

HELLO OTHER

Book Two – DESTINY

By S C Dinsdale

“Whatever will be will be, yet the future is ours”

Chapter 19: Dehumanisation

(Excerpt)

... “I’m working on a social studies lesson for Monday, but I don’t know how to begin,” says my daughter, now completing training as a secondary school teacher. “It’s an introduction to Adolf Hitler’s role in the Holocaust. But how do I tell them? How do you tell a group of twelve year olds —”

“That there was nothing special about Hitler? That ordinary people have the capacity to commit extraordinary harm?”

“Exactly! They’re so innocent. I suppose I just have to tell them the facts.”

Providing medical care for violent offenders who have dehumanised others offers unique insights into extreme maladaptive behaviour. While working with such individuals, knowledge of mind-body medicine and experience in primary care prove invaluable. Context is always relevant: health problems don’t arise in a vacuum...