

END RITUAL ABUSE

NEWSLETTER

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P. O. Box 21231
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E.R.A. STATEMENT ON RITUAL ABUSE

Ritual Abuse is a very frightening terminology to many, but unfortunately this is the reality we are dealing with today. Denying ritual abuse exists is of no help to anyone, most of all victims/survivors. It is a brutal form of abuse to children, adolescents and adults, consisting of physical, sexual and psychological abuse, and involving the use of rituals. It usually involves repeated abuse over an extended period of time. Physical abuse is severe, sometimes including torture and killing. Sexual abuse is usually painful, sadistic and humiliating, intended as a means of gaining dominance over the victim. Psychological abuse is devastating and involves the use of ritual indoctrination which includes mind control techniques. ERA's view is to keep the subject of ritual abuse on the public agenda, to educate and inform readers of its prevalence, and to discuss the diagnostic and treatment issues that arise from it.

GREETINGS FROM E.R.A.

Hello readers.

Due to the last newsletter being sent out somewhat behind schedule, we have ensured that this issue gets out on time. Remember, newsletters are sent out on a three monthly basis. The next issue is due out in August.

As readers will be aware, a call for subscriptions has been made. The response to date has been good, but those who haven't paid, here's a reminder. Subscriptions are important for this newsletter to keep up it's high standard of information. It costs a considerable amount for toll calls and postage for research on ritual abuse and the diagnostic and treatment issues that arise from it.

Readers, please remember if any one of you wish to write in with information, articles, and suggestions about this newsletter, please do not hesitate to do so. We attempt to cover issues that are of importance to the issue of ritual abuse, but if we have not written on a subject so far that you see of immediate importance, please write to E.R.A. (box number 21-231 Christchurch).

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the assistance of the Lottery Grants Board in the production of this newsletter.

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EDITORIAL

Over the last month or so a barrage of televised and printed representations of ritual abuse and ritual abuse survivors have engaged the public's attention.

Particular articles and programs have cast aspersions on the character and motivations of the survivors and their advocates. Those involved include Denis Dutton from False Memory Syndrome Foundation; Michael Hill a lecturer from Wellington University and a researcher on satanic ritual abuse; the Selwyn MP Mr Carter (Christchurch); Felicity Goodyear-Smith, a doctor in Auckland and wife of Bert Potter's son (who was convicted in the Centrepoint case); Frank Haden, journalist for Sunday Star Times; Martin Van Beynen, journalist for the Christchurch Press; and Kim Hill, who runs a talkback radio programme. All have talked of false accusations made to the women creche workers who were charged, and how the parents of the complainant children, the evidential interviewers from social welfare, the counsellors, the police, and even the jury, judges and appeal court judges have lost sight of their basic sensibility to believe this child's bizarre allegations. Some of the above people claim that the "poor complainant children" are made to be victims by parents putting the ideas into the children's head, and then the evidential interviewers believing them, and further the police believing them and charging particular people.

We would like to say several things on this matter. Firstly, the evidential interviewers and the police are far more professional than what some people would like to put across to the public. The strict rules the evidential interviewers had to adhere to relating to the "video recordings act" was stringent. If this was not adhered to, then the whole evidential interview would not have been allowed in court. It would have been thrown out by the judge. Secondly, the police also had extremely stringent guidelines to adhere to. This was also examined very closely in the depositions, the women's cost hearing, in the trial and finally in the Appeal court hearing. Not on one occasion was it ever suggested by the 5 judges that the evidential interviewers, the police, the counsellors, the parents and the social workers did any thing other than deal with the

situation that was put in front of them appropriately.

Not even the contamination theory, that some people like to constantly talk about was accepted by the jury or the five judges. People need to remember that this whole case (the civic creche) went through intense examination through the judicial system and no judge complains of anything being done inappropriately. No one sensationalises this civic creche other than the people who were charged, their friends, and some of the media. Many of these people choose to be selective with their information on the case, giving inference that the children's parents put the ideas of abuse into their children's minds, and it is nothing but a witch hunt, and hysteria.

Recently, the creche women who were charged in connection with the civic creche case, and other workers from the centre, were awarded a total of one million dollars from Judge Goddard as a result of their employment court case. This court deals with work related issues, eg unjustified dismissals etc. The court that the procedure the Christchurch City Council (the creche workers' employer) went through in closing the creche was not adhering to according to the workers' employment contract. Judge Goddard awarded monies for loss of wages, and compensations for humiliation, hurt, etc and for loss of future earnings. However, this was not a court dealing with crime, nor was it a hearing for a retrial. The monies awarded was in no way a vindication of the women's innocence as some claim. It was a different court setting, with a different grievance. It is a shame that some of the media did not differentiate the role of each court.

Isn't it time to look back at all the judgements that were made public for all to read, if they chose to do so? Remember, the children and families are still trying to heal and have a normal life like many other people. The children are being reabused by some of the media and their healing process is taking all sorts of knock-backs.

Children and adults continue to be exploited and damaged by ongoing, systematic, deliberately inflicted trauma. Rather, our society continues to portion blame on the victim for his/her own victimisation. At the same time, there

appears to be a growing sympathy and support for some individuals identified as the possible perpetrators of these types of crimes.

It is now time to abandon the denial and willingly explore victims' allegations. As Pamela Perskin (executive director of "The Society for the Investigation, Treatment and Prevention of Ritual and Cult Abuse) states, "We must take responsibility for educating our fellow professionals and the public on the subject of ritual abuse, we must correct the public's misperceptions which are based on inaccurate data, we must bring the media to task when it

presents biased or distorted information.

Remember, we are not asking to be believed, we are asking to be heard. If the public has the opportunity to have the facts as we know them, and to have them presented in a logical, unbiased and respectful fashion, they will know what we know; that there is something occurring which deserves our attention and action. To achieve our goal, we must present a unified front. We must cast aside our philosophical differences in order to work for the common good."

DID YOU KNOW...

Did you know?

That journalist Leslie Bennetts in an investigation on satanic ritual abuse talked to FBI agent Kenneth Lanning, whose work is always cited as proof that no cases of intergenerational Satanism have been proven. After speaking extensively with several satanic ritual abuse claimants, Leslie Bennett asked Lanning 'whether he too has difficulty disbelieving all the omen he has interviewed since I, like so many therapists, remain deeply troubled by how credible they seem. To my surprise, he admits he has never talked to a ritual abuse survivor. It turns out that, through all the years investigating this phenomenon, his contact has been solely with other law-enforcement professionals and with therapists; he has never gone to the source of these reports, the women themselves. Several weeks later Lanning revised his story to say that he had spoken with "several dozen" survivors on an unofficial basis'. (Leslie Bennetts, Nightmares on Main Street, Vanity Fair June, 1993 P.62) - Source "Beyond Survival March 1995.

Did you know?

That women who sexually abuse children are far more likely to escape punishment than male offenders. Dr. Kathleen Coulborn Faller, a professor at the University of Michigan School of Social Work, conducted a study of 72 women accused of sexually abusing 332 children. Two-thirds of the women allegedly committed these crimes with men. Of the 72 female offenders studied, only three were prosecuted and not one was convicted.

Did you know? That Keith Le Page (the expert who was hired by the defence in the civic creche

case, and also was hired by defence in the Wellington hospital creche case, has been a psychiatrist for 32 years. He became involved in child sex abuse cases when a barrister asked him for some explanations. (I understand that has been the case over the last few years.) This so-called expert who decides whether a child has been abused or not one way or another, claims he has reviewed all literature over 20 odd years and found no reliable, organised methodology laid out to provide guidelines. He claims he gradually formulated one, from various disciplines, to help form his own opinion and to assess evaluations made by others.

Le Page believes that where there is no corroborative evidence to support an allegation, there is no procedures for validation of sexual abuse. He believes there is no clear concept of what constitutes sexual abuse. The experts are fumbling in the fog. He believes of tape recording or videotaping the original interview with the child, to preserve it in pristine form. He is suspicious that other people do not translate accurately their observations.

It is interesting that Le Page has such expertise in this area of sexual abuse. He strongly believes that Peter Ellis from the civic creche is innocent, even though that five judges and a jury found him guilty on 16 counts, after listening to parents, police, others and the children. Le Page believes that the ideas were put into the children's head by experts and parents, and that all these claimant children re the civic creche case all came from dysfunctional homes, and all the children's problems were with them prior to them going to the creche. How could any person take this so called expert seriously. The

evidence was overwhelming re the civic creche, the evidential interviewers had to adhere to the regulations of the video recording act. This was extensively examined within the court system at the time and it was all within the regulations. But still Le Page wants to blame the experts.. Who are these experts? The police, the social workers, the evidential interviewers and Crown expert, psychiatrist Karen Zelas.

A parent comments:

"This man really does make my blood boil. Particularly when he claims he is the expert on children. This expert is missing some very important ingredients here with his expert assessment on child abuse. Firstly he claims that the children should not talk to their parents first about their abuse. They should be encouraged by their parents to not listen, or ask questions, just take them directly to someone to videotape their very first disclosure. How inept is this view. Lets remember what the child may be feeling, the fear, the guilt and the unsafety they believe they are in. Secondly, the child will not disclose any information if they do not feel safe, or believed. Thirdly, what if the child had been videotaped while being abused. He/she needs to be encouraged to go and talk to a complete stranger with a videotape planted in front of them.

I would like to remind Le Page that I am the expert of my child, and I as a parent know my child inside out. My child would never had considered talking to anyone else until they'd talked about and discussed it with the family. Le Page is so very good apparently after watching my child's evidential interview that abuse had not taken place, that ideas had been put into my child's head by experts and parents, and that basically my child was lying. Why would a 7 year old child go into court and lie - assuming they were capable of doing so? What the hell would a child and parents get from this exercise if it weren't true.? These experts give me grey hair to say the least. Hey Le Page, come to my home and talk to my child about the abuse that was endured. It's time to stop supporting those who abuse, and perhaps you could be a "real crusader" and support the poor little children who endure such awful crimes. Your new theories may give your so-called expertise more credibility".

SUPPORT FROM SANDRA CONEY

After so much negativity from the mainstream media, it was heartening to read the supportive arguments that Sandra Coney wrote in the Dominion Sunday Times earlier this year. Coney, a well-known health issues and women's rights campaigner, replied to the many letters she subsequently received, and was further prompted to write another column on the civic creche case, which we reprint on the next page. Below is the transcript of the letter she sent out to some of us:

"I received a great number of letter from people in response to my article about the Christchurch creche case, so please forgive me for not writing personally to you.

The letter brought home to me how much the media coverage has concentrated on the perspective of those who wish to deny what has happened and the effect that this denial has had on families involved.

It was very helpful to receive all these letter and other documents that people sent which I have read carefully. In particular it was helpful to read the appeal court judges' views.

I have written another column about the case in this Sunday's paper [see following article - ERA]. I hope this will contribute to enlightening the public a bit further and providing a little balance to the media coverage which has so far tended to doubt and confuse.

My best wishes to all children and families for the future. I can appreciate how difficult it is for all to live with what is going on. The only comfort I can offer is that there is a similar backlash after the Cartwright Inquiry. You may recall *Metro's* 'second thoughts' article which recanted on the earlier article by myself and Phillida Bunkle, and sought to 'know better' than the judicial inquiry. This did have an effect at the time, in making at least some people doubt what the truth was. However, as time has gone on I feel few today doubt what happened at National Women's Hospital. Confidence was rebuilt in the outcome by a number of follow-up events - statements by professional groups, Clare Matheson's book from a survivor's perspective, disciplinary action against various doctors involved, the continuing public acceptance and support from official bodies. I hope a similar process will go on with your case so that the public becomes confident about the judgements that have been made".

WELL ORCHESTRATED CRECHE CAMPAIGN

By Sandra Coney

(*Dominion Sunday-Star Times*, 2 April 1995)

More heat than light was generated when the media reported on the latest developments in the Christchurch creche case. The former women creche workers who were originally charged with offences have used the Employment Court decision as a window of opportunity to attempt to relitigate all aspects of the case.

The complaint from the women's solicitor to Police Minister John Luxton about police conduct in the case was carefully timed to capitalise on the new spate of publicity. It could have been made at any time in the past two years. And despite media reports that Mr Luxton had "ordered" or "called for" an inquiry, this is not so. He merely followed the routine procedure he would have had I written claiming a policeman had kicked my cat. He passed it on to the Commissioner of Police who passed it on to the Police Complaints Authority, nothing Mr Luxton had done can be interpreted as a legitimisation of the complaint.

The employment court decision has nothing to do with the criminal charges. It just decided the creche workers had been wrongly dismissed. The Christchurch City Council should probably have suspended the workers on pay.

It is quite another matter and outside the jurisdiction of the employment court to maintain the council should have kept the creche open and the police were over-reacting in recommending its closure.

The Education Ministry had withdrawn the creche's licence. It would have been highly irresponsible of the council to keep it open and realistically what parents would have wanted to take their kids to it? The former creche workers maintain they ended up facing charges because there was a moral panic in Christchurch around child sexual abuse, that, infected by the mood, police and sexual abuse counsellors were prepared to believe as fact things that had not happened. They have refrained from telling us whether they think Peter Ellis is also innocent.

We need to remember the charges of indecent assault against the women were outlined as a depositions hearing in front of a judge. It was his job to decide if the police had adequately supported their charges, he found there was a prima

facie case to answer. The charges were dismissed in April 1992 under section 347 of the Crimes Act. Justice Williamson gave three reasons.

1) There was insufficient weight of evidence against the women.

2) There was a potential for prejudice (because a jury might have judged the women had failed to act properly to protect the children from Peter Ellis).

3) The delay in the trial while Ellis's case was heard could cause hardship to them and the child. He said none of these reasons alone was sufficient for a discharge but in combination they were.

He declined to accept an application from the women's lawyer under section 344a of the Crimes Act that the "evidence was unsafe and unreliable". He rejected the lawyer's argument that there were failures on the part of the police or by social welfare during interviews.

It is also worth recalling that Justice Williams declined the women's application to the court for costs, saying their criticisms of the Crown's conduct of the case were invalid.

I've laid all these out because I have been appalled at much of the recent media coverage. We've been told public pressure is mounting for an inquiry into the police conduct of the case, when the pressure is coming from interested parties, such as the women's lawyer, Ellis's lawyer and a psychiatrist called by the defence (that is, Keith Le Page).

Gaye Davidson represented herself as too traumatised to show her face on Holmes - we were only allowed to see the bottom of her face. Three days later, such inhibitions had evaporated when she appeared full-face on TV3's 20/20.

The 20/20 programme, which coincidentally screened hard on the Employment Court judgement, was effective at telling the women's side of the story. No contrary views were presented.

Once upon a time the media had a belief in objectivity and in eliminating bias from news reporting. This goal seems to have abandoned these days, leaving the public poorly served in the face of such a carefully orchestrated campaign.

REBUTTING THE APOLOGISTS: ERA REPLIES

Readers may have also noticed Frank Haden's column in the *Sunday-Star Times* on the same day that Sandra Coney wrote the column reprinted in this newsletter. His reporting came from the other end of the spectrum, loaded with misleading information. For example he states that "Employment Court Chief Judge Tom Goddard, may his tribe increase, has smashed another great hole in the ship of credibility on which the conviction and imprisonment of Peter Ellis floats so insecurely. On Tuesday he released a painstakingly detailed judgement supplementing his March 16 interim judgement awarding more than one million dollars compensation to Christchurch Civic Creche workers for wrongful dismissal. Although his judgement properly steers well clear of any comment on the Ellis case, taken in sum it paints a dreadful picture of the results of mass hysteria, bigotry, misguided counselling practices and generally stupid credulity among public servants."

Haden is doing nothing other than misguiding readers of what the role of the employment court really is. Let's get this into perspective. The employment court judge is there to ascertain whether or not there has been a wrongful dismissal. In making his decision, Judge Goddard had, among other things, the following to say:

"The case before the court

consists of the personal grievances of 13 applicants who, at the beginning of the last quarter of 1992, were employed by the Christchurch City Council in the council's child care centre known as the civic creche. Eleven were child care workers and two were cleaners. Their grievances arose at half past five on the evening of 3 September 1992 when the City Manager of the Christchurch City Council addressed a hastily summoned meeting of the staff at the creche ... Mr G from the City Council told those assembled that the Ministry of Education has withdrawn the council's licence to operate the creche because the creche no longer complied with the Early Childhood Regulations ... It is against a background of things settling down to a degree of normality that on 1 September Mr G was asked to receive at short notice a deputation from the Ministry of Education, the Department of Social Welfare, and the police. This meeting took place early on 2 September ... A police inspector revealed to Mr G that there were ongoing police investigations concerning the creche. He did not, and when pressed would not, say what these investigations were about. However, from the nature of the meeting and the persons present Mr G assumed that the investigations involved child abuse by staff other than Peter Ellis and currently in progress. The inspector said that because there were ongoing police

investigation, the discussion that was to occur at the meeting was to be kept in strict confidence and even the Mayor could not be informed ... The police then went on to tell him that, as a result of the ongoing investigations, they were satisfied that the children at the creche were considered to be in serious danger and as a result all those present at the meeting wanted the creche closed that very day, not later than 1 pm ... The employment of the staff did come to an end when the employees were dismissed for the stated reason of redundancy. ... It is common ground that the attempt to dismiss the employees on 3 September 1992 for redundancy by means of paying them four week's wages in lieu of notice was a breach of the collective employment contract ... I hold the dismissal on 3 September 1992 of the 13 applicants to have been unjustifiable for two reasons: (1) that the council has not discharged the burden of proving redundancy, and not untested suspicion of serious misconduct, was the true reason; (2) even if redundancy had been the dominant reason, the council was not entitled to move at once to dismissal in disregard of its contractual obligations in the event of redundancies arising."

The comments Haden made of mass hysteria, bigotry, misguided counselling prac-

tices, and generally stupid credulity among public servants is certainly not what Goddard said. Goddard's job was to deal with an unjustified dismissal and when that was decided upon, then deal with remedies to the grievance. Let's remember we are talking about a hearing in an employment court. What Haden and certainly other people are trying to put across to the public is that a retrial was heard and Judge Goddard has agreed the police, social welfare, parents and children were all on some sort of witch hunt. All of the detail and issues in regards to the women's case and Ellis's case was heard in a criminal court. Everything was closely examined in regards to who did what and who said what and so on. Not only in front of a high court judge but also in front of a jury. Secondly, let's remember that in the employment court a lot more information is considered to be admissible than it is in the criminal court. The admissibility argument was closely scrutinised within the judicial system. The point here is that the plaintiffs (particularly the four women originally charged in connection with the civic creche case) included many issues in the employment court that were already dealt with in the criminal court; eg. for approximately two days the lawyer for the former creche workers (the same lawyer that defended the creche workers during the civic creche case) examined one child's disclosures, and how bizarre and

ridiculous they were, how the police went ahead pressing charges with no thought whatsoever, and how the parents got into a mass hysteria about sexual abuse. This had absolutely nothing to do with unjustifiable dismissal, and certainly was not within Judge Goddard's jurisdiction to make recommendations or change decisions or even give compensation to the women because he felt that it had all been done wrongly by the police. That matter was taken forward to the appeal court judges, none of whom came up with the assessment that Frank Haden has arrived at.

To continue on with the misleading reporting. Haden states "The only difference, although a significant difference for the imprisoned Ellis, is the allegations against him were believed by the social workers, the police and the jury, while the allegations against the women did not make it into court. How can this be? Ellis is supposed to have been doing these appalling things with all four women; the charges against the women are thrown out, but Ellis is committed for trial and found guilty."

Again let's get this into perspective. The joint charge with Debbie Gillespie and Peter Ellis were dropped because the child who had charges on Gillespie and Ellis withdrew from the case due to the families own personal reasons. Secondly, let's remember, that in regards to Keys, Davidson and Buckingham, the joint charge made with Ellis was completely put aside due to the

three women getting discharged under section 347 for the very three reasons Haden does not wish to share with readers. Ellis was also not convicted on that particular joint charge. This does not mean that the children upon whom convictions against Ellis resulted were not credible witnesses as Haden would so very much like to put across to the public. If the jury and five subsequent judges found them to be credible witnesses, why is it that Haden and others have such difficulty with this issue?

Some people just seemed to have an incredibly bad problem of not accepting decisions made by judges that have been tested five times.

END RITUAL ABUSE

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YOU DON'T HAVE TO PLAY ME BACKWARDS.....
SATANIC RITUAL ABUSE: THE EVIDENCE SURFACES

There has been a lot of "so called factual information" in the media in New Zealand about how there is NO evidence of satanic ritual abuse throughout the world. Daniel Ryder claims differently. An investigative journalist and a counsellor, Daniel Ryder, CCDC, LSW, is the author of *Breaking the Circle of Satanic Ritual Abuse*. The following article is based on material from Mr Ryder's newest book, *Cover-Up of the Century (Satanic Ritual Crime and Conspiracy)*, and taken from the newsletter of The Society for the Investigation, Treatment and Prevention of Ritual and Cult Abuse, Texas, Volume two, Number Two.

The following lyrics are from a song about Satanic ritual abuse of Joan Baez's latest album, *Play me Backwards*. Incidentally, it's the lead song.

"You don't have to play me backwards
To get the meaning of my verse.
You don't have to die and go to hell
To feel the devil's curse."

It's not only the "devil's curse" survivors of satanic ritual abuse have been feeling of late. They have also been feeling the curse of a pronounced societal backlash. In some circles now, the stories of some of the most heinous abuse imaginable - sexual abuse, brainwashing, torture, murder/sacrifice - are being labelled as "patently false". Therapists are being accused of planting these memories. And, for instance, the FBI has come out debunking the phenomenon, saying, unequivocally, there is no tangible evidence organised satanic ritual abuse exists at all.

However, my research shows it does exist. And indications are we are only seeing the tip of the iceberg of a social phenomenon that, when totally exposed, will rock the core of societal beliefs.

For the last four years, I have criss-crossed the country interviewing cult researchers, ritual crime investigators, task force members, therapists, investigative reporters, cult survivors.. as part of an in-depth investigation on the issue of satanic ritual abuse. And, the research has yielded some extremely eye-opening things.

The most eye-opening hasn't been the mutilated backwoods remains of a cult victim's body in Massachusetts. It wasn't the bloody pentagram carved into a cult victim's corpse in San Francisco. The most eye-opening, has been a widely cited Law Enforcement Perspective report out of the FBI's Behavioural Science Centre in Quantico, Virginia.

The report was written by supervisory special agent Kenneth Lanning. It has gone out to law enforcement agencies around the country; and has been cited consistently throughout the media in the last several years.

The report states, in regards to "organised" satanic ritual abuse homicide (that is, two or more satanic cult members conspiring to commit murder); "The law enforcement perspective can't ignore the lack of physical evidence (no bodies, or even hairs, fibres, or fluids left by violent murders" No bodies? The following is an excerpt from a March 13 1981, UPI article.

"Fitchburg Mass - The alleged leader of a devil worship cult was found guilty of first degree murder Friday in the ritual killing of a young Fall River, Mass, prostitute last year. Carl Drew, 26, stood pale and expressionless as the verdict was announced. He was immediately sentenced to life imprisonment by superior court judge Francis W. Keating...Miss Marsden was allegedly killed, mutilated and beheaded by Drew and two others in a blood-soaked night time ritual in a wooded area because she wanted to leave the cult".

In 1993, House Bill 1689 was introduced in the Massachusetts Legislature. It is prohibiting "Certain

Ritualistic Acts". Some of these acts include: ritual mutilation, dismemberment, torture, the sacrifice of animals, humans... (A similar bill was passed in Idaho in 1990).

Also in the 1993 Avon Books release: *Raising Hell*, author/investigative reporter Michael Newton writes, "While some cult apologists may be forgiven their ignorance of current events, (FBI) Agent Lanning - with access to nationwide police files - should know better. As this volume amply demonstrates, cult related killers stand convicted of murder in 23 states and at least nine foreign countries. Numerous other occultists are now serving time for practicing their "faith" through acts of arson, rape, assault, cruelty to animals, and similar crimes"

The organisation, Looking Up, founded initially as a nationwide support/referral program for incest survivors, serves approximately 15,000 people a year, 40% of whom now are reporting they are dealing with ritualistic or cult related abuse. According to spokesperson for JUSTUS Unlimited in Denver, a non-profit referral and resource centre, they are currently receiving more than 7,000 Satanic ritual abuse related calls a year. (What's more, they are also hearing from all over the world: Australia, New Zealand, England, The Netherlands, Germany, Israel, Canada..)

Given the tangible evidence now surfacing, and given the volume of people reporting Satanic cult related abuse, it would seem curious the FBI would come out with such a definitive stance attempting to discredit the increasing phenomenon. Of course, then again, it was the same FBI that for more than the first half of this century consistently said there was no evidence whatsoever of another type of "organised" criminal activity. That is - Mafia related crime.

Actually, Satanic cults are somewhat similar to Mafia crime families. There is, for instance, extreme secrecy through code of silencing programming. This is usually initiated with the signing of a "blood" contract. Wendell Amstutz, author of *Satanism in America*, said these contracts are generally signed in the initiate's own blood. The contract, said Amstutz, usually demands life-long obedience. And breaking it means death.

And that's exactly what it meant for the four California Satanic cult defectors one fateful night in 1990. The defectors were tracked to an apartment on, of all places, Elm Street in the small town of Salida.

The defectors were beaten and stabbed. Finally, they were decapitated. What was left behind rivalled the carnage of the Tate-LaBianca crime scene. The trail led back to five satanic cult members, and the story began to unfold. The five who were indicted were part of a 55 member satanic cult that was operating out of a compound in Salida. Cult members stretched across a three-county area, with a number of them holed-up in a Salida compound (homes and trailers), somewhat similar to Waco's Branch Davidian complex. Except for one thing: What was going on in the Salida compound for the most part made what was going on in Waco seem like a Disney production.

Randy Cerny, Director of the Northern Chapter of California's Ritual Crime Investigator's Association, had followed the cult closely. And after the indictments, he interviewed several of the cult members and reviewed extensive diaries they'd kept.

He said the cult worshipped Satan, followed the teachings of renowned Satanist Alistair Crowley, engaged in sexual abuse, murder..In other words, many of the same things Satanic ritual abuse survivors have been consistently reporting.

Cerny also said it was reported cult members were from all walks of life, This even included a dentist, a minister, and a woman enrolled in a law enforcement class at a local community college. (Satanic cult members aren't, by any means, always tattooed teen bikers who have listened to one too many Metallica albums, often, satanic ritual abuse survivors report their cult perpetrators are respected members of the community: doctors, law enforcement officials, PTA members, little league coaches... This all, apparently, is part of the facade).

Dr Denser-Gerber is a New York Psychiatrist who has treated a number of satanic ritual abuse survivors since 1980. She also has a law degree, and is the founder of PACT (Protect America's children Today).

She says "the stories (about different aspects of cult rituals) are very much the same, whether it's someone reporting about a ceremony in Melbourne, Australia, Vermont, Utah... This leads me to believe, not only are the cults all over, but because of the similarities, many are also networked."

Further evidence was given by Pamela Hudson.... "Pamela Hudson a child therapist with a county

health outpatient department in Northern Carolina began to identify the symptoms of satanic ritual abuse in several children who had been referred to her in 1985. What was to follow a most frightening phenomenon. Throughout the remainder of 1985 and into 1986, twenty four children, all from the same day care centre, all exhibiting varying degrees of ritual abuse symptoms, were brought to her by concerned parents. (The cases came to her individually, without the parents initially talking among each other.) Some of the symptoms included frequent night terrors, night sweats, extreme separation anxiety, uncontrolled vomiting, 3,4, and 5 year olds acting out sexually in bizarre, sadistic manners, all indicators of significant trauma. As Hudson continued to work with the children, the satanic ritual abuse stories started to surface. The children reported being locked in cages, buried for short periods in coffins, injected with drugs, defecated and urinated on, sexually abused, forced to watch animal and human sacrifice.

Hudson took the information to authorities, but the District Attorney's office decided not to prosecute. A disappointed Hudson said she attributes the decision to the lack of physical evidence, and the children being perceived as too young, and also considered too emotionally traumatised for the stories to appear credible to a jury.

Several years later, a jury in Austin, Texas, did find children's stories of sexual and satanic ritual abuse credible enough to put Fran's Day Care directors, Fran and Dan Keller, in prison for extended sentences. (The Kellers aren't eligible for parole until 2004)

As with case in California, the children talked of extreme forms of abuse, being threatened with guns, being buried alive, forced to make pornographic movies, watch an infant sacrifice.

In addition Ryder's research has also turned up similar day care and satanic ritual abuse cases in Florida, several more in California, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Christchurch, New Zealand.

The longest trial in American history, California's McMartin Day School case, was one of the first day care centre cases to claim satanic ritual abuse. There were some 500 separate reports filed at the Manhattan Beach Police Department in connection with the case. The children's stories matched those of other cases cited. However, there was an additional component to the McMartin case. The children consistently talked of being abused in an underground tunnel below the day care centre.

A highly qualified archaeologist, hired by the children's families, talked about a series of what he says were highly questionable incidents in the search for the elusive tunnels.

Archaeologist Gary Stickle, Ph D, has worked extensively in the United States and in Europe, including heading the largest underwater archaeological sonar survey ever conducted in Europe. In addition, he has been a consultant to Lucas Films in the development of the Indiana Jones movie series. He has also been professor of Archaeology at the University of California at Long Beach. Stickle said initially a private investigator went to the day care centre site and did some preliminary informal digging. It is reported, said Stickle, that this investigator found some rabbit bones in the soil. (The children talked about rabbits being sacrificed). However, the day before he was to testify, the private investigator was found dead from a gun shot wound. It was determined to be a suicide. But Stickle said that determination was questioned by more than a few people, given the timing.

Eventually, said Stickle, the prosecution hired an archaeological firm that dug seven pits clustered outside of the building. (This was curious, said Stickle, because the children were reporting the abuse had gone on in tunnels below the building). Stickle said a remote sensing device was also used at the time, but it was reported that no tunnels were found. That was in 1985.

Stickle's firm was hired by the parents in 1990. Using a sophisticated ground penetrating radar, Stickle said a tunnel was found, right where some of the children had told his staff it would be. However, even though evidence of the tunnel was found in May 1990, while the trial was still in progress - the evidence was never introduced in court, said Stickle. "Finding such a tunnel was highly relevant (to the case)", said Stickle. "Because it (prior lack of physical evidence of a tunnel) was a major thing used to discredit the children". The accused McMartin Day Care Centre staff were eventually acquitted. However, some of the McMartin parents haven't quit fighting. A two hundred page report on the tunnel findings has recently been released by the parents, in an ongoing effort to keep the case before the public.

MULTIPLE PERSONALITY

Source: *Beyond Survival*, Issue No. 6, Australia, 1994.

Despite the difficulty of recognising multiple personality, there is general agreement that it causes lie in the traumatic experiences (often involving serious abuse or neglect) of a child who is able to use dissociation as a defence against overwhelming feelings.

Multiple personality commonly begins to develop before the age of eight, although it is rarely diagnosed until adolescence. Suspicion should be aroused if a child's personality changes suddenly from shy to seductive or from timid to hostile, or if the child lies, behaves disruptively, and shows precocious sexual interest. The mistreatment or other traumatic experience that leads to multiple personality may be more or less severe depending on the child's susceptibility; it may take the form of physical assault, sexual violation, or emotional abuse and neglect.

Dissociation is a defence against these violations, threats and humiliations. It isolates the horrifying experience and superficially resolves the conflict; it allows abused children to exercise a kind of control by denying their intolerable hatred and fear of adults on whom they must still rely for a kind of protection and a kind of love. If the trauma is repeated and the child is never granted relief and consolation, personal memories are stored in separate compartments and identity is fragmented. The child in effect concludes: I cannot deny that this is happening, but I can make myself deny that it is happening to me. One personality passively accepts emotional abuse, sexual violation, or physical assault and blames itself; another incorporates suppressed rage; a third identifies itself with the aggressor adult and regards the other personalities as feeble and contemptible; consolers and advisers emerge to maintain some stability and control.

In many of its cause and symptoms, including amnesia, multiple personality resembles post traumatic stress syndrome, the complicated and dramatic disorder that arise from an emotionally overwhelming event outside the range of normal human experience. Victims of post traumatic stress may try to avoid all situations and even emotions associated with the trauma. Multiple personalities accomplish the same end by splitting into fragments and shutting off the catastrophic experiences totally from the original self.

The following letter comes from a multiple personality survivor.

LETTER TO A FRIEND

Dear Friend.

Well, where to start? **MULTIPLE PERSONALITIES** are my favourite subject at the moment. Being a "multiple" myself and having quite a few friends who are, I am absolutely fascinated by us and think we are just amazing.

So, how do people become multiple.? Usually, multiplicity is developed in childhood and is created as a response to severe, on-going abuse. You probably know about dissociation when the mind separates from the body. Most survivors of incest have dissociated from the abuse "spaced out", "gone away", "gone inside", "blacked out". Incest survivors often talk about looking down at a girl who had all those things done to her, but who was not them. That's dissociation.

Now, when in a cult a child is being abused, she dissociates as well. She leaves her body. But during

the ritual she can't afford to just leave her body. She has to sometimes perform quite complex tasks as part of the ritual. The ritual has to run smoothly and she has to do her job well. Therefore she creates someone "tougher" or "more clever" than her; someone who can take the abuse for a while and to do the task well; and when that "person" can't cope any more either, someone else takes over. In order to survive, she has to be two places at once. It is like the left hand not knowing what the right is doing, but both are dependent on each other. The girl who leaves the body just can't fully comprehend what is being done to her. She's just a little child. Therefore she has to put memories, feeling and even the knowledge of the abuse away. But because the rituals are continuing and next time she has to do things again, the "toughie" comes out and takes over again.

As I mentioned before, this is an absolutely creative and mind boggling way for children to survive cult reality. Children who can't dissociate usually die during the abuse or go insane. You have survived thanks to your ability to dissociate, split and create new personalities.

I am sorry, my friend, that you got abused like that. This should have never happened and it is not your fault. That you have survived, shows just what a strong and clever woman you are. And that you were an incredible strong and clever child.

Cults are very well aware about just how clever children are and about the children's ability to split off. And in the cults' evilness they also use the child's ability against it and for the cults' evil purpose. If a child knows how to split off and create another personality who can function perfectly and do things without the "host" personality knowing, this child makes a perfect victim for the cult. The child can take more and more abuse, because it can always create someone who can take

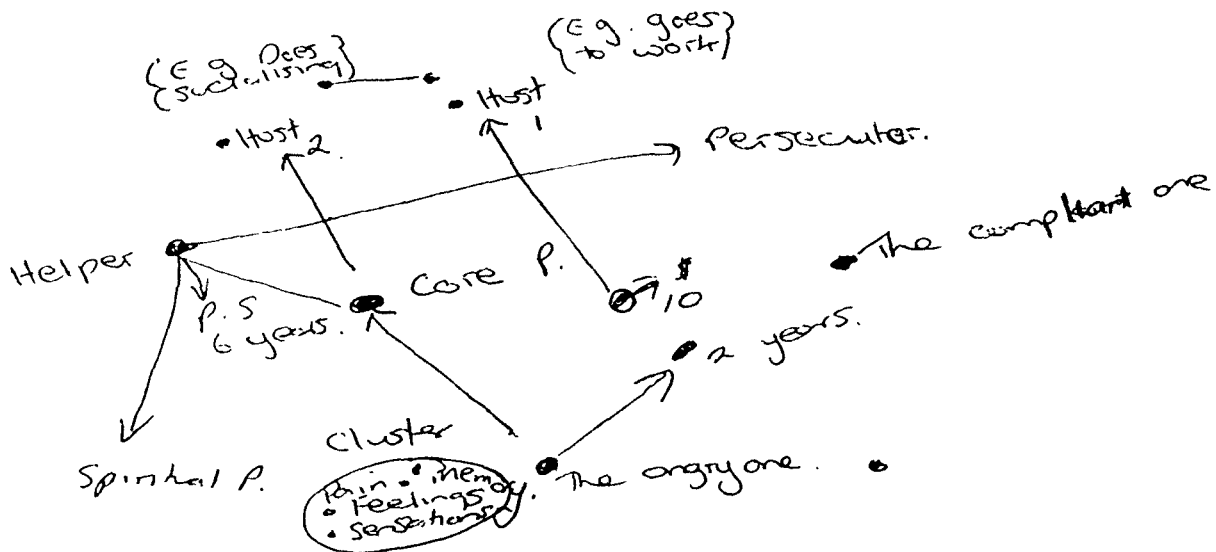
it and this child also will function in daily life and not disclose to anybody, because if she remembers, it is often just fragmented, because she "wasn't there".

So to sum it up: Children are extremely clever and learn to preserve their innocence and their soul by splitting off and becoming amnesic to the abuse. They also learn, that in order to survive, they have to be compliant with what is expected from them and do so by creating other personalities who can do the jobs and survive a particular part of the abuse. Cults abuse the children's' creativity for their own evil purposes.

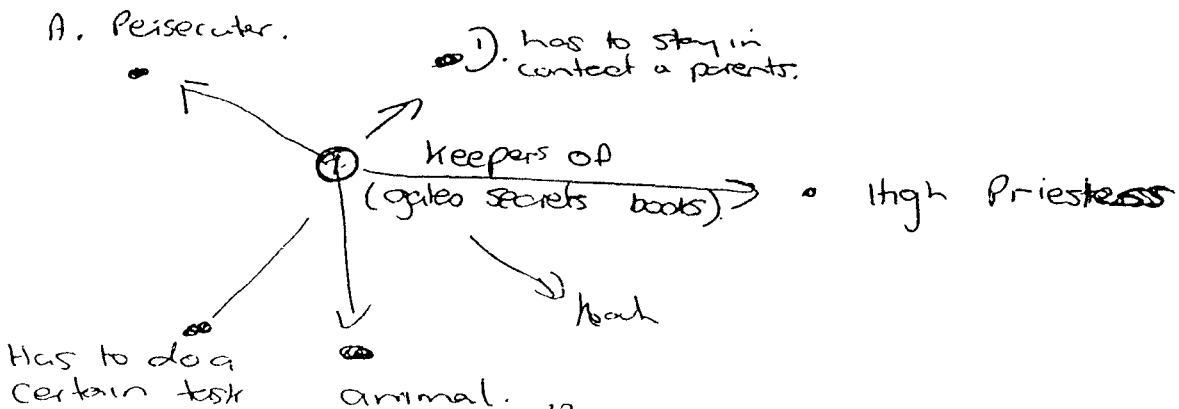
As the child grows up, more personalities might be created. Some of the personalities might also grow older, others might just remain one age. Some personalities have very distinct likes and dislikes, others are just there for a specific purpose and others just to hold one particular memory.

I will draw a "map" of a multiple personality system:

RE active System created as response to trauma



Structured System encouraged a trained by cult



As you can see on the "map", there is always a core personality. The core personality is the one you were before you split off for the first time. The core personality is often a baby or a young child. Sometimes the core personality also grows with the body, but most often she remains a child. Sometimes the other personalities believe that the core has died. People used to refer to the core personality as the "original" personality, but I believe that every personality is an original one.

Then there is the host personality. In your case, dear friend, this is you. You are the one who most often is in control of the body. You are the one who presents yourself to the outside world. You are the one who does most of the daily living. Often there is a second host personality. She usually is very much like the first host, but might be there to do the socialising, while host 1 does the work etc. Host 2 might have a few different interests, or might have better eyesight or might be a vegetarian, while the first is a meat eater.

Fascinating isn't it?

Most "systems" also have personalities of different ages or even gender. There might be a six year old called Sue and a ten year old called Peter. There might be an "Angry One" and a "Sweet One". There might be a lesbian and a heterosexual. There might be an "old wise woman". One personality might have stomach ulcer and when having X-rays a week later, another personality might present and there is nothing showing up on the X-ray any longer. My friend, this is absolutely amazing and mind boggling stuff. I know, it seems very scary when dealing with it first, but honestly, it is something you can be proud of. Most "Systems" also have one or more Helper-Personalities. Those helpers often take over when things are too much for the host or any other personality. They are very protective of the host and most others. Helpers sometimes have full memory of what has been and is happening in the multiple's life.

Then there usually is one or more Persecutors. Persecutors are often very very frightened and have learned to comply with the cult. They present as tough and mean and "punish" the "body" or "host" when she does something that would make the cult angry. Persecutors are often the ones who self-mutilate, use drugs, or do unhealthy things. They often behave like rebelling teenagers. But behind all that toughness and meanness you will usually find a very frightened child who is just so scared about

displeasing the cult and being punished for it. The persecutors are also often under the control of one of the personalities....., which has been named, trained and indoctrinated by the cult.

This cult-trained personality who controls the persecutor often is called the "Keeper....". Common names are the "Keeper of the Gate", Keeper of the Secret", "Keeper of the Book". These personalities often present as threatening, obscene and bizarre. Often they are male or sometimes they see themselves as an animal. They are the ones who have been hurt most and deserve most of our support and compassion. Again, don't forget that at the core of all this is a child in terror.

It may seem weird, to speak of all these personalities, as if of a lot of different people. Remember, a system like this is still all you, one person split in many parts. You all share the same body and the same soul.

Now that you are grown up, the mechanism (splitting off) which served you as a child has become more a "disability". Switching into another personality has become a habitual response to stress and isn't useful to the adult any longer. To recover from severe trauma and to live a healthy, joyful life (Yes, this is possible!) your aim will have to be to get in contact with the different parts of you, have you all working together - co-operate and work through the trauma each one of you experienced. Remember, to have survived cult abuse means that you are an incredible strong, powerful and intelligent woman. It also means that there is a part of you which just loves life, otherwise you would have died a long time ago.

To get in contact with the different personalities will be long hard work. Some personalities know each other or can communicate with one another; others don't know about the others and think they are the only one in the body. It helps to map your own personal system. Involve the help of your therapist and your supporters. Try to be open when they tell you they have met personalities you don't know about. I know, dear friend, it is very frightening and feels incredible out of control when people tell us things about us we don't know about. Be aware that they want to support and would not gain anything from lying to you. After you have drawn your system's map, the next step is to get in contact with the different personalities. This often just happens through practice. The more the different personalities are allowed to come out in a safe

environment (eg therapist's office) and are listened to, the more you will gain co-consciousness with them; which means you will be able to remember what they said and did or will even start to hold conversations with them in you head.

All the different parts have to get to know each other, communicate with each other and learn to work together. This is often done with contracts and agreements. For example an agreement with the six year old that she won't come out when you are driving the car etc. Once the different personalities know and sort of like each other (it's like having your own inside family and not everyone might be fond of everyone else), you can finally and effectively start to work on the trauma you have suffered. And you will have the help and support of the "others", those other clever inside people you created to help you along once before. It is important to also ensure the help of the persecutor and the keeper, otherwise you will find that while working on your recovery they might hurt you and self-mutilate or try to commit suicide. Because you are getting outside help and are trying to live a beautiful life they are frightened. This means that you are breaking the cult rules and they are scared they might get punished. Those cult-trained personalities need a lot of attention, love and compassion. They will need a lot of outside support and help in working through their fears and cult belief systems.

Dear friend, I do hope that this letter makes a few things clearer and takes away some of the fear. Multiplicity is nothing to be afraid of. You are not crazy. It was a very clever and creative way for a poor little child to survive the craziness which surrounded her. You are a heroine.

I have found people with multiplicity (and that includes myself) to be the most fascinating, lovable, clever and humorous people I have ever met. We are great. I am deeply in awe of the human spirit and the creativity of children to survive the unbelievable with some part of us untouched, intact and with integrity. You are a true survivor.

RECOGNISING AND CLASSIFYING PROGRAMMING

By Pamela J. Monday and Denny Hilgers

Source: *The Newsletter of The Society for the Investigation, Treatment and Prevention of Ritual and Cult Abuse*, Texas, 1994. Note from the authors: The purpose of this article is to assist interested parties in recognising and identifying the complex nature of mind control programming. While therapeutic techniques are mentioned, it is assumed that only experienced therapists under expert supervision will use these techniques, and only in the context of ongoing psychotherapy.

Many Sadistic ritual abuse supervisors who have been diagnosed as having multiple personality disorder have been programmed in systematic complex ways. By programming, we mean that the human, in a dissociated or altered mind state, has been systematically and deliberately taught lessons, attitudes, beliefs, behaviours, and responses to specific cues ("triggers") so as to respond on command in ways that benefit the person/groups responsible for the programming. There has been much controversy about whether the human mind functions as a computer; many clinicians believe that it is impossible to "program" the human brain. However, we have learned from survivors, including those whose job within a cult/organised group, was to "program" others, that indeed, it is possible to instil very complex information in the unconscious mind, and to use this information to ensure control of the human by controlling the mind.

Survivors have told us that a group of programmers may travel from location to location, teaching members of various "cults" or other organised groups how to program their victims so as to ensure optimal mind control. By programming an satanic ritual abuse multiple personality disorder's (SRA/MPD's) system, the programmer can maintain constant contact with the survivor. This contact permits knowledge of the victim's location at any time and also allows manipulation of the victim to perform acts he/she would ordinarily be unwilling to do. Programmed mind control reinforces the lesson survivors tell us that all cult victims are taught, namely, that he/she cannot escape from the cult or perpetrating group. The programming is done in very complex ways so as to maximise the use of amnesic barriers between personalities, thereby preventing any one personality from having all the information about

how they are being controlled. Knowledge is power; by compartmentalising knowledge throughout the system (i.e. the mind), the programmer or programming group has power over the victim. Reducing amnesic barriers between personalities so that they can cooperate and share knowledge; finding the original memory of how the personality was created and thus uncovering the programming information (including how programming was done as well as perpetrator identity and triggers); and using imagery, cognitive restructuring, and other empowering therapeutic interventions to help the patient get back control over their own mind are all basic therapeutic goals. However, the sophisticated programming that we are seeing in some survivors makes our task very difficult.

Programming occurs after the creation of a new personality via the usual techniques of trauma and torture. While there is some evidence that with sophisticated computer equipment that create altered states of consciousness via audio waves or manipulation of the visual field, a trauma base for programming involves the use of a physical image, for example, a picture or portion of a video. In an hypnotic state, the personality readily accepts this image as reality in his/her life. It is speculated that the "internal landscapes" that patients see inside have been created in part through the use of these visual images that have been internalised as reality. This may explain why survivors

have similar "landmarks" within their internal landscapes such as a castle, carousel, Kabul, umbrella, puppet, cave etc., that when drawn and compared with the drawings from other survivors, look very much alike in design and detail.

Many survivors report that they have internal computers that control information within their systems (this has especially been reported from survivors who report "military" mind control programming). The internalised computer usually lies deeply hidden within the unconscious but over time, its presence may be revealed to the victim. As communication between personalities and between levels proceeds, someone inside may know about the internal programmer, or information system specialist, the controller, or simply the one who's job it is to program the system. Within the internal computer, grids and "clone" grids (or duplicators) house the different programs. Visualise a piece of graph paper (grids) with the space within each square having several programs within it. "Clones" are back-ups, so that if an entire grid, or even one program, is neutralised (deprogrammed), a replacement is spontaneously generated. Thus, it is vital that the duplicators be dealt with as programs are erased or decoded.

Within a complete system, there are usually many levels and combinations of programs. The victim most likely will have no knowledge of their internal programmer because as programming commences, erasure codes, block codes, stop codes, and "brain switch" commands (having to do with the right/left hemisphere functioning) have been put in to prohibit disclosure of deeply bur-

ied information about the internal computer. On each level, there most likely will be a computer and a back-up computer. As communication between personalities and levels increases, it is possible to obtain the different codes from controllers inside the system on each level so that "deprogramming" using codes (such as number, alphabet or rhyme codes) can occur. This can be very dangerous however, because there are booby traps and safeguards within the system that are programmed in to prevent any outside source from getting into the system.

It helps to think of the programming as a very sophisticated Nintendo game, where there are many levels, secrets, and hazards. It is vital to proceed with caution, and with full co-operation of the client, as only they can know where the dangers lie. Understand that as you get close to secret or hidden information that will help you move deeper into the system, the danger of internal or external harm to the client increases. Suicide programming will often be set off, and should be expected.

Survivors report that programmers place "gatekeepers" and "Blockers" in the system to protect hidden information, often by keeping you from reaching the inside people who can help decode the system. These must be found and removed in order to proceed with therapy. They may be identified with direct questioning, or they may appear as "guards" in the internal landscape, standing by a door or wall, or literally in front of a gate or other physical barrier. Some of these gatekeepers and

blockers may be personalities or they may be perceived as "spirits". This is especially true with individuals who may have been abused by groups purporting to worship Satan. (For a Biblical understanding of the role of gatekeepers who block the "doorway", see John 10). The use of imagery to bind or enclose the gatekeepers is often useful. If the gatekeepers see themselves as spirits, they can be particularly difficult. They may present as individuals who are just "passing through" the body, and are not afraid of harm to the body because they will just "go to the next body". Sometimes they present as very aggressive; at times these aggressive ones may be personalities who are projecting themselves as spirits because of their deep guilt; identifying with the "evil" spirit is a way of gaining mastery and control, and should be dealt with in typical therapeutic fashion. If your therapy includes knowledge of and use of spiritual information and imagery, this would be a good place to use it.

Some of the booby traps you may run across include personalities whose job it is to direct you off course and provide information. Others may ask you questions or try to get you to ask them questions (making you think your getting somewhere) only to find that what they are doing is setting a suicide or self-mutilation program in motion. An example is a client who, when she heard the phrase, "Why did the chicken cross the street?", would self de-

struct. Another asked the therapist, "How old are you?" (response) "When's your birthday?", etc., and the answers were triggers for the internal self-destruct program. The personality asking the questions had no knowledge of why she was asking them, only that she "had to".

Many M.P.D patients report having a "stairwell system" internally. The stairwells are what connect the different levels. Sometimes the internal peoples will locate a stairwell that is sealed up, and a gatekeeper is there. Deal with the gatekeeper, break the seal, and proceed down to the next level. As you proceed through the levels, you may find that at the first couple of levels, you will get much flooding and spinning. The programs you may be dealing with are the "Tornado" or "Whirlwind" programs. The tornadoes function to create confusion and disorganization and a sense of being lost, being out of control. Tornadoes float around the different systems. Visual imagery of walls around the tornadoes to enclose them has often been useful. The "whirlwind" spins inward, "sucking one in" instead of outward; the result is to create a sensation of shutting down, shutting up, and feeling as if the person is going to die.

The various systems that have been reported and worked by these authors include differing levels of complexity. Systems include: spider web, carousel, pool of death, communication, kabbala, puppet, pentagram, tornado, castle, galaxy, flower, scrabble, and umbrella systems. Associated with "military" mind control programming are: double helix, isometric, cave and well, and the mensa systems. Space limitations prevent

discussion of each of these systems, but illustrations of the difficulties in working with some of these systems follow:

The pentagram (or star) system is often connected to the tornado system. Rituals are tied to this system, There are many cult-created alters within this system. You may see personalities who are re-enacting rituals (such as attempting to kill the hosts cat etc). Traumatic memories reveal satanic ritual abuse themes.

The castle system involves internal imagery of a castle containing a drawbridge, moat, turrets, gargoyles, dungeon, secret passageways, torture chamber, and lots of rooms. Child alters are often hidden in the dungeon. Lots of programs can be contained within the castle, and many booby traps can be present that must be overcome.

The spider web system is very complex. Communication between personalities proceeds through the strands. In order to break the negative communication, the strands must be broken, but understand the internal self-helpers often also must communicate through the strands. You will often find a black widow spider (symbolic of the "black widows" used by satanists to recruit new members, especially in churches and in clubs where youth congregates) with victims getting "stuck" in the web. Viper is a spirit associated with this system (see Isaiah 59.5 for the biblical basis of this system). Gatekeepers are present, you may also find eggs, personalities names "Viper" or "Devourer" or those who binge

and purge. In order to break this program, it is important to break the connector (the silk strands) that connect the webs and hold them in place; remember to destroy the clone strands so new webs can't be spun. In this program, the clones immediately spin new webs that are double connected and more difficult to remove. If the "Viper" is present, the tail and fangs can be removed (they contain poison) and the poison in the eggs can be removed (trapped personalities as well as "demons" are often found in the eggs).

The flower system involves criss-cross programming, i.e. three or four people may have been programmed together so that one person only has a piece of the programming. In order to get to the piece, you must have access to the other piece which resides in another person. Internally, the flower system may show up as flowers with lots of colours, with the bud representing one person, the stem and flower representing other people. This system is often connected to other systems such as Pi, umbrella, triangle and star.

The Mensa system (reportedly involving military and Illuminati programming) involves lots of numbers and sequences along with barcodes and union force codes. Union force would have to do with a set of numbers that would equal another set to come up with yet another set: e.g. $a+b=c$, $b+c=a$, $c+b=a$. A person could be programmed to respond to this very complex code. These codes are extremely difficult to discover in

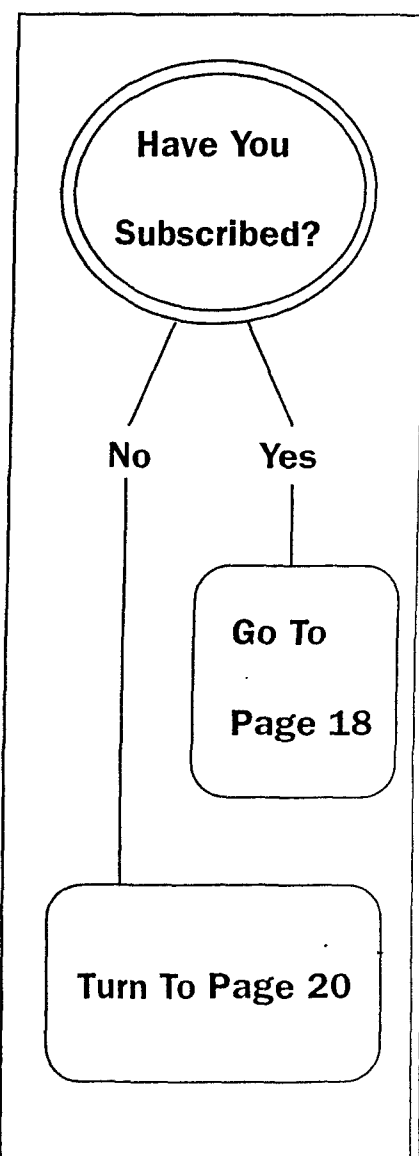
order to neutralise responses to the codes. The Mensa system will often have the double helix system within it. This system is connected with D.N.A; the patient has usually had lots of blood transfusions. Programming reportedly has been done through medical abuse by hospitals and doctors. Hospitalisation is generally required to work with this system, as it is so complex and so many suicide programs are involved.

The Carousel is usually found in the centre of the double Helix. Within the carousel there are mirrors and a shadow system. There is a key in the centre of the carousel. The carousel spins and moves up and down repeatedly. The function of this program is to add confusion and avoidance. The mirrors and shadows are within the carousel which help prevent further deprogramming. Often the use of special light to light up the right path through the mirrors and shadows in order to reach the key has been helpful. Spiritual interventions can be helpful here, as three "floating spirits" (false, prophet, hooped one, and dragon) are frequently found in this program.

The scrabble system contains letters, numbers and mathematical exponents. This is a very detailed system, with no room for error. A sequence of numbers or letters might set off this programming. For example, if the therapist writes a series of numbers such as "31133113" "13113311" or "11331313", and the patient responds to one or all of these series of numbers, you may have the scrabble system. There is a lot of torture and trauma associated with this program because it is so sophisticated and difficult to learn. As programming proceeds, any

mistakes made by the survivor will be severely punished."

We are grateful to the many survivors who have risked their lives to share this information.



DISSOCIATION

Source: *Beyond Survival*, Issue 6.

In thinking about dissociation and what it means the first thing that comes to mind is the fact that for 37 years I had no conscious memories of being a ritual abuse survivor. Looking back there are numerous indicators, that mine was not a happy childhood, but if I thought about that at all, I wrote it off to the few incidents of child sexual assault that I could remember.

I am constantly amazed at how well I have managed to defend myself from these memories and even more amazed that as a child I could protect myself to such an extent that to all intents and purposes I had two lives going on - the public, out there, "normal" life and the life of a ritual abuse victim.

My understanding of dissociation is that it is a continuum, with normal day dreaming at one end and multiplicity at the other. Where I fit on that line is no doubt closer to multiplicity than not, however, I am not a multiple - why? - I do not know. The more I remember the more I am amazed that I am alive and sane let alone anything else.

I guess the reason that I am alive and sane is due to dissociation. The ability to split off is a god send. Again and again as I get in touch with memories it is through the eyes of a part of me that is off to the side somewhere watching from the roof or the trees or shrubs or from the back of the cave. So often the first part of the memory work is to hear this little voice talking about what happened with little more feeling than if she were talking about walking to school and back. She will recount memories of abuse, torture, "black" masses, gang rape and sadistic cruelty with hardly an ounce of emotion. She can remember all this in a session and go home and talk about it as if all she is doing is telling a story and then in the next breath ask what's for dinner or is it time to watch TV now.

During this there is the grown up part of me that is listening, again in a very detached way, is appalled and often incredulous, it's tempting to say disbelieving, but it is not that (as much as I don't want to - I do believe it and know it is true); it is utter astonishment that a father (my father) could do these things to a child and that there was no one, not one single person in the whole "congregation" who did anything to stop it, any of it.

As for the child this all happened to, she is numb, frozen, silent, distraught, not to mention bashed, beaten, terrified and usually drugged beyond believe. There are times that I fought, many times that I fought, but I could never win - all that fighting achieved was harder beatings, more drugs and vicious punishments - not to mention that worst of all possible things - the displeasure of my father.

I truly believe that without the ability to dissociate I would have die. I do not believe it possible to stay "conscious" throughout this kind of abuse and survive. We have to bury our rage, our terror, our tears and our pain. We have to give it to different parts of ourselves to carry in order to survive.

I guess that is what therapy is all about, not just reclaiming the memories but reclaiming all the children, all those internal little ones who have been carrying the pain. All those frozen, petrified children. Coming back from dissociation is like learning how to be a mother, learning how to be nurturing and protective and supportive and having the strength and the compassion to listen to all those lost children. Having the courage to listen to all their stories, listen to all the pain, and, hardest of all, provide a safe place for those little ones to have all the feelings that were too terrifying back then.

Coming back from dissociation is slow, hard, painful work. It is also exciting and rewarding. Getting to know my internal children feels like such a privilege. These are brave courageous, gutsy kids. Kids, that were determined to survive no matter what and kids that somehow, some way continued to believe in goodness and light in the face of overwhelming evil and darkness. Kids that made enormous efforts to protect themselves and to try and protect the other kids around them. I hate being a ritual abuse survivor, I hate it that so much of my time and energy (and money) is going into healing. I hate it that so much of my philosophy, theology and belief systems are now up for review, I hate it that my belief in a wonderful, loving father is total fallacy. However, I love healing. I love discovering the strong, the courageous and the spiritual. I love the feeling of coming alive and of reclaiming more and more of myself and I love the

feeling of awe and wonder that my little ones inspire. No one ever should have to suffer this kind of abuse but given that it has happened I love that fact that I will turn it into something great and powerful and beautiful. My ultimate answer to it all will be to live a life that is full of truth, beauty and light and lots and lots of healthy, happy, feeling kids.

(ERA thanks the author for this article who shared it with all readers of "Beyond survival", and with readers of E.R.A. Parents have found the article to be validating as well as explanatory in aiding understanding of their children)

RESOURCES

E.R.A. has managed to build up a relatively good resource library. All material is available to be shared with readers, for a small donation - we suggest \$3 per item.

VIDEO TAPES

- 1) Children at Risk.
- 2) Identifying dissociation in children.
- 3) Treating dissociation in children.
- 4) Ritual Crime.

AUDIO TAPES

- 1) Ritualistic and Cultic Abuse (3), by Catherine Gould. Family psychotherapy practice, Seattle.
- 2) Satanism and Ritualistic Abuse. Wellness for ourselves and others, by Catherine Gould, Family psychotherapy practice, Seattle.

BOOKS

- 1) 'Disorder - Understanding and treating the survivor', by Holly Hector. Can be ordered through E.R.A. (We have a number of copies available). Price: \$24.95.
- 2) Eunice Fairchild's Book of Poems called 'Cry from the Heart'. Order through E.R.A., \$24.95.
- 3) 'Ritual Abuse: What it is - why it happens - how to help', by Margaret Smith. Published by Harper San Francisco. (A division of Harper Collins publishers). Available for loan from E.R.A. on a donation basis.
- 4) 'Satanic Ritual Abuse and Multiple Personality Disorder - Understanding and Treating the Survivor', by Holly Hector.

ALSO AVAILABLE: tapes from "Believe The Children" first annual conference 1993. (U.S.A.)

- 1) Welcome Address "From Heartbreak through healing. By Beth Vargo.
- 2) Keynote Address By Loren Coleman M.S.W.
- 3) Post-traumatic stress and dissociative disorders in children and adolescents. By J. Costigan, M.D.
- 4) Ritual abuse. Evaluation and treatment strategies for children and adolescents. By Kimball Ladien, M.D.
- 5) Ritual Abuse. Healing the mind, body and soul. A survivor's perspective. By Laura Buchanan, R.N.
- 6) The victim-sensitive interview. By Mark Bouie.
- 7) Panel Discussion.
- 8) Ritual child abuse. A law enforcement perspective. By Detective Robert J. "Jerry" Simandl.
- 9) Multiple personality & dissociative disorders in adult survivors of ritual abuse. By B. Braun, M.D.
- 10) Prosecution of Multi-Victim Multi-Perpetrator child abuse cases. By H.P. Williams, Jr.
- 11) Rituals for Healing: Personal journeys on the spiritual path. By Rev Dan Stauffacher.
- 12) Panel Discussion.
- 13) Medical corroboration diagnosis of child sexual abuses. By Howard B. Levy, M.D.
- 14) Sexual Abuse of children in cults. A professional overview. By K. Faller, Ph.D., A.C.S.W.
- 15) Litigating child custody cases involving allegations of sexual and ritual abuse. By Craig Hammond.
- 16) Closing Address: 'Taking Action', By Beth Vargo.

Recommended Reading

'Don't make me go back mommy - A child's book on Satanic Ritual Abuse'. By Doris Sanford & Gracia Evans

'Blasphemous Rumours - Ritual abuse: Fact or Fantasy', by Andrew Boyd. (1991), Harper & Collins

'Ritual Child Abuse - A survey of symptoms and allegations', by Pamela Hudson, available from Kate Shepherd Bookshop, Christchurch.

'Behind the Playground Walls - Sexual abuse in pre-schools', by J Waterman, R.J. Kelley, M.R. Oliver, & J. McCord. 1993.

'Ritual Abuse Booklet - Definitions', By Los Angeles County Commission for Women. Can be purchased from E.R.A.

'Breaking the Circle of Satanic Ritual Abuse', by Daniel Ryder, Tandem Press. Available from Kate Shepherd Bookshop, Christchurch.

'Nursery Crimes. - Sexual Abuse in daycares', By Finkelher & co. (1988)

'Unspeakable Acts', by Jan Hollingsworth (1986)

'Michelle Remembers', by Michelle Smith and Lawrence Pazder. (1980).

Trauma and Recovery', by Judith Lewis Herman, M.D. Published by Basic Books (Harper Collins) 1992. From Kate Sheppard Bookshop. This book was recommended at N.A.L.A.G. (National Association of Loss & Grief) Conference 1993:

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