



Dear Friends,

The disconnection between what science has to say about the nature of memory and what appears in novels and movies continues to haunt us. For example, one of this summer's blockbusters, "The Hulk," is oriented around the recovery of repressed memories. We admit to feeling anxious upon learning this information and decided that we had better see the damage for ourselves. On a rainy Saturday afternoon, we stood in line to get our tickets to the Marvel Comics inspired movie, the only gray heads in a sea of chattering young people, mostly male.

Indeed, the movie is dependent on recovered memories. In the original comic books, Bruce Banner was simply exposed to gamma rays that turned him into a misunderstood strong, green and bad-tempered hulk. In later comic books he remembered his suffering under a domineering father. In the movie, however, it turns out that his father first modified Bruce's genetic structure and then tried to kill him when he was four years old, but succeeded only in killing Bruce's mother. Worse, Bruce repressed all these memories.

The verdict? Not to worry. It is all so silly that it is exactly the proper setting for repressed memories. There is not a whit of reality as laws of science are defied in almost every scene. It is pure fantasy. Only those children who do not yet know about the conservation of mass could possibly be at risk for picking up misinformation about repressed memories from this movie. It seems more likely that moviegoers will associate repressed memories with non-reality. Well, that is our optimistic hope.

The movie inspired the following thoughts related to repressed memories from reviewers:

"I couldn't help but think that American culture, probably more than any in the world, is preoccupied with repression — with the idea that early childhood memories or traumas can profoundly affect the rest of our lives. Whether it's through self-help books or on-the-couch psychoanalysis, it's considered legitimate to mine our murky memories as a way not only to explain our lives but perhaps to assign blame as well."<sup>[1]</sup>

"Suddenly, Bruce is overwhelmed by abandonment issues and Jungian dreams. . . [and his friend cries] 'repressed memory syndrome.' . . .the themes feel purchased at a social relevance auction. We may be worried about genetic modification and the military industrial complex. . . . But repressed memories? I believe the last time they were a hot-button topic was on Tempest Bledsoe's talk show."<sup>[2]</sup>

"I'm far from an expert in such matters, but I would have thought that a combination of nanomed and gamma radiation would be sufficient to make a nerdy researcher burst out of his clothes, turn green and start smashing things. I have now learned that this will occur only if there is a pre-existing genetic anomaly compounded by a history of parental abuse and repressed memories. This would be a fascinating paper in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, but it makes a supremely irritating — and borderline nonsensical — premise for a movie."<sup>[3]</sup>

Of greater concern, we believe, is the disconnection between some efforts to extend the statute of limitations and the science of memory. Eighteen states are discussing possible removal of the statutes of limitations in child sex abuse cases.

In the early 1990s, many state legislatures rushed to extend the statutes during a period when talk shows offered a daily menu of survivors who had recovered memories of their parents abusing them, often in satanic rituals. These stories were dramatic, emotional, and entertaining. In a number of states, revised laws specifically noted that the extension was to accommodate those who had repressed their memories. But the rush faded as victims faded from the media spotlight and information about the lack of reliability of recovered memories spread. Writing in 1998, the

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The next issue will be September/October 2003

Foundation legal researcher Anita Lipton noted that the issue of time limits was a complex balance between the risk of cutting meritorious claims and the dangers of fraudulent claims. She observed that: "No state has enacted legislation to extend the time available to file a repressed memory claim since early in 1995." [4] The outrage and publicity about the current scandal of past clergy child sexual abuse and the lobbying efforts of clergy abuse survivor groups and their lawyers have reignited efforts to extend the statutes. For a number of reasons, it seems we may be poised to see major changes in statutes of limitations laws. (See the Legal Corner on p. 7 and the summary of the Dan Lyons article on p.6, in this issue.)

We are confronted this month with a major disconnection. On one hand, there's the News From Canada on p. 3), and on the other, are all references to scientific memory research in the reviews of Richard McNally's *Remembering Trauma*. The disconnection is striking. On the one hand, we read from Lloyd Corney that British Columbia is still funding recovered memory type therapy through its victim's compensation program, and on the other hand, Dr. Paul McHugh writes in an article entitled "The end of delusion: The psychiatric memory wars are over" (p. 5) that the McNally book represents the final phase of the memory wars. How can there be such a disconnection?

Dr. McHugh is correct in respect to the scientific issues that have comprised the memory wars: *No credible scientific evidence exists to support the collection of beliefs about recovered repressed or dissociated memories*. The McNally book makes that clear. The world, however, is a big place, and people cling to beliefs even in the face of contradictory evidence. They especially cling to them when they have a vested interest, as do many professionals. It will take time and effort to educate people, and that will not be easy. The emotional story of someone who claims to be a victim may be more appealing than scientific data to many. But education is paramount, and the Foundation will continue to work to reach the public and professionals. We especially thank all the FMSF readers who have taken the time to speak out, write letters and find ways to educate whenever they can.

The fact that the intellectual issues may have been settled does not mean that the collateral damage of the memory wars has been resolved — not by any means. As FMSF newsletter readers know all too well, many families are still suffering from the memory madness of the last decade. The pain remains acute. We have had several devastated parents

**special thanks**

We extend a very special "Thank you" to all of the people who help prepare the FMSF Newsletter. *Editorial Support:* Janet Fetkewicz, Howard Fishman, Peter Freyd, Members of the FMSF Scientific Advisory Board and Members who wish to remain anonymous. *Letters and information:* Our Readers.

contact us in the past month whose children had reconnected, but only to repeat the accusations. Trying to help families by learning about the processes of reconciliation in these situations remains a top priority. Although not much has appeared in the newsletter in recent months, Drs. Lief and McHugh have been working hard with office staff to prepare documents and papers from what was learned from the last survey and to make plans for further study. Thank you for your patience.

Have a wonderful summer.

*Pamela*

1. Munroe, D. (2003, June 20). Sore Buriser: Ang Lee's 'Hulk' can't decide whether it's poetic cinema or cartoon puffery. *Fresno Bee*, E-1.
2. Onstad, K. (2003, June 20). All the rage: 'You wouldn't like me when I'm angry.' *National Post*, PM-1.
3. Scott, A.O. (2003, June 20). Tall and green, but no 'ho, ho, ho.' *New York Times*, E-1.
4. Lipton, A. (1999). Overview of repressed memory litigation. In (S. Taub, Ed.) *Recovered Memories of Child Sexual Abuse: Psychological, Social, and Legal Perspectives on a Contemporary Mental Health Controversy*. Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas, p. 165-210.



**Foundation Audit**

We have received the audit for the fiscal year March 1, 2002 to February 28, 2003 as provided by Goldenberg Rosenthal, LLP, the CPA firm that audits the books and financial statements of the Foundation. The Foundation spent \$236,583 in the fiscal year, of which 79% went to program activities, 20% went to management of the office, and 1% went to fundraising.



"It is a safe bet that more Americans know about the Salem witch trials than any other event in the 1690s. It is likely that three hundred years from now more Americans will know of the strikingly similar sex-abuse madness of the last twenty years than about a host of events now far higher on the public radar screen. We are incredulous that at Salem judges and public alike would believe girls writhing and shrieking that they were at that moment being pinched by the accused sitting far away in the dock. Yet the charges that recently passed muster in American courtrooms were not less bizarre. Nor was Satan lacking. In a number of high-profile cases, prosecutors and therapists alike were convinced that satanic cults were at work."

"As the few who spoke out in 1690 are honored now, so will the small number who championed the victims in our own era be honored then."

Isaac, R. J. (2003, March/April). Our Witch Trials [Review of *No Crueler Tyrannies* by Dorothy Rabinowitz]. *The American Spectator*, 74-75.

**In Memoriam**  
**Campbell W. Perry, Ph.D.**  
**FMSF Advisor**

Campbell W. Perry, Ph.D., died on May 15, 2003. Dr. Perry, Professor Emeritus of Psychology at Concordia University, was at the forefront of research on hypnosis and was an especially active member of the FMSF Advisory Board. In addition to being a member of the Australian False Memory Association, Dr. Perry wrote the excellent unit on hypnosis for the FMSF Web site and a treasured review of the notorious book, *The Courage to Heal*.

Born in Australia, "Cam," as he was known to friends, moved to Canada in the 1960s, becoming a professor at Concordia in 1978. He seldom missed a meeting of the Canadian Parents Falsely Accused of Incest and was noted for his willingness to talk for hours to families who called him.

Dr. Perry spent four decades studying and writing about hypnosis and its effects. In 1989, he was co-recipient (with Jean-Roch Laurence, Ph.D., first author) of the Arthur Shapiro Award for the best book on hypnosis (*Hypnosis, Will and Memory: A Psycholegal History*). A year later Dr. Perry won the Morton Prince Award "for distinguished contribution to the development of hypnosis in the science and profession of psychology." This was a joint award of the Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis and the American Board of Psychological Hypnosis. The Society of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis will organize a symposium in November in honor of Dr. Perry.

Cam Perry had a marvelous wit and sense of humor. He will be deeply missed.

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"The mind is its own place, and in itself can make a heaven of hell, a hell of heaven."

John Milton

**News From Canada**

The College of Physicians and Surgeons, the licensing and regulatory body for doctors and psychiatrists in British Columbia, included the following in a letter to Mr. Lloyd Corney, an FMSF member in BC.

"Recovered memory therapy at one point, some years ago, was promoted by some as a diagnostic and treatment tool and as a model for explaining certain clinical presentations. Subsequently, the abuse of these theories and their misapplication, the results of which you are obviously fully aware of, caused this treatment to be questioned and, in fact, caused it to fall into disrepute."

"It is my impression that this form of therapy was much more popular with counsellors and other health care providers as opposed to licensed physicians, even though some psychiatrists may have loaned support to these theories."

(Signed: M. VanAndel, M.D., Registrar)

According to Mr. Corney, recovered memory therapy practices continue to receive government support in the Province of British Columbia through the Crime Victim Assistance Program.

Change in Canada is not likely to be speedy. As it is in the United States, licensing and regulating mental health professionals is a patchwork system. Both Ontario and British Columbia have recently suggested changes, specifically restricting the titles "licensed," "registered," and "certified" to those practitioners who are regulated by legislative statute.

It appears that pressure from the Canadian Counselling Association (CCA) has been successful in stalling the proposed legislation. Currently the Counselling Association certifies its own members, people with degrees in psychology, education, divinity, etc., but with no specific qualification in clinical psychology.

Many members of the Counselling

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Association engage in psychotherapy and many attended a conference in Vancouver this spring in which well-known recovered memory proponents spoke. This lends support to the College statement about where problem therapists are found and demonstrates the importance of regulating mental health professionals.

Government Misinformation: The Status of Women is the Canadian "federal government department which promotes gender equality, and the full participation of women...." It is headed by the Honourable Jean Augustine, the Secretary of State.

"School success by gender: A catalyst for the masculinist discourse" is a paper posted on the department's Web site. From the Executive Summary of the paper:

"The results of our analysis of the masculinist discourse reveal an ideology that aims to challenge the gains made by women and discredit feminism. It is mainly spread through the print media and Internet sites of men's associations that hope to regain privileges lost over the years. Some statements also incite hatred and violence."

In the list of men's associations, almost all have in their titles the words "men", "fathers" or some clear reference to single parents. The two big exceptions are: the False Memory Syndrome Foundation and the Australian FMSF. A section entitled "The typology of Masculinist Groups" states that men's groups are classified as "pro-feminists, masculinity therapy, and conservatives." Nowhere do the authors explain in which category they believe the FMSF belongs.

That an official government Web site would imply that the FMSF incites hatred and violence is extremely disturbing. It is further evidence of how slow change is likely to be in Canada.

The Web site is [http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/pubs/0662882857/200303\\_0662882857\\_20\\_e.html](http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/pubs/0662882857/200303_0662882857_20_e.html)

## Canadian Police Pay \$150,000 to Settle False Memory Lawsuit

The Peel, Ontario police paid \$150,000 to 63-year-old Andrew Dickens for charges brought against him in 2003. According to Sean Dewart, Mr. Dickens's lawyer, the charges were based only on a woman's uncorroborated memories of being raped and abused dozens of times in different cities. She reported her memories to the police in British Columbia, who relayed the information to the Peel police.

The Peel police never spoke to Mr. Dickens before they charged him. Some of the accusations were absurd, such as an alleged assault that took place on a stage with flashing stroboscopic lights during a bowling tournament while Mr. Dickens had locked his son in a closet. The Crown Prosecutor dropped the charges after 18 months for lack of evidence.

Mr. Dickens used up his life savings looking for evidence to show that he had not been in the cities at the times specified in the accusations. According to a *Globe and Mail* article<sup>[1]</sup>, Dickens said that after he was charged "his life instantly tumbled into a vortex of fright and powerlessness. He was barred from carrying on his regular volunteer work with seniors and paraplegics. And he could no longer cross the border to visit his children in the United States." Mr. Dickens noted that his health had failed and that he has been terribly depressed.

Canadian FMSF contact Adriaan Mak commented that "by U.S. standards the award of \$150,000 is small, especially since in addition to his grief, the false accusation by the daughter of a former acquaintance cost Dickens his retirement savings. Yet it seems a first against a police force in a case of childhood sexual abuse where false memories were implanted by a British Columbia therapist in Burnaby."

Makin, K. (2003, June 19) Man wins lawsuit against police. *Globe and Mail*, p. 8.

## Canadian Study of Damage Awards

A recent article in the *Vancouver Sun*<sup>[1]</sup> describes research by criminologist David MacAlister at Simon Fraser University. MacAlister studied 150 damage awards to victims of crime by Canadian courts from 1988 to 1998 and found a steep rise in the number of abuse victims who successfully sued their abusers. The study did not consider out-of-court settlements. Seventy of the 150 awards involved sexual abuse or sexual assault. In addition to cases of incest and sexual assault by neighbors or relatives, most of the cases involved residential schools. It is thought that there have been about 10,000 suits filed by former residential school students, but only a handful have gone to trial and resulted in awards. Most were settled out of court or are still pending.

In addition to an increase in the number of awards, MacAlister found that the size of the awards also increased during the period. He is quoted as saying that the increases happened "once it became clear that there were residential schools or churches or government agencies that were financially capable of paying the damage awards."

The removal of statutes of limitations made it possible for these damage suits to be filed. The province of British Columbia completely eliminated the limitations in criminal cases of sexual abuse on the basis of the belief that some victims repressed their memories of the abuse. MacAlister noted that "Once that was gone, it seemed to facilitate civil suits as well."

1. Boei, W. (2003, May 21). Suits target those with deep pockets: Institutional sexual abuse a prime focus. *Vancouver Sun*, p. B4.

"Some issues don't get resolved and are like a relentless neurodegenerative disease. Life gets in the way."

A dad who learned his daughter is still making accusations after 12 years.

## Howe, M.L. (2003) Memories from the cradle. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 12 (2), 62-65.

What can children remember from the first few years of life, and what are the factors that determine when memories of personal experience persist? These questions have interested researchers for years but are of particular importance now because of claims that find their way into courtrooms. Mark L. Howe, an expert in the field of early memories, argues that language, though important, is not the "key" to when memories may persist. Howe argues that it is the development of a "cognitive self" that is key. "Prior to the articulation and recognition of an independent self, there is no referent or organizational structure available." This development takes place around the age of 18 to 24 months. Self-recognition in a mirror is found at this time.

Although many questions still exist, current evidence indicates that memory for ordinary events and memory for traumatic events behave similarly. Memories before the age of two years are unlikely to "survive intact into adulthood."

Howe concludes: "For now, it is safe to say that we do not remember being born or our *in utero* experiences. We do, however, have excellent imaginations, ones that can not only create 'memories' but also affect the memories we do carry with us from childhood. Which ones are real and which ones are false is not always easy to tell apart; but memories thought to originate before the age of 2 are very likely *not* to be true."

"Half of the harm that is done in this world is due to people who want to feel important. They don't mean to do harm — but harm does not interest them. Or they do not see it, or they justify it because they are absorbed in the endless struggle to think well of themselves"

T.S. Eliot

**Pankratz, L. (2003)**

**More hazards: Hypnosis, airplanes, and strongly held beliefs.**

*Skeptical Inquirer*, 27 (3), 31-36.

(Soon available at [www.csicop.org](http://www.csicop.org))

Psychologist Loren Pankratz details the steps he took to verify Karon and Widener's claims of a confirmed case of recovered repressed memory. [1] Edward Karon, a psychoanalytic psychologist and the father of one of the authors, treated a veteran with hysterical paralysis for six months in twice weekly sessions more than 50 years ago. At the end of six months, the patient "brought his therapist a newspaper clipping that presumably dealt with an airplane crash in which he and the pilot had been injured." The patient had no conscious memory of the crash but later recovered it.

Pankratz, who worked for 25 years as a psychologist for the Veterans Affairs medical system and had discovered many spurious claims, was suspicious of some of the details in the Karon and Widener report. Following procedure for validating claims, Pankratz asked Karon to make the supporting evidence for the patient's claims available.

After two failed requests to Karon, Pankratz provided all correspondence to the Ethics Office of the American Psychological Association. The facts in contest were ignored by the Ethics Committee chairperson who, it turns out, had previously co-authored a book with Karon.

A year after the Karon and Widener article, *Professional Psychology* published four critical reviews and a response by Karon and Widener. The response was revealing. Rather than answer the critics, Karon and Widener began with a story about a rape and asked "Would any serious clinician tell her she is lying because there is no such thing as repression?" They charged the critics with "dismissing all WWII patients who suffered trauma and repression as malingerers."

Pankratz discusses issues of secondary gain as well as recent research showing that the "vast majority of people exposed to toxic events do not subsequently experience any long-term disorder, and delayed responses are extremely rare." He notes that "pre-existing personal vulnerabilities are more predictive of outcome than an event."

This article confirms the serious risks of basing conclusions on evidence from case reports, as was also shown in "Who Abused Jane Doe?" by Elizabeth Loftus and Melvin Guyer. [2,3]

1. Karon, B., & Widener, A., (1997). Repressed memories and World War II: Lest we forget! *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice* 29, 482-487.

2. Loftus, E.F. & Guyer, M.J. (2002). Who abused Jane Doe? The hazards of the single case history Part 1. *Skeptical Inquirer* 26(3): 24-32.

3. Loftus, E.F. & Guyer, M.J. (2002). Who abused Jane Doe? The hazards of the single case history Part 2. *Skeptical Inquirer* 26(4), 37-40.

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**McHugh, P.R. (2003, May 26)**

**The end of a delusion: The psychiatric memory wars are over"**

[Review of *Remembering Trauma*]

*The Weekly Standard*, 8 (36)

Paul McHugh places *Remembering Trauma* (Richard McNally, Harvard University Press, 2003) in the context of monitoring the "final phase" of the memory wars. McNally "leaves no defense of recovered memories," states McHugh.

Noting that people today tend to find the notion of recovered repressed memories "absurd and ridiculous," McHugh traces the rise of recovered-memory beliefs to a new interpretation of Freud by "mannerists" as contrasted with orthodox Freudians.

"[B]oth the orthodox and the mannerists believed that Western society is the primary source of mental distress: Freud taught that society restricted the expression of our drives, producing conflicts and neurosis: the mannerists

claimed that society protected the sexual predators by its paternalistic structure. Meanwhile, both believed in a dynamic unconscious roiling with repressed secrets. Freud supposed that the unconscious hid our selfish impulses and hungers from consciousness and thus from censure by a repressive culture; the mannerists held that the unconscious hid the shocking memories from consciousness so that family life could go on. Finally, both believed that therapy should bring the unconscious issues to light: Freud said this would spare the subject from wasting psychic energy repressing his drives and so allow him to flourish in 'love and work'; the mannerists believed that acknowledging the 'repressed abuse would lead to a life free from the nightmares, failures in personal relationships, and self-destructive behaviors generated by the unconscious memories.'"

McHugh writes that after the mannerists launched the memory wars, their ideas spread so quickly that by 1991 some "manneristic Freudians were claiming that up to half of patients in psychiatric care were suffering from the effects of repressed or dissociated memories of sexual abuse."

The second phase of the memory wars, according to McHugh, began in 1992 with the formation of the FMS Foundation and other organized opposition to these ideas and practices. He explains that the Foundation began with the belief that "common sense would soon prevail, and this misdirection of psychiatry from standard practices of evaluation and therapy would promptly stop. But the opposition to the idea of repressed memory received little or no support from official psychiatry or from the editorial policies of such professional journals as the *American Journal of Psychiatry*." Many excellent books appeared in the second phase, and the stories of former patients who sued recovered-memory therapists garnered much media and public attention.

“Perhaps the greatest scandal of the memory wars lies in this: The official avenues of clinical and scientific debate failed to play a role in ending these practices, while public rebuke and punishment did. Enormous damage is done to a medical discipline when it is forced to advance and retreat under the gun of the malpractice courts—but when the psychiatric establishment was at best absent, and at worst complicit, in the widespread practice of a psychiatric abuse, what alternative was there.”

According to McHugh, the second phase of the memory wars was partially effective in changing the situation: At minimum, no one brags about how skilled they are at excavating hidden memories — at least not in public. But the effect of the courts in stopping the practices was limited. With the publication of *Remembering Trauma*, McHugh says, “The repressed-memory diagnosis has finally been repressed.”

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**Lyons, D. (2003, June 9). Sex, God & Greed. *Forbes*, 66-72.**

“Sex, God & Greed” is an overview of sexual abuse claims against the Catholic church. Dan Lyons notes that the Church has already paid \$1 billion to the victims of pedophile priests, with indications that the total may top \$5 billion before the end of the crisis.

Using the *Ford v. Shanley* case in Boston as a centerpiece, the author focuses on the handful of lawyers who are responsible for the majority of the claims against the Church. Lyons notes that some litigators have “parlayed the priest crisis into a billion-dollar money machine, fueled by lethal legal tactics, shrewd use of the media, and public outrage so fierce that almost any claim, no matter how bizarre or dated, offers a shot at a windfall.” He also observes that these lawyers have led the lobby efforts in several states to extend the statute of limitations on sex-abuse

cases.

There seems to be agreement that the majority of abuse cases are legitimate and that dioceses “will pay dearly for covering up the most abominable crimes and failing to prevent future offenses.” Lyons is concerned, however, that a “small cast of liars” will cash “in on the real suffering of victims.” He uses the case of *Ford v. Shanley* as a possible example. Ford and two of his friends are suing Shanley, and all claim to have repressed the memories. According to Lyons, Ford’s background raises many questions about the legitimacy of his memories. Rev. Shanley, 72, was removed from ministry in 1994 at the time of settlements to an undisclosed number of people.

Lyons also points out that the search for money goes beyond the Church to insurance companies. He describes the lawyers as “casting about for the next targets...”: day-care centers run by large companies, schools, camps, and organizations such as the Boy Scouts. Plaintiff lawyers are going after old insurance policies written decades ago under entirely different circumstances, such as those from Pacific Indemnity and Allianz Insurance Co.

FMSF Newsletter readers will find the sidebars to the article to be particularly interesting. “Heavenly Cash” contains examples of outrageous cases, such as the two Arizona women who “have sued the Tucson diocese, alleging a priest molested their two brothers, causing the brothers to then molest them.”

Another sidebar titled “Battle of the Shrinks.” describes the experts who have been on opposing sides of the issue regarding whether people can wipe out memories of severe trauma and then recover these repressed memories years later. An excerpt:

“Loftus is past president of the American Psychological Society and last year was named one of the 100 most eminent psychologists of the

20<sup>th</sup> century by the Review of General Psychology, a scientific journal. This year she is to be elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. Yet Ford’s attorney, Roderick MacLeish, Jr., dismisses recovered-memory naysayers as ‘on the fringe’ and ‘outside the mainstream’ of psychological thought.”

“But it is MacLeish’s expert, Dr. van der Kolk, who appears to be more on the fringe. He believes traumatic memories can be repressed by the mind and stored in the body—mysterious vaginal pains might indicate a long-forgotten rape—and later retrieved. Dr. Van der Kolk treats trauma sufferers with a technique called Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), in which he waggles his fingers back and forth in front of a patient’s eyes, believing the eyes’ side-to-side movements help the brain cope with painful memories. ‘How it works I would not dare speculate, but that it works is clear,’ he says.”

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“We can cope with painful memories by dwelling on them and pushing them out of daily awareness. But that is very different from losing access to them in the way proposed by many psychotherapists. The extremely well-documented finding that “repressed memories” are very unlikely is of widespread significance. It provides a potential cure for the madness that has destroyed hundreds, possibly thousands, of families whose members had memories “recovered in therapy — memories that had no basis in reality. There are still people languishing in prison, convicted on the basis of memories that were created by invasive psychotherapeutic intervention.

Canter, D. (2003, June). Yes, I remember it well. *New Scientist* 178 (2399) p. 54. [Review of *Remembering Trauma* by Richard McNally.]

### Statutes of Limitations: Changing Climate

A statute of limitations sets a limit on the amount of time period that the government has to prosecute offenders. The time limits grew out of British common law in the 1600s when “British royalty tried to persecute political dissenters by resurrecting old crimes and by criminalizing previously acceptable behavior [1]”

Statutes of limitations were not intended to protect criminals. They have been maintained because it is extremely difficult for a person to defend him or herself after a few years. The memories of eyewitnesses fade, and records that might be needed to prove an alibi disappear.

One of the major reasons that states have begun eliminating statutes of limitations is the development of technology that provides DNA evidence. Since 2000, about 20 states have passed laws to remove the statute of limitations on crimes in which DNA evidence is found at the scene of the crime, and another 10 states will be debating the issue. DNA is viewed as a powerful crime-fighting tool.

Eighteen states are currently deciding whether to eliminate statutes of limitations in order to pursue old child-abuse cases. In the early 1990s, there was a similar move by many states to extend the time limits in sexual abuse cases. This was a period when talk shows and magazine articles were filled with stories about survivors of sexual abuse and satanic cults who had “recovered” their memories of parental abuse. That push effectively stopped around 1995 as scientific evidence about the unreliability of recovered memories became known. The push to extend the time bars in abuse cases has been reignited in the current Catholic Church sexual abuse crisis. Many plaintiffs in child sexual abuse cases alleged that they had “recovered” memories of their abuse or had only recently realized the nature of what happened to them years ago as a way to get around the statutes of limitations..

Legislators will probably be reluctant to take action to prevent the elimination of statutes of limitations because it would look as though they were protecting criminals or sexual predators. That is the perception, even though the statutes have been maintained for reasons of evidence, not for protecting criminals.

The issues of DNA evidence and child molestation seem to have become entwined even though DNA evidence is considered reliable while evidence in child molestation cases often boils down to “he said, she said,” or “symptoms.” For example, on May 15, 2003 Illinois passed a law that says the statute of limitations begins only after a victim

discovers the causal connection between the abuse and his or her injuries. Injuries generally are interpreted as “psychological symptoms.”

By the time readers receive this newsletter, the U.S. Supreme Court should have ruled on the statute of limitations in *Stogner v. California*, No. 01-1757. As was noted in the FMSF May/June 2003 newsletter, the Court will decide if California can prosecute a 74-year-old man on 48-year-old child molestation charges. According to Evan T. Lee, Professor at the University of California Hastings College of Law, “The DNA, the repressed memory, all of that is aimed at cases in the past. That’s why the *Stogner* case has a lot riding on it.” It is expected that a decision to allow the California prosecution will dramatically change the tradition of statutes of limitations in states across the country in both criminal and civil cases.

1. The information presented here is based on Ballard, M. (2003, June 23). Tossing out the clock: States are repealing some statutes of limitations. *The National Law Journal*. Retrieved from <http://www.nlj.com/news/062303statute.shtml> on June 23, 2003.

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#### From Testimony at Hearings About Extending Statutes of Limitations in New York State

“Reverend Hoatson said he learned only five months ago that, as a 3-year-old, he had been abused by a relative. He said that experience, repressed in his psyche for nearly five decades and uncovered recently through therapy, illustrates why New York should change its statute of limitations.”

According to Rev. Hoatson, “Repressed memory is perhaps the single most significant psychological mechanism impacting the statute of limitations for cases of sexual abuse. Someone like myself, whose abuse was so traumatic that it was buried for 48 years, needs the people of New York state to affirm that I have the right to follow all civil and legal means to seek justice at the time my abuse is made known to me, regardless of my age.”

Caher, J. (2003, May 21). Victims of clergy sexual abuse seek bill to suspend three-year statute of limitations. *New York Law Journal*. p. 1.

#### Correction

Last month we incorrectly wrote that Paul Ingram had “confessed” when we should have stated that he “pleaded guilty.” Indeed, it was the plea that he was unable to have overturned.

Paul has written that he is doing well. He said that his neighbors are friendly, and he enjoys being part of a group of fellows who walk 5 to 10 miles every other day in an effort to lose weight. He hopes to find a job, but in the meantime he has been remodeling his parent’s home.

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## ***Capturing the Friedmans***

A Documentary Movie

Produced by Andrew Jarecki

Andrew Jarecki's documentary *Capturing the Friedmans* won the jury award at the Sundance Film Festival in January, 2003 and has received stellar reviews. The film relates the story of retired schoolteacher Arnold Friedman and his son Jessie, who were found guilty of child molestation in 1987 in Great Neck, Long Island.

Arnold gave computer lessons to children in his home. Among the accusations, Arnold was accused of taking pornographic pictures, yet none were ever found. Arnold did confess to having fantasies of child molestation, making this story deeply complicated.

Arnold died in prison. Jessie was released after 13 years. The film is a combination of interviews with police, other experts, and family members, combined with films and home movies made by Arnold Friedman.

A *New Yorker* review <sup>[1]</sup> describes *Capturing the Friedmans* as "one of the most heartbreaking films ever made about an American family." It notes that "audiences will debate for hours about who is telling the truth, who is telling a half-truth, and who wants to believe so passionately in something false that it becomes a vivid memory to be defended against every hint of doubt.

1. Denby, D. (2003, June 2) In the basement. [Review of *Capturing the Friedmans*] *New Yorker*, pp. 102-103.

"[Capturing the Friedmans] strongly suggests the children's testimony was obtained with the sort of unfairly leading interview techniques and false-memory hysteria that characterized such 1980s trials as the McMartin preschool case in California. At those trials, alleged child victims were repeatedly interviewed until they gave increasingly lurid accounts of sodomy, other abuse and even satanic rituals."

Howe, D. "Arresting Images; Documentary Asks: Hysteria or Truth?" *The Washington Post*, June 16, 2003, p. C-1.

## **Loftus Honored**

Distinguished Professor of Social Ecology at the University of California, Irvine, Elizabeth Loftus, has been elected as a 2003 fellow by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The academy is comprised of scientists, academics, scholars and business-oriented individuals.

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## **In Memoriam**

### **Richard A. Gardner, M.D.**

It is with sadness that we report the sudden death of Richard A. Gardner, M.D., in May 2003. Dr. Gardner was not a member of the FMSF Scientific Advisory Board, but he was supportive of the Foundation's goals, and he always showed kindness and sympathy to FMS families. He was one of the first professionals to speak out about the recovered memory movement in his 1991 book, *Sex Abuse Hysteria: Salem Witch Trials Revisited*.

Dr. Gardner, 72, was a child and adult psychiatrist who practiced in New Jersey and authored more than 40 books and 300 articles. For the past two decades he specialized in high-conflict child-custody disputes, many of which, he believed, involved one parent alienating children from the other parent.

We extend our condolences to his family, to the many families who benefited from his insights, and the many thousands of professionals who admired his courage and gained insight from his wisdom.

"The conclusion of [the research] is that memories of horrible experiences are rarely, if ever, repressed — that is, exiled from consciousness without the victim knowing it and actively kept out of her awareness. On the contrary, those who endure shocking ordeals almost always remember them, even if they choose not to think about them or desperately wish to forget them. Moreover, therapists and memory researchers have been too lax about trying to distinguish reluctance to disclose dreadful experiences or failure to think about them from a true inability to remember the events. McNally's book reminds us how much popular psychological wisdom still needs to be unlearned — by the public, by the media, by judges, and, not least, by many mental health professionals. This correction has been a long time coming, because the notions that we bury memories of intolerable events, that those memories are accurate when unearthed, and that they hold the key to understanding our current distress, are axioms of the Freudian legacy that is inscribed on our culture."

"McNally risks excommunication from the Church of Traumatology, for the charge of blaming the victim. For he presents evidence showing that emotional breakdown after a tragedy is the exception, not the rule. It occurs because some individuals are simply more susceptible than others to developing psychiatric disorders following a crisis. This will not please the psychobabblers and the melodramatists and the daytime-television bookers; but McNally is unfazed. 'Ultimately the best form of advocacy,' he writes, 'is pursuing the truth about trauma wherever it may lead.'"

Satel, S. (2003, May 19). The Trauma Society. *The New Republic*, p.29. (Review of *Remembering Trauma* by Richard McNally)

## Reclaiming My Name

Jeanette D. Bartha

I fled repressed memory therapy 11 years ago, relocated 1,700 miles from the psychiatrist I fired, and changed my first name to Jaye because I was no longer interested in being the crazed multiple Dr. Stratford [1] had created during the previous 6 years.

During treatment in a Philadelphia psychiatric hospital, my given name, Jeanette Bartha, became a label I hated, a four-letter word if you will, that was plastered all over hospital and court records. I was ashamed of the volatile, narcotic-dependent woman I had become and wore my name like a scarlet letter. My reputation as a difficult patient was known by hundreds of hospital employees and, given the committed manner in which I carried out my role as mental patient, the name Jeanette should have been awarded its own DSM diagnostic category.

I recall with a smile what Dr. Stratford stated during his medical malpractice deposition that led to an out-of-court settlement 2 days before trial. My lawyer, Richard Shapiro, asked the good doctor what he thought of my use of the name Jaye. Dr. Stratford stated that in all probability I was still multiple and that Jaye was another personality — one he had never met. In some peculiar twist of language, the doctor was correct regarding a new personality, but not for the reasons he believed. Changing my name enabled me to recreate myself while gaining independence from coercive psychotherapy. Unfortunately, Dr. Stratford did not have the capacity to see beyond his delusions.

For the past decade, I have been running from the Jeanette Bartha label. But now that I have rebuilt my life, I have come full circle and returned home — home to myself, home to Jeanette, and home to my family.

While my parents know my new

friends call me Jaye, I recently announced that I completed my memoir of those horrific therapy years . . . my manuscript is written by Jeanette D. Bartha — not Jaye. We all cried. By reclaiming my name, we have sewn another stitch into the fabric of our family, which gets stronger with each passing year.

1. A pseudonym

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### Recovered Memory Therapist and Lawyer Charged

Terry Davis, Ph.D., the Executive Director of The Guardian Foundation in Memphis, Tennessee pleaded guilty to Medicare Fraud in September 2002. Dr. Davis was charged with billing for services provided by unlicensed personnel and billing for services that were not provided. Her one-year sentence was suspended, and she was given probation and ordered to pay a fine of \$500. The Guardian Foundation is a non-profit corporation that provides mental health services for people diagnosed with multiple personality (dissociative disorders).

Medicaid Fraud Report (2002, December)  
National Association of Attorneys General,  
Cases, p. 16.

Mark Roseman, a California attorney and an outspoken supporter of the reliability of recovered memories has been charged with theft from client settlements. Mr. Roseman represented Eileen Franklin when she was sued by her father, George Franklin. He was a co-author of *You the Jury*, a book about the recovered memory debate presented in the form of a trial.

Mehta, S. (2003, April 27). Attorneys Accused of Looting Accounts. *Los Angeles Times*.  
Metro, Part 2, p. 1.

□

“Nothing changes more than the past; for the past that influences our lives does not consist of what actually happened, but what men believe happened.”

Gerald W. Johnson

### Question: What do the following hospitals have in common?

- Forest View Hospital (Psychological Trauma Treatment Center, Colin A. Ross, M.D.) – Grand Rapids, MI
- River Oaks Hospital (Masters and Johnson Treatment for Trauma Based Disorders, Compulsive Behaviors and Eating Disorders, Mark Schwarz, Sc.D. and Lori Galperin LCSW) – New Orleans, LA
- Sheppard Pratt Health System (Trauma Disorders Program, Richard J. Lowenstein, M.D.) – Baltimore, MD
- Timberlawn Mental Health System (Trauma Program, Colin A. Ross, M.D.) – Dallas, TX
- Two Rivers Psychiatric Hospital (Masters and Johnson Trauma Based Disorders Program, Mark Schwarz, Sc.D. and Lori Galperin, LCSW) – Kansas City, MO
- Women’s Institute for Incorporation Therapy – Hollywood, FL

*Answer:* They are all listed as supporters of and advertise in *Many Voices: Words of hope for people recovering from trauma & dissociation*. *Many Voices* is the major newsletter for people who believe they suffer from multiple personality disorder.

### False memory group in Scandanavia web site.

<http://www.enigma.se/info/FFI.htm>  
contact: Janet Hagbom

### Mark Pendergrast’s web site contains excerpts from many chapters in *Victims of Memory*.

[www.nasw.org/users/markp/](http://www.nasw.org/users/markp/)

### Paul McHugh, M.D.

### Perspectives for Psychiatry

<http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/jhh/psychiatry/perspec1.htm>

## Sucked In — Like Quicksand

There was always a concern on my part that I may have falsely accused my dad. I felt that once I was away from the weekly counseling (suggesting my dad had sexually abused me), the daily journaling about possible abuse (I was encouraged to write about what might have happened), the hypnosis, and the reading of books on other women's explicit memories, multiple personalities, and satanic ritualistic abuse, that my mind would be clearer and I'd have a better perspective on the whole issue.

I ended my counseling over 1-1/2 years ago and have given a lot of thought to what happened. I believe I allowed myself to accept the suggestions and negative information that was bombarding me as an explanation as to why I was the way I was. I believed a counselor whom I knew for 6 months over my father who cared for me all my life. I became overwhelmed by all of the negative input and got "sucked in" — like quicksand.

I clearly see now that my dad never sexually abused me. I am truly sorry for all the pain I caused, and I deeply appreciate everyone's prayers. I thank the Lord that I came out of all this and pray for the other families in the same situation.

Sincerely, "M"

□

### What happens

#### after a lawsuit is dismissed?

#### Picking up the Pieces: A Sister's Story Told in a Phone Call in 1995

A caller ("Ann") told us that in 1992 her adopted sister had filed a civil suit against their parents who were in their 80s. Ann said her sister claimed to have repressed memories of abuse for over 30 years until she recovered them in therapy with the use of hypnosis. Ann's sister demanded \$100,000.

She knew that both parents were living on a small pension but she hoped to get money through their insurance. A brother was also named in the suit but he lived out of state.

In 1994, the suit was dismissed by the judge on the second day of the trial. After listening to one day of testimony, the judge concluded that the sister had no case and dismissed the jury. Ann believed that the judge felt that some of the sister's complaints would be better solved in discussion with the family and did not rise to legal grounds. In addition, the sister's statements contained many contradictions.

According to Ann, her sister had had many problems growing up. She came to the family from an orphanage when she was 7. As an adolescent, she ran away from home, got into trouble, was picked up by the police and began to abuse drugs.

After the judge dismissed the case, Ann's sister began to cry uncontrollably. Ann hugged her and said that she began to build rapport with her sister by saying, "We loved you. I'm here to be your sister. During the past twenty years I didn't know where you were or even if you were alive." The first time that the family had seen the sister in 20 years was at the trial.

After the trial, Ann told us that her sister seemed to want all the bitterness to dissolve and for them to pick up as though nothing had happened. Ann said that her sister wanted her to fix everything with the family, that she wanted to come to her home and meet her children and to participate in family activities.

"If there is no real discussion," Ann said, "a relationship on those terms is, frankly, fake." She said "I believe love in a family needs to be unconditional, but when the bond of trust is broken, how do you rebuild? It is difficult to trust... I can't fix everything in the family alone, especially after that much time and upheaval. I don't know if there can be total recon-

ciliation."

Ann told us that the lawsuit took a terrible toll on her elderly parents. She said that the depositions were a nightmare and believes that the stress of the lawsuit contributed to her parents' health problems. "The family is emotionally exhausted. I love my sister but that does not mean that the family will be able to pick up as though nothing had happened."

When she speaks to her parents about reconciling with her sister, she tells them that they should be concerned about their health and that if they decide to meet with her sister it should be at a neutral location. Ann said that the financial gain question is always there. It doesn't go away. "My brother and I wonder what is next."

Ann commented that "this generation is almost redefining the family unit. There is a connection between family members, but it has been redefined by issues never before addressed. It is not about birthdays and Christmas and tranquilly enjoying each other's company. It is more one-on-one. We are concerned about each other's lives. But without trust, we cannot really enjoy each other's company. These are issues that have never been addressed before. The old definitions don't work. Professionals need to help families with this and the only way to make it work is to start talking to each other. It has to be put on a human level and away from litigiousness. We have to be able to deal with the train wreck of lives like my sister's within the family."

□

### Every Year

Every year I send a birthday card to my daughter — thinking, hoping — this year it will be different. Surely, one day her heart will begin to melt.

Then a few days later I find the envelope in my mailbox marked "Return to Sender." You know what that "ouch" feels like.

I hope that many families have

been restored to love and unity and may God bless the Foundation for all it has done for our lost sons and daughters.

A waiting mom.

□

## SATIRE SATIRE SATIRE

### Turnabout

*Mirror, mirror, on the wall,  
Who is the greatest victim of all?*

Hello, my name is Sue. I am the adult parent of a toxic adult child of functional nurturing. I have been abused by my toxic child from age 45, when he severed relations with his family and friends, to the present. I am currently working to heal my wounded inner adult.

I am a survivor today because, through a recovery program of many steps, I have been able to maintain denial. I believe my child will return to his family. Until then, I will focus my rage on his abusive therapist.

No matter who abused me, somebody neglected me. Through my program of recovery, I am doing the important work of locating and labeling perpetrators: my child, the therapist, the recovery group, the State of New York Psychological Licensing Board. I am considering filing suit against these for emotional incest.

Since I am recovering, everyone needs to understand me. I will need to maintain more eye contact, more intimacy, and to receive love in new ways, most especially from my toxic child. Only through these manipulations can I heal from the shame of what has happened to my family.

Could You be the parent of a toxic adult child of functional nurturing? Can you answer yes to tow or more of the following questions?

\_\_\_ My Child sometimes forgets my birthday.

\_\_\_ My Child chronically failed to clean his room to my standards.

\_\_\_ My Child spent his allowance on

MADD magazine, for longer than a year.

\_\_\_ My Child was late to potty-train.

\_\_\_ My Child refused to attend Sunday School by the seventh grade.

\_\_\_ My Child said, "I hate you," more than two times between ages two - four.

\_\_\_ My Child ate candy without permission.

\_\_\_ My Child stayed out beyond his curfew, more than twice, from ages 15-17.

\_\_\_ My Child sucked his thumb.

\_\_\_ My Child lost a tooth before age five.

\_\_\_ My Child failed to send thank-you notes to his grandmother.

If you have answered "yes" to two or more of the above statements, you are the adult parent of an adult toxic child. Buy this book to find out how and where to get therapy to discover the real Parent Within.

□

### What I Would Say if My Child Read My Letters

Dear Son,

I think of you, as the day goes along. My thoughts go to you in the morning, when you will be getting ready to drive to work; I think of you at many moments during the day, and as the day draws to its close. I pray that you may be safe as you drive, that there may be moments and people in the day that give you joy, and I bless you. It is very often very hard not to hear from you, but I only want that you be well and life be good to you. I so want you to believe this. It would be healing for you and me.

When I think back over the years, as I do, so many things stand out. How much you gave me with insights, with help, with being you, a wonderful human being. You were so good using your hands with amazing dexterity that said so much about your creative mind.

I was so proud of you. But I probably never thanked you enough for all you did, or you did not think it was enough, but could not express it.

May you have so much joy in your life that it will one day have blotted out all anger. That is my prayer.

A Mother

□

### No Understanding

My husband and I went to the FMSF Conference in Chicago last December. While the trip was well worth while to meet again members from around the nation, to hear wonderful speakers, and to hear the progress in many personal stories, we are still aware of the slowness and lack of definitive response from the professions that did the damage to our families. No one still has any real answers on reconciliation with full understanding by all family members except in a fraction of the cases. Without nationally publicized retraction with full disclosure from the professions responsible, most of our families will never be fully reconciled. We do thank the professionals associated with FMSF with all our hearts for the supreme effort that has been made on our behalf.

A Mom

□

### Is the FMS Problem Disappearing? An Observation

We have had two new contacts this year; however, neither were parents accused by adult children decades delayed. One was a newly accused in a divorce case. The second was a young man in his late twenties who was accused after a patient had gone through recovered memory therapy with a colleague. He was an intern in a psychiatric hospital at the time. He was convicted. Later he was denied parole because he refuses to take therapy for behavior of which he is not guilty.

A California FMSF Volunteer

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## Thoughts From A Sister

I have two sisters with memories that I believe are not literally true, but which have led to a field day of self-pity, blame and suffering. I am trying to stay in touch both with them and with our parents. My thinking is influenced by my having once been in therapy that involved recovered memories, hypnosis, and axiomatic blame of families, though before the sex-abuse fad. I went home twenty years ago and told my parents they had never loved me. The psychic images which led to such a perverse conclusion had been overstimulated by well-meaning, ignorant therapists and then given literal interpretations rather than recognized for the emotional value which they really held. I collaborated fully in this disaster. Though everyone suffered, I had to take the consequences and change.

This abuse thing has been going on for three years in our family: first shock, emergency resuscitation of the parents, attempts to avert the onset of a nuclear winter, despair, and horror at the degrading desire for victim status to which women are collaborating to reduce themselves. I see that it is not going to be over soon.

For families of women desperate to be seen as victims, the practical question is, "How is she ever going to be able to climb back in from the limb she is out on?" A few will be capable of recantation, craven or courageous. What about the rest? If we fight on the ground of "It's true...It's false," we may win the battle, but I'm afraid that we won't win back our sisters. I don't think the spell on a woman is likely to be broken by seeing her as a victim of her therapist rather than her family.

We can't fail to insist that the memories are false when they are false; they have to be discredited, like the rewriting of family history based on self-pity or blame. They're bad dreams, apparently contagious; plenty of therapists appear to be thoroughly infected, and quite careless about

spreading the disease. But even a nightmare, and especially a dangerous one, more especially an epidemic of nightmares, is worthy of respect.

The problem we're faced with is a kind of fundamentalism: "I had a flashback, therefore it happened." The solution must include a refusal to oversimplify, a tolerance for ambiguity, a willingness to seek meanings that transcend the literal, and an attempt to learn the symbolic language of the psyche. Because so many "professionals" have proved inadequate to this challenge, it's been thrown in the faces of families.

A patient sister



### A Proposal

"The American Judicature Society proposed the creation of an 'Innocence Commission' that would study why the legal system has failed in known cases of wrongful conviction. After all, look what the National Transportation Safety Board does when a plane crashes. Few expenses are spared as every aspect of the crash is examined. Not long ago, I proposed an analogous 'National Memory Safety Board' that might concentrate specifically on memory problems that have led to injustice. If the travesties of the past few decades were thoroughly examined side-by-side with scientific knowledge on memory, we would all benefit. It would be too late for the family of Steve Titus, who died of a heart attack at the age of 35 after being falsely convicted of rape. It would be too late for the many death-row prisoners who have recently been exonerated by DNA evidence. It would be too late for the scores of innocent defendants who have had to face civil litigation over false claims of satanic ritual abuse and other dubious charges."

Loftus, E. (2003). Our changeable memories: Legal and practical implications. *Nature Reviews Neuroscience*, 4 (3), 231-234.

"Even memories of 'unforgettable' experiences are a mishmash of first-hand observation confounded by things we heard about, things we saw later, things authorities suggested to us and things we imagined. But in addition to these well-studied influences on memory, which exert their influence after the actual observation, something else is going on: Sometimes we don't see in the first place."

Begley, S. (2002, October 25). Eyewitnesses to crime are often blinded by shock, adrenaline. *Wall Street Journal*.

An accusation of sexual abuse sets off a "chain reaction that is as inevitable and as lethal to the entire family as that of a nuclear explosion."

Yapko, M.D. (1994). *Suggestions of Abuse: True and False Memories of Childhood Sexual Trauma*. Simon and Schuster: New York, p.179.

"Loyalty to petrified opinion never yet broke a chain or freed a human soul."

Mark Twain

### The Rutherford Family Speaks to FMS Families

The video made by the Rutherford family is *the* most popular video of FMSF families. It covers the complete story from accusation, to retraction and reconciliation. Family members describe the things they did to cope and to help reunite. Of particular interest are Beth Rutherford's comments about what her family did that helped her to retract and return.

**To order video send request to**  
FMSF Video, Rt. 1 Box 510  
Burkeville, TX 75932  
\$10.00 per tape; Canada add \$4.00 and other countries add \$10.00 per tape  
Make checks payable to  
FMS Foundation

**The Illinois-Wisconsin  
FMS Society  
Conference Oct. 4, 2003**

The Illinois-Wisconsin FMS Society will hold their annual all day conference on Saturday, October 4, 2003 in familiar quarters at the DoubleTree in Glenview, IL.

The tentative theme of the meeting: is "Overcoming Illusions." and our featured speaker will be well-known psychiatrist Carol North, M.D., of the Washington University, St. Louis,

Those of you who attended the national conference last fall will recall Dr. North gave a stimulating presentation on her and her colleague's efforts to get the American Psychiatric Association to improve their statement on the false memory problem.

The title of Dr. North's talk next fall will be "The Courage to Heal for Real: A Recanter Who Told It All" The talk will deal with the transformation of a patient who came to her as an accuser and who at the end of therapy with Dr. North became a recanter.

We will also have other speakers, a parent panel, probably the screening of a new documentary on the FMS problem and a round table. We are trying to make a special push to have families get siblings to attend this conference.

**Save the date**

**Attachment Therapy on Trial:  
The Torture and Death of  
Candace Newmaker**

Jean Mercer, Larry Sarner and Linda Rosa, Praeger, May 30, 2003

All three authors assisted the prosecution in the "rebirthing" trial that resulted in historic 16-year sentences for therapists Connell Watkins and Julie Ponder.

**Science and Pseudoscience in  
Clinical Psychology**

S. O. Lilienfeld, S.J. Lynn and  
J.M. Lohr (eds.)  
New York: Guilford Press (2003)  
**Highly recommended**

Devilley, G.J. (2002). Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing: A Chronology of Its Development and Scientific Standing. *Scientific Review of Mental Health Practice*, 1 (2) 113-138.  
**Highly recommended**

**Psychology Astray:  
Fallacies in Studies of "Repressed  
Memory" and Childhood Trauma**

by Harrison G. Pope, Jr., M.D.  
Upton Books

This is an indispensable guide for any person who wants or needs to understand the research claims about recovered memories. A review by Stuart Sutherland in the prestigious *Nature* magazine (July 17, 1997) says that the book is a "model of clear thinking and clear exposition." The book is an outgrowth of the "Focus on Science" columns that have appeared in this newsletter.

**To Order: 800-232-7477**

**"Ask an Expert,"  
*This American Life*  
June 14, 2002**

About people who turned to experts and got horrible advice. Features the Rutherfords and a retracting therapist.

**www.thislife.org.  
tapes@thislife.org**

Tapes: "Ask an Expert," # 215,  
6/14/02, \$12

Producer: Elyse Spiegel

**"Recovered Memories:  
Are They Reliable?"  
FREE. Call or write FMSF for  
pamphlets. Be sure to include your  
address and the number of pam-  
phlets you need.**

**Web Sites of Interest**

[ccomp.uark.edu/~lampinen/read.html](http://ccomp.uark.edu/~lampinen/read.html)  
The Lampinen Lab False Memory Reading  
Group, University of Arkansas

[www.exploratorium.edu/memory/](http://www.exploratorium.edu/memory/)  
The Exploratorium Memory Exhibit

[www.ctnow.com/memory](http://www.ctnow.com/memory)  
*Hartford Courant* memory series

[www.tmdArchives.org](http://www.tmdArchives.org)  
The Memory Debate Archives

[www.francefms.com](http://www.francefms.com)  
French language website

[www.StopBadTherapy.com](http://www.StopBadTherapy.com)  
Contains phone numbers of professional  
regulatory boards in all 50 states

[www.IllinoisFMS.org](http://www.IllinoisFMS.org)  
Illinois-Wisconsin FMS Society

[www.ltech.net/OHIOarmhp](http://www.ltech.net/OHIOarmhp)  
Ohio Group

[www.afma.asn.au](http://www.afma.asn.au)  
Australian False Memory Association.

[www.bfms.org.uk](http://www.bfms.org.uk)  
British False Memory Society

[www.geocities.com/retractor](http://www.geocities.com/retractor)  
This site is run by Laura Pasley (retractor)

[www.geocities.com/therapyletters](http://www.geocities.com/therapyletters)  
This site is run by Deb David (retractor)

[www.sirs.com/uptonbooks/index.htm](http://www.sirs.com/uptonbooks/index.htm)  
Upton Books

[www.angelfire.com/tx/recoveredmemories/](http://www.angelfire.com/tx/recoveredmemories/)

Having trouble locating books about the recovered memory phenomenon?  
Recovered Memory Bookstore

[www.religioustolerance.org/sra.htm](http://www.religioustolerance.org/sra.htm)  
Information about Satanic Ritual Abuse

[www.angryparents.net](http://www.angryparents.net)  
Parents Against Cruel Therapy

[www.geocities.com/newcosanz](http://www.geocities.com/newcosanz)  
New Zealand FMS Group

[www.werkgroepwfh.nl](http://www.werkgroepwfh.nl)  
Netherlands FMS Group

[www.falseallegation.org](http://www.falseallegation.org)  
National Child Abuse Defense & Resource  
Center

**Legal Websites of Interest**

- [www.caseassist.com](http://www.caseassist.com)
- [www.findlaw.com](http://www.findlaw.com)
- [www.legalengine.com](http://www.legalengine.com)
- [www.accused.com](http://www.accused.com)

## CONTACTS &amp; MEETINGS - UNITED STATES

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415-435-9618 (pm)  
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Central Coast  
Carole 805-967-8058  
Palm Desert  
Eileen and Jerry 909-659-9636  
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Chris & Alan 949-733-2925  
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Floyd & Libby 626-330-2321  
San Diego Area  
Dee 760-439-4630

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Colorado Springs  
Doris 719-488-9738

CONNECTICUT  
S. New England -  
Earl 203-329-8365 or  
Paul 203-458-9173

FLORIDA  
Dade/Broward  
Madeline 954-966-4FMS  
Central Florida - Please call for mtg. time  
John & Nancy 352-750-5446  
Sarasota  
Francis & Sally 941-342-8310  
Tampa Bay Area  
Bob & Janet 727-856-7091

GEORGIA  
Atlanta  
Wallie & Jill 770-971-8917

ILLINOIS  
Chicago & Suburbs - 1st Sun. (MO)  
Eileen 847-985-7693 or  
Liz & Roger 847-827-1056  
Peoria  
Bryant & Lynn 309-674-2767

INDIANA  
Indiana Assn. for Responsible Mental  
Health Practices  
Pat 260-489-9987  
Helen 574-753-2779

KANSAS  
Wichita - Meeting as called  
Pat 785-738-4840

KENTUCKY  
Louisville- Last Sun. (MO) @ 2pm  
Bob 502-367-1838

MAINE  
Rumford -  
Carolyn 207-364-8891  
Portland - 4th Sun. (MO)  
Wally & Bobby 207-878-9812

MASSACHUSETTS/NEW ENGLAND  
Andover - 2nd Sun. (MO) @ 1pm  
Frank 978-263-9795

MICHIGAN  
Grand Rapids Area - 1st Mon. (MO)  
Bill & Marge 616-383-0382  
Greater Detroit Area -  
Nancy 248-642-8077  
Ann Arbor  
Martha 734-439-4055

MINNESOTA  
Terry & Collette 507-642-3630  
Dan & Joan 651-631-2247

MISSOURI  
Kansas City - Meeting as called  
Pat 785-738-4840  
St. Louis Area - call for meeting time  
Karen 314-432-8789  
Springfield - 4th Sat. Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct  
@12:30pm  
Tom 417-753-4878  
Roxie 417-781-2058

MONTANA  
Lee & Avone 406-443-3189

NEW HAMPSHIRE  
Mark 802-872-0847

NEW JERSEY  
Sally 609-927-5343 (Southern)  
Nancy 973-729-1433 (Northern)

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Albuquerque - 2nd Sat. (BI-MO) @1 pm  
Southwest Room -Presbyterian Hospital  
Maggie 505-662-7521(after 6:30pm) or  
Sy 505-758-0726

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Westchester, Rockland, etc.  
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Bob & Carole 440-356-4544

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Dee 405-942-0531 or  
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Sue 703-273-2343

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Katie & Leo 414-476-0285 or  
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Alan & Lorinda 307-322-4170

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Ken & Marina 905-637-6030  
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Task Force FMS of Werkgroep Fictieve  
Herinneringen  
Jan 31-184-413-085

NEW ZEALAND  
Colleen 09-416-7443

SWEDEN  
Ake Moller FAX 48-431-217-90

UNITED KINGDOM  
The British False Memory Society  
Madeline 44-1225 868-682

Deadline for the September/  
October Newsletter is August 15.  
Meeting notices MUST be in writing  
and should be sent no later than  
two months before meeting.

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