



COSA NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED
CASUALTIES OF FALSE SEXUAL ALLEGATIONS

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Lynley Hood's address, Book reviews,
Loren Pankratz's article, News Clips.

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LYNLEY HOOD PARALLELS DREYFUS WITH ELLIS

Lynley Hood, in a clever, stimulating and enjoyable presentation titled "Truth is on the march" expressed confidence that eventually systemic judicial shortcomings and political expediency will give way to good sense, truth and justice concerning the CHCH Civic Crèche case. Speaking in CHCH. in early August to an audience of approx. 200 people incl. TV3, Mrs. Hood drew a vivid picture of the progress of the Alfred Dreyfus case of alleged Treason in France at the turn of the century, 1894 to 1906. Mrs. Hood had no need to deviate from the Dreyfus story timeline because of the extraordinarily clear similarity that the audience could draw in their minds of Peter Ellis's parallel journey. The Ellis case timeline was, and is, impacted upon by social and political reactions and rules that seem frighteningly similar to these of 100 years ago.

Dreyfus's journey did conclude with justice being seen to be done and France became a much better country for that. New Zealand has the potential and opportunity to make the same substantial democratic thrust forward, and go some-way towards being the leaders in social and judicial progress that we once were.

Chairperson for the evening, organised by Cosa N.Z. was Nigel Hampton QC whose energy, repartee, and humour contributed greatly, to the audience enjoyment, especially his rendition of a poem written by David Hood. His masterly input and oversight of an interesting question time was valued.

During the light refreshment time many took the opportunity to speak to others, many made first time acquaintances, but all with a common goal.

If Dr Seuss Were MINISTER OF JUSTICE

I will not read that book by Hood
I will not, will not, say it's good.
I will just say the courts are right
I do not want to see the light.
I will not read about that case
I am so scared of losing face.
I will not read it fast or slow,
I want to keep the status quo.
I will not read it, so I say.
I wish that book would go away!
I will not read that woman's book
I will not even take a look.
I will not read it, not a bit
In case I have to act on it.

by the-cat-in-the-hat

DAVID HOOD

COSA thank all who attended and took part, it was a fantastic meeting and the only blight on the evening, the reason why the meeting needed to be held.

The included resume of Dreyfus and the poem will allow those of you who were not able to attend to have some idea of the meeting, and if you would like a copy of the audio tape please contact us at PO BOX 35081.CHCH.



TO EXAMINE: The Romans used scales equipped with two pans to weigh things. A close inspection of the 'tongue' of the scales revealed whether the predetermined weights in one pan equalled the weight of the object in the other. The Romans called the tongue 'examen' and the process 'examinare.'

Examinare, which became 'examine' in English acquired the meaning 'to inspect closely.'

Alfred Dreyfus Case

In 1894 a Jewish officer of the French General Staff, Alfred Dreyfus, was wrongly convicted of treason as a spy. He was seen as a danger to the citizens of France.

Previously the chief investigator, Major Henry, under tremendous pressure to produce evidence when he could not get Dreyfus to confess, prepared a legally inadmissible document implicating Dreyfus whom he sincerely believed was guilty.

When it looked like the secret military court martial might acquit, the Minister of War ordered Henry to secretly provide the judges with inadmissible investigation files, which included the forged document.

The whole Dreyfus treason issue had become a passionate political fight between the self-interested anti-semantics and the scapegoat Jews.

Major Henry complied with the ministers directive, making available inappropriate but highly influential material to enhance his own and his superiors political wellbeing.

A conspiracy by a few generals to conceal the procedural wrongs magnified the deceit and injustice. Dreyfus was denied the right to examine the evidence against him and always maintained his innocence. He was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment on Devils Island, while no action was forthcoming against the corrupt accusers.

Alfred Dreyfus's family there upon began a decade long struggle to clear him while increasingly supported by the wronged and despised Jewish community They saw the case as a valid catalyst to rail for truth and justice? Concerns, mainly for self, by the General caused him to give the new head of Military Intelligence Col.Picquart, the responsibility of investigating the secret files, and prepare bet-

ter security procedures.

It was a strenuous test of the integrity of this man as he was a very strong anti-semantic Col. Picquart discovered the files were illegally given to the judges and subsequently gave them the opportunity to come clean before the deceit was made public. His employers however practiced the motto 'never back down' and responded by asking Picquart to become part of the conspiracy. He refused, which resulted in his superiors consigning him to North Africa. Not to be silenced and despite his career being threatened Picquart released the information.

Prominent French novelist of the realistic or naturalist school-Emile Zola courageously responded by using the power of his pen to influence the populace significantly by writing 'J accuse!'

He was found guilty of libeling the army and so fled to England to escape imprisonment where he stayed until granted amnesty

Public anger and revulsion continued to grow at the injustices occurring and obstinate politicising of the situation.

In 1899 the army carried out a new trial with more dubious evidence - the same verdict-Alfred Dreyfus guilty.

Thankfully later in 1899 the President of France pardoned Dreyfus so he was able to return to Paris. However he had to wait until 1906 twelve years later after the case began, before the system was able to correct itself sufficiently for him to be exonerated of the charges and restored to his former military rank. Col Picquart became Minister of War and Dreyfus as a Colonel served heroically in World War 1.

Emile Zola died in 1902 before Dreyfus was officially exonerated

"Surely it is a sign and a prerequisite of a strong, and I emphasize strong legal system, that it is prepared to concede and correct its mistakes!"

Nigel Hampton QC

The Arthur Alan Thomas case was turned around by David Yallop's production, '*Beyond Reasonable Doubt*.'

Rob Muldoon read the book, faced up to the reality that a miscarriage of justice had occurred and took the appropriate action resulting in Thomas being pardoned.

No action was taken against the police, and for a while New Zealand was reassured that our justice and legal system had been restored to its previous healthy condition.

New Zealand's justice and legal system has had a few more aches and pains appear since 1970. The major one being the Civic Creche.

Trying to cover the Civic Creche problem up with bandaid therapy or claiming that there isn't an actual problem at all, has only resulted in further aggravating those who have a concern at the health of our justice system.

A Judge paid to conduct a partial examination and then have him declare there was 'no problem,' only added to this feeling of unease.

Lynley Hood's book 'A City Possessed' is the latest contribution in this paper war of the Civic Creche Centre, as the battle for truth goes on.

The final outcome of the Civic Creche Case to sort fact from fiction, reality from hysteria, may very well turn out to be 'the battle of the books.' Books, the part they played, and the way they were used, caused the four women and Peter Ellis to be charged.

Grimms, with all his fairy tale writing experience could never have dreamt that such an impossible and outrageous script could cause 15 detectives and their associates to spend thousands of hours and thousands and thousands of dollars of other peoples money to try to prove it was not a fairy tale but actually happened as it was written.

? Who was responsible for the case direction or where the police would spend many hours searching for evidence. ?

? Who was responsible for many hours of unbelievable accounts of incredible impossible stunts and stage props? ?

Not the Chief Inspector, not any of the 15 De-

tectives and their uniformed helpers, not the three children interviewers.

No, this was a remote control operation directed from the script of Pamela Hudson's book, '*End Ritual Abuse*.'

Just another American production?

What ran through the polices' heads as they searched up in the ceilings for coffins and cages and down manholes for gorillas, the tune 'I'm a believer' made famous by the Monkeys?

At the onset of the Creche investigation over \$1000 was spent on books to 'assist' the investigation team. They included:

The Courage to Heal;

When the Bough Breaks (helping guide for parents of sexually abused children);

How to Talk so Kids will Listen and Listen so Kids will Talk;

So You're Going to Court;

Women Changing Therapy;

other books included:

Megan's Secret;

Katies Yucky Problem;

Daniel and his Therapist.

Breaking the Circle of Ritual Satanic Abuse;

Recognising and Recovering from Hidden Trauma;

Don't Make Me Go Back, Mommy.

These books including the *Ritual Child Abuse*, by Pamela Hudson were available to the professionals and parents. Other ritual abuse literature was handed out with religious fervour to any who would take them.

Within two months of the distribution of this book the ritual abuse allegations started to gush forth.

The stories did take some time to bloom as seen by comparing the first and last testimonies of each of the children.

Other books that were allowed to influence and play a part in the way the investigations and questioning was handled were

Understanding Child Sexual Maltreatment by Faller and the ritual abuse-daycare centre related book *Nursery Crimes* by Finkelhor, Williams.

Detectives Legat and Heath evidently held great store in the trustworthiness and reliability of *Nursery Crimes* as they used it to elicit information from one of their 'witnesses.'

COOK BOOKS WITH RECIPIES FOR CREATING DISASTERS

These books capable of creating such hysteria certainly succeeded beyond anyone's dreams or nightmares and the denial that the childrens stories were not the result of the indirect influence from these books is even more incredible than the stories themselves.

Huge dollops of Ritual Satanic Abuse information is not something to take, if you want to be clearheaded and rational while carrying out proper investigations.



BEFORE THE INEVITABLE BOOKS ARE
WRITTEN, COURT CASES NORMALLY
FINISHED
CRECHE CASE UNBELIEVABLE BOOKS
WRITTEN BEFORE COURT CASE EVEN
STARTED

Technology brings uproar to court case: 1907 :

Technology was invading the justice system in 1907— A Brussels lawyer annoyed by continual hammering and clanking at an iron foundry in his neighbourhood made repeated complaints to the authorities to have the noise abated.

The complaints fell on deaf ears, so he took the matter to court — but before he did so he placed a phonograph, which was capable of recording the noise onto a wax cylinder to make audio evidence.

When the case came to court he produced the phonograph as a witness and began playing the cylinder. The court was appalled at the uproar and din coming from the phonograph and the lawyer won the case, hands down.

NOSTALGIA

The daily newspaper ripped up and forced over the nail in the outside toilet, or for those fortunate to have an inside toilet, the *Readers Digest*, was not the material that showed the literary input of the family, rather it was the titles on the family bookshelf in the lounge beside the record player, with the three ducks placed strategically on the wall above. Concise Oxford Dictionary, Thesaurus, Cyclopaedia, Bible, Shakespeare, Arthur Mee Encyclopaedias were the volumes that influenced us and our parents. These we researched for information for our school projects and for general knowledge and for the scientific information we wanted.



BACK TO REALITY

Books that have concerned those who have been casualties of false accusations include: *Michelle Remembers* [Smith, Pazder], *Sybil* [Schreiber], *The Courage to Heal* [Bass, Davis], *Ritual Child Abuse* [Hudson], *Nursery Crimes* [Finkelhor, Williams], *Warriors of Truth* [McGregor], *Breaking the Circle of Satanic Ritual Abuse* [Rhyder], *Ritual Abuse* [Smith]. ad infinitum,

However helpful material is available based on quality research and scientific methodology which COSA could recommend as constructive reading. Suggestions below. *Jeopardy in the Courtroom* [Ceci], *Psychology and psychotherapy built on a myth* [Dawes], *The Abuse Excuse* [Dershowitz], *The Abuse of Innocence*: [Eberle],



Child Victims, Child Witnesses

[Goodman, Gail, Bottoms, Bette],

First Do No Harm [Goodyear Smith],

Talk of the Devil [Guilliatt],

Whores of the Court [Hagen],

Crazy Therapies [Lalich & Singer],

The Child Abuse Industry [Pride],

The Myth of Repressed Memory [Loftus],

Satans Silence: Ritual abuse-witch hunt
[Nathan, Snedeker],

Making Monsters [Ofshe, Watters],

Victims of Memory [Pendergrast],

[It would be of interest to know if the police had available or had read any from this list of books.]

Pamela Hudson's book, "*Ritual Child Abuse*" had the most devastating effect of all books during the investigations of the Civic Creche.

Another book that has also caused damage and hardship to countless lives not only in New Zealand, but also through out the world is '*The Courage to Heal: A Guide for Women Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse* by *Ellen Bass & Laura Davis*.

The Courage to Heal: A Guide for Women Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse by *Ellen Bass & Laura Davis*.



The premise of the book is that up to one-third to all women have been sexually abused but many of them cannot remember it. The book, along with the workbook, is intended as an aid to retrieving these memories and thus healing. Statements such as: "If you are unable to remember any specific instances ... but still have a feeling that something abusive happened to you, it probably did" (p.21); "If you think you were abused and your life shows the symptoms, then you were" (p.22); "There are many women who show signs of having been abused without having any memories" (p.71), and "Yet even if your memories are incomplete, even if your family

insists nothing ever happened, you must believe yourself" (p. 87).

Demands for details or corroboration are seen as unreasonable: "You are not responsible for proving that you were abused" (p. 137). The book encourages retribution and rage and even deathbed confrontations: "If you're willing to get angry and the anger just doesn't seem to come, there are many ways to get in touch with it" (p.124); "Another woman, abused by her grandfather, went to his deathbed and, in front of all the other relatives, angrily confronted him right there in the hospital (pp. 128-129).

The veracity of the recovered memories is never questioned — one section uncritically presents an account of bizarre and violent ritual abuse and murder by a satanic cult of town leaders and church officials. If the family does not accept the allegations, the authors encourage the person to terminate all contact. Nowhere does the book acknowledge the probable consequences if a mistake is made and the "memories" are wrong.

This is clear also in the positive value Bass and Davis place on rage and anger. Healing is said to occur through rage.

This book is an exercise in irrationality. The authors carefully state they are not academically trained. They are honest in saying that everything in the book comes "from the experiences of survivors" (p.14). Experience is not a trustworthy guide to anything (Dawes, 1989). The entire field of decision theory research shows conclusively that the human mind is not a good instrument for handling data. There are so many ways in which subjective bias distorts and twists information. Because decisions are flawed and basically irrational it is only through the assiduous exercise of human reason that positive outcomes can be produced.

The bibliography of the book has 180 references. Only two of them are anywhere near what could be termed reasoned or quantified approaches. They are **Finkelhor's 1979 book** [*This is the book the CHCH police used to 'assist' one of the creche workers when they were trying to elicit evidence against Peter Ellis and*

the others] and Russell's 1986 book. The other references appear to be anecdotal, personal experience, and subjective opinion. Often a reference is described as "feminist." Even if this book is not a radical, lesbian feminist tract, it is a caricature of what has frequently been described as a feminine characteristic — reliance upon emotion and a limited concern with reason.

This book is dangerous. It has a surface appeal and uses terms and language that are familiar to many because of the pop psych jargon that has spread throughout the culture. This increases the likelihood that it may be read with some credulity and given a status it does not deserve. Like Hitler's *Mein Kampf* it may have an impact on the society and the world, but the nature of the impact may contribute to a large, unanticipated disaster.

If read, it must be with a full component of critical, rational thought. The primary value in reading the book will be in developing an understanding of the spreading phenomenon of recovered memories of alleged childhood sexual abuse.

Cleverly written, *The Courage to Heal* appears at first glance to be a compassionate work dedicated to easing the suffering of victims of abuse. And the authors no doubt thought they were doing a public service by writing it, just as the authors of the *Malleus Maleficarum* thought they were doing a public service by warning the public about the danger posed by witches.

Trampling on the sacred principle that the accused should be innocent until proven guilty, *The Courage to Heal* encourages women in crisis to appoint themselves detective, judge, jury, and executioner, with a preexisting implicit assumption that current problems must be the result of past abuse, and that if any abuse occurred then their own "family of origin" must be directly or indirectly responsible. It totally ignores basic issues like personal bias, therapist bias, the power of suggestion, the vulnerability of human memory to ordinary forgetting and interference by information learned later, the possibility for a person to be mistaken, and the existence of multiple possible

causes for any particular problem, the true source of which can only be determined through investigation and corroboration.

Without doubt, *The Courage to Heal* may have been genuinely helpful to some actual victims of abuse—those who always remembered their abuse and who did not develop false memories after reading it. In the same way, Thalidomide was genuinely helpful to some pregnant women for treating nausea—those whose babies were not deformed by its side effects. Memory recovery therapy as promoted by *The Courage to Heal* is the Thalidomide of the mental health industry. Even though Thalidomide can relieve nausea during pregnancy, its use is banned today because the harmful side effects are unacceptable, and the first rule of healing is "first, do no harm." In the same way, the use of so-called memory recovery therapy should be banned because its harmful side effects are unacceptable.

On another level, the *Courage to Heal Workbook* is a manual to help clients move from being straight to being members of the gay-lesbian community. As such it is aware of the fact that hetero-sexuals might have problems with their first homosexual encounter "... you don't have to be physically aroused to begin sexual activity," writes Davis citing Loulan in *Lesbian Sex* — simply have to be willing to begin ..." (p. 179) This orientation comes from the fact that the author herself is a lesbian who found it necessary to accuse her grandfather of incest so that she could make the transition (*Courage to Heal* pp. 17-18). This requires belief in the mind stretching proposition that incest skips generations; that is, Davis' grandfather sexually abused her but did not sexually abuse her mother. (Her mother attributes the author's hate for her family and her grandfather to her sexual orientation (*Courage to Heal* p. 17).)

CONSEQUENCES OF THE *RAGE TO HEAL*

'Historian cleared of abuse after false memory fear' by David Williams, The Daily Mail

A distinguished art historian was cleared of sexual abuse after a jury heard his accuser

may have been influenced by an American self-help book.

The woman had made serious allegations against 49-year-old Philip Shaw, a senior lecturer at the Royal College of Art, based on 'hidden' memories from her early childhood.

These apparently surfaced after she read the book *'The Courage to Heal'*, by the American lesbian authors Ellen Bass and Laura Davis, which argues that almost all women have been sexually abused.

All the allegations related to her childhood more than 20 years ago.

They included claims that Mr Shaw had dressed as a woman, used a 'naughty stick' to abuse her and spoke to her in a falsetto voice like 'Mr Punch'.

But after a six-day trial, the Old Bailey jury cleared him of three indecent assaults, cruelty to a child, causing actual bodily harm and serious sexual assault.

The 27-year-old woman claimed Shaw had sexually and physically abused her when she lived in east London between 1978 and 1979.

However, Dr Janet Boakes, of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, told the court she may have been deluded. She said her account was 'more likely dreamed up after she put herself into a state of auto-hypnosis' when reading the book. Dr Boakes said the woman was probably suffering from 'false memory syndrome' after reading the book. At one point the book says: 'Reading this may make you feel uncomfortable but if it doesn't, do not worry, you're just not ready to remember the memories yet.' She said it also claims: 'If you are unable to remember any specific instances but still have a feeling something abusive happened to you, it probably did.'

Asked by Andrew Hall, defending, what effect the book might have on readers, she replied: 'It might convince people they have hideous and heinous memories.'

According to the doctor, the two psychologists who interviewed the woman had 'taken the case on face value'.

'They did not follow the guidelines recently outlined by the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

They ploughed on, accepting what the women were saying as the truth.

'If the clinician believes the symptoms point to sexual abuse, then he or she will find evidence of this.

'Twenty per cent of the population are highly suggestible and open to being lead to believe others' beliefs.

'Constant dwelling on sexual abuse may lead to dreams about it,' Dr Boakes said.

It was also said that the woman may have been prompted to invent the memories when she became suicidal after a relationship broke up. The court heard that there is often an urge to seek a reason in the distant past for one's present misfortune.

Mr Shaw, of Kilburn, North-West London, said he had never been so shocked when the accusations were first made in 1992. Educated at the Royal College of Art, he is an authority on visual communication design. He is now working on his PhD at Middlesex University.

The case was a retrial after a jury failed to reach a verdict last year.

CLIPPINGS OLD and NEW



Dominion [Wellington]

Wednesday January 16, 2002

False witness

Rape is a sickening crime that can blight the victim's life, so why would any woman want to invent it, asks Sarah Prestwood

The new year in Porirua delivered a sickening headline. A 16-year-old girl, babysitting her two brothers at a Porirua park, was abducted, blindfolded, and gang-raped. Public outrage put pressure on police to make a hasty arrest.

This week delivered an unexpected twist. Police now believe the alleged kidnapping and rape never happened and that the girl fabricated the story.

Rape is an angry word with dangerous consequences. Though most women who report

rape are telling the truth, a small minority go to police with stories filled with sexual deceit. Their motivation can be anything from revenge to a reaction against childhood sexual abuse.

A victim who makes a false rape complaint wants to tell you a story, and she wants to make sure you believe her, says Detective Sergeant Dave Henwood of the Criminal Profiling Unit, who analyses hundreds of interview tapes from sex offenders and victims in an effort to work out who is telling the truth.

The South Auckland-based unit was launched after the arrests of notorious serial rapists Joseph Thompson, who has 61 sexual violation convictions, and Malcolm Rewa, who attacked 24 women between 1987 and 1996.

Mr Henwood says there are "red flags" that indicate when a woman is making a false complaint, but he is reluctant to give out the details for fear of igniting the problem.

"When a woman gives you a false statement, she generally doesn't know what it's like to be raped, and she gives you a version of how she thinks a rapist is going to behave," he says.

Rapists generally fall into different categories, though the women will describe a certain type that crosses a variety of the subgroups, he says. They give few details of the actual assault, but the background to the attack is very detailed, as this is the part of the story based on truth.

Their motivation can range from seeking sympathy from their boyfriends, revenge, explaining a pregnancy, or why they were late for work.

Defining a false complaint is a grey area. A woman can fabricate a story, or will frequently believe she really was raped, even when the facts prove otherwise. Alcohol can play a key role in distorting the truth.

"It's never clear-cut," says Mr Henwood. "In many cases a woman might believe she has been raped, but she was too drunk to remember the circumstances."

Earlier last year police charged a Mt Victoria stripper with making a false complaint after

she claimed she was sexually assaulted in Lukes Lane, central Wellington.

Detective Sergeant Steve Vaughan, the Wellington CIB boss who headed the Lukes Lane inquiry, says it is always disappointing when a complainant is discovered to be concealing the truth. "It's difficult when you get to a point in an inquiry and you realise that there's a high probability that it hasn't happened, but you're still subjected to a lot of pressure from within police, the media, the victim and the community to get a result."

Police attitudes have greatly altered towards rape victims since the 1970s, when they were often viewed with suspicion and mistrust. "All rape complaints are taken very seriously till proven otherwise," he says. "We don't stand in judgment, and we also don't want to discourage people from making complaints."

Police headquarters do not keep figures on the number of false rape complaints made each year, but it is extremely rare for anyone to be charged.

Earlier this week Tauranga District Court was told how a woman lied to police that she had been raped and then made a false ACC claim. Under new law changes, people who claim to have been sexually abused can receive ACC support without having to complain to police. Campaigners against false allegations of sexual abuse are fearful that the changes, which took effect from April 1, could lead to an increase in ACC claims.

Rape survivor support groups dispute this view. Wellington's Sexual Abuse Help Foundation manager Marian Kleist says false complaints are often over-reported in the media, deterring survivors from coming forward in case they are not believed.

However, the failure to acknowledge false rape complaints is an insult to women who have genuinely been sexually abused, according to Felicity Goodyear-Smith, former head of the Casualties of Sexual Allegations.

She has attracted much criticism for her controversial views on rape and false allegations. "If we don't acknowledge that, along with real rape, there are also false allegations, then it is

discrediting the whole issue and does a disservice to the genuine cases," she says.

Dr Goodyear-Smith helped set up the Auckland rape support group Help in the early 1980s after working as a police doctor. "We need to have a presumption of innocent till proven guilty, as both the victims and offender must be treated with respect. The presumption of guilt in police investigation introduces a bias from the outset."

She takes a hard line against women who make false complaints and believes the penalty should be comparable with sending an innocent man to prison. "If you are prepared to do that to someone else, then you have to live with the consequences. If we actually had a law with teeth, it would reduce the number of false allegations."

Victoria University lecturer Jan Jordan, who has studied the experiences of rape victims and the police, says the issue needs to be put into context. "We have an overinflated perception of the number of false complaints compared to what the reality is."

Women treat rape seriously and do not use the word lightly, she says. When they do make a false complaint, there may be underlying problems regarding unresolved historical abuse, or a previous rape, and they are seldom likely to be motivated by spite or revenge. "An elaborate hoax is very rare and usually leans towards underlying problems and a cry for help."

In the 1980s a woman raped by Rewa was turned away by police who considered her complaint to be false. Rewa went on to rape more than 20 women.

"It still angers me that when David Dougherty's conviction was overturned everyone was quick to feel sorry for him," Ms Jordan says. "But what about the woman in the Malcolm Rewa case who wasn't believed and was ignored for so long? We don't feel sorry for the victims whose attacker is never prosecuted or convicted."



NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS cont.

GIRLS ABDUCTION CLAIM FALSE

An 11-year-old girl falsely claimed a man tried to abduct her on the way to school, Nelson police said today.

Police asked for the public's help after the girl reported she was walking along Jenner Rd between 8.30am and 8.45am when the man pulled up in a vehicle beside her.

She said the man opened the passenger door and tried to pull her inside the car, grabbing her left forearm and jersey, but she was able to break free and run away.

Detective Pat Nally said he had received a call from the family today telling him the girl's story was untrue.

It was not yet clear why she had made up the attempted abduction but Mr Nally said he would be talking to the girl's parents who were "very upset" by what had happened.

Police would not be seeking to recover costs of the investigation.

The case is the second false complaint the police have received in less than a week.

Detective Craig Johnston said they were seeking to recover \$3000 in costs from the family of a 16-year-old Motueka girl who claimed she had been raped by two men over the weekend.

After being reinterviewed by police she admitted she had made up the story.

Nelson Bays acting area commander Bob Burns said unfortunately it was not unusual for the police to receive false complaints.

"People do it for a variety of reasons and for young girls it could be a whole lot of things," he said.

"The 11-year-old girl had just moved to town and maybe she did not like it but we I can only speculate - who knows, it could be a variety of reasons. That is why we do investigations with an open mind."

He said every case was treated seriously and anyone found to have made a false complaint faced being charged through the court system as a deterrent to others.

POLICE SEEK \$3000 OVER TEEN'S FALSE RAPE CLAIM

Nelson police are seeking more than \$3000 in costs from the family of a 16-year-old girl who made a false rape complaint.

Detective Craig Johnston said the Motueka teenager told officers that at about 4.30pm on Saturday she had been dragged into bushes by two men near the Tahunanui roller skating rink.

She told police one of the men had stripped her naked and held her down while the other man raped her.

The teenager made a statement to the police about 6pm and described her two alleged attackers in detail. She was then taken to Nelson Hospital to be medically examined.

Mr Johnston said two detectives were immediately put on the case and inquiries led them to a 21-year-old man who told police he had been with the teenager that after-noon and they had been involved in a consensual sexual relationship.

Mr Johnston reinterviewed the teenager yesterday and she admitted making a false complaint. She has been referred to Youth Aid.

He said the costs police were seeking to recover included police time—an officer costs \$76 an hour on duty—and the medical examination. Nelson Rape Crisis coordinator Madeleine Pryce said the group was receiving an increasing number of complaints from young girls who had been raped - some as young as 13.

"I can understand why the police would be very cross with having their time wasted," she said.

Ms Pryce said Rape Crisis was now seeing up to 50 victims of rape for counselling and support work.

Mr Johnston said police took all complaints seriously and the teenager's actions could have had serious consequences for the falsely accused man.

The false complaint follows an intensive inquiry in January this year after a 16-year-old Marlborough girl alleged she had been raped at the Tahuna Beach Holiday Park on New Year's Eve.

Police spent several days inter-viewing people,

placing pamphlets around the area and carrying out their investigation.

It was later found that the girl had made a false complaint following problems at home.

Mr Johnston said police would charge people with making a false complaint and seek reimbursement for the costs of any investigation.

[thanks to Police who acted responsibly, the Nelson Evening Mail for their clarity of facts and COSA member who submitted the article]

The Listener, October 4-10 2003

Child abuse and the experts by John Anderson, Barrister (Parnell, Auckland)

Professor Corballis ("Memory & the law", September 13) asserts that "the interpretation of psychological symptoms as evidence of abuse is now thoroughly discredited". I wish that it was. As I write, part of the law of New Zealand is section 23G of the Evidence Act 1908. Section 23G(2)(c) of the act allows an "expert", ie, a registered psychologist or psychiatrist "with experience in the professional treatment of sexually abused children", to comment on evidence given by any person as to whether the child's behaviour is consistent or inconsistent with the behaviour of sexually abused children. This type of evidence is purely the opinion of the witness. This section is still used regularly by the Crown in child-sex-abuse cases, and every judge in the land is required to admit evidence brought in by virtue of that section.

The ongoing disquiet over the Peter Ellis affair is not just about whether a miscarriage of justice has occurred in this one case, but as to whether the law as it stands is capable of providing justice.

The minister would do well to institute an inquiry into just what opinion evidence should be permitted in child-sex-abuse cases. His assumption that the Ellis conviction is correct seems predicated on the belief that the Court of Appeal cannot get it wrong, and ignores the likelihood that the evidence the court relied on was, itself, unreliable.



PETITION FOR PETER ELLIS INQUIRY

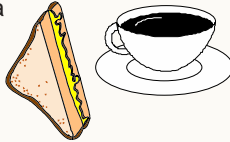
Finlay Macdonald - Editor *NZ Listener*
That Petition.

Along with several other practitioners of my trade, and a large number of far more eminent personages, I signed the petition. There are those who believe that this compromises some notion of editorial independence, but I would argue that the only bias it betrays is one **in favour of examining all the facts pertaining to the Ellis case and clearing up once and for all a festering legal and moral sore.** Obviously this is motivated by a deep suspicion that something has gone wrong; the petition is about Ellis's conviction being beyond reasonable doubt, and its signatories harbour very reasonable doubts that it was.

9th June 2003 [emphasis COSA editor]

And now for a coffee break. Please enjoy the enclosed dehydrated cup of coffee.

[ps don't forget, keep a
'c r u s t'
for the dog.]



NOSTALGIA

Back in the days of wigs and the 'silk.'

Only the young prisoner's head could be seen above the ledge of the dock.

Mr Justice Pennefather was on the Bench, and asked if the boy was undefended. When the Crown Prosecutor said he understood so, His Honor said that the charge was a very serious one which he thought justified the Court in adopting the course of assigning counsel to the accused. There were three or four barristers who were my seniors at the Bar in the court at the time, and any one of them would have been assigned before me in ordinary circumstances, but they asked me to offer to take the assignment, as none of them had appeared in a criminal case before. The Judge was informed of the position, and he assigned me to defend, standing the matter down for half an



hour to give me a chance to read the depositions taken before the Magistrate.

The boy pleaded not guilty, and the trial was proceeded with. The mother of the little girl gave evidence to the effect that she saw the accused, who was employed as a stable boy and general rouseabout, coming out of the stable in company with her daughter. She took the girl inside and examined her, and it was in great detail that she described to the Court what she saw at that examination. I did not believe her, but she could not be shaken. A doctor, who, however, was not consulted until some time after the alleged assault had taken place, was called, but his evidence was not of much value, and there was other testimony also which was of no great consequence.

Addressing the jury, I criticised the mother's evidence, and invited them to disregard certain aspects of it which they, as men, had probably noticed for themselves. I emphasised the lack of corroboration, which meant that everything depended on the mother's story. The jury disagreed, and a new trial was ordered for the following day. As soon as the boy was taken down into the cells I went down myself and thoroughly examined him physically. What I found convinced me that the mother's evidence was untrue. I then went to see a medical friend of mine and explained the circumstances of the case to him. He assured me that if I were correct in my description of the result of my examination, the mother's story could not possibly be true.

"In that case," I said, "do you think the medical witness will be bound to agree with your opinion if I put the matter to him?"

"Yes," he replied, "and I can give you an authority on the subject if you want it."

At the second trial the mother repeated her story of the previous day, and during my cross-examination I contrived without the least difficulty to emphasise the points on which I proposed to rely. When the doctor was again called, I asked him what I had asked my friend the evening before, and the reply was the same. I then applied to the Court to have the boy removed and examined by the doctor before I completed my cross-examination. The

Judge agreed, and on the witness returning to the box he stated the result of his investigation and added that it showed conclusively that the mother's evidence was not true. The rest was simple, and the boy acquitted. Still it was a narrow escape for him.

Could this happen today. Would a mother put herself into a frame of mind and claim so feheemently that something is real when it was not.

?

Could the police bring a prosecution without verifying that the complainants claims were verifiable or even possible.

?

HISTORICAL RATHER THAN HYSTERICAL

GLEANINGS FROM 'RANDOM RECOLLECTIONS'

[A C HANLON]

"The dear old Judge"

A young barrister, donning wig and gown for the first time, was appearing in a min-ing appeal case. He was a veritable novice—



The world was all before him, where to choose His place of rest, and providence his guide.

When the case was called, he rose with quiet confidence and stated that he was appearing for the appellant, and when his friend on the other side had announced his appearance, the young counsel stood up to argue his case. But the calmness of a few moments before had incontinently fled. He was bathed in perspiration and shaking like an aspen leaf. Nothing of his laboriously prepared argument would come to him. Deserted by his self-assurance, he was suddenly bereft of both speech and ideas.

His stage fright was devastatingly complete, and disaster stared him in the face. But Mr Justice Williams was on the Bench, and immediately set out to assist him.

"I see from the papers, Mr , that your principal ground of appeal is ."

"Yes, your Honor," the young barrister replied.

"Isn't there a case of X V Y in which that question was discussed ? " his Honor went on.

" Yes, your Honor."

"Would you kindly pass it up to me? " the Judge continued.

With grateful haste the youthful counsel complied with the request. Mr Justice Williams perused it for a minute or two and then said:

"This case is very much in point. I see you have some other reports on the table. Would you be good enough to give me the references? "

By this time the young man had completely regained his composure, and he proceeded to submit the well-reasoned argument which he had prepared. He did it exceptionally well, and in the end won his appeal. It would be impossible to measure the effect, direct or indirect, of the Judge's kindly and timely assistance in this instance, but it may be conjectured that it exercised a powerful influence on the immediate future of the young barrister concerned. Impatience or lack of understanding would almost certainly have had the most regrettable results. It was this sympathetic benevolence that endeared Mr Justice Williams to so many of those with whom he came in contact.

Judge Williams was using his great knowledge and experience to upgrade the legal representation to achieve a more legitimate outcome and just verdict.

In todays environment is there a need for increased input from the Judges to guide the court theatrics towards a more inquisital assessment of the case.

?

This may help redress the balance between the resources of the crown compared with the resources of the defence.

SKEPTICAL INQUIRER article

by Loren Pankratz May 2003

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

After a single-case history was reported in the psychological literature, I made an unsuccessful attempt to obtain any documents of the case. However, the adventure provided lessons about why some therapists hold so firmly to certain psychological theories and disdain the critical research.

Imagine that a Viennese prankster to amuse his friends, invented the whole business of the id and Oedipus, and made up dreams he had never dreamed and little Hanses he had never met. And what happened? Millions of people were out there, all ready and waiting to become neurotic in earnest. And thousands more ready to make money treating them. Umberto Eco, Foucault's Pendulum

In this magazine, Elizabeth Loftus and Melvin Guyer (2002a, b) reviewed a single-case history report that had been hailed as evidence of recovered memory. Psychiatrist David Corwin had captured on videotape the story of the abuse of a six-year-old girl and the recovery, at age seventeen, of her "repressed memories." However, serious doubts were raised when Loftus reviewed the court records and interviewed the girl's mother. Here I review another single-case history on recovered memory that appeared in the psychological literature. Although my attempts to obtain the facts were less than successful, the adventure provided some lessons about professional credulity and the power of theories that are formed by personal experience.

A CASE HISTORY REPORT OF REPPRESSED MEMORY

In 1997, Bertram Karon and Anmarie Widener published an article in *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice* entitled "Repressed memories and World War II: Lest we forget!" In their article, the authors claimed that there were "literally hundreds of documented battlefield neuroses that involved the repression of traumatic combat experiences" and that

professionals who worked in the Veterans Administration hospitals (now Veterans Affairs hospitals) after WWII frequently saw such patients.

Karon and Widener then described what they identified as a typical combat hysterical neurosis. In their example, a psychoanalytic psychologist identified as Edward Karon' treated a veteran with a hysterical paralysis for six months in twiceweekly sessions. At the end of this period, the patient brought his therapist a newspaper clipping that presumably dealt with an airplane crash in which he and the pilot had been injured. The patient reported that he had been a tail gunner in a twoman bomber, selected because he was small enough to fit into the cramped tail gunner's turret. The pilot, however, was over six feet tall and weighed over 200 pounds. Returning from a mission, the patient said that six of the planes in their squadron crashed during landing, raising the suspicion of sabotage.

Because the runway was littered with wreckage, the patient's plane was forced to land in a field. The tail gunner broke his arm, while the pilot broke both legs and was unconscious. Rescuers refused to approach the burning plane because its fuel was ready to explode. However, with his one good arm, the patient managed to drag the pilot, inch by inch, away from the plane. Although his broken arm subsequently healed, his other arm was thereafter paralyzed. Furthermore, he had no conscious memory of the crash or of saving his friend. He was reported to have repressed it.

After recovering his memory in an emotional therapy session, the patient regained partial movement of his paralyzed arm for the first time. Unfortunately, the secondary gains from this paralyzed arm were not sufficiently resolved for him to return to work until after another year of psychoanalytic psychotherapy.² The authors concluded that current controversies concerning repressed memories "are always discussed without reference to this well-documented body of data." They encouraged mental health professionals to "remember their past in order to be effective in the real world." In ways they did not intend, this case history

sparked many memories for me because I was well acquainted with stories like these and this style of therapy.

Events in war are sometimes stranger than fiction. I know, because in my twenty-five years as a Veterans Affairs psychologist I checked the records of nearly every patient who, like this tail gunner, asserted improbable and self-aggrandizing claims. Time and again the stories turned out to be bogus.' Students and colleagues of mine quickly learned not to present a report like that of Karon and Widener's without first obtaining some verification.

The purpose of checking a veterans story, of course, is not directed at catching lies but at identifying and treating the proper problem. For example, was this man's arm paralyzed at the time of his discharge, and did he receive a Purple Heart? Was he receiving a service-connected disability pension for his symptom? Maybe the war story provided an explanation for his marital and occupational problems. These questions could be answered by consulting the patient's C-file (claim file) or his DD-214.' Also, when and where was the newspaper article written? Whether the therapist is a psychoanalyst or a behaviorist, such critical details should always be checked against outside records. Nevertheless, these simple facts are almost never verified, a point I return to later.

I wondered as well what documents were available to Karon for his reconstruction of this case. I believed that the author understood that he would be obligated to provide such information because the Ethical Principles of Psychologists (1992) state that "After research results are published, psychologists do not withhold the data on which their conclusions are based from other competent professionals who seek to verify the substantive claims through reanalysis. . . ."

Thus, in November 1998, I wrote to Dr. Patrick DeLeon, then editor of *Professional Psychology* to ask his assistance. My letter was directed to him because Pendergrast, in preparing a response (1998), had repeatedly made specific requests for documentation, which

Karon ignored.' My first mailing to DeLeon went unheeded, but he responded to my second request by saying 1) that he thought my first letter was merely a "FYI," needing no reply; 2) that I should write directly to Karon; and 3) that he believed that the ethical code about sharing data applied only to "empirical data." I disagreed about the empirical data limitation on the grounds that the spirit of the code has always been to promote the science of psychology by allowing open examination of "substantive claims," not merely to recheck t-tests.

Subsequently I wrote to Karon. After he failed to respond to my second request, I provided all my correspondence to the Ethics Office of the American Psychological Association for an opinion. Dr. Dolph M. Printz, the acting director of the Office of Ethics, responded by saying that Dr. Gary R. VandenBos was quite familiar with my concerns, and he had summarized his knowledge of the issues in an enclosed memorandum. Printz trusted that the careful review would assure me "that no further action is indicated in this matter."

Surprisingly, the enclosed memorandum by VandenBos was merely a discussion of airplanes. This was clearly not my primary concern and was mentioned only parenthetically in the last paragraph of my letter.

The airplane issue had been raised by software engineer James Giglio, in one of the four responses to the Karon article. Giglio (1998) claimed that no such airplane as the one described in the article was ever flown in the European theatre of war, namely a two-man bomber with a tail gunner in a separate tail turret. I wrote Giglio after I read his article, and he provided me with copies of his correspondence with Karon and Widener. Both kept insisting that he was wrong. Widener finally said that she was glad the veteran was no longer around to read Giglio's misguided comments that "completely discounted his experience as a soldier and patriot of this country and of democracy." Karon had also suggested several planes, which Giglio showed as not meeting their criteria. Karon finally insisted that the *Rand McNally Encyclopedia of Military Aircraft* (Angelucci 1981) contained bombers that

qualified. Giglio then asked for specific page numbers because he found nothing that fit. When Karon responded, "I do not have time to teach you how to read," their correspondence ended.⁶

The authors' inability to name an aircraft that fit the patient's description seriously damaged the credibility of their story. Yet in Karon and Widener's (1998) response to the critiques of their article, they said that when they informed Giglio about qualifying planes "he then tried to become technical." Even more damaging, they still failed to mention the name of any specific aircraft that they believed might qualify. And although they never acknowledged their article's factual deficiencies, they nonetheless vigorously defended the truth of their story.

Strangely, the VandenBos memorandum focused exclusively on the airplane issue. He said that he had formally sought input from the editor of a WWII aviation magazine who provided several examples: the Mosquito A-20a and A-26, the Douglas SBD Dauntless, the Curtis SB2C Helldiver, the British deHavilland Mosquito, the Douglas A-20 Havoc, the Douglas A-26B Invader, and the Bristol Beaufighter. However, Giglio had already pointed out why these specific planes failed to meet the criteria. The Mosquito A-20 and A-26 did not have a separate tail gunner; the Douglas SBD Dauntless and Curtiss Helldiver were carrier-based dive bombers deployed exclusively in the Pacific; the British deHavilland Mosquito, Douglas A-20 Havoc, and Douglas A-26B Invader each had no tail gunner or tail turret; the British Beaufighter was a night fighter, not a bomber, and the only models with separate rear-facing turrets (not in the tail) were non-operational prototypes.

VandenBos opined that any distortions of the patient's memory were a "side detail" and not the essential determinant of accuracy and validity of the clinical discussion. Memory distortion was the issue, and it was difficult for me to dismiss as "side detail" the obvious importance of investigating the patient's service record, clinical treatment notes, and any other data that could "verify the substantive claims" of the article. Then I discovered that VandenBos had

co-authored a book with Karon. VandenBos was caught in a conflict of interest. Any hope of finding the facts behind this case were now blocked, and it was clear that many issues remained unresolved.

BOILING CONTROVERSY

About a year after the article appeared, *Professional Psychology* published four critical reviews and a response by Karon and Widener. The Giglio article has already been discussed. The review by Lilienfeld and Loftus (1998) was about twice as long as the original Karon article because the authors reviewed a broad spectrum of research concerning the evidence for repression, the role of hypnosis and sodium pentathol in the recovery of memories, problems with the specific case example, and the appropriate use of single case-history reports. Piper (1998) focused on the problem of definitions that confuse discussions of repression, and he also reviewed many of the papers cited by Karon and Widener that they believed supported the notion of repression and amnesia. Finally, the article by Pendergrast (1998) described many examples of recovered war traumas that were false.

The response by Karon and Widener (1998) reflects the bitter divide that infects the issue of repressed memories. They began their article with another case history—this one about a rape. "Would any serious clinician tell her she is lying because there is no such thing as repression?" These reviewers, they charge, are dismissing all WW II patients who suffered trauma and repression as malingers. The only point of their article, they insist, was to show that repression exists. "Every psychodynamic therapist sees it. The only way he or she could not see it is by assuming that what the patient says are lies." Although they put up a brave fight over the research, the bottom line for Karon and Widener was that clinicians know repression exists, and "psychologists who dispute the conclusive existence of repression do not do therapy." They implied that those who deny repression are academics who make money by testifying for the defense in court cases, and they agreed with famous at-

torney Alan Dershowitz when he stated, "The defense has no obligation to tell the truth."

The only hint of a concession in the Karon and Widener article was an acknowledgment that hypnosis and pentathol procedures can be leading and suggestive. Further, "Remembered events may or may not be literally true," but then, "People in or out of therapy have memories of events that never occur as well as memories of events that did occur, but this fact has nothing to do with our article." This admission, it seems to me, suggests the possibility of a mistaken story by a tail gunner. I can think of several options other than lying and malingering to explain the onset of hysterical symptoms and recovered memories. They were the ones who brought up the patient's secondary gain—a mark of malingering. Why does a skeptical attitude about repression evoke such distress in some therapists?

REMEMBERING THE LESSONS

I agree with Karon that the lessons of WWII seem to have been forgotten but "need to be remembered in order for therapists to be effective in the real world." He was also correct in stating that few living clinical psychologists were working in the VA in the 1940s. However, my generation was trained by them. For example, I interacted several times with Jack Watkins who was at the Portland Veterans Administration before moving to the University of Montana where he continued his work in hypnosis and in the multiple personality disorder movement. Further, in 1974, I was president of the Portland Academy of Hypnosis, where month after month speakers shared dramatic case histories that demonstrated the "truth" of their particular theories.

These therapists promoted a vast array of explanations for the development of symptoms. They focused on childhood events, anniversary reactions, blocked emotions, sexual issues, double binds, internal conflicts, hidden trauma, and, of course, repressed memories. We applauded each theory knowing that next month our fickle devotion would be overwhelmed by a new series of fascinating case

histories. Why did each therapist have a different explanation about the cause of symptoms?

In 1784, the French commission investigating mesmerism found that subjects appeared to know when and where they should have a convulsion only if the mesmerist was present to provide the cues. From the very beginning, patients unwittingly confirmed the theories of their therapists. For example, Zerffi (1871) illustrated the extent of this problem when he said, "Hundreds of trustworthy witnesses have asserted facts which we cannot understand" (p. 67), namely that somnambulists exhibit clairvoyant powers. For example, Grimes (1850) noted that a phrenologist could ask a mesmerized subject to identify the part of her brain where she kept secrets, and she would place her finger exactly on the organ of Secretiveness. Similarly, she could identify other regions of emotions without any understanding of phrenological science. Then, Grimes discovered that phrenologists with different cranial maps obtained information from subjects that confirmed their own individual theories. He concluded: "When the subject, the operator, and all concerned, believe in any peculiar notion, the experiments will not contradict that notion, but will confirm it, however absurd it may be" (p. 209).

The French neurologist Jean-Martin Charcot confirmed his own theories in a similar manner when he studied hysteria using hypnosis, a process described as "one of the most significant misunderstandings in the entire history of medicine" (Webster 1995, p. 72). Charcot was Freud's most significant mentor, and this problematic methodology was passed on to the generation of psychiatrists who were convinced that the conversion disorders of WW I servicemen were caused by repressed battle trauma. Like Karon's patient, they were often treated with hypnotic abreaction in which the patient was expected to re-live the moment of trauma with unrestrained emotions. They believed that memories revealed during abreaction were completely true to the original experience, and if not, for those who wondered, the process itself was probably necessary for healing.

For example, Hadfield (1940) believed that most of the soldiers with traumatic neuroses had repressed experiences of being buried or blasted by an explosion. He used hypno-analysis to recover these memories, although sometimes "considerable patience and persistence are required to recover the experience" (p. 142). In such cases, he recommended telling the patient that he will not leave the room until he has recovered the experience. "Such persistence nearly always succeeds."

But from WWII on, the number of psychotherapeutic strategies exploded. This was also true for hypnotic interventions, and many of those innovators traveled through the informal speaking circuit of hypnosis societies that I mentioned above. Martin Orne (1959) provided some insight into why this proliferation was happening. Through a series of diabolically clever experiments, he showed that the hypnotic interaction is such a powerful experience for therapist and subject that both remain unaware of how certain implicit cues guide their process. The subject integrates the expectations of the hypnotist in an attempt to be cooperative, while modifying his own story to fit that expectation. Of course, in some situations the patient's story might be true. However, confabulated reports can be "extremely deceiving, as they represent a subjectively real situation, and, therefore, are produced with complete sincerity" (Orne 1951, 221).

Unaware of how much they are influencing each other, both therapist and subject become convinced that their theory is true, with the result that they will likely come to view research as contrived or irrelevant to their dynamic experience. Checking the facts seems irrelevant, even confrontational or counter-therapeutic. This powerful subjective experience can lead both parties into false beliefs (Pankratz 2002). During the Vietnam war, conversion disorders were seldom encountered as repressed memories, and abreactive treatments became a quaint historical artifact. The effects of trauma were now expressed as symptoms of avoidance and intrusion, with flashbacks as a marker. Because this war was unpopular, some suggested that most who participated

would have symptoms independent of any constitutional vulnerability-if not now, then delayed. Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) entered the diagnostic manual as a natural adaptation to extraordinary adverse situations (Yehuda et al. 1995).

In 1983, Landy Sparr and I were the first to show how easily this new disorder was feigned. However, PTSD became a wildly popular research enterprise. But in their enthusiasm, most researchers failed to check their subjects' claims or consider more mundane explanations for their symptoms.⁸ Like patients who told their therapists what they wanted to hear, research subjects validated experimenters' hypotheses (Orne 1962).

During the twenty years that I have refereed papers submitted to the American Journal of Psychiatry, I discovered that many authors merely gathered evidence for what they believed was true about symptoms and the underlying trauma. Fortunately, editors usually understood my skepticism, but it was of great help when Southwick and colleagues (1997) showed that the memories of veterans of Operation Desert Storm were highly inconsistent when questioned one month after combat and then again two years later. Most disturbing was the amplification of recall of traumatic events. Subjects changed their reports to say that they had seen others killed or wounded, that their unit had been ambushed, or that they had encountered booby traps or mines. The authors concluded that "If memories of combat are inconsistent, then the relationship between PTSD and combat exposure would be a tenuous one." An accompanying editorial frankly admitted that no one now knows what post-traumatic stress disorder really is (Hales and Zatzick 1997).

But careful research testing competing explanations has shown us how far we have drifted off course. The vast majority of people exposed to toxic events do not subsequently experience any long-term disorder, and delayed responses are extremely rare. Both children and adults, it turns out, are amazingly resilient in the long run to trauma and unfavorable environments (Bowman 1997; Masten 2001). Pre-existing

personal vulnerabilities are more predictive of outcome than an event, just as the DSM-I suggested (Yehuda et al. 1995). Finally, B.G. Burkett and Glenna Whitley (1998) provided compelling evidence that Vietnam veterans are better educated, have a lower suicide rate, have a higher employment record, are underrepresented in prison populations, and have a lower homelessness rate than those who did not serve. They suggested that the VA is not treating posttraumatic stress disorder; they are teaching it.

In 1781, Mesmer fled Paris in disappointment and fury because the commission appointed to investigate him was not interested in the personal experiences of his patients but in whether there was evidence for his underlying assumption of animal magnetism. In the 1880s, Charcot ordered doubters out of his hospital when they questioned the value of his Tuesday lectures. In the twentieth century, psychiatrists disdained the idea of checking the reality of abreactions and self-reported trauma. As a result, posttraumatic stress disorder disability pensions may now cost taxpayers \$2 billion a year, and we must face the possibility that two decades of posttraumatic stress disorder research, all based on dubious self-reports, may be useless.

In the single-case history report investigated by Loftus, small inconsistencies were ignored by professionals who were overwhelmingly convinced by the emotional response of the subject. When Loftus looked for all the facts, she became the object of some serious harassment (Tavris 2002). James Giglio was accused of being unpatriotic when he asked for information, and the American Psychological Association would rather talk to aviation experts than acknowledge whether or not any documents support a repressed memory report.⁹

From these generations of neglected critical questioning emerged an eagerness to treat recovered memories, multiple personality disorders, and traumas of every sort. The disheartening news is that we have yet to discover an effective treatment for those who really suffer from chronic posttraumatic stress

(Shalev et al. 1996) or from the acute effects of trauma. Litz and colleagues (2002) reviewed six studies of early interventions for acute trauma that they judged as having sound methodology. In all instances, psychological debriefing failed to promote change to a greater degree than no intervention at all, and in two studies the symptoms of treated victims became worse over time. While society demands that mental health professions help, sufferers are likely to be better off relying on their own natural support systems.

I believe psychologists have a responsibility to provide safe and effective treatments to those who use our services. Karon and I agree on one thing: Mental health professionals need to remember their past in order to be effective in the real world.

Loren Pankratz is a Clinical Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, Oregon Health Sciences University, Portland, Oregon.

We applauded each theory knowing that next month our fickle devotion would be overwhelmed by a new series of fascinating case histories.

The majority of people exposed to toxic events do not experience any long-term disorder, and delayed responses are extremely rare.

Footnotes: [Where these notes apply were left out of the transmission. -pjf]

1. Bertram Karon told Beth Loftus that Edward was his brother who had died about twenty years previously.

2. I published a single-case report describing two sessions of hypnosis to treat a similar hysterical paralysis (Pankratz 1979). My point was that a facesaving strategy can avoid a struggle over the etiology of symptoms, and it is not necessary that the paradigm fit the facts to be effective.

3. See, for example, Pankratz 1990, 1998; Pankratz, Hickam, and Toth 1989; Pankratz and Jackson 1994; Pankratz and Kofoed 1988; Pankratz and Lipkin 1978; and Pankratz and McCarthy 1986.

4. The DD-214 is the veteran's discharge document that provides a general review of the individual's military history. The DD-214 is now

so commonly forged, however, that it should no longer be considered a reliable document.

5. Interested readers can obtain a copy of this correspondence from Mr. Pendergrast at markp@nasw.org.

6. Interested readers can obtain a copy of this correspondence from Mr. Giglio at jgiglio@nova.umuc.edu.

7. Jones, et al. (in press) examined symptoms of UK servicemen from 1854 to the present. They concluded that symptoms of stress have changed dramatically over time and that PTSD (as described in the diagnostic manual) is a culture-bound syndrome.

8. My favorite example is from the National Vietnam Veteran Readjustment Study (NVVRS), research that consumed four years and \$9 million (Kulka et al. 1988). Six women in the study claimed that their stress was caused by being a prisoner of war. Not one of the many researchers involved in the study apparently realized that no American military woman ever became a POW in Vietnam.

9. The American Psychological Association recently was accused of backing away from some controversial scientific findings. To their credit, they devoted an issue of the American Psychologist to the whole affair (see Lilienfeld 2002).

References removed for space reasons but can be supplied. *COSA Ed.*

Thanks to G. Waugh for supplying material.

PC Traffic court.

"Your Honour, I asked the driver to produce his license. When I pointed out that he was required to wear glasses he became very agitated and said he had contacts.

I warned him against trying to intimidate an officer of the law and told him I didn't care who he knew, to which he replied that I was both humourously and parentally challenged.

I then arrested him.

ANOTHER CONTROVERSIAL BOOK.

The words of the old song that went "boots, boots, boots boots marching up and down again," appears to be somewhat appropriate, when reflections are made on the emphasis of books in this newsletter. The picking up and putting down of many books before selecting one to start on that long journey from frontispiece to the finis is sometimes an interesting effort in itself. Often the thought is, "I will read that one when I have time, or as is too often the case, "Why did they bother to publish this. This may have been the thought of many of our members when they heard that Deborah Coddington had published a second edition of her dubious "*The New Zealand paedophile and sex offender index.*"

Civil Rights and other aspects including name suppression are some of the factors that warrant scrutiny.

We invite members comments on areas and aspects that concern them.

Watson and Holmes had just completed helping the police solve another case that had baffled them.

"Holmes, its a long time since we had a break," said Watson.

"Capital idea, Watson, lets go camping,"

So Watson drove to Baker Street and they picked up the tent and a few other necessities that Mrs Hudson insisted they take. They pitched the tent, boiled the billy, had the normal violin recital and after Holme's nicotine patch had kicked in, they retired for the night.

About 2 am Holmes awoke and nudged Watson.

"Wake up Watson, tell me what you see."

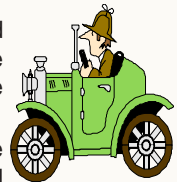
"I see the stars, Holmes."

"Yes, but what does it mean."

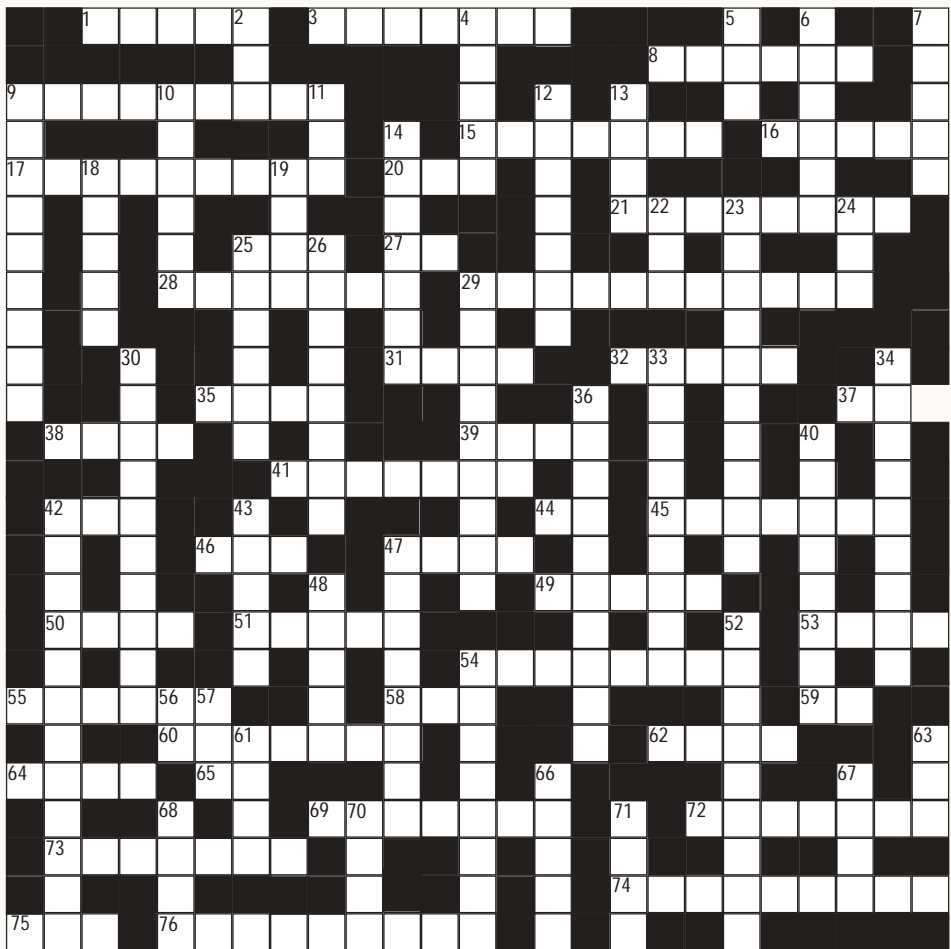
"It means it's night time, there are no clouds?"

"No Watson, what does it **really mean?**"

cont. p 21



CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL CRECHE CROSSWORD CHALLENGE



CHEQUED FOR MISS STEAKS

When words profound and fluent I'm called upon to write, I always worry that I mite not get the spelling rite.

So I keep a spelling checker (clever thing) in my PC, and my computer brings to cite miss steaks aye can knot sea.

A chequer is a wondrous thing.

It freeze me lodes of thyme.

It helps me chews the word sigh knead, and lets me make them rime!

Each frays composed upon my screen eye trussed to bee a joule.

The checker ponders every word against sum spelling rule.

Be four my checker changed my weighs aye had full many a laps. Long words with lots of fid lee bits once gave me hart a tax.

Butt now bee cause my spell Ling, is chequed with such grate flare, their are know eras in my pro's. (Of nun aye am a where!)

To rite suck sinked is quite a feet of witch won should be prowed. Sew wee mussed rite eggs act and neat. Miss takes are knot aloud.

Now yew can sea why aye S steam soft wear that does sew pleas, and why I brake in two averse in prays of our pea seas.

Can you find it the one cross word on this page.

ACROSS THE ROOFTOP

- 1 what was kept in the shed at the back of the house
- 3 foot through the roof
- 8 statistics accurate to the decimal place
- 9 Peter beaten up by
- 15 on the fire escape
- 16 92 potential witnesses
- 17 it's beyond my [Crawford]
- 20 name given [by Hood] to 'serial accuser.'
- 21 a Crown solicitor
- 27 as he would initial a form
- 28 profession of one of the defence witnesses
- 29 Royal of mercy
- 31 In France it would have been a '....' penis
- 32 DSW manager
- 35 raisins, sandwiches, cakes or biscuits on the ?
- 37 first counsellor involved with first accusation
- 38 there were no children at the Creche
- 39 lowered down a rope and put in the
- 41 Peter was not about paedophilia
- 42 ... sentence report
- 44 Roger Carson was a ..
- 45 there was a in the corrugated iron
- 46 a plastic shape was found under the ... [Ward 24]
- 47 Legal Aid
- 49 the kitchen roof wasd in by a workman
- 50 The last word in DSAC.
- 51 Eade's conduct was not monitored by Chris
- 53 Phil Goff refuses to
- 54 Creche accused of harbouring a child
- 55 went in like storm troopers & ripped their apart'
- 58 reason why many false accusations made ... [maori]
- 59 .. reality checks made by childrens interviewers
- 60 Pamela Hudson—where terrorizing, torture and sexual assaults took place
- 62 Andrew entered the kitchen via a
- 64 there was no at the Creche
- 65 what Goff claims is needed. [first letters only]
- 69 employment found for one of the Creche workers
- 72 the police were looking for in the ceiling
- 73 Ellis and Davidson both received in the mail
- 74 Jenkins admitted an re photographs.
- 75 ... bottoms
- 76 and pliers - radical new surgery technique..

DOWN THE ROPE

- 2 Group that asked for \$28,000 from Lottery Grants, \$6000 from Internal Affairs to promote belief of SRA.
- 4 Detective who took complaint that Ellis had pushed children down manhole with kept caged gorillas
- 5 what Goff will not do ...
- 6 child who was stabbed
- 7 children were put in
- 9 on Klein's list of repressed memories of ritual abuse
- 10 the name of the mascot giraffe
- 11 DSW interviewer ... Sidey
- 12 place that Detective Jenkins spent many hours exploring, mapping and photographing
- 13 one word that sums up the whole travesty
- 14 name of one Queen's Counsel
- 18 not all were to what was going on [knowing]
- 19 a group often linked with Satanic Abuse
- 22 A game played in the tunnel and elsewhere
- 23 what the complainant parents are accused of
- 24 Crawford unable to interpret claim Ellis was an ... murderer.
- 25 child who was run over and killed
- 26 patterns on carpet photographed by police
- 29 a particular crime that multiple offenders were supposed to have carried out
- 30 where the lions cages and children ended up
- 33 Zelas presented an during pretrial arguments
- 34 the foreman had been a
- 36 the claimed violent and bloody abuse the children received were not mentioned on the
- 40 buried in graveyards
- 42 the Crown came back with (gobbledegook)
- 43 these had no clothes on
- 47 "is it true you are getting and eating them", reporters asked creche workers
- 48 inflicted with a after Peter's mother kicked her
- 52 certain spiders are known for these
- 54 DS Hardie given two weeks to investigate the offender allegations
- 56 these responsible for anal probes and abduction?
- 57 Star
- 61 over the ten pages, Morgan reminded
- 63 Eichelbaum's selected psychologist who believed in ritual abuse & MMVO
- 66 once or twice a year the whole creche made to
- 67 was planting paedophiles in every child care centre in Christchurch
- 68 John ...'. experience made him a leading national authority on child abuse investigations
- 70 relatively speaking
- 71 Peter turned a child into a

STROLL

FROM P19

it means Watson, that someone has stolen the **blooming tent!**

TUNNEL

TRIO

COSA NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2003 NO. 19

21



Special thanks to the 'friends of the court.' So many members are grateful for their comfort at a very stressful time.



One of the hardest things for people to do is apologise and one of the easiest things for people to do is forget to say thanks.

If I have offended any, due to commission or omission I apologise. For those who have contributed and supplied material I thank you, for my critic I appreciate your input.

editor



TRIAL BY MEDIA?

Too often the media is tempted to project a judgement which may prejudice a case outcome, rather than just publishing the verifiable facts.

This situation appears to have arisen as an issue in the prosecution of Justin Todd Richardson, accused on making a false complaint.

He was implicated in the Maryland abuse issue.

Mr Richardson was remanded until the 13 October in response to the comments by defence lawyer, Mr Lascelles to Judge Bisphan.

THE PRESS 13 SEPT 2003

"Comments . . . have raised issues which may have a significant bearing on the conduct of any defence," Mr Lascelles said. Yesterday, Judge Bisphan remanded Richardson on renewed bail until October 10 while Mr Lascelles' concerns were considered. —NZPA.

National Business Review 3 Oct 2003 Appeal Court 'victims' seek redress Nick Smith

"The first of 1500 convicted criminals denied a right to appeal by systemic failure in the Court of Appeal will later this month have his case heard.

The man is one of the 12 involved in the Privy Council case called *Taito*, in which the law lords exposed colossal Court of Appeal failings in denying appellants a basic right to appeal convictions.

His case will be heard in Wellington on Oct 12 and will be followed by more than 20 others denied appeals through unlawful process between 1991 and 2001."

All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to remain silent. *Edmund Burke* [1729 -1797]

- 1: We do not act because we are not affected or involved?
- 2: We cannot act because no one will listen to us, and we couldn't help change?
- 3: We cannot act because the false accusers have too powerful proponents?
- 4: We stop acting because we see no change?
- 5: We cannot act because we have not debated/analyzed the problem sufficiently?

**Not acceptable.
You are part of the answer.**

Read the newsletters
Research the books
Repeat the truth.

CONTENTS: AUGUST 2003

- 1 Lynley Hood's meeting reviewed
- 3 Books that had an input into the Civic Creche Case
- 4 Short book lists
- 5 Review of 'The Courage to Heal.
- 6 Consequences to the Rage to Heal.
- 6 Historian cleared of abuse after false memory fear
- 7 Clippings old and new
- 11 Nostalgia
- 12 Random Collections
- 13 Article by Loren Pankratz May 2003
- 20 I hope you find the crossword enjoyable
Answers will be in the next newsletter
- 22 Reflections and thanks
- 23 This page

Facts are stubborn things and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passions, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.

John Adams

A Quick Note

COSA members have greatly appreciated the input and efforts of Nancy to prepare our previous newsletters.

I hope you find this one as informative and helpful.

This issue has a theme of books and the following newsletters may have other themes and responses to topical issues as they appear.

We are limited by the resources of material we have available, but welcome suggestions of topics you would like considered.

Many of our previous newsletters have had a large amount of material that arises from the Civic Creche Case. It is important to remember that as this is a benchmark case that in many ways embodies within it many of the weaknesses that have occurred in so many cases of claimed sexual abuse and assault, both in the inquiry and judicial areas.



COSA is a voluntary non-profit, educational, research and community organisation established in 1994.

COSA was formed by a group of professionals and individuals troubled by the increasing number of false allegations of sexual abuse being made in New Zealand which follows trends established in other countries.

COSA centred in Christchurch, embraces needs and concerns throughout New Zealand.

COSA recognises that sexual abuse does occur and in no way condones this abhorrent activity.

Along with the problem of genuine abuse, our society is however afflicted by a parallel problem of false and unfounded accusations.

False allegations have serious and adverse social effects on individuals, families and the greater community.

COSA resources are directed to these cases of injustice, while striving to facilitate a reduction in such destructive accusations.

False allegations are often reinforced by misguided investigative and therapeutic intervention.

COSA is committed to uphold the principles of science, justice and valid professional practice.

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*Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of
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