and pretended justifications - apparently an articulation of what 80 years earlier might have been called the "*healthy public feeling*", which had become effective in the executive committees through the association's leadership at the level of the regulars' table. If a discourse had been possible in the association - one thinks of the social and NLP-specific prostitution taboo²⁰ - about the motives for the exclusion of the complainant that could be assumed behind the formal-legal reasons advanced, one would probably have spoken more of a "*healthy sense of morality*". The discourse about the term "immorality", which in connection with prostitution is "not suitable" as a legal term, has so far been rather avoided in our society. In the tabooing DVNLP he is not even in sight²¹ - which apparently opened the door to a stammtisch-like prejudgement of the complainant by the leadership and the committees of the DVNLP.

None of the official statements and writs with which the DVNLP board tried to justify the exclusion of the complainant, first from the internal communication, then from the general meeting and finally from the association, dealt with moral aspects or immoral characteristics of the complainant's unfortunate life situation²². In connection with her complaints against DVNLP instructors and coaches, she had come out to the board of directors and the called committees of the federation regarding the fact that she had prostituted herself in the context of NLP seminars

¹⁹ Quotation marks are new, also for "Authorization" in the next sentence.

²⁰ See: "*Violence, abuse, double standards and the return of the repressed in the DVNLP*".

²¹ On the subject of the learning opportunities destroyed in connection with the complainant in the DVNLP, I will probably write something in my blog.

²² See "*Background to abuse complaints*".

and, as she reports, partly under energetic to necessary "mediation"²³ by several DVNLP instructors and coaches indicated by her. According to her complaints, in several cases the complainant was allegedly raped by DVNLP instructors in the context of complementary, unprofessional and unethically mixed roles as trainer, coach, pimp, psychotherapist, john on the one hand and as participant, client, patient, sex service provider on the other hand, as well as being forced into prostitution with, among others, their seminar participants.

It can be assumed that this taboo-induced blank space existed in the discourse of the DVNLP leadership committees and many other members of the association: It was not discussed - or only distorted like a table of origin within the narrow limits of bourgeois double standards - how the association wants to deal with ethical questions regarding sexual services provided or mediated by DVNLP trainers, coaches, therapists and members full-time or part-time in the context of their activities and activities "refined" by NLP skills - and thus also with the discrimination of association members linked to the term immoralities, whose particular professional activity it is possible to relate to. a. involves prostitution.

It seems that the DVNLP leadership has decided to exclude these questions, which are also extremely difficult and taboo for the legislator in connection with the Prostitution Act,²⁴ and especially their implications for the DVNLP Ethics Guidelines and for an appropriate internal complaint and arbitration management²⁵, from the NLP and internal discourse. They have accepted the price of the elimination of members whose justified complaints point to the necessity and inevitability of such a discourse.

One verdict against prostitution is that it is immoral, even if this may sound somewhat outdated 12 [now 14] years after the prostitution law came into force. However, the Prostitution Act did not make any explicit statement on the immorality of prostitution, which had until then almost always been taken for granted. The assessment of prostitution as immoral continues to find its way into legal evaluations, for example in the refusal of registration under commercial law for prostitutes in some Länder or in the prohibition of brothels in flats under building law. For a long time, the Federal Administrative Court judged the following to be immoral: "those who contradict the prevailing social-ethical convictions...."

²³ Quotation marks new.

²⁴ <http://streit-wert.boellblog.org/2014/07/10/prostitution-im-spannungsfeld-von-sittenwidrigkeit-menschenwuerde-und-geschlechterhierarchien/>

²⁵ <https://www.absolventa.de/karriereguide/arbeit-und-alltag/studenten-nebenjob-prostitution> and <http://www.spiegel.de/unispiegel/jobundberuf/studentenjob-hure-auf-der-uni-dank-liebeslohn-a-531622.html>

*Morality, as a moral concept, must be separated from law, and is therefore not suitable for determining what can be prohibited or regulated by law. **The moral judgement of a majority should not serve to exclude minorities from rights, because the right has the task of protecting the self-determined freedom of the individual, and thus also his/her moral decisions, in coexistence, and not to restrict these on the basis of a prevailing moral.** This applies all the more to prostitution, since in the past **the assessment as immoral was based on a double standard** [and today?], according to which the prostitute was branded as a lewd woman, whereas the desire of the client was accepted without question. Dr. Anja Schmidt, lawyer, research assistant at a chair for criminal law, criminal procedure law and philosophy of law at the University of Leipzig²⁶ (emphasis and square bracket: T.S.)*

One of the conditions for the use of summary courts during the Nazi era was that *"in view of ... the excitement caused in the public eye, immediate condemnation was required"* (Wikipedia under "Special courts of the National Socialist era"). The DVNLP leadership had probably also come to the conclusion that such a kind of state of emergency through public agitation existed, when it decided in favour of this kind of standing or special court in the general meeting - and thus also in favour of overriding the statutory requirements for internal jurisdiction, which were actually intended to guarantee a separation of powers within the association.

The two lawyers, who were already well informed by me in the run-up to this meeting about the innumerable violations of the statutes and other derailments in the association, the chairman Dr. jur. Jens Tomas and the spokeswoman of the DVNLP specialist group Mediation, Anita von Hertel, seemed to have had good reasons to forget that the right to be heard has been laid down in the Basic Law since 1949 and that exceptional courts have been inadmissible since then (Articles 101 and 103).

An association, not even with a Dr. Jens Tomas, chairman of the board of directors, may not declare anyone ill, implausible or guilty of false accusation in arrogance of police, public prosecutor, court or expert opinion. Not even if its most important advisor, Martina Schmidt-Tanger, as a well-deserved member of the training and further training commission and as a qualified psychologist, has previously "diagnosed"²⁷ the association member concerned as *"psychologically disoriented"*. The latter does not make the chairman's action any less illegal, because Martina Schmidt-Tanger also acted in a presumptuous manner, using the powers of a court expert, and must therefore be accused of a justiciable derailment: She did not hold an expert office or any other office that legitimized her in any other way, from which

²⁶ <http://streit-wert.boellblog.org/2014/07/10/prostitution-im-spannungsfeld-von-sittenwidrigkeit-menschenwuerde-und-geschlechterhierarchien/>

²⁷ Quotation marks new.

she could have made such a "diagnosis". To have made these statements at all, and then also publicly in the association, is an extreme violation of personal rights - and Martina Schmidt-Tanger is also a DVNLP member who is extremely involved in the conflict and has been reported by the complainant. (This was known to the management of the association, as well as the fact that the serious accusations made against Martina Schmidt-Tanger and another of her "NLP professional" and DVNLP teaching trainers were not forwarded to the responsible bodies of the association by the chairman of the board in violation of the statutes).

Also the fact that the Dr. jur. chairman felt supported perhaps by the co-lawyer and speaker of the DVNLP specialist group Mediation, Anita von Hertel, who gave herself for this "standing court in the absence of the accused" as a tacitly agreeing witness, does not change anything about the inappropriateness of the transformation of a general meeting into a standing court judging in absence.

"Final Solution"

In one of my critical articles on the DVNLP²⁸ I wrote: *"With the help of this deliberately planned, radical final conflict resolution - exclusion of important issues by eliminating the members representing them - the board has successfully prevented an internal and NLP-wide discussion within the association about the questions of content, methodology and above all ethics raised by the complaints.*

I had only thought of the term Final Solution in the background and rather pre-consciously as a Nazi analogy. My focus was more on "solution". I came to the "end" part of this term in all its resonant murderous meaning only after deeper reflection on the use of "solutions" around two theoretical concepts, both of which stem from the tradition of Virginia Satir and the Palo Alto group. These concepts are useful both to describe aspects of what happened in the association as already quite bad manifestations of the hierarchical world view, and aspects of the worst manifestation of the hierarchical world view, which in fascist-totalitarian Nazi Germany led to the mass murder final solution of the question of how to deal with minorities of other faiths, races, political convictions and sexual habits.

"First order solution"

Watzlawick calls a "first-order solution" an attempt to maintain the problem, which not only fails to solve the problem, but also limits the possibilities for development and endangers the system in question. A "first-order solution" is therefore often a final solution in the sense that it can ultimately lead to the lasting destruction of this system, e.g. through the friendly fire of self-destructive attacks on associated system members.

A solution of the first order for the DVNLP problem of the credibility and seriousness of the NLP against the background of the involvement of murder and the

²⁸ See "Violence, abuse, double standards and the return of the repressed in the DVNLP".

occasionally violent approach of one of its founders consists, for example, in the "more of the same" of an even more uncompromising and even more elaborate concealment and tabooing. This "more of the same" has even taken on the grotesque form in the current crisis of the DVNLP that two people were expelled from the association in an elaborate and violent way, since they question the bander and violence taboo by the fact that their justifiably articulated complaints showed too great a thematic similarity to the contents of this taboo. (The apparently salvific tabooing can continue after this radical action, extended by something that *"in connection with two scapegoats sent into the desert was somehow well covered up and about which one does not talk anymore"*, as a member of the DVNLP told me).

It is questionable which limitations of its development possibilities this first-order solution will cost the DVNLP and whether it will be able to keep its integrity as an existing system intact in view of its consequences. He will probably have to fundamentally correct this "first-order solution", which was supposed to put an end to his image problem and the annoying issues of power, violence and prostitution, in order to arrive at a second-order solution. This would probably consist in an integration of the experiences of the complainant and myself, as well as in their useful utilisation for the development of NLP, its ethics and for the necessary adaptation of the internal jurisdiction of the DVNLP.

The final solution to an overall problem that is overtaxing the board of directors is also a final rejection of the development of a "feedback-state-error" and thus learning culture in the association that is appropriate to the NLP method: My decision to withdraw from the DVNLP instructor indicated by the complainant, whose violence towards women and clients, which according to the complainant's reports had occurred in a dissociated manner, I had obviously overlooked in his training, a certificate of supervision hours generously issued on the basis of this misperception, could have been defined by the board as one that could have served as a model for the association due to its ability to admit a mistake. Instead, the board of directors used them as an excuse for an association exclusion - and thus chose a solution for the sad end of something that could well have become an exemplary "error culture" in the DVNLP.

"Unecological solution"

The NLP concept of ecological change work has overlaps with Watzlawick's "first-order solution", because the effects of first-order solutions that maintain the problem are usually also describable as the side effects that make up the unecological solutions. Unecological solutions are final solutions in the sense that they mean the temporary end of ecology and, in the long run, the end of the integrity of a system - and sometimes even the end of the whole system or even of the larger, superordinate system.

In change work, it is the solutions "enforced with (soft) force" that usually have dire consequences for the client concerned, i.e. solutions that are to be enforced unconditionally - precisely against objections and concerns - are usually unecological.

Objections to solutions sometimes take the form of symptoms that should be understood and taken into account as implicit messages from the system for ecological change - and sometimes also in the form of explicitly verbally expressed concerns or complaints that should be heard and understood. In both cases, their importance should be understood by those who have the power to act responsibly in order to implement sometimes necessary radical changes in the system. (If objections, concerns or complaints not only fail to be heard and taken into account, but are at great expense not noticed and even suppressed, suppressed and kept away with the use of force, it is hard to imagine that those acting in this way are at the same time trained NLP users).

A popular example of such an unecological approach is that of a car driver who smashes the oil level gauge in his car so that he is not disturbed or distracted on his urgent and urgent journey to his personal destination. This message from the engine system may have been an annoying flashing symptom for him, which he "fixed" by radically switching it off. But this objectionable symptom was a systemic communication about something that needed attention. If this message is overheard, the integrity of the system and also of the superordinate system is endangered. The engine may then suffer piston seizure, which could have been prevented by the appropriate inclusion of this flashing "objection" of the engine system - its complaint that the system no longer provides sufficient protection. Or worse: The superordinate system man-car-unit is "driven against the wall" as a result of the engine damage, because the complaint was not understood and considered as a message of the system engine and thus of the superordinate, larger system.

Whether the board of the DVNLP "drives its association, and thus to a certain extent also the NLP, which is damaged in its image anyway, against the wall" because it has ignored the flashing warning complaints, concerns and objections of the complainant and her somewhat experienced advocate, i.e. me, with regard to the "NLP and DVNLP system", will probably be decided depending on whether and to what extent the DVNLP members demand the urgently needed, ecologizing reworking from their association leadership.

The board of directors, by excluding two complaints, concerns and objections as an irreversible, i.e. a final, chosen *solution*, has avoided addressing issues that are vital to the DVNLP and NLP system: Questions of an appropriate internal handling of complaints about (sexual and other power) abuse by DVNLP teacher trainers/coaches and considerations about the reformulation of the DVNLP Ethics Guidelines were successfully postponed, as well as a²⁹discourse about whether the application of NLP can lead to violent and power-abusive communication due to

²⁹ See my remarks about Richard Bandler, who is very prone to violence, in "Violence, abuse, double standards and the return of the repressed in the DVNLP".

communication and system theoretical errors and problematic attitudes and settings of its (all too) human models.

Above all, the solution chosen by the Association's leadership, namely to get rid of the complainant and her advocate, is a "final solution to the dissident question". It is a rejection by the DVNLP leadership of its obligation to work for a respectful and spiritual treatment of all association members under all circumstances and to protect their human and membership rights and thus their integrity and dignity. This obligation applies especially to those whose NLP-theoretical, value-related and association-political convictions differ from those of the association leadership and possibly also of the middle of the members - as probably in the case of the complainant and in my case. Above all, it also applies to those members who belong to a social minority and whose professional and private life, e.g. in the sexuality they live, differs from that of the social majority and does not correspond to the "*healthy popular or moral sensibilities*" - with which the use of special courts could be easily justified during the Nazi era.

This solution pushed through by the board of directors in the DVNLP is both a stupid first-order solution and an extremely unecological solution: The topics excluded and suppressed with the two³⁰eliminated members will reappear and then be much more difficult to deal with and integrate in the further development of the NLP and the DVNLP. This is because the expertise of the complainant as a social and group worker and coach experienced in³¹ communicating with universities, authorities, sponsors and other professional fields of overlap with prostitution is now no longer available to the association due to her expulsion. If one sees their (and also my) exclusion from the association as a "rejection" of healthy, highly differentiated parts of the association's own competence tissue, the board of directors has negligently triggered a strong autoimmune reaction of the association, which is unlikely to be curable without a thorough review by a DVNLP investigative committee independent of the board of directors. Without such a clear-cut cure, this association will probably suffer from a correspondingly chronic psychosocial autoimmune disease - with all the accompanying mental-cognitive paralysis and emotional deficits.

Thus, the DVNLP missed an important learning opportunity, inter alia, by failing to acknowledge that the DVNLP member, the complainant, had made a major personal contribution to a possible conclusion of a long overdue discussion of important issues: In order to be able to formulate her complaints about the DVNLP teacher trainers concerned appropriately and to be able to formulate the corresponding

³⁰ See footnote #29.

³¹ "*Background of the abuse complaints*" and the motions to the Arbitration Commission and the MA: *Complainant's motion to the Arbitration Commission, Stahl's motion to the Arbitration Commission, 2nd Complainant's MA motion, "1st Suppressed Motion (Steel) for DVNLP General Assembly 2014", 2nd Steel MA motion, Steel MA motions #3 to #5, MA motions of six other association members.*

accusations fairly towards them, the complainant had come out in a courageous step, as a social education worker, trained group worker, doctoral lecturer for her own group work approach in business, DVNLP-Trainer, "NLP-professional"-diploma "Systemic Coach", owner and manager of a 30 people strong youth welfare organisation and a further education institute for group work and coaching at the same time being an experienced³² noblewoman specialised in communicative and physically difficult assignments.

After these preliminary remarks, it becomes clear that the analogy "final solution" is probably the most problematic in connection with the derailments in DVNLP. While "eliminating" in the Nazi regime at that time meant an industrially carried out, millionfold mass murder, this term in connection with the DVNLP today "only" means that two members were eliminated, i.e. excommunicated, excluded from communication and the community of their quasi professional association. So the unspeakable suffering that the Nazis brought upon millions upon millions of families with their "Final Solution of the Jewish question" actually prohibits the use of this term for a comparatively small suffering of only one or two persons who, in contrast to the many humiliated, oppressed and murdered people at that time, today live in a constitutional state and have the possibility to sue for their membership and personal rights in court. There's a big difference.

One common feature, however, is that the eliminated people are denied the right to exist and to belong as members of their community. In both cases, action was taken from the dark depths of a hierarchical world view, whereby the murderous goings-on in the Nazi regime were based on one of the most grotesque and worst variants of this world view. But what was common to both the then and the present variant is that the special so- or otherness of certain members of the respective community is not, as it would correspond to Virginia's "organic world view", appreciated in its diversity and respected as an expression of a living diversity that makes integration and growth possible, but is taken in a hostile, options and forms of existence that destroy life as reason and justification for the discrimination and elimination of these members from their community.

So I take the responsibility for using the term Final Solution here, because of this similar basic structure, also for the description of the monstrous derailments in the DVNLP - although it is not a matter of murdering millions of people, but "only" of a slander of an individual person, officially carried out by the association, and, as an excommunication from the community, also only of mental murder - and that again only of one or two individuals. The hostile denial of the right to exist in and of the affiliation to the respective ethnic community or association is similarly painful.

In contrast to the Nazis' murderous treatment of the "*Volksschädlingen*", differences in racial origin, faith or basic political convictions probably played less of a role in the DVNLP's treatment of the "*Verbandsschädlingen*". Rather, it is more likely to be a

³² See footnote #31.

lack of credibility ascribed to the complainant by the board of directors, bordering on criminal (she was indirectly prejudged by the association as a false accuser) - as a stereotype of a character and personality deficit, which then as now is often attributed to minorities (lying and devious Jews, thieving Sinti and Roma, cunning prostitutes who drive good men to ruin). A second motive for the exclusion in the DVNLP today was that of the alleged existence of a mental-emotional disability (the complainant became, perfidiously against the background of her history of abuse and violence known to the leadership of the association, defamed by the management of the association publicly and in violation of personal rights with pseudo-diagnoses such as "psychological disorientation" and "lack of psychological stability" and in an official correspondence of the association with its opponents in conflict, unquestioningly insulted as "mentally ill")

Another decisive factor for the DVNLP leadership's elimination of the different and different from the community was probably the differences in basic socio-political attitudes (e.g. in dealing with hierarchies, power and its legitimization, as well as with issues such as violence, abuse of power and the protection of membership and human rights) and in sexual orientation and life practice (promiscuity, which was outlawed as an offence against morals, in the taboo area of homosexuality then and prostitution today).

Both the then Nazi and today's DVNLP "final solution" could only "succeed" with the help of discrimination and stigmatization by the government or the board of directors. Whereas in the Third Reich discrimination against entire ethnic groups was considered abnormal, sick, untrustworthy and notoriously lying-driven, in the DVNLP it was the open and covert discrimination of the complainant by prejudicial association officials that was considered sick, untrustworthy and lying in the sense of false accusations - both in the association's internal correspondence and in the one-sided pleas and presentations at the 2014 "Standing Court" General Assembly. The management of the association was well aware that the complainant had lived for decades in contexts of violence and prostitution and was therefore, although enormously resilient, also traumatised³³. Nevertheless, the board of directors did not fool themselves into first pathologizing and criminalizing them in cooperation with the association's lawyer and then stigmatizing and eliminating them by slander - not only like a "tragically sick person", but almost like a "(association) life-insufficient sick person".

Just as at that time membership of the gay group was a reason for elimination from the membership of those who were allowed to continue to live in the (ethnic) community, so it is today, in the "honourable (association) house of the DVNLP", it is more likely that the complainant's decades-long membership at that time of the large group of women who were respected very differently over the millennia and who lived and survived as temple whore, wandering whore, sutler, hetaera,

³³ See footnote #31.

courtesan, concubine and lover's servant of various kinds. In order to do justice to the extraordinary situation of the complainant, who was expelled from the DVNLP without communication and who has left her former fields of employment, further and above all more modern terms are probably needed for the professionalised and survived forced-commercialised promiscuous sexuality that she lived: Child prostitute (in paedophile circles), forced prostitute (yes, even in Germany and yes, even as an adult), high-class and special whore, escort lady, dominatrix, sex coach, sex-therapeutic group worker and also businesswoman, whose tasks included activities in prostitution-related border fields such as incentive animation, sponsor acquisition and business contact initiation.

In their dealings with the complainant, the DVNLP leadership, apparently deeply rooted in bourgeois double standards, remained blind and hostile to life, trapped in the "taboo of prostitution". One cannot avoid the impression that the board of directors "turned a blind eye" to the alleged former pimps and pimps in the ranks of the DVNLP instructors and coaches and that the chairman has almost patted them on the shoulder in an almost cavalier offence - at least to one of the DVNLP instructors and coaches that were reported, who referred to a "consensual relationship" in his former sexual relationship with the complainant, who was also his coaching client and psychotherapy patient and who accused³⁴him of sexual violence and abuse in a dependent relationship.

This abuse within a power-asymmetrical relationship in the DVNLP seminar context was not adequately investigated or even sanctioned by the association leadership, which was informed about it in detail. In contrast to the jovial treatment of the complaint addressee and indicated DVNLP teaching trainers/coaches by the board of directors,³⁵ the complainant was robbed of all her member and human rights and, speaking in an admittedly drastic analogy, was disposed of as a whore who had gone to the dogs in the association on the rubbish of civil history³⁶ - despite her great achievement of having left her former business environment under her own steam.

The person in question had asked the DVNLP instructors and coaches she had indicated to her in each case for help to get out of her violent relationship and forced prostitution contexts when she entered into the corresponding relationship with them as a trainee or coachee, in vain. However, according to the complainant's

³⁴ Cf. *legal facts of the "DVNLP case"*, *"For which crimes is the DVNLP in the pillory"*, *"Täterverband DVNLP - Silence, denial and repression"* and *"DVNLP + GNLC hide suspected sex offender"*.

³⁵ Who placed himself protectively in front of him and obviously supported him, among other things with the help of the secret commando action Martina Schmidt-Tangers, who provided him with confidential private and association mails in his court case against me.

³⁶ See *"Background of the abuse complaints"* and my remarks about Rosemarie Nitribit and Corine Christensen in *"Violence, abuse, double standards and the return of the repressed in the DVNLP"*.

reports, they then expanded their violent relationship network to include themselves in order to help her to organise her resources for an exit - which she finally managed to do in November 2011 without their help.

Although the suppressed complaints in the DVNLP refer to sexualised violence and abuse of power in extraordinary situations (the complainant lived with her children in a sectarian context of forced prostitution, in which she was constantly threatened with their and her own death)³⁷ the DVNLP has missed an opportunity by blocking a discourse on the topics of "power, abuse and violence": Against the background of a probably not exactly small number of interested women and participants in NLP seminars, who work as "professional communicators" in many border areas to, and probably also part-time and occasional in, favouritism, e.g. as a student part-time, housewife, part-time or casual prostitute, or as a sex therapist or coach, the DVNLP has prevented an overdue discourse in the association with its "Final Solution of the Abuse and Prostitution Issue" - and thus missed important development opportunities for NLP.

Thus the DVNLP board of directors, which is completely arrested in its thinking in first order solutions, threatened in all seriousness to sue me if I would say publicly that "in a master course of the DVNLP a participant offered her services as a whore" and "a participant was abused"! This is, since legal proceedings are still pending on this very question³⁸, an outrageous interference and prejudgement of a board of directors that has completely fallen out of neutrality. And it is negligently irresponsible in the face of reports of student sex jobbers in Germany or France, where in 2006 the number of female students prostituting themselves on the side³⁹ was estimated at 40,000.

This association policy is also negligent in view of the undeniable proximity of DVNLP seminars to the field of "Speed Seduction" and "Pick-Up" with their colourful trainings in the "Don Juan", flirtation and seduction arts. It is difficult to estimate the number of participants who attend seminars in the DVNLP as well as in these sometimes dingy neighbouring areas.

After the complaints of abuse that have been violently swept under the carpet, there is a lack of discussion in DVNLP about the implications of such overlapping professional requirements and private pleasure and learning goals for the development of ethical guidelines for DVNLP trainers, coaches and course attendants. And about how the association's internal complaint management, which

³⁷ Cf. also *"The NLP and the madmen. The DVNLP corrupts its method"*.

³⁸ And some of them are not even terminated, see *"The NLP and the crazies. The DVNLP corrupts his method."*

³⁹ <http://www.spiegel.de/lebenundlernen/job/studentenjob-hure-auf-der-uni-dank-liebeslohn-a-531622.html>

is urgently in need of overhaul,⁴⁰ should look like in cases where DVNLP members do not succeed in the necessary differentiation and separation of the roles trainer/coach/therapist/course companion and lover/client/pimp.

DVNLP a Nazi association?

In one of the Internet discussions, a former member of the board of directors particularly harshly condemned the use of some of these Nazi comparisons. In the past, this colleague, like me, was active for the DVNLP on a voluntary basis out of conviction for the good of the NLP and probably feared that I would want to discredit the DVNLP as a Nazi association and its members as (and this could have become a separate paragraph under this heading due to their anxiety and opportunism) "fellow travellers". I'm not doing that.

For a gain in knowledge conveyed or aimed at with the help of comparisons, it is true that one can only compare unequal things - otherwise one would only establish the identity of something with something and any discourse aimed at it would come to an end. (Formulated in NLP jargon: The "matching" when looking at partial aspects with simultaneous "mismatching" when looking at the whole can produce interesting new insights).

Every description of complex realities and developments is dependent on analogies and metaphors, also and especially when it is a question of problematic or subliminally disastrous developments. If it were not possible to emphasize certain aspects by analogy and thus make them recognizable in the first place, no one would ever have come up with the idea of saying "Resist the beginnings!"

Further comparisons and analogies

The Nazi comparisons have something in common with the totalitarianism comparisons that were also used in the aforementioned Internet discussions: both are examples of the ominous effects of the "hierarchical world view". They all refer to a fearful and simple-minded and therefore violent, life- and option-hostile way of thinking and acting, which does not allow for diversity in human communities, since it does not appreciate differences and therefore cannot use them fruitfully and integratively for the development, differentiation and growth of the whole of their community.

Comparisons of totalitarianism, which might come to the mind of an observer of the development in the DVNLP in the course of spontaneous analogy formations, are the following:

⁴⁰ See the suppressed motions to the 2014 GM Motions to the Arbitration Commission: *Complainant Motion to the Arbitration Commission, Steel Motion to Arbitration Commission, 2nd Complainant's MV Motion, "1st Suppressed Motion (Steel) for DVNLP General Assembly 2014", 2nd Steel MV Motion, Steel MV Motions #3 to #5, MV Motions of six other association members.*

"Purge," "exile," "psychiatry," and "criminalization"

The DVNLP board's preparation of the complainant's expulsion from the association by means of a dirty lawyer's trick to banish her from the Göttingen DVNLP event, as well as the "night and fog" action of the general meeting expulsion and the tribunal general meeting, are very reminiscent of purge and banishment practices of totalitarian regimes. Analogous to the procedures of totalitarian regimes, the leadership of the DVNLP got rid of their ideologically unpopular members, who did not support their policies, by using the proven dirty-inhuman tricks of such regimes, e.g. by pathologization as a preliminary stage to psychiatry: One declares one's opponents so ill, crazy and untrustworthy that one "unfortunately" has to get rid of them.

Or by criminalization: They are declared criminals. Thus, the chairman of the board of directors succeeded in presenting the rather petite complainant and the 64-year-old founding board of directors, an intellectual who has not fought all his life, officially and explicitly as so dangerously aggressive that the board of directors felt compelled to engage a squad of five muscular security guards especially for the disposal of these two members (according to Dr. jur. Jens Tomas in an affidavit containing further inaccuracies and defamations).

"Show trial"

The analogy of the summary court described above effortlessly becomes that of a show trial, if one considers that in this "tribunal" general meeting, without exception, only prosecutors and witnesses of the prosecution had their say and the stage and the beamer were exclusively at their disposal for a long two hours. The presence of the persons to be judged was, as usual in Stalinist show trials, rather not necessary. It should be prevented in any case for this "moving and tearful debate" (Jens Tomas said in the statement) of this general meeting, which was staged by the board as a show trial: The persons to be sentenced were not even allowed to be present in a box made of prison bars or behind thick bulletproof glass, as the board of directors might have had to fear that the sight of the complainant, who did not appear to be crazy at all, and the head-shaking founding board of this association might have caused irritation among the members present and prevented their planned banishment. In the end, perhaps some DVNLP member who had stayed awake in this obviously well-designed mass hypnosis would have demanded to listen to the two (then rather "invisibly presented") association members before their sentencing.

"Retouching in disgrace of the fallen"

The "Wegretuschier" comparison, which a clever friend used, also refers to events in Stalinist totalitarian epochs: Former leading members who had been disgraced and successfully banished due to ideological differences were often "retouched" out of historical photos of the respective leaders.

There is an involuntarily funny equivalent to this practice in the DVNLP: The retouching was not done from photos, but from the official "DVNLP" and "Thies Stahl" Wikipedia page. In both Wikipedia entries, the DVNLP honorary membership

of Thies Stahl and his status as the first German NLP trainer was "retouched out" by a Wikipedia user named "halligoland".

Many members of the association will have asked themselves why the DVNLP executive committee does not protect its managing director, the publicly avowed fan of the smallest North Sea Hallig, "Hallig Oland", Berend Hendriks, from this Wikipedia vandalism suspicion. The chairman of the board could stand in front of his managing director in an official statement and explicitly distance himself from the dirty machinations of a "halligoland". This would be especially important because - as the version history of the DVNLP Wikipedia page shows - "halligoland" has been maintaining the official DVNLP page on Wikipedia exactly since the time when "Hallig Oland" fan Berend Hendriks was hired by DVNLP as managing director⁴¹.

The "Man of the Rough" and "Covert Illegal Operation"

When thinking about these "halligoland" Wikipedia manipulations, further spontaneous analogies can of course be made. So probably nobody will assume that the DVNLP chairman of the board in his effort to get rid of the uncomfortable critic Thies Stahl, who has himself carried out this discrediting manipulation on the "Thies Stahl" and the "DVNLP" Wikipedia page - at least not since "halligoland" for the board has been in charge of the Wikipedia page. Once the situation has been thought through so far, the conclusion suggests that a subordinate helper or employee is more likely to be hired for these dirty tricks - and it is difficult to resist thinking of Barschel's "man for the rough", Pfeiffer.

The younger DVNLP members may not remember the 1987 Barschel affair. You may be more likely to think of the saying of a US president's assistant in a feature film who, when asked how he intends to proceed in a matter that is delicate and unpleasant for his boss, says, "You don't want to know, Mr President!

Should the DVNLP chairman, Dr. jur. Jens Tomas, at some point find the courage to distance himself on behalf of the association from the machinations of a "halligoland", he will perhaps say, as his colleague Barschel once did, "I hereby give you my word of honour - I repeat: I give you my word of honour..." that he had no knowledge of these machinations.

"falsification of history"

Since 22.09.2015, the DVNLP members' intranet has published a "Final declaration on the exclusion of Thies Stahl" which is riddled⁴² with false allegations. This falsifying

⁴¹ "Halligoland" last maintained the personnel page on 5.11.15:
https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Deutscher_Verband_für_Neuro-Linguistisches_Programmieren&action=history. - See also: *Are you "halligoland", Mr DVNLP managing director Berend Henriks?*

⁴² See *"Final declaration on the exclusion of Thies Stahl"* and *"Grandiose lie - the 'final declaration' of the DVNLP"*.

representation of the recent history of the association is probably not yet necessarily a "historical lie", but rather a small "historical white lie" of the executive committee.

After all, the "Chronicle of the Association", which can be viewed by the public on the DVNLP website, is still intact with regard to Thies Stahl's role in founding the Association. It can therefore be assumed that the board of directors has not yet commissioned "halligoland" to rewrite the association's chronicle.

Outsourcing of responsibility to the private sector

Similar to the board's attempt from the beginning to define the cause of the DVNLP as a private matter of a certain Thies Stahl, who had made his partner's accusations against another private person (three association members with two DVNLP internal conflicts) his own⁴³, a psychologist colleague said with regard to the events in the association, *"Then it became clear in the course of the debate: this is your life partner. That changed the situation, especially since you did not say this openly from the beginning, but you admitted it on accusations. You went from being an Enlightenment philosopher (also) to being an affected person. Even then the debate was increasingly highly emotional."*

Already on 14.12.2013 I wrote, published in the NLP forums against my will, in an e-mail to the conflicting parties of the complainant in my then 2010/2011 master group, *"Another reaction to my e-mail of yesterday had to do with the fact that I had to deal with ... [the complainant] am together. Yes, that's right... and I have been a couple since November 30, 2011. In the summer of 2011 we had already gotten closer for a short time, but I first had to break away from a four-year relationship and ... "has just separated from her husband."* And on 09.10.2014, I wrote in my blog⁴⁴ under the title "Why does he do this?!!" that the complainant had been harmed by the DVNLP executive board, which *treated* the complainant, *"who has been the woman by my side for almost three years, with absurd respect.*

My colleague went on to say, *"As justified as your concern may be in the matter, you have made things unnecessarily difficult for yourself and your partner by not separating your own emotional involvement from the factual level. I thought that was a great pity, because your credibility was so vulnerable to everyone, even more so to the other side."*

I knew this figure of thought, which focuses on the private sphere, less explicitly formulated, from a forum discussion on my motions for the 2014 General Assembly that I had collected from the Board. Many readers of my DVNLP texts are probably similarly preoccupied with the relationship I had and still have with the complainant - especially probably those who have only read cross-reading. I wrote to my colleague:

⁴³ In *Causa DVNLP - the Chronology* and *"Background of Abuse Complaints"* it becomes very clear that the apparent "triple core conflict" as two conflicts to be treated separately is of course an association matter.

⁴⁴ "Previous entries in this blog" (14.04.2108: are deleted).

"The fact that the complainant became my partner AFTER the events that are the subject of her complaints, which are suppressed in the association, is irrelevant to the horrible misconduct of the board towards her.

However, the subject that occupies the minds, whether and that "I had something with her", seems to be important for many observers of the events in the association. Of an importance, under which dark and diffuse other views and importance are transported - in the sense of quick "aha-so-is-this" assumptions about the complainant and about me. As I have been informed, some people probably think that the person concerned is cunning and (quote) has "*fucked her way up*" in the DVNLP, or would have been "*passed on upwards*", and Thies Stahl would probably have had her mind "*blown away*" and, according to some, senile, or others, "*become an aggressor blinded by his wife*⁴⁵" - which can probably be seen as a direct consequence of the board's definition of privacy (which, in accordance with this erroneous view, demanded that I bear the costs of a professional mediation of the multiple internal association conflicts in private, which I suggested). Or even worse: Steel should not get upset, he is an abuser himself. (Of course, no one says this out loud, not even the DVNLP board of directors and the member of the training and further training commission Schmidt-Tanger, who, as the association's leadership, first prejudge the complainant according to all perfidious rules of violent communication and then, in a communication completely delegated to the lawyers, dispose of her by means of shy lawyer tricks and formalisms).

The decisive thing about this inappropriate focus on the fact of a private relationship of the complainant with me is that it creates an "oblique", bourgeois double-moral regulars' table view of us, in which her fate as a person and, above all, the fact that the association's leadership has trampled on her member and human rights is no longer visible behind the viewer's own fantasy projections. This oblique gaze ("The gaze of the others is the death of my possibilities", Jean-Paul Sartre) probably made it easy for many DVNLP members to look away and become indifferent to the murderous brutality of the actions of the association of the complainant, its member. One gets the impression that implicitly the motto was followed: It's the hookers' own fault if they go under the wheels - and men who are stupid enough to stand up for them can't be helped anyway. In other words: Half-informed observers of the causa-DVNLP probably remain trapped in the prostitution taboo of bourgeois double standards.

"Burning of witches, heretics and books"

If one focuses on the violent communication of the board of directors with the complainant and her advocate, who was not heard, and which accompanied the exclusion of the association exclusively in formal legal terms, then their excommunication and elimination has some similarities with the corresponding treatment of witches and heretics in the darkest Middle Ages. B. Regarding the role

⁴⁵ See Bernd an Thies Aggressor (17.06.2014).

of informers: *"Informers did not have to be disclosed to the defendant what was important for the success of the witch trials"* and so *"...could simply end up on the stake with antipathy or neighborhood disputes for one of the parties,"* says the Wikipedia article⁴⁶ about the witch trials.

Even if the excommunication of the complainant in the DVNLP did not end at the stake, this analogy is nevertheless obvious, because the DVNLP board of directors did not inform her or me, in response to our repeated inquiries, which of her conflicting parties accused her of what and on what basis demanded her expulsion from the association.

Like the Inquisition there, the DVNLP leadership here, with the same hostile presumption, has renounced any clarifying conversation and any exchange of ideas with the denounced. I had been invited by the Management Board, together with Martina Schmidt-Tanger, to a meeting to which the complainant, as he had informed us in writing, was explicitly *"not invited"*. In the DVNLP *"Neighbourhood Disputes"* between Martina Schmidt-Tanger and the complainant, as well as between the latter and the members supported by Martina Schmidt-Tanger and her executive board, thus ended, speaking in this analogy, in the DVNLP *"Neighbourhood Disputes"* between Martina Schmidt-Tanger and the complainant, as well as between the latter and the members supported by Martina Schmidt-Tanger and her executive board, for the member denounced in the association, not at the stake, but at least with an excommunication due to defamatory exclusion from the association. (Such an "authority-supported denunciation" in the DVNLP could of course also have been classified in this treatise under another Nazi, Stasi or other fascist-totalitarianism analogy).

Besides the analogy of the treatment of witches, the treatment of heretics and their unpopular writings also makes sense. Thus, the board⁴⁷ prevented the discourse on the topics of "Power and Abuse in (DV)NLP", which I had called for in the association, and saved the community of members from dealing with my comments on the topics "§ 174 c para. 2 as an ethical self-obligation" and "Criteria for dealing with complaints in the DVNLP", which I had⁴⁸ censored away from them - according to Dr. jur. Jens Tomas, they would only contain "absurd trains of thought and pseudo-psychological constructs". So the DVNLP has preferred to excommunicate me as a heretic who does not share the politics and beliefs of the leadership of the association and, to remain in this analogy, to "go up in smoke" my written thoughts and suppressed MV proposals on these important NLP development issues.

⁴⁶ <https://de.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hexenverfolgung#VerfahrenbeiHexenprozessen>

⁴⁷ Cf. footnote #40: The motions collected by the board of directors for the 2014 general meeting by Thies Stahl and the complainant and by six other DVNLP members.

⁴⁸ Cf. 1st and 2nd proposal (see also footnote #40).

With his "There was no abuse in the DVNLP! Basta and end" the association management represents the orthodox, pure faith. According to this there can be no violence in this wonderful method NLP and therefore no abuse of power in DVNLP - a priori not! Period. The belief in a salvific, clean and harmless NLP and the belief in its protection and good being in the lap of the DVNLP must not be endangered.

As in a large church or a communist unity party, it must be made absolutely clear: What the community represents as its faith is so sublime, so great and so pure that phenomena such as physical and communicative violence, abuse of power or even forced prostitution, committed by sinners from the own ranks of this faith community, are categorically excluded. This naively limiting belief, it seems, is to be held on to by all means - completely in the sense of Christian Morgenstern's "impossible fact", "that what cannot be cannot be". The potential customers of DVNLP seminars, i.e. the new brothers and sisters in faith who will pay high membership fees and seal fees in the future, should, it seems, not be irritated or unsettled under any circumstances.

"Dance around the golden calf"

Some DVNLP members let me know that they had moved far away from DVNLP in the course of their long ago internal resignation, but that their customers "absolutely want to stick a DVNLP seal on their NLP certificate". In order not to endanger this service of the DVNLP for their seminar business, they would not want to comment publicly on the "*admittedly underground*" incidents in the association.

And this not even against the background of the fact that the current crisis of the DVNLP touches the core of its purpose as an association: It has brought to light that the NLP-Practitioners, Masters, Trainers and Coaches certificates of the DVNLP⁴⁹ have lost their validity and credibility. So I have proven⁵⁰ that there are several DVNLP teacher trainers and coaches whose teaching qualification has not been subjected to an urgently necessary examination due to suppressed abuse complaints against them. And that a DVNLP Teaching Trainer Certificate issued on the basis of false certificates has not been revoked and DVNLP Certificates of all levels have been issued to someone who has been diagnosed as "mentally disoriented and unstable". And further that the teaching authorization of a DVNLP teacher trainer was not checked, who had to undergo psychotherapeutic treatment because of a power asymmetric (abuse of power) relationship "triggered by a power asymmetric (abuse of power) relationship" and whose teaching authorization as DVNLP trainer was not temporarily suspended, although court proceedings are still pending in relation to accusations against him for rape and violent pimping in DVNLP seminars - he is under

⁴⁹ See the satire "Meta-Certificates for the DVNLP? (14.04.2108: currently not available)

⁵⁰ See "*Explanation of the DVNLP*". Addition on 24.4.17: The Hamburg Regional Court makes it clear to the complaining DVNLP in its "Verdict on Nazi Analogies" of 23.02.2017 that it assumes that all eleven points objected to by the DVNLP are admissible expressions of opinion.

the special protection of Martina Schmidt-Tanger, a member of the DVNLP training commission who abused her office.

Thus, the association's management, together with the look-alikes, followers, opportunists and cowards in the association, continue to dance their dance around the golden certification machine, into which the money is put at the top and from which the DVNLP certification seals, which are still coveted but have become weak, come out at the bottom. "Quality class guaranteed non-violent NLP" is probably what is sold with the help of DVNLP.

But the DVNLP apparently sold its soul in the process - and the good spirits of NLP, its ancestors, shudderingly turned away.