



Dear Friends,

It's been a hot summer in many ways. The appointment of FMSF Advisor Paul McHugh, M.D. to a Catholic Church panel related to clergy abuse generated lots of heat. His appointment was considered by some to be controversial because of his stand on recovered memories and his role with the Foundation. The function of the bishops' panel, however, is to ensure that there is a change in the way in which the church deals with sexual abuse by priests, not to ascertain the merits of individual cases. For some, however, the notion that a person can be in total support both of preventing child abuse and punishing offenders while at the same time be in total support of preventing false accusations seems a difficult concept.

Apparently we added to the heat. In September a conference on family violence will be held in San Diego with a multitude of impressive federal and state government agencies as sponsors and collaborators.<sup>(1)</sup> Surely everyone is against "family violence," and it is a topic to support. However, included in the preconference workshops were two sessions on "ritual abuse." Several of the people giving the workshops have, in the past, expressed belief in the existence of an intergenerational satanic conspiracy.

Where are we now as a nation in terms of belief in ritual abuse?<sup>(2)</sup> There have been studies published by the FBI (Lanning, 1992), National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect (Goodman et al. 1994), British Government (La Fontaine, 1994) and others, all with the same conclusion: no credible evidence for organized satanic cults. By 2002, most of the people imprisoned for "satanic" crimes in the early 90s have been released. Indeed, San Diego was the site of one of the most notorious cases, the trial of Dale Akiki.

My concern was that these preconference workshops represented outdated and discredited information that could reignite the zeal for belief in satanic conspiracies. In addition, and perhaps this is unfair, I was also concerned because one of the conference hosts was the very same institute in which the highly suggestive interviews of the McMartin children took place.

We wrote to the conference sponsors and collaborators

of our concern<sup>(3)</sup> and included an article by Kenneth Lanning. Replies to our letter show a range of belief on the subject. One group was disturbed and told us they were unaware of the presence of the workshops. The Attorney General of California noted that his office's "participation in this conference should not be interpreted as an endorsement of any panelist's point of view," and "As the conference is next month, there is nothing that I can do to 'correct' this situation."

A representative for the National Board of Certified Counselors was clearly upset with us and said that the existence of abuse of children by cults was beyond dispute "since Janet Reno cited ritual and sexual abuse of children as the primary reason for the action taken... in Waco." The Director of the Centers for Disease Control wrote that "the CDC views ritualized child abuse as an area in need of systematic empirical research and evaluation to clarify unresolved issues relative to definitions, measurement, and methods of assessment."<sup>(4)</sup> She also said that the CDC does not have an official position on ritual child abuse" and she noted that the sessions of concern were preconference workshops and that the CDC "does not sponsor or endorse these workshops."

The primary organizers of the conference sent out a letter to all sponsors and collaborators saying that the FMSF was a "fringe advocacy organization" and "mostly composed of those accused of abusing their own children." They wrongly interpreted my letter as "an organized effort

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*The next issue will be NOVEMBER/DECEMBER*

to shut down our conference by urging co-sponsors, collaborators, and others to withdraw support and not to attend."

It seems that we were naive to think that the topic of ritual abuse had been resolved. Let us hope that the general climate is such that we don't need to fear a return of the hysteria about ritual abuse and recovered memories of the early 1990s. Indeed, we can do more than hope; we can ensure it through our collective efforts. After all, we are still wiping up the mess from that period in which families were destroyed and some people unjustly imprisoned. In this issue there are articles about two cases in which people have received significant amounts of money for the false accusations against them. The Lillie/Reed case (p. 3) is particularly revealing for the role played by hysteria. It is also revealing for what it shows about how an accusation of sexual abuse lives on even if a person is exonerated in court.

The legal cases have been the playing field on which the balance between prosecuting wrongdoers and protecting people from false charges has been tested. This month we report on a retractor case in which the defense prevailed and also a case in New Jersey in which an unusual attempt to bypass the statute of limitations failed. (p. 9) In a recent paper, Elizabeth Loftus wrote eloquently of this balance:

"We're a nation that developed a legal system based first and foremost on due process. Of course we believe that it is important to punish evildoers, but we also have to balance that with the need to protect the innocent. If we ever lost that core element of our justice system, we will lose something that will ultimately cause us a grief far greater than we have ever known." [5]

Offsetting the heat of this summer are the cool and careful scientific studies about the long-term effects of abuse and about memory that continue to appear. There are two important ones mentioned on page 4. As Elizabeth Loftus recently noted "If there was anything good that came out of this decade of vitriolic controversy, it was a body of scientific research on memory that could leave a lasting positive contribution, at least in terms of its ability to help our understanding of the malleable nature of our memories."<sup>15)</sup>

The FMS Foundation is now working for another good to come from the family tragedies of the past decade: a far greater understanding of the processes of family reconciliation and the roles that mental health professionals or others might play in those processes. The conference in October will be a forum for sharing what we have learned so far and for determining where we need to go from here.

We look forward to seeing many of you there.

*Pamela*

1. 7th International Conference on Family Violence: Working Together to End Abuse. September 25-28, 2002; Hosts: Family Violence & Sexual Assault Institute, San Diego; Children's Institute International, Los Angeles; California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University.

2 A little history: Much of the spread of the belief in "satanic ritual abuse" can be traced to conferences organized by the International Society for the Study of Multiple Personality and Dissociation (ISSMP&D). After Ken Lanning's 1992 report, skeptical of the existence of this phenomenon, the term "satanic" was dropped in conference programs. Articles and talks have since referred to "ritual abuse." But the belief in SRA did not die and continues to be found in personal testimonials and in therapists reports of their patients. There are many places on the web where the beliefs in intergenerational satanic abuse cults and conspiracies are expressed.

In 1994, after the genesis of multiple personality was called in to question, the ISSMP&D dropped the "multiple personality" part of its name and became the ISSD. But belief in independent alters abounds and can be found almost daily in news articles, especially in legal defenses. In like manor, the term "repression" was dropped when it became clear that there was no scientific evidence for it. The term "dissociation" replaced it, but the notion has remained essentially the same.

3. Letter sent from FMSF

Dear Organization Director:

The \_\_Organization is listed as a Co-Sponsor of the 7th International Conference on Family Violence to be held in San Diego in September 2002. Everyone is against family violence.

Unfortunately, this program includes two sessions on Ritual Abuse (SRA). (1) There is absolutely no evidence for any organized ritual abuse conspiracy as these sessions state and their presence undermines the credibility of the conference. There is tremendous evidence of the damage that has been caused to individuals and families because of belief in a non-existent satanic ritual abuse conspiracy. Patients have died. Families and reputations have been destroyed. Enclosed is a copy of the two workshop descriptions. Also enclosed is a copy of a paper by FBI Investigator Ken Lanning about the lack of evidence for a satanic ritual abuse conspiracy. He notes:

"Because of the highly emotional and religious nature of this topic, there is a greater possibility that dissemination of information will result in a kind of self-fulfilling prophecy." And "Until hard evidence is obtained and corroborated, the public should not be frightened into believing that babies are being bred and eaten, that 50,000 missing children are being murdered in human sacrifices, or that Satanists are taking over America's day care centers." Lanning, "Ritual Abuse: A Law Enforcement View or Perspective" *Child Abuse and Neglect* Vol 15, pp 171-173, 1991.

I trust that the \_\_Organization can help to correct this unfortunate situation. Yours very truly

4. (This could be applied also to alien abduction.)

5. Loftus, Elizabeth .F. (2002) Memory Faults and Fixes. *Issues in Science and Technology* (Magazine of the National Academies of Science) Vol 18 (4) Summer) p 41-50.

Goodman, Gail S. et al "Characteristics and Sources of Allegations of Ritualistic Child Abuse. Washington, DC: National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect, 1994.

LaFontain, J.S. *The Extent and Nature of Organized and Ritual Abuse*. London: HMSO, 1994.

Lanning, Kenneth V. *Investigators Guide to Allegations of "Ritual" Child Abuse*, Jan. 1992, FBI Academy, Quantico, VA 22135.

#### special thanks

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## Nursery Teachers Regain Reputations in England

(A description of this case can be found at [www.richardwebster.net/cleared.html](http://www.richardwebster.net/cleared.html))

On July 30, after a 72-day trial, two British former nursery school workers were awarded \$310,000 (the maximum legal award) each in their libel suit against Newcastle City Council and the authors of a damaging report about them.

The case began in 1993 when Dawn Reed, now 31, and Christopher Lillie, now 37, were accused of abusing dozens of children at the Shieldfield nursery school in Newcastle. The case fell apart because of a lack of credible evidence and the two teachers were cleared of the accusations in criminal court the next year. Not long after, however, the Newcastle City Council established a review committee including a psychologist and three social workers to examine sexual abuse in the school. The Newcastle City Council published the completed report in 1998.

Reed and Lillie were not notified about the report, were not notified of the charges, and were not given any opportunity to respond. They were not warned by the police who had told the authors of the report that there were people in Newcastle "who are going to kill these people." Reed and Lillie learned about the report from front page sensational headlines. For example, the *Sun* appealed to its readers to "Help us find these fiends. Do you know where perverts Lillie and Reed are now? Phone us."

Reed and Lillie, fearing for their lives, went into hiding. No one questioned the Newcastle report until journalist Bob Woffinden and writer Richard Webster found Reed and Lillie and helped the teachers find lawyers. Parents and others connected to the school had come to revile Reed and Lillie because of the original false charges.

"Now demonized as members of a

sinister pedophile ring who abused children behind black doors, Reed and Lillie became the evil protagonists in a mythology whose grip became stronger as it grew more fantastic, commanding belief not only from parents but from social workers, local council members, pediatricians and therapists. The myth was so powerful it survived the criminal case. People kept saying and writing terrible things about them. Their only course of action was to sue for libel." (Guardian July 31)

Reed stated that they had been "branded with what is probably the worst that anyone could be branded with — to be labeled as a pedophile."

The trial began on January 11, 2002 and was the longest, most expensive and most important libel case ever fought in the British courts on a no-win, no-fee basis.

Judge Justice Eady commented: "With the possible exception of murder, it is difficult to think of any charge more calculated to lead to the revulsion and condemnation of a person's fellow citizens than that of the systematic and sadistic abuse of children."

The main focus of the trial was the question of whether the review team had concealed and misrepresented evidence that pointed to the innocence of Reed and Lillie. The reputations of two top sex abuse experts are in tatters. The Judge was highly critical of Dr. Richard Barker who was the leader of the inquiry team saying the evidence was "rambling and defensive." He noted: "The issue of whether any given individual has raped or assaulted a small child—or, for that matter, upwards of 60 small children — is not a matter of impression, theory opinion or speculation. It should be a question of fact." And during cross examination, Dr. Lazaro, a consultant pediatrician and senior lecturer who had examined more than 50 children, admitted that her reports to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board had been exaggerated and overstated. Her role as an

advocate for children's compensations claims compromised her professional independence and integrity.

Maggie Bruck, Ph.D., co-author of "Jeopardy in the Courtroom" was one of the experts for Reed and Lillie.

Professor William Friedrich of the Mayo Clinic, Minnesota was the main expert witness for the review team. He wrote in his report that he had reviewed "the documents and videotapes" and he believed that Lillie and Reed had sexually abused the 28 children cited in the libel trial. However, it later emerged that he had not seen any of the video interviews or even the transcripts when he wrote that report.

Lillie and Reed will try to get on with their lives. A mother of one of the children at the school said "this decision has shattered us," The families seeking compensation from the council for their children may now find the judge's dismissal of the allegations working against them.

Rozenberg, J. "Nurses cleared of child abuse win libel battle." *Daily Telegraph* (London) July 31, 2002.

Dyer, C. "I'm angry for the children, for us, for a lost nine years" *Guardian*, July 31, 2002, page 1.

*Evening Chronicle* "Review Team Slammed by Judge" August 1, 2002.

The complete Lillie Reed report is available at:

[http://www.courtservice.gov.uk/judgments/judg\\_frame.htm?OpenDocument](http://www.courtservice.gov.uk/judgments/judg_frame.htm?OpenDocument). Click on : 30/07/2002 Queens CHRISTOPHER LILLIE & DAWN REED Bench Division



"It isn't so much that I feel that some people, despite how I have been vindicated, will never quite trust me around children. It is that I can never, ever afford to be put in that situation again: to go through the agony of not being believed, being maligned. I almost ended my life over this: no one has the strength to go through it twice."

Dawn Reed

Craig, O. "They bayed for our blood..." *Sunday Telegraph* (London) Aug 4, '02.

## Policeman Awarded \$1.3 Million

Ten years ago, John Popowich, a Saskatoon police corporal, was convicted of child abuse that supposedly occurred as part of a satanic ritual in a day care center in Martensville, Saskatchewan. The case, referred to at the time as the Scandal of the Century, was conducted under a press blackout. The charges later fell apart after a Royal Canadian Mounted Police task force took over the investigation and concluded that the original investigation had been motivated by "emotional hysteria." A judge declared Popowich innocent in 1993 after three of the accusing children could not pick him out of a lineup. That was after the reputations and the lives of eight others convicted in the case were ruined.

Popowich sued the prosecutors and the government for malicious prosecution, violation of his charter rights, and conspiracy and negligence. The case was in the court most of the 1990s as the government sought to have the case dismissed. Most of those who were wrongfully convicted in this case have also brought lawsuits.

"Policeman gets \$1.3 million in Martensville Settlement," CBC News Online, June 18, 2002. See *FMSF Newsletter* Vol 2 (6), June 1993.

## Childhood Victimization and Pain in Adulthood: A Prospective Investigation

Raphael, K.G., Widom, C.S. & Lange, G.  
*Pain* Vol 92 (1-2) May 2001, 283-293

Comments by Adriaan Mak

This study questions the common assumption that child abuse causes unexplained pain in adulthood.

Since the mid eighties many studies, based on reports from survivors, claimed links between (1) childhood physical / sexual abuse or neglect and (2) all manner of mental and physical problems, including an inability to remember the abuse, all appearing decades later at mid-life. Indeed many people entered therapy to seek help in

dealing with many mid-life problems prior to recovering allegedly hidden memories of childhood trauma.

While no one should doubt that abuse indeed harms children, there is more than considerable doubt about the claims of adult victims who, in the absence of any corroboration at mid-life, report not only to have endured years of sexual abuse during childhood, but who also for decades on end had no memories of the abuses. Many of the studies based on such retrospective self-reporting of abuse perpetuate dangerous heresies. Therapists on the basis of these studies felt even more encouraged to believe that their clients' symptoms indicated childhood trauma as the cause.

Raphael, Widom and Lange looked at one specific complaint: reports of unexplained pain, by many believed to be of psychological origin and most likely an indicator of childhood abuse. Rather than relying on retrospective self-reporting, Raphael et al. undertook a much more difficult task. They first located information from 676 well-documented cases of early childhood victimization occurring between 1967 and 1971, matching these with a control group of 520 individuals. They then did a follow-up from 1989 to 1995 to see whether indeed the victims of childhood abuse reported in significantly larger numbers complaints of medically unexplained or psychogenic pain.

For those who have studied the findings of Hudson and Pope (1992, 1993, 1994, 1995) who examined possible links between childhood sexual abuse and adult symptoms of bulimia nervosa, as well as fibromyalgia, and found that none existed, the results of the Raphael et al. study should not be a surprise. The latter conclude:

"Our prospective results using court documented cases of childhood sexual and physical abuse and neglect do not provide support for . . . a relationship between early

## childhood victimization and pain symptoms assessed in young adults."

Pope HG Jr, Hudson JI. Is childhood sexual abuse a risk factor for bulimia nervosa? *Am J Psychiatry* 1993; 150:357-358.

Hudson JI, Pope HG Jr. Does childhood sexual abuse cause fibromyalgia?

*Arthritis Rheum* 1995;38:161-163.

Rimsza, M.E., Berg, R.A. and Locke, C., 1988. Sexual abuse: somatic and emotional reactions. *Child Abuse Negl* 12, pp. 201-208.

## Memory Distortion in People Reporting Abduction by Aliens

Clancy, S.A., McNally, R., Schacter, D.L., Lenzenweger, M.F., Pitman, R.  
*Journal of Abnormal Psychology* Vol 111(3) August 2002, p 455-461

In a previous study, Clancy et al. (2000) found that people reporting recovered memories of childhood sexual abuse were more prone to show memory distortion than people who always remembered their abuse or than control subjects. However, the researchers could not be sure whether the recovered memories were false or genuine, and thus could not tell if memory distortions were a result of cognitive impairment related to abuse or a function of cognitive characteristics making them susceptible to developing false memories. Because alien abduction is unlikely to have occurred, this study diminishes the problem.

In this study the authors measured false recall and false recognition of semantically associated words with the Roediger and McDermott (1995) paradigm in people who reported recovering memories of alien abduction, people who believed they had been abducted and people who denied abduction. They found that people reporting recovered and repressed memories of alien abduction were more prone than controls to show false recall and recognition. Hypnotic suggestibility, depressive symptoms and schizotypic features were significant predictors of false recall and false recognition.

### Review of *The Memory Room*

Mary Rakow (Counterpoint Press, 2002).  
Mark Pendergrast, Reviewer

This book has no redeeming qualities. Many reviewers have praised *The Memory Room*, a novel by Mary Rakow, for its compelling, poetic style. The *Los Angeles Weekly*, for instance, called the book “an idiosyncratic, often beautiful tour de force.” I didn’t even like the overwritten, pretentious writing style. Nor were there any fully developed characters, including Barbara, the self-absorbed central character. Her parents, in particular, are unbelievable cardboard stereotypes of evil.

But the main problem with the novel is its message. Yes, I know this is a work of fiction, but unfortunately sometimes people believe in the plots and messages of novels more than they do nonfiction. And *The Memory Room* is a classic if unintended presentation of how recovered memory therapy can ruin someone’s life. The novel rests on the idea that memories of horrendous traumatic events can be “repressed” or “dissociated,” and that people can then recall them years later as adults — a concept that is contrary to the science of memory or common sense.

A typical sample of the writing style from page 15:

But now it comes into this room!

*“Why aren’t you dressed?”*

*She doesn’t tie my sash.*

Bright print of the chintz.

The breeze that tries to lift it from the sill.

I loosen the hairs of the bow. Fold the metal stand.

Slam the door. Sit on the stairs.

Outside, the oblivious moon.

*She tosses my head between her palms.*

*Back and forth. Back and forth.*

*“I’m making you pretty for Daddy.”*

*“Hold still!”*

You get the idea. Apparently she is flashing back here. It is ominous, and eventually (after many painfully dull foreshadowing passages like this one) Rakow delivers with the really gross stuff.

In *The Memory Room*, Barbara’s life falls apart as she supposedly remembers how her mother held her down while her father stuck hot dental tools into her vagina when she was four years old. With her unnamed but heroic therapist’s help and support in the “memory room” that gives the book its title, Barbara comes to believe that she recalled being burned by her mother on a stovetop when she was a preverbal toddler. She also recovers memories of her father raping her 7-year-old sister Cheryl and forcing fellatio on her younger brother Georgie and burying her, Barbara, in a hole under the house, allowing her to breathe through straws. She only remembers all of this as an adult. Not only did Barbara repress the memory of all these horrors, but so did her father! He apparently doesn’t remember any of it either.

This sort of Sybil-wannabe book would not have been surprising if it had been published ten years ago, but it is alarming that a reputable publisher known for good fiction has come out with it in 2002—and that most reviews in mainstream media have been positive. Few reviewers seem to blink an eye at the absurd premise of the book.

It doesn’t seem to disturb the reviewers that this is not how memory works, and that therapists who believe in such massive repression are dangerous. People do not usually forget years of traumatic events, other than through organic brain injury — they remember them all too well. “It must be that infants come equipped with a code,” Rakow’s heroine observes on page

413. “Locked in the chromosomes.... Ready to record the marks of a predator. Timeless. Infallible.” This is Rakow’s version of so-called “body memories,” a pseudoscientific concept that assumes that people can recall events from the time of infantile amnesia, prior to the age of three, through bodily sensations. On the contrary, memories are not held “infallibly” in one’s mind or body from any age. Memory is subject to reconstruction and distortion, particularly in suggestive therapy (and especially under hypnosis). We do not remember everything that ever happened to us.

It is difficult for me to believe that this endorsement of harmful pseudoscience was published now that recovered memory therapy has been thoroughly debunked. The only realistic thing about the book is how this kind of therapy harms instead of heals. Barbara becomes an agoraphobic who destroys her beloved cello, cuts off all her hair, and cannot work. I am surprised she didn’t begin to cut herself, which is often a consequence of such therapy. Instead, the book has a purportedly triumphant ending, when Barbara actually makes herself get on a train to go to see an art exhibit in Philadelphia. She asks her therapist if she can take an object from his office with her to make her feel safe. “He holds out the small round rock from the corner of the end table...It warms quickly in my hand.” After wading through over 500 pages of this dreadful narrative, I found the ending anti-climactic, to say the least. It is sad that Barbara has become so paranoid and tentative that, like a child, she clutches her therapist’s rock in order to brave boarding a train.

I am afraid that it is no accident that Mary Rakow holds a master’s degree from Harvard Divinity School and that her main character is a theological student. It appears that many well-meaning liberal theologians are as gullible about recovered memories as

those who believe that Jesus is revealing their memories directly to them through Theophostic counseling. It is extremely disturbing to me that people who truly believe in a loving God would embrace this harmful therapy and its belief system.

Mark Pendergrast is the author of *Victims of Memory* and other books. He can be reached at markp@nasw.org.



### **Ostracism: The Power of Silence**

Kipling D. Williams  
Guilford, 2001

This book begins with the following observation: "Few events in life are more painful than feeling that others, especially those whom we admire and care about, want nothing to do with us. There may be no better way to communicate this impression than for others to treat you as though you are invisible—like you didn't exist." p.1

"Ostracism" was a method of temporary banishment without a trial used in ancient Greece. It is now generally used to mean exclusion from a group by common consent. Ostracism is a powerful tool for social influence. Giving another person the "silent treatment" or giving a child "time out" are forms of ostracism.

Although this is a scholarly book, Williams' engaging style ensures that the material is accessible to a wide audience. He begins by developing a model in which ostracism can be examined and its consequences on individuals and groups can be studied. He presents the results of many experiments that examine the effects of ostracism both in the short and long terms. Williams notes: "Within minutes, ostracism chips away at our senses of belonging, control, self-esteem, and meaningful existence. As a consequence, we grasp for opportunities to rebuild what ostracism removed. If we fail to do so, repeated exposure to ostracism may leave us defenseless. We may accept our fate; we may feel

alienated and marginalized, helpless, depressed and worthy of no better treatment." p. 258

The author notes that the book just scratches the surface of what is a very common behavior. Among the topics he would like to examine is disowning a child.

"Another topic we hope to examine is the phenomenon of being disowned or disinherited. How do people react after their parents say to them, 'You are no longer my child' or 'You are not a member of our family?' Only a few articles have been written on this potentially devastating form of ostracism, so we hope to conduct structured interviews with both targets and sources.....Being disowned, perhaps more than any other form of ostracism, deprives individuals of their strongest, most permanent bonds, and the roots to which their existence is tied."

The refusal of most of the FMS accusers to speak to those they accused or to any people who refused to support them can be viewed as a form of ostracism. FMS families would likely suggest that being ostracized by one's child is as devastating as being disowned.



### **Book About Day-Care Case Wins Top New Zealand Award**

The prestigious New Zealand Montana Medal for non-fiction has been awarded to Lynley Hood, for *A City Possessed: The Christchurch Civic Creche Case*. It was also the winner of the Reader's Choice Award.

The 600-page book investigates the controversial Christchurch Civic Creche (day-care) case, which led to the jailing of Peter Ellis in 1993 on child abuse charges. Hood shows how such a case could happen and analyzes the social and legal processes leading to the Ellis conviction. The book has far-reaching implications and be of value to any person interested in under-

standing the day-care and sexual abuse hysteria in any country.

This book may be purchased from Pacific Island Books: <http://pacificisland-books.com/nzcultsoc.htm#city>  
1-888-49-BOOKS (in the USA)

*City Possessed: The Christchurch Civic Creche Case* By Lynley Hood  
Longacre Press  
ISBN 18 77 13 56 23

*The Dominion Post*, Wellington, New Zealand.,  
Monday, July 22 2002., P A9.  
See *FMSF Newsletter* Vol 11 (1), Jan/Feb '02.



### **FMSF Advisors Included in List of 99 Most Eminent Psychologists of the 20th Century**

A new study by S. J. Haggbloom et al. appearing in the *Review of General Psychology* Vol 6 (2) ranks the eminent psychologists of the 20th Century. The rankings were based on three variables: journal citation, introductory psychology textbook citation and survey response. Surveys were sent to 1,725 members of the American Psychological Society, asking them to list the top psychologists of the century, and researchers also evaluated whether the psychologists were members of the National Academy of Sciences, elected as APA president or had received the APA Distinguished Scientific Contributions Award.

Haggbloom observed that "there are some notable names not on the list." The reason the list has 99 rather than 100 is so that the 100th spot might be filled by the "many great psychologists that someone could make a compelling case to include."

The three FMSF Advisors on the list are Ernest R. Hilgard, (29)(deceased), Ulric Neisser, (32) and Elizabeth F. Loftus, (58). Elizabeth Loftus is the highest ranking woman on the list.

The list of 99 psychologists most often cited in text books includes five Advisors: Elizabeth Loftus, Ernest Hilgard, Martin Orne (deceased), John Kihlstrom and Aaron Beck.





## My Deepest Appreciation

Allen Feld

The magnitude of my feeling and admiration for various people and groups involved with the Foundation has no doubt seeped into many of the writings that have been included in the Newsletter. Although this essay will focus on False Memory Syndrome Foundation parents, my expressions of appreciation would be incomplete without mentioning other groups that were important to me:

- A highly effective staff, who made the work environment comfortable and inviting.

- The many wonderful scientists and therapists, who helped falsely accused families and were so instrumental in helping the Foundation aspire to its goals.

- That brave group of retractors, who had the courage to admit they were in error when they accused parents of abuse. Their parents' happiness will be forever etched in my mind. So too is the recognition that their retractions gave hope to many and helped create public recognition that false memories were a societal problem.

- The small number of families, along with several professionals, who had the vision that an organization such as FMSF was needed. Their vitality and commitment were so complete and sincere that, in addition to the extensive time devoted, they made personal resources available to develop a place where falsely accused families could turn. Sadly, in droves did they turn to the Foundation!

Because of the many families who were willing to publicly share their stories, the public and media came to understand false memories, the reconstructive nature of memory and the anguish produced by false accusations. So many of these parents, in spite of their devastation (or, perhaps in some cases, because of) came ready to help in their own communities. When we called people to help as volunteers with some necessary activity of the Foundation, the reply was virtually always YES. (In previous situations, I had grown accustomed to having to cajole or even beg people to help.) Yes,

they readily agreed to talk to other families; yes, they would serve as state or local contacts; yes, they would plan local meetings; yes, they would speak or get people to speak to the various media in their state. In so many ways, these and other efforts of members contributed to the changing nationwide attitude toward newly created "memories" by adults of child sexual abuse. The many families who called and became actively involved with the Foundation spawned the significant changes that transpired. It is impossible for me to catalogue the many individual and small group contributions parents made which helped to turn the corner on this false memory fiasco. It is to you I bow my head and express heartfelt thanks. I dedicate these reminiscences to you who made the important changes possible.

The large number of falsely accused families contributed to the growing public awareness of the reconstructive nature of memory and the slowly evolving societal recognition that repression was scientifically uncertain, and this quite possibly generated more research into false memories. As a result, the early courageous research pioneers who were willing to risk the possible ire from some of their "colleagues" have been joined by a small yet continually growing number of other researchers interested and involved in the study of false memories. In well-designed studies, this research has demonstrated the ease with which false memories can be created in a substantial number of people. For obvious ethical reasons, the false memories created were not similar to the possible trauma of sexual abuse. But neither was the effort by the researchers as intense, repetitive and prolonged as would be found in a therapeutic relationship. As a result, the relationship and the potential influence of a therapist in the creation of false memories could be expected to be significantly stronger and more important to the patient than the relationship and impact of a researcher or member of the research team to her/his subject.

The public awareness created by falsely accused families also may have contributed to the courts and juries being

more heedful in cases involving false memories. The resources and information made available to attorneys through the Foundation's efforts may have allowed for more effective representation in cases involving false memories. The Foundation's direct participation in several Amicus Briefs attempted to inform the courts of the scientific inadequacies of repression, the scientific mechanics of memory, the power of therapeutic suggestion and other areas important in representing those falsely accused. Again, families who called the Foundation, told their stories and worked in their communities were important to every falsely accused family member.

One of the attributes of so many FMSF families that continues to impress me is the demonstration of strength and resilience, a lesson for the helping professions and a model of courage. In spite of being accused of the vilest societal crime and the personal anguish that they were experiencing, families persevered, and in many cases fought back.

Far too many who read this know their journey to reconciliation is incomplete. Some report they don't anticipate that their family will reconcile. So this sad episode may fade away without what society would call a "happy" ending for many. A small number of parents state that it doesn't matter. Even if there is a retraction, they don't envision the family reuniting and feel that they don't need a retraction or reunification to have a fulfilling life. Again, these alternate paths and choices made about moving on might be other aspects from which professionals can learn.

The enormous appreciation that I feel for families is without qualification. Thank you for all you have done for other families. Thank you for helping to short-circuit the dangerous practice of therapist-induced false memories. One could only guess how many people might have been spared the pain that you endured. Thank you for the positive legacy about the basic strength of people that you have given to society. Thank you for making my time with FMSF such a positive, productive and rewarding experience.



## Program Schedule

All sessions in Glenbrook Ballroom unless otherwise indicated.

### Friday October 4

7:00- 9:00 Hospitality Suites hosted by  
Illinois-Wisconsin FMS Society

7:00-9:00 Registration

### Saturday October 5

7:30-8:30 Registration and coffee in Ballroom lobby

8:30-9:00 Welcome  
*Pamela Freyd, Ph.D.*  
Executive Director, FMS Foundation  
*Mary Shanley, Larry Koszewski, Ph.D.,*  
Presidents, Illinois/Wisconsin FMS Society

9:00-10:00 A Natural History of Reconciliation  
*Paul R. McHugh, M.D.*

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15-11:30 Different Paths to Reconciliation: Retractor Panel  
Moderator: *Janet M. Fetkewicz*

11:30-12:30 Reconciliation: A Social Psychiatric Perspective  
*Herzl R. Spiro, M.D., Ph.D.*

12:30-1:30 Lunch in the Atrium

1:30-2:15 Navigating the Road to Reconciliation  
*Harold I. Lief, M.D.*

2:15-3:30 How therapists can be part of the solution:  
Professional Panel  
Moderator: *Harold I. Lief, M.D.*  
Panel Members: *Terence W. Campbell, Ph.D.;*  
*Carol Marks, MFCC; Mary Kay Pribyl, Ph.D.*

3:30-4:00 Break

4:00-5:00 Round Tables

6:00-7:00 Reception – cash bar (Atrium)

7:00-9:00 Dinner in the Ballroom  
Special Acknowledgements:  
*Pamela Freyd, Ph.D.*  
Evening Hosts: *John and Audrey Wilson*

### Sunday October 6

9:00-10:00 Illusions of Memory and the  
Hazards of Case Studies  
*Elizabeth Loftus, Ph.D.*

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15-11:30 Working with Professional Organizations and  
Religious-Affiliated Counselors: Professional Panel  
Moderator: *Cas Kotowski, Ed.D.*  
Panel Members: *Gary Almy, M.D.; Carol*  
*North, M.D.; Paul Simpson, Ed.D.*

11:30-12:30 Third-party cases: An Alternative or  
Means to Reconciliation  
*William Smoler, J.D.*

12:30-12:45 Wrap-Up  
*Pamela Freyd, Ph.D.*

## Registration

Please return promptly and no later than September 1st.  
Capacity limited. First come first served.

Send with check made out to:  
**Illinois-Wisconsin FMS Society,**  
and mail to: **Illinois-Wisconsin FMS Society,**  
**P.O. Box 3332, Joliet, IL 60434.**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of persons attending: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$60 per person, includes lunch)

Yes, I (we) will stay for dinner

No. of persons: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$25 per person for optional dinner)

Indicate dinner entrée desired, by putting number of people  
wanting each entrée:

- Chicken Wellington  
 Broiled white fish w/ lemon dill sauce  
 London broil

Voluntary contribution to support conference:

\$50 Sponsor  \$100 or more Patron \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total check amount** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ROUND TABLE SELECTION:** Because we need an estimate of the  
relative interest in various round table topics, use the numbers of the  
**Round Tables**, listed below, that you are most likely to attend:

1st choice: \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd choice: \_\_\_\_\_

## Round Table Topics

1. The future of the FMS Foundation (*Pamela Freyd, Ph.D.*)
2. When siblings are caught in the middle (*Sibling*)
3. How to reach church counselors practicing RMT  
(*Paul Simpson, Ed.D. and Robert Lovell*)
4. The part parents play in retractions (*Retractor and Parent*)
5. Special concerns in welcoming retractors back to  
the family (*Family*)
6. Returnee Families: Living with Ambiguity
7. Mediation by professionals, families or friends
8. When only one parent has contact (*Family*)
9. Risks and Benefits of Going Public  
(*Larry Koszewski, Ph.D.*)
10. Legal Matters (*Ken Merlino, J.D.*)
11. Problems of recently accused families
12. Many forms of reconciliation (*Mark Pendergrast*)  
**Additional Round Table Topic Suggested by Readers**
13. Living with Possible Permanent Estrangement (*Paula Tyroler*)



## **Jury Finds Clinic and Doctors Were Not Negligent**

### **Daly v Monroe Clinic**

Cir. Ct, Green County, WI #98CV17

On July 31, 2002 after more than six weeks of trial, a Wisconsin jury of nine women and three men found that Monroe Clinic psychiatrists Wendell Bell and Rachel Long and psychologist Robert C. Beck had not been negligent in their treatment of Marilyn Daly.

Marilyn Daly, her husband and son had sought almost \$6 million for medical expenses, lost wages, and suffering. They claimed that the doctors at the clinic had implanted false memories during hypnosis and had misdiagnosed Mrs. Daly with multiple personalities. Mrs. Daly had gone to the Monroe Clinic in 1990 for a weight-loss program and had lost more than 100 pounds by 1991. Marilyn Daly was referred to Beck because she became overly distressed that she would gain the weight back. Mrs. Daly met psychologist Beck through the program in 1991 and began seeing him on an individual basis. Daly testified that Beck told her she needed to get into some past issues in her life to deal with her weight issues. She then began recovering memories of sexual abuse by neighbors, strangers and relatives.

According to testimony by Mr. Daly, a former teacher who is now Chair of the County Board, Beck told him that weight loss could trigger the mind to remember horrible childhood incidents.

Mrs. Daly grew progressively worse and psychiatrist Bell was brought in. Bell said that Marilyn Daly had multiple personalities. She was hospitalized in 1992. Defense attorneys pointed out that Mrs. Daly continued to see Beck for years despite her allegations that he made her worse.

By 1993, Marilyn Daly was not working, took no interest in parenting, and was suicidal. She was tormented by memories. Defense attorneys, however, showed a 10-minute tape of Mrs.

Daly giving a speech at a party for her husband in 1999. She appeared jovial, playful and seemingly lucid.

One of the jurors is described as saying that the jury relied on Reserve Judge Thomas H. Barland's "instruction that if there was any doubt about the plaintiffs' claims, they had to find against the plaintiffs." The usual standard in a civil trial is a preponderance of evidence.

Many experts were called during the trial. Among those for the plaintiffs was Paul McHugh, M.D. who expressed his opinion that there had never been an evaluation. He wondered why doctors did not stop and reexamine what was going on when the absurd memories of child murders arose. Herzl Spiro, M.D. testified that doctors had a responsibility to investigate alleged memories of ritualistic baby killings and a woman being murdered and to dispute them if they were unfounded. Instead the doctors appeared to tell Marilyn Daly that she should not feel guilty, advice that he said would tear a mind apart. Dr. Spiro refused to answer some questions put to him by the defense and was reprimanded by the judge.

William Grove, Ph.D. noted that *The Courage to Heal* was "filled with false and frightening information." He said that book encourages readers to believe they were sexually abused. "Many people's lives have been changed by reading a book," he said. "Try giving somebody the *Bible* and see what kind of difference it might make in their life." [1] Other experts for the plaintiffs were Dr. Bruce T. Adornato, Steven Heymsfield, M.D., and Steven Jay Lynn, Ph.D.

One of the standard of care experts for the defense was Richard Kluff, M.D. He stated that MPD is "an expression of an overwhelmed child" who has been exposed to severe trauma. [2] He said multiple personalities couldn't be created during therapy sessions. However, during cross-examina-

tion, Dr. Kluff admitted hypnosis could create a multiple-personality-like condition that would be hard to distinguish from the real thing. Some of the other defense experts were James Chu, M.D., Peter J. Clagnaz, M.D., Dr. Walter Davidson, and William Smith, Ph.D.

Attorneys for the Daly family were Pamela and William Smoler of Madison, WI. Attorneys for the defense were Jeremy Gill, Curtis Swanson, David McFarlane and Bradway Liddle - all of Madison, WI.

The plaintiffs intend to appeal the decision based on two grounds. The first entails the judge's decision denying them the right to call experts Richard Ofshe, Ph.D. and Elizabeth Loftus, Ph.D. to testify about what may cause false memories, since a defense expert was allowed to testify about this. The other area for appeal involves the way that questions were given to the jury relating to the fact that all the defendants agreed that they had failed to obtain informed consent from the patient.

Daily reports of the trial were written by Kareesa Wilson and appeared in *The Monroe Times*.

1. Wilson, K. *Monroe Times*, July 10, 2002
2. Wilson, K. *Monroe Times*, July 26, 2002



## **Court Rejects Claims of Decades Old Abuse in New Jersey**

**Smith, et al. V. McIntyre, et al.**

Docket No: ATL 004059-94

After a three week trial in April and May, 2002, the Atlantic County Superior Court of New Jersey ruled that the claims of brothers John Depman and Mark Depman, M.D. were barred by the statute of limitations.

The suit was originally filed for 38 plaintiffs in 1994 under racketeering laws. In 1995, the racketeering counts were dismissed.

Both plaintiffs claimed that they never forgot the alleged abuse, but that

they did not label these events as wrong or as sexual abuse as a result of their dissociative thinking following the trauma. The brothers claimed that they were unable to retrieve their memories properly and did not recognize that they had been harmed.

The court heard testimony from plaintiff expert Dr. Marylene Cloitre. The Court rejected Dr. Cloitre's testimony about memory retrieval, concluding that the plaintiffs' testimony that they remembered the abuse did not validate the claims of a dissociative reaction to the alleged abuse.

Attorneys for the plaintiffs were Edward Ross and Lewis Bornstein, while David Lentz, Christopher Gengaro, Joseph Kenney and William DeSantis represented the defendants.

"This case represented a slight change from the presentation by other plaintiffs of repressed memory. Here the plaintiffs acknowledged recollecting the events, but obtained expert opinions that they should be excused nevertheless because of the consequences of memory retrieval following a traumatic assault. However, the Court rejected this testimony since the plaintiffs acknowledged that they always recollected the events," stated Mr. Lentz.



#### Excellent Website

<http://comp.uark.edu/~lampinen/read.html>

#### THE LAMPINEN LAB FALSE MEMORY READING GROUP

There's a wealth of information on this site about the psychology of recovered/false memories. Many articles are summarized.

The Lampinen Lab is run by Dr. James Lampinen of the Psychology Department at the University of Arkansas. The Lab conducts research on false memories, eyewitness testimony and psychology and the law.

F R O M O U R

— R E A D E R S

#### Accountability

I have recently received information and printouts in regard to the 18th Annual Midwest Conference on Child Sexual Abuse. This Conference, which takes place October 7-10 in Madison, Wisconsin, is cosponsored by UW-Madison, Division of Continuing Studies and others. I attended this Conference in 1987, and it was the catalyst that threw me right into believing that what I was being told by my therapist, Dr. Olson, was fact and not imagination. There it was in black and white: pictures, films, and professionals teaching everyone there that your mind is a powerful instrument that can repress and then recover hidden trauma.

After reading through the conference literature, I became outraged that one of the main speakers is Laura Davis, the co-author of *The Courage to Heal*. I am outraged because Davis is still actively spreading her "views" on therapy and teaching future therapists and lay people that Recovered Memory Therapy is valid. I understand that she is now talking about reconciliation. But how can there be real reconciliation until there is acknowledgment of the damage done by the book *The Courage to Heal*? Many of the people who have been affected by this book, including me, cannot believe that after all the lawsuits, media reports, and scientific and medical information available, professionals have not acknowledged the harm done.

I am asking anyone interested in going to this conference and handing out information in regard to false memories, brainwashing, etc, to please contact me either by phone or email. I want to have a "presence" there to represent those of us who have been forever harmed, crushed, ripped apart, falsely accused, and of course anyone

who has been fortunate enough to come out of this nightmare alive. We can make a difference.

This conference begins on the Monday after the False Memory Syndrome Conference on Reconciliation in Chicago. Madison is a couple of hours from Chicago, and some of you attending this Conference might be interested in taking a stand against the teaching and preaching of this harmful therapy.

I am committed to doing what I can in any small or big way to telling people my story about what this therapy did to my family and me. My mother, who is turning 80 this year, is very supportive of my being involved in any way, as is the rest of my family.

I express my heartfelt feelings of gratitude to everyone who has helped me along the way in the last 10 years. If it weren't for the False Memory Syndrome Foundation, my wonderful husband who first got in touch with Katie Spanuello, the FMSF state contact in Wisconsin, and all the people who led me to Bill Smoler (to whom I taught so much about FMS—really, he had no idea the day I walked into his office what he was up against!!), I know I would not be alive today.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the FMS Conference in Chicago. It will give me the opportunity to look into the faces of friends I hold dear to my heart, and also to meet people that are coming for the first time.

Please think about joining me and others at the Conference in Madison and attempting to broaden the understanding of those present about memory, false memories, and the harm that recovered memory therapy can cause.

Nadean Cool, 920-687-1680  
email: [Deaniebean@aol.com](mailto:Deaniebean@aol.com)



The palest ink is better than the best memory.

Chinese Proverb

## After Eleven Years

I thank all of the FMS parents who have shared their experiences about their returning/retracting children with the rest of us. Rather than feeling envious or disheartened, for me, such accounts have always been encouraging and hopeful.

After eleven years, we also have a returner in *our* family. Our daughter who asked if we could "agree to disagree" contacted us. It seems that she still firmly believes in the validity of her "body memories," but we felt that we could not turn down her overture. We have been corresponding now for six months, and although we both avoid the elephant in the living room, things look encouraging.

What is interesting is that from this experience, I think that I finally understand the 'mind set' of returners: they want to have it both ways. They want to again enjoy the benefits of their supportive, caring family, but at the same time, also want to retain their privileged status as victim.

How wrong the RM therapists were to think that their clients could simply wipe out all of the positive reinforcement that a birth family provides and replace it with a manufactured family. It obviously just does not work that way. Otherwise, why would the accusing child, in the end, turn again to his/her own family? And when are therapists going to wake up to the fact that their precious theory has been an unmitigated failure?

The horror of repressed-memory therapy was bad enough, but can one imagine having had to endure such an experience *without* the FMS Foundation? Words fail me. All I can do is join the thousands of other parents in giving thanks to the Foundation and all of its dedicated people who have worked so tirelessly over the years to bring a close to the insanity we have all had to endure.

A grateful Mom



## Sister Mediated Apology

I was beginning to think we would never be able to write this letter to you, but finally we can. Our daughter, who told us in 1993 that I had been a bad mother and that her father had sexually abused her, now says she knows her father did not do this.

Ours is the typical story. Our daughter was particularly close to us. Although she had lived in other states for many years, we usually talked three or four times a week, sometimes more. These calls were usually at her initiative. She loves to talk on the phone, and we love to hear from her.

Our daughter started going to a psychotherapist for marital problems at the end of 1992. She said she knew six months before she started therapy that "something" had happened to her as a child. During the therapy she had hypnosis and for a while, as I understand it, she did not know "who" was responsible. With more hypnosis, however, she "remembered" it was her father. She would never talk to us about any details, and we were not permitted to ask any questions. She divorced her husband in 1997.

For a few weeks before she called to accuse us, I felt something was different with her. In that fateful call, she said her father could talk to her child by phone but that she no longer wanted to talk to him. Within six months she had broken all contact with both of us and we were no longer allowed to talk to our grandchild.

One of her sisters kept in close touch with her during these years but the other sister broke contact. In 1996 she told her sister she missed me and wanted me to call her -- which I did. At the end of that conversation she asked me to call again but I said next time it was her turn. She did call in a couple of weeks and we continued to take turns calling like this.

Once when she called I was not at home. Her father answered and asked her if there was anything he could do

for her. She immediately talked to him as if nothing had ever happened. We continued like this until the present.

Our daughter still lives in another state but whenever we saw her or she came to stay with us, her sisters would ask me, "Did she say anything?" The answer was always, "No." I am afraid that she would never have brought up the subject of the accusation except for the fact that her sister who is close to her told her that she felt it was time for her to get it all settled. She said that something could happen to one of us and the situation would never be resolved. In fact, she told her that she did not want to talk to her until she cleared up the situation.

On the same day that happened, she called her father. She told him that being around him all this time she now realizes he could not have done this. But she says she still feels that she was abused but she had no idea who did it. I have no idea if such a thing happened. She said it was ongoing from the ages of two to nine. If anything happened, I was not aware of it. I feel guilty not believing her if she was abused but I also wonder if it is too difficult for her to accept that it could all have been fantasy. I suppose that we will never know. She cried throughout her telephone call with her father and kept saying she was sorry.

I talked to her the next day and said that she had made her father very happy. She said, "I'm sorry." That was it. I doubt the subject will be discussed again.

I always thought I would want to celebrate when and if an apology ever happened, but when it did I just felt worn out. It is wonderful to have her back in our lives. The phone calls are at the old frequency. She is lots of fun to talk to and to be with. She comes home once a year and we visit her once a year also.

The newsletter has been a great source of comfort to us. You are welcome to print any part of this that

might help others. But, you know the old stigma is still there. I would want you to change the signature.

A happy Mother

□  
**Joining Forces:  
Recanters and the Accused**

Jaye D. Bartha

Many recanters, like myself, were liberated from recovered memory therapy a decade ago. Unlike many of the accused, our nightmare is largely behind us. It is imperative to utilize the knowledge both the accused and the recanter possess regarding memory distortion in an effort to stop additional men and women from being indiscriminately accused of sexual crimes that never occurred. By joining forces to support the falsely accused, the public and the American judicial system may come to understand that irresponsible psychotherapy lies beneath the memory debate.

After placing my experience with repressed memory therapy in its rightful place – the past, it became imperative to assist the wrongly accused, particularly those serving prison terms for crimes that never occurred. These individuals remain casualties of psychotherapy while the rest of us carry on our daily routines.

Unfortunately, incarceration based on recovered memories is an appalling reality in America. Opinions coming from some leaders of our legal establishment repeatedly demonstrate the need for education. For example, in August 1999, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court denied Cheryl Amirault LaFave's third request for a new trial declaring that new evidence, showing how interview techniques can influence children to describe sexual acts they never experienced, was admitted at trial, and not considered new. The evidence in question was published after LaFave's trial. The court concluded: "We are faced, however, with the conflict between the constantly evolving nature of science and the doctrine of finality."<sup>1</sup> The court opted for conclusion to a long case above the quest for truth.

Recanters know from experience

that memory can be easily manipulated during a psychiatric interview. We know that the sexual abuse remembered under these circumstances was inherently false, but during psychotherapy our emotional response to the information was genuine. The emotional agony, and flashbacks to crime scenes were why the content of memories was impossible to disregard. But if new memories were indeed lies, why were we upset? Why? Because we believed in our psychotherapists, in the integrity of new memories, and were convinced that plowing through therapy would restore our health. We were wrong. What we actually did was unwittingly perpetuate the myth that recovered memories are always accurate.

Ten years after leaving therapy, as I strive to right the wrong done to families by the psychology industry, I ask myself: How can I support those accused of crimes that never occurred? After reading excerpts from transcripts of several cases, I wrote to an accused man serving time in a Texas prison. This is the story of our friendship:

Bruce Perkins, 57, was convicted in 1993 of aggravated sexual assault on his grandchildren based on recovered memories. Bruce began serving his 30-year sentence less than a year after I left therapy. During the past decade, I have been rebuilding my life; Bruce has been surviving in a prison cell.

In this first letter to me, he wrote, "Our sons are still out there in the dark... I will be interceding for them until my dying breath. I would have stuck my head in a bear's mouth to save them when they were babies and I still feel that obligation." I wondered if I could be as loving after sitting in prison for ten years. Bruce's integrity, and his commitment to accusing family members, inspired me to remain active which includes supporting the falsely accused, and educating the public about memory distortion.

Fear, along with misinformation about memory and the role psychotherapists play in therapeutic interventions, has become more powerful than the truth. Ignorance has become more powerful than rational thought and

deductive reasoning. Please join me in taking 5 minutes from your day to write a letter voicing your opinion about the negative effects of recovered memories to your state legislators, or a note of support letting a prisoner know he or she has not been forgotten. Your efforts will both educate policymakers, and more importantly, elevate the spirits of someone in need.

1. Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly. (August 1999). SJC-07529 Commonwealth v. Cheryl Amirault LaFave, [On-line]. Available: <http://www.masslaw.com/masup/1018099.htm> For further information, please contact the FMS Foundation.

□  
**Update from Missouri**

At a recent meeting of the group in St. Louis, families reported that their daughters are becoming increasingly attentive, even loving at times. Two do not mention "it." One other has not retracted but has apologized for any pain she may have caused. All three recovered their "memories" in 1991. A half dozen or so families have left our group as their daughters have returned. Much of this is thanks to the FMS Foundation. A Mom

□  
**This American Life**

I heard a wonderful program on PRI, *This American Life* on June 14, 2002. The program, "Ask an Expert," was about people who turned to experts and got horrible advice. It featured the Rutherford family and a therapist who once focused on digging for traumatic memories, but who stopped after realizing the harm she had done. Elyse Spiegel was the producer.

The website for This American Life is [www.thislife.org](http://www.thislife.org). Tapes can be ordered by email: [tapes@thislife.org](mailto:tapes@thislife.org)

The tapes are \$12 each. You need to give them your name, address, e-mail address, phone number, show title, and a credit card number. The program is # 215: "Ask an Expert" and dated 6/14/02. You will enjoy it.

A Dad

## Expert Testimony and Justice Gone Astray: Trauma, Memory, and Child Sexual Abuse

A One-day Conference Offering CE for Psychologists, Counselors, Social Workers, Attorneys, and Law Enforcement Personnel

Friday, November 1, 2002  
Boston University

Co-Sponsored by Boston University Gerontology Center and Education Plus+

8:00 Registration

8:30 **PANEL I: WHAT IS AND WHAT IS NOT SCIENCE**

**Expert Witnesses: Whores of the Court? Science and Pseudoscience in the Courtroom**

*Margaret A. Hagen, Ph. D., Professor of Psychology, Boston University*

**Science and Folklore of Traumatic Amnesia**

*Richard J. McNally, Ph. D., Professor of Psychology, Harvard University*

**Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder: The Harmony of Illusions**

*Allan Young, Ph. D., Dep't of Social Studies of Medicine, Anthropology, & Psychiatry, McGill University*

**Children as Witnesses--What Expert Witnesses Should Tell the Court**

*Hollida Wakefield, M.A., Inst. of Psychological Therapies, Northfield, MN*

10:30 Refreshment Break

10:45 **Questions and Answers--Panel I**

12:00 Lunch

**PANEL II: DISCONNECT BETWEEN SCIENCE AND PRACTICE--  
REPERCUSSIONS**

1:00 **Memory Creation and Science**

*Mark Pendergrast, Independent Scholar and Author*

1:30 **Children, Suggestibility, and Autobiographical Memory**

*Terence W. Campbell, Ph. D, Forensic Psychologist, Author*

2:00 **The Roles of the Legal System and Experts**

*Jack Quattrocchi, Esq., Family Practice Attorney*

2:30 **Questions and Answers--Panel II**

3:00 Refreshment Break

3:15 **Wrongful Convictions of Child Sexual Abuse: What Can Be Done?**

**Claims of innocence and the role, after conviction, of prosecutors, defense counsel, and the court system.**

*Stanley Z. Fisher, Boston University Law School*

3:45 **Questions and Answers--Panels I and II**

*Margaret Hagen, Moderator*

**Eleanor Goldstein and Mark Pendergrast request help with a book on family reconciliation following recovered memory claims. Those who might contribute their stories and insights (preferably writing it themselves) should contact**

**Eleanor at: [eleanor@sirs.com](mailto:eleanor@sirs.com)**

or

**Mark at: [markp@nasw.org](mailto:markp@nasw.org).**

### Web Sites of Interest

<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

[religioustolerance.org](http://religioustolerance.org)

Information about Satanic Ritual Abuse

[www.geocities.com/newcosanz/](http://www.geocities.com/newcosanz/)

New Zealand FMS Group

[www.werkgroepwfh.nl](http://www.werkgroepwfh.nl)

Netherlands FMS Group

### Legal Websites of Interest

• [www.findlaw.com](http://www.findlaw.com)

• [www.legalengine.com](http://www.legalengine.com)

• [www.accused.com](http://www.accused.com)

### "Recovered Memories: Are They Reliable?"

**FREE. Call or write the FMS Foundation for pamphlets. Be sure to include your address and the number of pamphlets you need.**

### Now Available on Web

"Recovered Memories:  
Fact or Fiction?"

By Paul Simpson, Ed.D.

PHYSICIAN MAGAZINE

[www.family.org/physmag/issues/a0015977.html](http://www.family.org/physmag/issues/a0015977.html)

## CONTACTS &amp; MEETINGS - UNITED STATES

## ALABAMA

See Georgia

## ALASKA

Kathleen 907-333-5248

## ARIZONA

Phoenix

Pat 480-396-9420

## ARKANSAS

Little Rock

Al &amp; Lela 870-363-4368

## CALIFORNIA

Sacramento

Joanne &amp; Gerald 916-933-3655

Jocelyn 530-873-0919

San Francisco &amp; North Bay - (bi-MO)

Charles 415-984-6626(am);

415-435-9618(pm)

San Francisco &amp; South Bay

Eric 408-245-4493

East Bay Area

Judy 925-376-8221

Central Coast

Carole 805-967-8058

Palm Desert

Eileen and Jerry 909-659-9636

Central Orange County

Chris &amp; Alan 949-733-2925

Covina Area - 1st Mon. (quarterly)

@7:30pm

Floyd &amp; 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 &amp; Nancy 352-750-5446

Sarasota

Francis &amp; Sally 941-342-8310

Tampa Bay Area

Bob &amp; Janet 727-856-7091

## GEORGIA

Atlanta

Wallie &amp; Jill 770-971-8917

## ILLINOIS

Chicago &amp; Suburbs - 1st Sun. (MO)

Eileen 847-985-7693 or

Liz &amp; Roger 847-827-1056

Peoria

Bryant &amp; 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 &amp; Bobby 207-878-9812

## MASSACHUSETTS/NEW ENGLAND

Andover - 2nd Sun. (MO) @ 1pm

Frank 978-263-9795

## MICHIGAN

Grand Rapids Area - 1st Mon. (MO)

Bill &amp; Marge 616-383-0382

Greater Detroit Area -

Nancy 248-642-8077

Ann Arbor

Martha 734-439-4055

## MINNESOTA

Terry &amp; Collette 507-642-3630

Dan &amp; 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 &amp; Avone 406-443-3189

## 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

Cincinnati

Bob 513-541-0816 or 513-541-5272

Cleveland

Bob &amp; Carole 440-356-4544

## OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma City

Dee 405-942-0531 or

Tulsa

Jim 918-582-7363

## OREGON

Portland area

Kathy 503-557-7118

## PENNSYLVANIA

Harrisburg

Paul &amp; Betty 717-691-7660

Pittsburgh

Rick &amp; Renee 412-563-5509

Montrose

John 570-278-2040

Wayne (includes S. NJ)

Jim &amp; Jo 610-783-0396

## TENNESSEE

Nashville - Wed. (MO) @1pm

Kate 615-665-1160

## TEXAS

Houston

Jo or Beverly 713-464-8970

El Paso

Mary Lou 915-591-0271

## UTAH

Keith 801-467-0669

## VERMONT

Mark 802-872-0847

## VIRGINIA

Sue 703-273-2343

## WASHINGTON

See Oregon

## WISCONSIN

Katie &amp; Leo 414-476-0285 or

Susanne &amp; John 608-427-3686

## WYOMING

Alan and Lorinda 307-322-4170

## CONTACTS &amp; MEETINGS - INTERNATIONAL

## BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

Vancouver &amp; Mainland

Ruth 604-925-1539

Victoria &amp; Vancouver Island - 3rd Tues.

(MO) @7:30pm

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 &amp; Marina 905-637-6030

Waubaushe

Paula 705-543-0318

## QUEBEC, CANADA

St. André Est.

Mavis 450-537-8187

## AUSTRALIA

Roger: Phone &amp; Fax 352-897-284

## ISRAEL

FMS ASSOCIATION fax-972-2-625-9282

## NETHERLANDS

Task Force FMS of Werkgroep Fictieve

Herinneringen

Anna 31-20-693-5692

## 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  
November/December Newsletter  
is OCTOBER 15. Meeting notices  
MUST be in writing and sent no later  
than two months before meeting.

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September 1, 2002

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**Hope to See You**

**Sat. October 5 and Sun. October 6, 2002**  
**A Conference on Family Reconciliation**  
**Glenview, Illinois**