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CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED - Monday, May 13, 1985

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. Has anyone ever told you that a pain you are experiencing in your ~~body~~ body is really "all in the head"? It's a common ~~claim~~ claim, really. And, truth to tell, it may ~~be~~ very well be that the pain is in your head.

Today we'll be talking with Bernard Tursky, who has gone to great pains --- if you'll excuse the pun --- to help us mere mortals understand better how we react to pain. Bernard Tursky is professor of psychology and psychiatry at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and is the co-~~editor~~ editor of a new book, called "Placebo Theory, Research and Mechanisms." Professor Tursky, I associate

placebos with pacifiers. Is that a fair ballpark analogy?

INTERVIEW BERNARD TURSKY:

- Role of placebos - in research, treatment
- History of placebos
- Fooling the body (fooling the mind?)
- Sin-punishment; character building
- Memory process; addictive; learned reaction
- Placebo effect: suggestion and anxiety reduction
- Placebo compared to hypnosis, mental exercise program
- What lies ahead for placebos

14:00

We'll take a short break and return for more on pain with Bernard Tursky.

BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

Hi. I'm Al Oickle, and I'm at the State University of New York at Stony Brook with Bernard Tursky, professor of psychology and psychiatry. Professor Tursky, as we noted, is co-editor of a new book on ~~placebo~~ placebo theory, research and mechanisms. That book seems to fall in line with your earlier research and writing on biofeedback and the development of the Tursky pain perception profile. Has pain always been of special interest to you?

INTERVIEW BERNARD TURSKY

- His background in political science, pain
- Biofeedback
- Pain perception profile
- Placebo effect - *book's background*
- What's ahead: better ways to define pain?
to measure pain?
to treat pain?

29:00

OUTRO