



Dear Friends,

“Keep your memories alive with a free camera!” flashed out from our computer junk e-mail recently. Reminders that memories fade and that recall is not always accurate are everywhere. It is very difficult, however, for some to give up the belief that there is a special kind of memory that works primarily for memories of childhood sexual abuse.

In June, the journal *Clinical Psychology: Science and Practice* published a seemingly balanced article by David Gleaves and colleagues [1] that reviewed the clinical and laboratory evidence for recovered and false memories. Three commentaries also appeared. Gleaves et al. conclude that there is plenty of evidence for both recovered memories and false memories. Commentator John Kihlstrom [2] writes that the Gleaves et al. article exaggerates laboratory support for recovered memories of trauma and downplays evidence of the problem of false memories. Commentator Richard McNally, [3] notes that supporters of recovered memory often are confused about the studies they cite in support of it: They misinterpret everyday forgetfulness after trauma as traumatic amnesia; they fail to distinguish traumatic amnesia from organic amnesia; and they confuse the choice not to think about a painful event with an inability to think about it. In a remarkable muddle, commentator Marylene Cloitre[4] argues that we need accurate memories in order to survive and then uses that as evidence, somehow, for the repression of memories. She proffers a remarkable explanation for why scientists and therapists disagree about memory issues: “Acceptance of recovered memories almost always requires acceptance of the reality of egregious aggressive and sexual behaviors. This task is impossible for some and all too easily embraced by others.”

The articles expose the contrasting scholarly styles and the ongoing deep division between those who believe in the reliability of recovered memories and those who are skeptical. It is our impression, however, that the number of people involved in defending recovered memories has slowly been diminishing.

A firm believer in recovered memories, Noel Packard,

recently gave a talk in which she was highly critical of the FMS Foundation [5]. Most of what she said was a rehash of old stuff, but there was a new criticism that made us laugh out loud because it highlighted the absurd lengths to which people have gone to try to discredit the Foundation. In a talk entitled “Battle Tactics of the False Memory Syndrome Foundation,” Packard suggested that a “trap or possible tactic” of the false memory debates “is the mimicking of similar names and titles which can confound the most careful researcher, let alone the general public.” She provides as examples Dr. Anna C. Salter (psychologist and author) and Stephanie Salter (reporter for the *San Francisco Examiner*); Dr. Susan Kelly (who interviewed children in the Amirault case) and Kelly Michaels (who was convicted and spent 5 years in jail in connection with the Wee Care day-care center case); and Dr. Ann Burgess (researcher involved in satanic abuse day-care cases) and Patricia Burgus (former patient who was awarded a \$10.6 million false memory settlement). Packard said: “From a research perspective, names that are similar are problematic when doing computer searches and can be confounding or misleading to a poorly informed public.” Who would have guessed that the Foundation (or Google, for that matter) had such power to confuse!

New research in the area of false memories abounds. (See pp. 4 and 5 for examples.) It is especially encouraging when students are involved. For example, four students from New Zealand presented a symposium called “All Roads Lead to Rome: Four Paradigms for Creating False Memories” at the recent convention of the American Psychological Society [6]. At the same time, there also is research by supporters of recovered memories suggesting that people who score high on tests for dissociation have impaired memory for words associated with incest [7].

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It should be the research results that ultimately bring the recovered memory phenomenon to some end. But that is made more difficult by the institutionalization of the beliefs that support recovered memories. For example, the Web site of the “Center for PTSD, program of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs” [8], recommends *The Courage to Heal* and other books that presume the reality of recovered memories, but no readings that address the dangers of false memories. The site also has a short symptom list and informs readers that if they have any of the symptoms, they should see a professional who specializes in sexual abuse. It seems the debate may go on for some time.

On page 4 of this issue, we include a story about a 24-year-old murder case in Toledo, Ohio, because it made the front page of the *Philadelphia Daily News*, an indication of the fascination of the media with claims of satanic abuse, even in the absence of evidence. It should be extremely interesting to follow the case of Rev. Robinson and his trial in the coming months.

Several new events have occurred in other countries that may move the debate forward. (See p. 3.) In Australia, a commission is being established to investigate the recovered memory situation in the state of Victoria. In the Netherlands, the Minister of Health has said that he does not consider it the task of the government to provide support to persons who, as a result of any psychotherapy, came to accept repressed or recovered memories of incest.

A development that will please many *FMSF Newsletter* readers is the fact that the documentary *Hungry for Monsters* (See p. 12) was screened twice at the 57th Locarno International Film Festival in August. What is special is that the film was shown in the festival’s Human Rights section. At least in some places and by some groups, the outrages that were perpetrated on parents have been recognized for what they are.

There are two retractor cases reported in this *Newsletter* issue. (See p. 9.) One resulted in another huge award of \$5.25 million. Both cases involve people who worked with Bennett Braun, M.D., in Chicago. The legacy of that therapy fiasco goes on and on as former patients recover and begin to understand what happened to them.

The highlight of this month’s newsletter is the first of two parts of the story “Losing Linda: A Legacy of Recovered Memory Therapy” on page 5. Based on court transcripts, Jennifer Anderson documents the absurdity and the sadness of the beliefs that caused her sister to file a protection order against their mother who lived more than 2,000 miles away. This is a story unlike any you may have read previously and we think it is an important story.

Finally, we come to the time when we must evaluate our plans for the next year. When we mentioned a while ago that we thought that the time had arrived for the *Newsletter*

to become totally electronic, we received a barrage of requests to continue to publish the printed and mailed version. We will do this through 2005 and reconsider the issue again next year. That means, however, that we *must* receive your response to the letter that we mail to you in early October. Please respond promptly to help us keep paperwork to a minimum. The Foundation spends a remarkably small percentage of its resources in administrative or fundraising expenses. We ask for your financial support just once each year, and we want to use that support for furthering the programs that have helped expose and address the problems caused by the beliefs and practices of recovered memories. Thank you for your wonderful support.

Pamela

1. Gleaves, D., Smith, S.M., Butler, L.D., & Spiegel, D. (2004). False and recovered memories in the laboratory and clinic: A review of experimental and clinical evidence. *Clinical Psychology: Science and Practice* 11, (1), 3-28.
2. Kihlstrom, J.F. (2004). An unbalanced balancing act: Blocked, recovered, and false memories in the laboratory and clinic. *Clinical Psychology: Science and Practice*, 11(1), 34-41.
3. McNally, R.J. (2004). The science and folklore of traumatic amnesia. *Clinical Psychology: Science and Practice*, 11(1), 29-33.
4. Cloitre, M. (2004). Aristotle revisited: The case of recovered memories. *Clinical Psychology: Science and Practice*, 11(1), 42-46.
5. Packard, N. (2004, April). *Battle tactics of the False Memory Syndrome Foundation*. Paper presented at the Seventh Annual Sociology and Committee on Historical Studies, Sociology Department, and International Labor Working Class History Journal Joint Conference at the New School of Social Research, New York, NY4. ([www.newschool.edu/gf/historymatters](http://www.newschool.edu/gf/historymatters))
6. Volpe, K. (2004). Paradigms for creating false memories: Students show how we make up what we can’t remember. *Observer*, 17(8), p. 29-30.
7. DePrince, A.P., & Freyd, J.J. (2004). Forgetting trauma stimuli. *Psychological Science*, 15(7), 488-492.
8. [www.ncptsd.org/index.html](http://www.ncptsd.org/index.html)

We are pleased that the paper “From Refusal to Reconciliation: Family Relationships After an Accusation Based on Recovered Memories” by Paul McHugh, Harold Lief, Pamela Freyd and Janet Fetkewicz, has appeared in the August 2004 issue of the *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*.

This paper is based on family responses to the FMSF survey two years ago. If you would like a copy, please send a self-addressed and stamped standard size envelope to the Foundation office.

**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.

## In Memoriam Philip S. Holzman

Philip S. Holzman, Ph.D. died on June 1, 2004 at the age of 82 in Boston. He suffered a stroke after surgery.

Dr. Holzman was a highly respected psychologist and researcher at Harvard University and the founder and director of the McLean Hospital Psychology Research Laboratory. He held the Esther and Sidney R. Rabb Professorship and became professor emeritus in 1992. Dr. Holzman was a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, the Communications Secretary of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a member of the Scientific Council of the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression.

In his study of schizophrenic patients, Dr. Holzman observed that some patients and their healthy relatives both showed problems in visually following moving objects. He noted that studying this phenomenon could provide clues about what types of genes put people at risk for the illness and changed the way that scientists study schizophrenia. It established the disease as a brain disorder. Dr. Holzman also studied the characteristic misuse of language by schizophrenics.

One of the 15 founders of the FMSF Scientific and Professional Advisory Board, Dr. Holzman believed that resolution of the repressed memory phenomenon will be brought about "by the exposure of exploitative therapies," and careful research into the nature of memory and the effects of abuse.

□

"As our memories are fading, they're becoming more and more vulnerable to being contaminated or distorted through leading questions or talking to other people or coercive interrogations,"

Elizabeth Loftus, Quoted in Alexander, D. (2004, July 17). Limitations of memory. *Vancouver Sun*, C2.

## News From Other Countries

**Australia:** The Health Services Commissioner of the Victorian government will conduct an investigation into the practice of repressed memory therapy. The investigation is the result of a barrage of requests from affected families and will examine the scientific literature and the extent of the problem. The Commissioner said that it is easy to install a false memory in someone and the practice of repressed memory therapy deserved to be the subject of an inquiry.

Concerns over repressed memory therapy. (2004, July 23). *Sydney Morning Herald*. (Retrieved from [www.smh.com.au/articles/2004/07/23/1090464863483.html](http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2004/07/23/1090464863483.html) on July 23, 2004.)

**Canada:** A Toronto family doctor was found guilty of misconduct by the College of Physicians and Surgeons on August 5, 2004 after a long and highly publicized hearing. The College discipline panel was highly critical of Dr. Alan Abelsohn for using controversial therapy treatments in which he was not trained. The doctor had let a delusional woman dictate her own psychotherapy and sessions became increasingly bizarre. Recovered memories were one aspect of therapy. Although sympathy was expressed for both the doctor and the patient, Dr. Brian Hoffman commented:

"The doctor's the doctor. He had therapeutic choices to make, and if he makes the wrong choice, that doesn't make him the victim."

MD guilty of misconduct; sentencing set for October. (2004, August 6). *Globe and Mail*, A7.

In January 2004, the British Columbia College of Psychologists resolved a complaint brought by an FMS family. The psychologist submitted his resignation as a registered psychologist from the College. Among the findings were that the psychologist had provided a professional opinion about past abuse without a thorough assess-

ment or checking external sources.

**United Kingdom:** In July, 2004, a judge dismissed the lawsuit of James Fairlie <sup>[1]</sup> against the therapist and hospital he claimed had implanted false memories in his daughter. Fairlie's suit was the first case of its kind in the UK. Fairlie, a former Scottish political leader, was accused of sadistic sexual abuse by his daughter who later retracted her charges. The case was dismissed because neither the hospital nor the doctor had a duty of care to Mr. Fairlie. The judge commented:

"It goes without saying that if . . . the psychiatrist made the diagnosis which it is said he did, and it was one reached carelessly and without proper investigation, [Fairlie's] concern to seek redress is wholly understandable."

Mr. Fairlie said he was disappointed but, "it reinforces my intent to petition the Scottish Parliament to have a look at the whole situation as regards duty of care to third parties by health authorities, social work departments, and so on."

1. See *FMSF Newsletter*, 9 (5), September/October 2000, for a description of the Fairlie suit.

**Netherlands:** On June 10, 2004, the Minister of Health sent a brief to the Parliament in support of the report "Dubious Memories." (See May/June *FMSF Newsletter*.) In addition, the Minister stated that he has asked the professional mental health organizations to produce a general information pamphlet stating the methodology and effectiveness of the diverse and alternative practices available. The Minister stated that he does not consider it the task of the government to provide support to persons who as a result of any psychotherapy came to accept repressed or recovered memories of incest. The Minister commented that the report "Dubious Memories" was produced because of complaints of the Workgroup Fictive Memories, the Dutch FMS group.

□

## Satanic Abuse Claims in Toledo, Ohio

In 2003, a woman in Toledo, Ohio, came forward claiming that as a child she had been sexually and physically abused for years by Catholic priests during satanic rituals. One of the priests she named was Rev. Gerald Robinson, 66-years-old. The woman said that she had been placed in a coffin filled with cockroaches, had been penetrated with a snake, had participated in killing an infant, and had committed other horrific acts. No evidence was presented. Perhaps as a result of pressure from groups representing people abused by clergy, the police decided to reopen a 24-year-old murder case in which Rev. Robinson had been questioned.

In 1980, a 71-year-old nun was strangled and stabbed in what was described as a ritualistic killing. Unfortunately, rescue workers seriously compromised the crime scene when they tried to save the nun. At the time, Rev. Gerald Robinson was questioned because he had worked closely with the nun, and he was one of the few people near the spot of the murder. There were a number of leads at the time but there was never enough evidence to bring charges against anyone, and the case remained unsolved.

Since 1980, new forensic investigative techniques have been developed. Police used blood spatter analysis not available in 1980, and they believe that they can use “blood transfer patterns” to solve the case. (According to *Toledo Blade* articles, this involves transferring the picture of the blood to a surface that they can study.)

On April 25, 2004, Rev. Robinson was arrested for the murder of the nun. The Diocese has placed Rev. Robinson on leave of absence. The authorities have said that although they could not substantiate the woman’s allegations of ritual abuse, her mention of Robinson spurred police to reopen the

nun’s slaying.

Ray Vetter, retired deputy Toledo police chief who was in charge of the detective bureau in 1980 stated: “I’m happy an arrest was made. If he’s the right man, I hope they get a conviction. I hope they have more evidence than we had.”

Johnson Thebes, Rev. Robinson’s attorney said: “There’s a reason these cases are cold and sit for 24 years—because the evidence is not good to begin with. I’ve had two of these so-called ‘cold cases’ before, and they both ended in acquittal.”

Erb, R. & Hall, C. (2004, April 24). Priest accused of murdering nun in 1980. *Toledo Blade*, p. A1.

Yonke, D. (2004, April 25). Allegations renew nun’s death case. *Toledo Blade*, p. A1.

Yonke, D. (2004, April 28). Toledo Diocese priest put on leave; review set for claims.

*Toledo Blade*, p. A1.

Erb, R. (2004, April 29). Altar cloth in hallway may expose nun’s killer. *Toledo Blade*, p. A1.

Hearings into death of nun continuing. (2004, July 14). *Toledo Blade*, p. B3.

□

### False Memories and Attitudes

McIntyre, R.B., Lord, C.G., Lewis, S.J. & Frye, G.D. (2004). False memories of attitude-relevant actions.

*Social Cognition*, 21(6), 395-420.

Because people sometimes remember doing things that they only imagined, it is possible that attitudes might be influenced by false memories. The authors tested this hypothesis using 131 undergraduate students in two experiments. In the first experiment, participants reported their attitudes and chose from a list of all the attitude-relevant actions they had ever taken toward gay men. In an “unrelated” experiment a week later, they wrote imaginary stories in which they performed both remembered and imaginary actions. One week after that, they again reported their attitudes and chose from the action list again.

By telling of it,  
Made such a sinner of his memory,  
To credit his own lie.

—William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*,  
Act I, Scene 2. Quoted in McIntyre et al.

Results showed that the more of the imaginary actions subjects later remembered, the more they changed their attitudes in the direction of the actions. Attitude change occurred only for the target group, and only when participants imagined themselves (not another person) performing the actions. False memories can bias the conclusions that people draw about themselves.

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### Are Recovered Memories Real?

Neimark, J. (2004).

Are recovered memories real?

*Discover*, 25(8), 73-77.

This article is an excellent review of current research about recovered memories. It opens with: “A growing body of evidence indicates that memory is deeply unreliable and that life-shattering events cannot be buried for years and then winched out of the deep waters of the subconscious.”

Author Jill Neimark notes that the ferocity of the memory wars stems from the fact that there is no definitive evidence for claims that memories can actually be inaccessible for years and then accurately recovered. She observes, however, that people who believe that they have recovered memories of past abuse are “tremendously convincing” and often offer “striking and terrifying” clarity and details. The memories can “forever alter lives.”

The article includes extensive descriptions of work by Loftus, McNally, Clancy, and others. It answers questions related to recovered

“We create our memories even as they create us—a Moebius strip, an Escher print, a double helix, if you will, from which the blueprint of self emerges. It’s both dazzling and chilling to realize that the narrative arc of our lives relies on a phenomenon that is by turns robust, fallible, malleable, potent, slippery, inventive, and above all, powerfully yoked to emotion.”

Jill Neimark

memories. For example, are there any particular characteristics of people who believe they have recovered memories? Richard McNally, whose has studied people who believe they have been abducted by space aliens, said that these people “who are on all other measures sane and healthy individuals, are more vulnerable to false memories” because of a trait called absorption. They score higher on measures of fantasy and absorption, which is the ability to get lost in daydreams or be utterly entranced by a sunset. Other research has shown that people’s ability to imagine can be so great that they actually develop delayed post-traumatic stress disorder in the absence of remembered traumas.

Discussing the needs of future research, Neimark quotes Susan Clancy: “If we are storytellers, even inaccurate ones, how does that serve us? What has been missing from all the theories of false memory, is the desire for meaning. I think psychologists are tone deaf to this. It’s a very important ideological factor in the development of any belief.”

“Are Recovered Memories Real?” is an article that can be usefully given to people to help them understand the recovered memory controversy.

□

### **Blinded by Emotion**

Porter, S., Birt, A., and Spencer, L. (2003). Blinded by emotion? Effect of the emotionality of a scene on susceptibility to false memories. *Canadian Journal of Behavioural Science*, 35(3), 165-175.

Previous research has investigated misinformation effects on memory without considering the emotionality of the witnessed scene. This research showed that participants who had witnessed a highly negative emotional scene were twice as likely to recall seeing the major misinformation than those in both the neutral or positive groups. The authors note that interviewers should be particularly careful when questioning witnesses of crimes,

as they could be vulnerable to the effects of misleading information.

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### **Belief in Past Traumatization May Generate Emotional Responses Similar to Memories of Trauma**

McNally, R.J., Lasko, N.B., Clancy, S.A., Macklin, M.L., Pitman, R.K. & Orr, S.P. (2004). Psychophysiological responding during script-driven imagery in people reporting abduction by space aliens. *Psychological Science* 15(7), 493-497.

Persons who believe that they have been traumatized in abductions by space aliens show similar emotional responses to people who have suffered other traumas such as in combat. Abductees were measured for psychophysiological responses as they listened to abduction stories and they showed greater reactions compared to control participants. “The (abducted) person really believes something happened, but that doesn’t necessarily mean it did,” said Richard McNally

“The people have likely experienced sleep paralysis and the hallucinations that accompany it during the transition from sleep to wakefulness. This phenomenon of sleep paralysis has been reported throughout history. Many people would interpret such events as ‘seeing a ghost,’ or an angel, or spectral images of witches.”

The study reflects the emotional significance of a memory, not necessarily its veracity.

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### **Losing Linda: A Legacy of Recovered Memory Therapy**

#### **Part I**

Jennifer Anderson

Sibilant whispering rose from the people on the bench behind me. I glanced backward at them, uneasily aware of their closeness, unsure of their intentions. They were an eclectic group, ages ranging from mid-twenties to fifties. One older professional couple in particular seemed to have

stepped right out of instructing a college classroom. They fell silent when my eyes turned their way. This row of people behind me was there in support of my sister, Linda. It was the year 1998. We were in the King County Courthouse, Washington State, awaiting the beginning of a hearing that would determine whether or not my sister would be granted the protection of a restraining order against our mother, Joanne.

My youngest brother, Craig, sat next to me. My mother was seated at a table in front of me, to the left, with her attorney. Also in front of me, to the right, was my sister, Linda. I hadn’t seen her in many years. She looked much the same, but thinner than I remembered, and older. Her face was worn. I studied my sister from my vantage point almost directly in back of her. Linda never turned her head to acknowledge me, although she must have felt my gaze. She was so close that I could have reached out and touched her, but I didn’t dare. Something was very wrong with her. Linda vibrated with tension, her hands nervously moving on the tabletop. The woman seated next to her leaned over and spoke softly with Linda, apparently reassuring my sister. She looked completely stressed out, teetering on the ragged edge of some unknown disaster. I studied my sister’s profile, committing it to memory. I was afraid that this would be the last time that I would see Linda.

The restraining order hearing began. The judge and my mother’s attorney sorted through many declarations written by Linda’s friends, supporting her desire for a restraining order. Linda, with the help of the attorney general’s office, was well-prepared for the hearing. We, on the other hand, were almost completely unprepared. My mother, brother, and I, after flying in from different residences across the country, were about to be broadsided by accusations ranging from kidnap-

ping and torture to murder. We had no idea what Linda was about to say.

The following excerpts are taken verbatim, as recorded by the court recorder present in the session, from the official court transcript of that restraining order hearing. Names have been changed to protect the privacy of all parties involved. This account is about my sister, but it is also about a social phenomenon that has affected thousands of innocent families across the United States. I wish to fully protect Linda's privacy in this accounting. In this excerpt, my mother's attorney is questioning Linda. (As recorded in the Superior Court of the State of Washington for King County.):

*Q:* Ms. \_\_\_\_\_, are the statements in your petition regarding your mother's committing physical and sexual abuse and drugging of people and murdering of people true?

*A:* What do you mean by that?

*Q:* You don't understand the question?

*A:* Yeah. I mean, in the eyes of the court, is that truth? Or is it—do I believe that that's true? Do I have remembering—do I remember that?

*Q:* Are those incidents that you say occurred—

*A:* Yeah, they did occur, definitely.

*Q:* Okay. Who was murdered?

*A:* I don't know the names of the people. I could—if I decide at some point to take this to a criminal case, then I would give a detective details about what I remember, what they looked like, where these things happened.

*Q:* Did they happen in the home?

*A:* There is a lot of different places where cults do their activities. Many places. Sometimes it's in homes. Sometimes it's in churches. Sometimes it's in fields by people's homes. Sometimes it's... funeral homes are a big place. Many different places where they do these types of activities. And I believe that my fami-

ly has done them in many of these different types of places.

*Q:* Is it your belief that members of your family have been members of a cult that committed this kind of behavior?

*A:* Uh-huh.

*Q:* Your answer is yes?

*A:* Yeah, sure, they are...

The questions continued. My sister, under oath, responded:

*Q:* In August of '89, did you have a telephone conversation with your mother in which you asked her whether you were abused as a child?

*A:* I don't remember asking my mother if I was abused as a child.

*Q:* When you reported this to the Florida officers, were you in any kind of mental health therapy at that time?

*A:* Yeah, I was getting counseling, which is actually a very healthy reaction to this kind of a thing. It's what people do to try to recover from it...

*Q:* Can you—can you give us at least the year, if not the month, but the—in a time frame of when you started having memories of the things that ended up in your petition?

*A:* Well, I actually started having signs that people have when they have been severely abused when I was age 23, when I started—I went through treatment at that time for being a child of an alcoholic. And during that time I actually started having dreams and nightmares that were related to this. But at—but nothing more came of it at that time, because basically I don't think I was ready to deal with the full impact of it. Healing from this kind of thing is something that takes so much strength and courage, and it's very, very difficult, and it's not something that is done very easily at all, and people have to be very ready to do that kind of work.

*Q:* So it's about age 23 when this... these memories started to coalesce, is that—

*A:* No, that's just when I started hav-

ing some of the things come up—

*Q:* Okay.

*A:* —that would be considered related to it.

*Q:* Okay.

*A:* I didn't have specific of the details of the worst type—I mean, at that time they knew I had been abused, if that's what you're talking about. The therapist knew.

*Q:* Here's what I'm trying to focus on. How many years had gone by between the last incident of abuse by your mother and the time at your age 23?

*A:* Actually, I recall being abused at the last time at age 22.

*Q:* Okay. So you were in college then?

*A:* I was in college. They were having a—okay. Do you really want to hear? Okay.

*THE COURT:* It sounds like that's what he's asking.

*A:* Okay. I was in college, and my sister had just gotten married to her husband, and what happened was that they were having a big 50th wedding anniversary for my grandparents, and they had—they made it very clear that I was to come without my fiancé at the time, and that everyone else was going to be there. So I went there alone, and there was a ritual that occurred, and what happened was I left at some point in the middle of it because I realized that they were going to kill somebody, and it was terrifying to me. So I left, and actually three of them chased me, and tried to get me to go back. And my, my... anyway, it was a very terrifying experience. And that's one of the reasons I'm so terrified of them, because I know that they try to kidnap people. And they do kidnap people.

Linda's accusations that our family belonged to a cult confused me. My mother was worried that Linda was in a cult, not the other way around. I remembered the 50th wedding anniversary that Linda was talking

about. My grandparents had celebrated it some time ago, turning their wedding anniversary into a family reunion, where members of our family had come from all over the country. It had taken place in a country club in Massachusetts and had been fun. I remember thinking while Linda was testifying, "She's confused it somehow. Linda's mixed up the 50th wedding anniversary in Massachusetts with our other grandfather's 75th birthday celebration that took place in Minnesota." Her fiancé had not gone to the Minnesota event. Of course, no one was killed or hurt at either event. Both celebrations were standard fare family reunions. How weird. How could Linda be saying this?

The judge next clarified some points:

*Q:* Okay. And, Ms. \_\_\_\_\_, maybe your mother's attorney was going to ask this but didn't have time to. But do you recall your mother ever physically abusing you as a child?

*A:* Yes.

*Q:* Okay. Do you have specific recollection of one event or more than one?

*A:* Well, I remember my mother sexually abusing me many times with some of her feminist friends. Then I remember my mother cutting—I don't know if—was it her that cut on me? She was involved with a group of people when they were cutting on me. I have scars on my body from when they cut on me.

*THE COURT:* Okay. Ms. \_\_\_\_\_, you may step down now...

Linda's questioning ended. My mother was called to the stand. The whispering behind me started again, with my mother as the target. I bristled in my mother's defense. I was a mass of nerves, not believing or comprehending half of what my sister was charging our mother with. I was trying to take notes of what was said. Later, when I looked back at the notes I had written, I saw that the words were all

slanted backwards compared to my usual handwriting. That's how stressful the situation was. The attorney questioned my mother, yet she directed all of her responses to Linda, who had resumed her seat behind her table. Mom was trying, with the truth, to break through Linda's confusion, and let Linda glimpse what was real. It didn't help:

*Q:* Other than Linda's 1998 declaration filed in this court with her petition accusing you of various misconduct, have you ever in your life been accused of either physically or sexually abusing children, drugging people, or committing murders?

*A:* No.

*Q:* Your Honor, I have two declarations that I have given copies of to the petitioner that I would like added to the record. They're sworn declarations by the police chiefs of \_\_\_\_\_, Minnesota, and \_\_\_\_\_, Massachusetts, concerning the lack of any indication in their records of any such investigations...

*Q:* From your perspective, Joanne, did you have a healthy relationship with your daughter throughout her infancy and childhood?

*A:* Yes.

*Q:* And did you have a healthy relationship with her through her young adulthood, at least into the '80s?

*A:* Yes. She's a wonderful person, and I love her very much.

*Q:* Now, Joanne, when did you first realize or how did you—and how did you first learn that there was something wrong with the relationship between you and Linda?

*A:* She called me in 1989 and asked me, it was a—she hadn't called me for a while, and she called me, and she said, "Mom, was I abused as a child?" And I said, "No, you couldn't have been. You would have told me." Because as a child, when something happened like that, she always came to me and asked me about it. And so then she changed the subject, and I

didn't know what was—you know, she was talking about. She didn't elaborate.

*Q:* At some time after August of '89, did Linda in some way communicate to you that she didn't want any contact with you?

*A:* I became very concerned because I hadn't had any—hadn't heard from her for quite some time. Because those postcards and notes and things and, you know, cards, they go right up to '89, and then they abruptly stop. And I just thought something's wrong. And I called her up. I believe I called her on her telephone, and I said—or I wrote her something. I don't remember. And I told her I was coming to Florida to see her. And I got this little short letter back from her that says, "Joanne, we do not want to see you. If you come, we won't talk to you," something like that. "You are not welcome."

*Q:* Who is the we?

*A:* We was Linda and David (David was Linda's husband at the time). It was signed "Linda and David." And, of course, I didn't know what on earth that was about.

*Q:* What did you do?

*A:* I went to Florida anyway. I stayed at a motel. I left her messages on her answering machine saying I was there, if she wanted to see me, I would be happy to see her. And I never went—I knew where she lived but I never went there. I figured that this is something—she was angry with me for some reason, and she could come to me if she wanted to. And I finally left. She never called me back, never said one word, and I did not go anywhere near her apartment...

My mother's testimony continued:

*Q:* Did you receive additional information from your son Michael?

*A:* Yes.

*Q:* And did he tell you that Linda had claimed to him that abuse had been rampant in the family?

*A:* Yes.

*Q:* Did he tell you that Linda told him that he, Michael, needed to have enhanced memory therapy so that he could remember?

*A:* Memory enhancement therapy, yes...

*Q:* So after you got that information in March or April of '97, did you come to Washington?

*A:* Yes, I did. I was extremely concerned. I was—my daughter had disappeared. She was not communicating. She just, you know, never called. She never wrote us. She just disappeared off the face of the earth.

*Q:* So you came to Washington just a little over a year ago?

*A:* Yes.

*Q:* Okay. And was your purpose in coming to gather information?

*A:* My purpose was to find out if my daughter was even still alive. I was scared to death. And information, yes, as to whether or not she was healthy and alive.

*Q:* Did you have any contact with Linda on that visit?

*A:* No.

*Q:* Is it your testimony that your motivation was entirely your love and concern for your daughter's welfare?

*A:* I love Linda very much. I have never harmed her in my life. I love her very, very much. And I don't know what else to say to her.

*Q:* Did your anxiety about your daughter's welfare increase when you became aware of the Heaven's Gates suicides in San Diego?

*A:* When they had not identified the last four bodies, I was scared to death Linda was one of them. [Witness crying.] It just—I thought, I have let her stay away from me too long, and it—she might be one of those bodies. And to have my daughter come back to me in a coffin would be the most horrible thing to happen to me in my life. I have never abused her. I have never cut her.

[Kleenex handed to the witness.]

Thank you, Craig...

*Q:* Were you involved in any ritualistic abuse in Minnesota at somebody's 50th anniversary?

*A:* No, I was not...

The hearing ended with an issuance of a lifetime restraining order against my mother, as my sister wished:

*THE COURT:* The restraint against your contact with your daughter will be permanent. It will cover any physical contacts with the daughter. Any correspondence whatsoever, whether it is directed to the daughter or sent to an intermediary with a request that it be sent to the daughter. Any telephonic communications. Any communications with the University of \_\_\_\_\_, where the petitioner is currently a student. Any communications with any past—any members of the petitioner's former husband's family, not initiated by them. Any communications with past employers of the petitioner or any future employers. Any—I think that's sufficient.

*JOANNE:* I'm 61 years old, your Honor. I'll be 86 at the end of this restraining order. You have more or less—

*THE COURT:* I'm not making it for 25 years. I'm just making it permanent.

*JOANNE:* Permanent?

Yes, permanent. My sister sobbed with relief upon hearing the judge's words. Her friends surrounded her for a moment, offering congratulations. I wanted to approach Linda. My mother's attorney had cautioned us to not talk to her. I wish I had not heeded his advice and talked to her anyway. Craig had moved away from Linda's supporters to a corner of the room and was crying, his face turned to the wall. I heard him say, "I've just lost my sister." I couldn't bear to witness his grief and averted my eyes, pretending not to see. My gaze fell instead on a woman who had given us friendly glances during the hearing. She had sat close to

Linda, and I believe she was the attorney general's advocate who had helped Linda in her preparation for the hearing. I spoke to her, as she seemed, ironically, the only kind face in the courtroom that day. I asked, "Do you realize that not one word of what Linda said was true?" She nodded. "Then, what's going on? How did this happen?" Her face offered sympathy as she said, "I don't know."

We left the courthouse completely bewildered. I was shaken to my core. Linda's terror of us was genuine. Thoughts ran through my mind... What happened to Linda? What is going on?

Five years passed. Linda's actions and words against my mother were so painful that I didn't want to discuss it. But the gift of time, as it usually does, softened the cutting edges of hurt. Humor replaced the anger. The phone calls with my mother inevitably turned to Linda. Nearly every weekend my mother asked me, "What are we going to do about Linda?" Mom joined a national organization called the False Memory Syndrome Foundation (FMSF) for support. She needed it. My brothers and I weren't a whole lot of help. Mom used me as a sounding board. I willingly listened to her pour out her worries about my sister. Our weekend conversations usually touched on her FMSF meetings and stories about retractors, returners, perpetrators, psychotherapy, and a book called *The Courage to Heal*. It sounded far-fetched to me. Linda was an intelligent woman. How could she have been led so far astray? How could Linda truly believe the incredible things she swore to at the restraining order hearing? I balked at believing what my mother endlessly repeated about False Memory Syndrome and that dreadful book.

(To be continued.)

Jennifer M. Anderson is 44-years-old. She lives and works in the Syracuse, NY area. To date, she has not heard from her sister.

□



### Former Patient Receives \$5.25 Million Settlement

John Doe v. Rush Presbyterian  
No. 01 L 343, Illinois Circuit Court

On June 29, 2004, a \$5.25 million settlement in a psychiatric malpractice case was reached. John Doe's malpractice lawsuit against Paul Kachoris, M.D., Roberta Sachs, Ph.D., and Judith Peterson, Ph.D., claimed the doctors had engaged in dangerous treatment when they convinced him that he was a victim of sadistic child abuse.

The doctors diagnosed John Doe with multiple personality disorder when he was 10 years old, and he was treated for almost 2 years as a patient in the psychiatric ward of the now-defunct Old Orchard Hospital (in a Rush Presbyterian building) in Skokie, Illinois. The doctors' "treatment" consisted of searching for hidden traumatic memories. John Doe came to believe that his mother, father, and grandparents had sexually abused him and that he had been a member of a secret satanic cult.

According to Doe's attorney, Sachs will pay \$3.125 million; Old Orchard, \$1.275 million, Peterson, \$600,000; and Kachoris, \$250,000

John Doe was represented by Todd A. Smith of Power, Rogers & Smith.

Roberta Sachs was represented by Richard H. Donohue of Donohue, Brown, Mathewson & Smith. Judith Peterson was represented by Lorna E. Propes of Propes & Kaveny LLC. Old Orchard Hospital was represented by Nicholas Anaclerio of Ungaretti & Harris.

In circuit court. (2004, June 30). *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*, p. 3.

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"Take notes on the spot, a note is worth a carload of recollections."  
Ralph Waldo Emerson

### Lawsuit Claims Therapists' Treatment Caused False Memories of Satanic Ritual Abuse

Koppien v. Sachs et al. No. 04 LA 220  
Circuit Ct. 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, IL.  
Filed July 16, 2004.

Marsha Koppien and her two daughters have filed suit against Roberta G. Sachs, Ph.D., Rush North Shore Medical Center, and many other therapists and clinics, claiming that therapy caused them to believe that they had participated in bizarre inter-generational satanic rituals and murders. The suit also names Robert J. Simandl, who was a Chicago police officer and self-styled expert in satanic cults and identification of cult members. Simandl did generational mapping in order to show that Koppien was in a transgenerational cult.

Koppien entered therapy for depression, and her children were brought into it after several years. The complaint asserts that the therapists failed to diagnose and treat her properly, that they used suggestive techniques and sodium amytal interviews, and that they did not advise her that a diagnosis of multiple personality disorder is controversial. The complaint states that when Koppien expressed doubts concerning the reality of the memories, therapists told her that the doubts were "mental programs" that were embedded in her mind by cult members who had brainwashed her. The complaint claims that "Defendants

"If you want to ruin somebody, just start muttering about his or her inappropriate contact with children....[A person] is innocent only until someone has a grudge against him."

Clark, R. (2004, June 24). The lessons of Soham inspired by the spirit of Salem. *The Times* [London], 24.

instilled a delusional belief that satanic cults had placed cult members in key positions in police departments, the FBI, and amongst politicians, physicians, and attorneys" and that if Koppien went to those organizations to tell them what she had learned during treatment, she would be harmed or killed. (p. 50)

Koppien is represented by attorneys Zachary M. Bravos and Roger Kelly of Wheaton, Illinois.

Schmidt, K. (2004, July 21). Lawsuit targets therapists, clinics. *Northwest Herald* [McHenry, IL]. (Retrieved July 22, 2004, at <http://www.nwherald.com/MainSection/284420353176553.php>)

□

### Wenatchee Update

Roberson v. Wenatchee No. 21777-9-III  
Court of Appeals of Washington, Div. 3,  
Panel 9. 2004 Wash, App. LEXIS 1755.  
Filed Aug 3, 2004.

On August 3, 2004, the Washington state Court of Appeals unanimously upheld an earlier ruling directing the city of Wenatchee to pay a record fine of \$718,000 and to restore a civil rights lawsuit over the handling of a 1994-95 child sex abuse investigation. The sanction was levied against the city for withholding key information about police investigator Robert Perez from people who sued Wenatchee after they were acquitted of child sex abuse. The Court said that the violation was "substantial."

The law firm of Van Siclén & Stocks represents the people who have sued the city: Pastor Robert Roberson and his wife Connie and their daughter; Jonathan and Honnah Sims and their son; and Donna Rodriguez and her daughter. The city of Wenatchee intends to appeal the decision to the state Supreme Court.

Barber, M. (2004, August 4). Wenatchee must pay \$718,000 in sanctions over abuse case, court rules. *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, B1.

□

"To improve your memory, lend people money."

Who Knows?

### The Key to Our Solution

Although our situation has turned out well, it is still hard to talk or write about it. I can feel the tears welling up even now.

I'm writing to request that you remove us from your mailing list and to thank you for keeping us on it so faithfully for so long. I also want to relate a few tidbits in case they might help someone else. As you read this, keep in mind that our daughter was only 14 at the time our problems began and that we were dealing with custody issues along with everything else.

Our troubles began about 10 years ago. During the past 5 years, our daughter has recanted, married, and had two children. We now have a very good relationship although it is still strained from her guilt and my inability to know exactly what to say. However, we have the rest of our lives to work that out.

The key to our solution was getting our daughter out of the mental health system and into the hands of people who loved her. In our case, her grandparents were willing to house her, so we took her from the hospital (with doctors threatening to have us arrested and prosecuted for child abuse) and moved her to Grandma's. My dad is one of the all-time great parents and seemed always to know exactly how to handle our daughter without pushing her further away. In 1999, we began speaking and healing. In retrospect, I believe that if we had put our daughter with her grandparents a year earlier, we would have avoided about 90 percent of our problems. The moral, as I see it, is to put your pride aside and to not be afraid to ask family and friends for help if it is available. The medical/psychology industry is a commercial enterprise. They are not your friends, and I do not think that

their first priority is your child. Their first priority is to make money and, in my opinion, you and your problems are a distant second.

I read a lot about this issue at the time—everything I could find. The Internet is much more developed now, so use it. Start with Richard Ofshe. Stay away from some of the Christian sites. Getting an education allowed me to 1) communicate with our attorney and help guide our interaction with the court from a position of intelligence; 2) take a long-term view and focus less on the daily frustrations; 3) not be surprised by the daily stuff we encountered because I knew what to expect; and 4) ask poorly-trained doctors questions that they could not answer, which helped support our requests to the court.

In hindsight, I would have been much more aggressive with our enemies, including the people in the Department of Human Services who seemed to have no clue what they were doing. Enemies also included my daughter's court-appointed attorney, numerous doctors and psychologists who hurt our family more than they helped, and even my own attorney who was too wishy-washy because he probably didn't completely understand what we were dealing with. If I were starting again, I would find a very aggressive lawyer. I would also get right in the face of anybody in our way. Of course, when we were going through this, we were afraid to push things any harder for fear of losing communication completely and for fear of pushing our daughter over the edge.

When our daughter made her accusations, it was the darkest time of my life. Without the support of the people at the Springfield FMS group, I don't know that I would have made it. Just knowing that I was not the only one, knowing that there were other people who knew exactly how I felt helped me tremendously. I don't think even my

parents and my wife ever fully understood the situation, but the other fathers at the FMS meetings did understand. I could not place a value on that understanding if my life depended on it, which it did.

I know how bleak things can look at times. I've been at the bottom. Although it is true that some situations may never resolve, mine did. You never know what God's plan is. Just remember how long Abraham had to wait for a son. There is always hope. And there is always someone else who knows how you feel ... me.

Good luck to you all,  
Proud parent and grandparent.

□

### Where Is the Outrage?

In responding to the editorial in the last newsletter, I think the lack of outrage is there because of how the public perceives the problem. All the effort poured into bringing child abuse to light over the years has had both a positive and a negative effect. On one other hand, real abuse is taken seriously, and children are helped. On the other, our society is more inclined to believe someone is guilty when charges and claims are made against them—especially if they involve children. It seems people would rather err on the side of children and consequently have less outrage for a wrongfully charged adult.

At the same time this attitude empowers women's and children's "advocates" to engage in unethical therapies and makes them somewhat bulletproof to scientific studies and peer groups that take exception to what they are doing. Science can be dull compared to the emotional outrage that abuse therapies can stir up in the public.

I think the answer to "where is the outrage" lies in re-defining the abuse in terms the public will understand. Educate the public about what these unethical therapies really are: emotion-

al incest visited on an unsuspecting victim—the patient. If the therapy embeds incest in the mind of a patient/victim who was not sexually abused, the incest memory still remains and is no less a violation of that person's very being. This will immediately take away the perceived "high ground" on which some therapists now seem to be standing. Only when unethical therapists are viewed as abusers themselves will the public outrage work to the advantage of patients abused by them and the innocent people who were wrongfully accused.

A concerned dad

□

### Have We Begun to Reassess Our Views Toward the False Memory Crisis?

I refer, approvingly, to the essay by Spencer Harris Morfit and the letter from Fighting Dad in the July/August newsletter. Both offer a shift in the prevailing wisdom that has guided the FMS Foundation's position since its inception. For 15 years that position has cast repressed-memory therapists in the role of villain, our accusing daughters and sons as "victims," and accused fathers and mothers as innocent bystanders who got hit when the you-know-what hit the fan.

Here's a different scenario: Instead of viewing the accusing daughter as the "victim," let's see her for what she is: willing co-conspirator who, along with a smug therapist, has intentionally made her father or mother the scapegoat for her personal problems.

That being the case, it's sensible to say to her: "You made your decision so ...good riddance!"

A not-so-grieving father

□

Our relationship with daughter continues in a wonderful way—but still no retraction.

A mom

## Responsibility

I am glad Ms. Morfit raised the issue of responsibility. It would seem that when we, as parents, are faced with accusations of abuse from a child, it is easier to put all the blame on the therapists. To acknowledge that our daughter (or son) played some part in this terrible pain is driving the sword in even deeper. In *Suggestions of Abuse*, Dr. Michael Yapko mentions four reasons why people confabulate and accept false memories. He says that sometimes it happens because of "hostility toward the accused for perceived injustices unrelated to abuse." I believe that is part of what happened in our family. Our daughter was 18, angry and rebellious. She did not want to admit that a boyfriend had rejected her, I believe, and so took the popular way at that time of blaming us for her problems. She got in deeper than she wished and would not admit her therapist's suggestions were wrong.

We live in an age of conformity in clothing, in music, in thought. We are tolerant of what is politically correct and have lost our ability to think critically. As Ms. Morfit says, we even surrender "all self-sovereignty over something as personal as one's own memories and history to a therapist." I don't believe that is the case for all incidences of false accusations, but it may be a factor in many. We need to help our children in Canada and the States to know what they believe and be able to defend it rather than just accepting everything they are told.

A mom

□

### Consequences of Choices

I have just read Spencer Harris Morfit's essay on personal responsibility in the last newsletter. I agree that, as a client, I am ultimately responsible for managing my illness. But in my specific situation, my illness is biologically based. When I have a relapse of symptoms, sometimes I become psy-

chotic. Thus, I need some supportive people I can trust to "think for me" so that I do not act out of irrational thought processes. Fortunately, I have such support. But for 10 years I had no support, so the bind I was in had no solution. Like most people with this type of illness, I want to be as healthy as possible. I work hard every day to maintain this goal but sometimes my symptoms undermine my desire to work at maintaining my health.

Perhaps clients can form support systems, if not in our own community then by contacting others with similar illnesses, thus taking responsibility by supporting one another. As clients, we need to form a coalition to advocate for change so that bad therapy is discredited.

I admit, some clients do not want to take responsibility for their treatment. Unfortunately, they will suffer the consequences of this choice. We cannot change their choice to remain dependent upon therapists who practice damaging therapy. We can only continue to support organizations like the FMSF. We can only offer help and prayers for those who suffer because of this choice.

I truly believe that most of us want to be healthy and independent. For some of us, the realities of our illness sometimes prevent us from making responsible choices about treatment.

Claudia Dabbs

□

### Cures Everything

My husband and I were in a hotel in Salt Lake City where we saw a sign for a Rapid Eye Movement (REM) seminar. The sign said, "Rapid Eye Certification. In the spirit of gratitude, we call forth lightworkers NOW who choose to embrace planetary evolution through the gifts of Rapid Eye Technology (RET). We provide an environment for positive changes through unconditional love, honor, education, and community." The pro-

gram was run by Ranae Johnson, claiming to be the founder of REM, at RET Institute in Salem Oregon. A lady in the hall was selling essential oils perfumes from a tray. The web address is: [www.rapideyetechnology.com](http://www.rapideyetechnology.com). The web site claims that RET cures almost everything.

The last newsletter was correct when it said that in the therapy world Caveat Emptor (Buyer Beware) is the rule.

A mom



### Correction

(Last month we did not print the full title of the book mentioned below)

“We humans love stories, as we are constantly reinventing and recasting the narrative of our lives. Sometimes such stories are beautiful reminders of our fragile humanity and need for one another. Yet other stories can inspire misguided, bloody crusades or family rifts based on “recovered memories” of abuse that never occurred.”

Mark Pendergrast (2004, June 13). Books: A cerebral study of human brain’s wonders, (Review: *An Alchemy of Mind: Marvel and Mystery of the Brain* by Diane Ackerman). *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, p. 4M.

“If I simply refrain from making a judgment in cases where I do not perceive the truth with sufficient clarity and distinctness, then it is clear that I am behaving correctly and avoiding error. But if in such cases I either affirm or deny, then I am not using my free will correctly. If I go for the alternative which is false, then obviously I shall be in error; if I take the other side, then it is by pure chance that I arrive at the truth, and I shall still be at fault since it is clear by the natural light that the perception of the intellect should always precede the determination of the will.”

(Descartes, *Meditations*, AT 11: 59-60).

### Illinois-Wisconsin FMS Society Conference

Sunday, October 3, 2004, 1-5 pm  
Falk Pavilion, 2013 Rawson Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI

A representative of the Wisconsin Innocence Project will speak on the topic:

#### “Wrongful Prosecutions:

How they come about, how they are sustained and how the Patriot Act contributes to them.”

Also –

- A parent panel:  
“Waltzing with the Elephant”– various viewpoints and strategies for dealing with your children
- Elizabeth Gale, a retractor will answer questions
- Round tables

\$20 per person including a box supper at the conclusion of the conference.

For more information, contact:  
Bill Lanz at 815-724-6473  
([welgal@aol.com](mailto:welgal@aol.com))

Episodic memory is vulnerable to distortion. While memory can recall concrete facts even if they are long forgotten, thoughts and images can also be generated without any actual sensory input. This means memory can create a fictional event so precise it merges indistinguishably with reality. Psychologists Marcia Johnson, Beth Loftus, Roddy Roediger, Kathleen McDermott have demonstrated that perfectly healthy, intelligent people sometimes remember events that never happened, or remember events as real even if these events were only imagined earlier.

Endel Tulving

Jaffe, E. (2004). Memory and cultural evolution. (Description of the 16th Annual APS Convention keynote address given by Endel Tulving).

*Observer*, 17(8), 9-1.

### FMS Stories Wanted

Seeking FMS-related nonfiction accounts by survivors of False Memory Syndrome for collection of work to be published by DEL SOL PRESS. We define “survivors” as patients recovering from therapeutic FMS/MPD abuse. We include relatives who have not retracted but admit harm. Contact Mary O’Neal:

[fmsdialogue@mail.com](mailto:fmsdialogue@mail.com)

### HUNGRY FOR MONSTERS

When 15-year-old Nicole Althaus told a teacher that her father was molesting her, the quiet affluent Pittsburgh suburb of Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, was turned inside out. Nicole’s father, Rick, was arrested and charged with sexually abusing Nicole amidst bizarre satanic rituals. With the support of her favorite teacher, police, therapists, social workers, and officers of the court, all of whom believed her stories, Nicole began to embellish her initial accusations. As she recovered more memories of wild orgies, sacrificed babies, and murder, more people were arrested, including her mother and a pair of strangers.

A year later, all charges were dropped, and Nicole admitted that her accusations were false. After Nicole and her parents reconciled, they sued the authorities. This time, Nicole claimed she was the victim of abuse perpetrated by the very people who had supported her allegations against her parents.

#### Ordering Information

The introductory VHS price is \$195.00 to universities/libraries/ institutions and \$39.00 to individuals for home use. Add \$5.00 for shipping.

George Csicsery  
P.O. Box 22833,

Oakland, CA 94609-9284.

Fax 510-429-9273.

Email: [geosci@compuserve.com](mailto:geosci@compuserve.com)

There will be a screening of this film in **Pittsburgh on Tuesday November 9, 2004**. Call the FMSF office in October for time and location.

## Web Sites of Interest

[comp.uark.edu/~lampinen/read.html](http://comp.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/)  
Locate books about FMS  
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

[www.nasw.org/users/markp](http://www.nasw.org/users/markp)  
Excerpts from *Victims of Memory*

<http://www.rickross.com/groups/fsm.html>  
Ross Institute

[www.hopkinsmedicine.org/jhhpsychiatry/  
perspec1.htm](http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/jhhpsychiatry/perspec1.htm)  
Perspectives for Psychiatry  
by Paul McHugh

[www.enigma.se/info/FFI.htm](http://www.enigma.se/info/FFI.htm)  
FMS in Scandanavia - Janet Hagbom

[www.ncrj.org/](http://www.ncrj.org/)  
National Center for Reason & Justice

[http://www.undergroundbride.com/lying  
spirits.html](http://www.undergroundbride.com/lying_spirits.html)

Skeptical Information on Theophostic Counseling

[http://home.wanadoo.nl/  
/traumaversterking](http://home.wanadoo.nl/traumaversterking)

English language web site of Dutch retractor.

## Legal Web Sites 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)
- [www.abuse-excuse.com](http://www.abuse-excuse.com)

*Victims of Memory: Sex Abuse  
Accusations and Shattered Lives, 2 ed*  
by Mark Pendergrast.  
Upper Access Books.

“An impressive display of scholarship...a comprehensive treatment of the recovered-memories controversy.... Pendergrast offers a broader portrayal of the social and cultural contexts of the recovered-memories phenomenon [than other books on the subject]. His treatment is also distinguished by some welcome historical perspective.... Pendergrast demonstrates a laudable ability to lay out all sides of the argument.... [He] renders a sympathetic portrayal of recovery therapists as well-intentioned but misinformed players in a drama that has veered out of control.”

Daniel L. Schacter,  
*Scientific American*

**To order: 800-310-8320 or  
[www.upperaccess.com/books.htm](http://www.upperaccess.com/books.htm)  
#226v2**

## Remembering Trauma

by Richard McNally  
Harvard University Press  
The most comprehensive review of  
research about trauma and memory

**Highly recommended**

## Science and Pseudoscience in Clinical Psychology

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

**Highly recommended**

12th International Conference of the  
National Child Abuse  
Defense & Resource Center  
**CHILD ABUSE ALLEGATIONS**  
**Separating Fact from Fiction**  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
October 14-16, 2004

Conference for attorneys, investigators,  
and other concerned professionals who  
deal with child abuse cases.

## Conference Faculty

*Attorneys:* Bruce Lyons, J.D.; Gail  
Benson, J.D.; Steve Glassroth, J.D.;  
Mary Lynn Belsher, J.D.

*Mental Health Experts:* Elizabeth  
Loftus, Ph.D.; Richard Ofshe, Ph.D.;  
Debra Poole, Ph.D.; Phillip Esplin,  
Ed.D.; Melvin Guyer, Ph.D., J.D.;  
Margaret-Ellen Pipe, Ph.D.

*Private Investigation:* Gary Ermoian.

*Biomechanics:* Faris Bandak, Ph.D.  
*Medical Experts:* Steven Guetin, M.D.;  
John Plunkett, M.D.; Ronald Uscinski,  
M.D.; Anthony Shaw, M.D.; Piero  
Rinaldo, M.D., Ph.D.

*Forensic Testing:* Riger Bolhouse;  
Michael Sinke.

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## The Rutherford Family Speaks to FMS Families

The video made by the Rutherford  
family is *the* most popular video of  
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Rutherford's comments about what her  
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ALABAMA  
See Georgia

ALASKA  
Kathleen 907-333-5248

ARIZONA  
Phoenix  
Pat 480-396-9420

ARKANSAS  
Little Rock  
Al & Lela 870-363-4368

CALIFORNIA  
Sacramento  
Joanne & Gerald 916-933-3655  
Jocelyn 530-873-0919  
San Francisco & North Bay  
Charles 415-984-6626 (am);  
415-435-9618 (pm)  
San Francisco & South Bay  
Eric 408-738-0469  
East Bay Area  
Judy 925-952-4853  
Central Coast  
Carole 805-967-8058  
Palm Desert  
Eileen and Jerry 909-659-9636  
Central Orange County  
Chris & Alan 949-733-2925  
Covina Area  
Floyd & Libby 626-330-2321  
San Diego Area  
Dee 760-439-4630

COLORADO  
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 - Quarterly (Apr., Jul., Oct., Jan.  
- last Sat. of month) @ 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)

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

NEW YORK  
Manhattan  
Michael 212-481-6655  
Westchester, Rockland, etc.  
Barbara 914-761-3627  
Upstate/Albany Area  
Elaine 518-399-5749

NORTH CAROLINA  
Susan 704-538-7202

OHIO  
Cleveland  
Bob & Carole 440-356-4544

OKLAHOMA  
Oklahoma City  
Dee 405-942-0531 or  
Tulsa  
Jim 918-582-7363

OREGON  
Portland area  
Kathy 503-655-1587

PENNSYLVANIA  
Harrisburg  
Paul & Betty 717-691-7660  
Pittsburgh  
Rick & Renee 412-563-5509  
Montrose  
John 570-278-2040  
Wayne (includes S. NJ)

Jim & Jo 610-783-0396

TENNESSEE  
Nashville  
Kate 615-665-1160

TEXAS  
Houston  
Jo or Beverly 713-464-8970  
El Paso  
Mary Lou 915-595-3945

UTAH  
Keith 801-467-0669

VERMONT  
Mark 802-872-0847

VIRGINIA  
Sue 703-273-2343

WASHINGTON  
See Oregon

WISCONSIN  
Katie & Leo 414-476-0285 or  
Susanne & John 608-427-3686

WYOMING  
Alan & Lorinda 307-322-4170

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Vancouver & Mainland  
Lloyd 250-741-8941  
Victoria & Vancouver Island  
John 250-721-3219

MANITOBA CANADA  
Roma 204-275-5723

ONTARIO, CANADA  
London  
Adriaan 519-471-6338  
Ottawa  
Eileen 613-836-3294  
Warkworth  
Ethel 705-924-2546  
Burlington  
Ken & Marina 905-637-6030  
Waubaushe  
Paula 705-543-0318

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NETHERLANDS  
Task Force FMS of Werkgroep Fictieve  
Herinneringen  
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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 NOV/DEC  
Newsletter is October 15. Meeting  
notices MUST be in writing and  
should be sent no later than two  
months before meeting.

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