Selected Annotated Research and Theory Contributions to T.A.

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D., RESEARCH DISSERTATION: Predicting Underachievement in Ninth and Twelfth Grade Males Using the Kahler Transactional Analysis Script Checklist, Purdue University, 1972. Perhaps the first dissertation using T.A. in education. The KTASC was subsequently used in further research.

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D., Independent Study using the Kahler Transactional Analysis Script Checklist, 1972. Found six mutually exclusive factor loaded patterns with significant correlations: Drivers to Scripts [which gave me the basis for discovering how Drivers form sentence patterns that form the Script, not script injunctions as had been previously theorized]; clusters of Games, rackets, injunctions, negative ego states, and the Four Myths. These results showed that there were six Miniscripts, each with specific injunctions. Therefore, primary injunctions are innate, as are Drivers to an individual. In other words we are born with a primary Driver and primary injunction depending on our personality structure, even though secondary injunctions could be passed to us by parents. These results indicate that previously hypothesized script theory [e.g., Steiner's Script Theory] is not born out. Mary Goulding told me that Bob Goulding had hypothesized what our research showed.

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D., "Treating NIGYSOB's", Transactional Analysis Journal, 2:2, pp.81, April 1972. Pointer out that "the potency [of the NIGYSOBER] is directly related to the propensity of the victim to feel inferior". This identifies two of The Four Myths: "I can make you feel bad emotionally" and "You can make me feel bad emotionally".

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D., "Let's You and Him Make Love", Transactional Analysis Journal, 3:3, pp. 35-37, July 1972. A new game—a sexual variant of LYHF.

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D., and Edgar C. Stuntz, M.D., "Treating Stupid Players", Transactional Analysis Journal, 3:2, pp. 33-34, April 1973. Introduction of my Mirror Technique.

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D. with Hedges Capers, Div. M., LHD., "The Miniscript", Transactional Analysis Journal, 4:1, pp. 26-42, January 1974. Identification of the five Drivers that start distress, and the negative ego states that make up the Miniscript, providing an observable sequence to distressed behavior. An additional Life Position is discovered adding to Ernst's OK Corral, the "OK if" of Drivers.

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D., "Between Parent and Child Revisited", Transactional Analysis Journal, 4:2, pp. 46-47, April 1974. Critique of Hiam Ginott's belief that "children will make us angry", pointing out the negative reinforcing results in a child's behavior.

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D. and Terry Cooper, Ph.D., "An Eightfold Classification System for Strokes and Discounts", Transactional Analysis Journal, 4:3, pp. 30-31, July 1974. Units of recognition of strokes and discounts are clarified and separated into Unconditional Positive Strokes, Conditional Positive Strokes, Conditional Negative Strokes, Unconditional Negative Strokes and Unconditional Positive Discounts, Conditional Positive Discounts, Conditional Negative Discounts, Unconditional Negative Discounts. Strokes are life giving, relevant, and accurate; discounts are life supportive/destructive, non-relevant, and exaggerated.

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D., "The Upright Winner's Clasp", Transactional Analysis Journal, 5:2, 198-199, April 1975. OK-OK advantages of clasping hands by bending the elbow upright.

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D., "Structural Analysis", Transactional Analysis Journal, 5:3, 267-271, July 1975. Creates diagram categorizing functional ego states into mutually exclusive, observable (i.e., words, tones, gestures, postures, facial expressions) parts, indicating which are positive and negative: +NP, -NP, +CP, -CP, A, FC, -AC. Internal cathecting of these ego state sequences are identified.

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D., "Scripts: Process vs. Content", Transactional Analysis Journal, 5:3, 277-279, July 1975. Furthers and clarifies script theory in that Drivers (a.k.a. functional counterscripts) form the life script, not script injunctions as they function to determine its intensity.

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D., "Drivers – The Key to the Process Script", Transactional Analysis Journal, 5:3, 280-284, July 1975. Script terminology is clarified:

Colloquial	Technical
a "Be perfect script"	a driver
a "Don't be script"	an injunction
a "Rescuer script"	a role
a "depression script"	a racket
an "I'm OK-You're Not OK script"	a position
a "Little Red Riding Hood script"	a fairytale
a "Lone Ranger script"	a hero
a "Kick me script"	a game
a "pastimes script"	a time structure

Drivers form specific sentence patterns that occur hundreds of times a day creating and reinforcing the life script. Examples are given. [Value: know a person's life script by observing his/her Driver sentence structure]

Drivers are diagrammed on the OK Corral, indicating a new behavioral life position. Since Drivers start distress sequences, they also start games at the Con and Gimmick. [Value: don't have to memorize dozens and dozens of game antitheses, just know how to deal with four Parent and two Child Drivers]

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D., "Separation an Autonomous or Script Decision", Transactional Analysis Journal, 6:3, pp. 300-301, July 1976. The article proposes a Miniscript way of knowing if a person's decision to terminate a relationship is for OK or not OK reasons.

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D., "Existential and Behavioral Life Positions", The Bulletin of the Eric Berne Seminar, 1:3, pp. 16-17, September 1979. **Classic TA teaching was that individuals fall into one of four life positions: ++, +-, -+, or --. This article postulates that everyone has an existential life position of "I'm OK- You're OK", and that the other four "life positions" [+-, -+, --, and + if] are just distressed, behavioral positions.**

Taibi Kahler, Ph.D., Transactional Analysis Revisited, Human Development Publications, 1978.

Among the topics covered:

Identified differences between structural and functional analysis, and diagrammed the internal sequences involved.

Pointed out that the fallacy in making a list of racket emotions is because they depend on where they are experienced functionally. For an emotion to be labeled a racket, it must be experienced either in -Critical Parent, Vengeful Child, or the -+ Adapted Child.

Identified the ego states involved in Time Structure, and pointed out that Games are a subset of positions 2 and 3 in the Miniscript. All Games involve distress, but not all distress involve Games. Therefore another category of Time Structure is required.

Presented diagrams for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree within structural ego states.

Created new functional terminology—for example Stopper is a functional script injunction.

Identified Drivers with the Scripts they form through the altered sentence patterns.

Identified the functional ego states with the Roles in the Drama Triangle: Rescuer [-NP Driver], Victim of Rescuer [-AC Driver], Persecutor [-CP, VC], and Victim of Persecutor [-AC at -+].

Since Drivers start any distress sequence, then interring the Drama Triangle has to be at the Rescuer or Victim looking for Rescuer Role.

My good friend Steve Karpman agreed, and wrote, "This book is pure genius. An amazing achievement."

Paul Ware and I were best friends. I spoke at his funeral. He had me lecture and do Grand Rounds monthly in the early 2000s for his fellow psychiatrists and residents. In his 1983 article on Personality Adaptations, he hypothesized what injunctions and drivers each adaptation would have. He was not aware at the time about my research on my six Personality Types, which verified the accurate Driver and injunction. When he found out, he became fascinated with my model and even became one of my certified PTM trainers. After learning about what I call phase (current Miniscript and motivating psychological needs --research extension of Berne's Hungers), he agreed that his concept of addressing Target was not totally accurate. The "Target" is a person's phase, which may or may not also be the Contact door.