

NEWSLETTER

Number E 23, September 2007

Pag	Introduction
e	
3	Articles
3	Principles of Non-Violent Warfare -Author & source unknown
5	The Hegelian Principle; By Ray Thomas, 2000
8	42 MVMO [*] Court cases with allegations of multiple sexual & physical abuse, by Religioustolerance.org
12	Are We Teaching Our Kids To Be Fearful of Men? Jeffrey.Zaslow, online.wsj.com, August 23, 2007
13	Avoiding Kids: How Men Cope With Being Cast as Predators; Jeff Zaslow, online.wsj.com, September 6, 2007
15	The bogeyman myth; In seeking to protect our children from pedophiles, we are also, sadly, undermining the healthy bonds between men and children; Simon Castles, The Age (Australia), July 8, 2007
17	Peter Pan(ic): is it a paedophile nightmare, or an innocent tale? Richard Morrison, The Times (UK), December 29, 2004
20	Castrate this sick debate. Not another British paedophile panic? The unhealthy obsession with child sexual abuse should stop. Full stop. Mick Hume; spiked-online; 14 June 2007
23	How the NSPCC faked child abuse stories to generate cash; Daily Mail (UK), 11th September 2007
24	Recidivism Studies Expose Fraud. Multiple State's Sex Offender Recidivism Studies Expose Fraud Upon The American Public By Lawmakers And Mainstream Media Amanda Rogers, The American Chronicle, September 13, 2007
27	The threat of child abuse typically lurks close to home; Jonel Aleccia, Spokesman Review, April 8, 2007
29	Failure to Protect - America's Sexual Predator Laws And the Rise of the Preventive State. In his new book, Vice Dean and Professor Eric S. Janus exposes the broad threat to civil liberties inherent in today's aggressive "sexual predator" legislation.
30	Call to reduce the age of consent to 14; Kevin Schofield, The Scotsman, Sat 17 Feb 2007
31	<i>Research discussed</i>
31	1) Sexual Abuse in Childhood and Sexual Dysfunction in Adulthood: An Australian Population-Based Study; Najman, Jake; Dunne, Michael; Purdie, David; Boyle, Francis; Coxeter, Peter Archives of Sexual Behavior, Volume 34, Number 5,

- October 2005 , pp. 517-526(10) - Abstract
- 32 2) National Samples, Sexual Abuse in Childhood, and Adjustment in Adulthood - A Commentary on Najman, Dunne, Purdie, Boyle, and Coxeter (2005); Bruce Rind and Philip Tromovitch; Archives of Sexual Behavior; December 2006 - Abstract
- 32 3) Childhood Sexual Abuse and Adult Sexual Dysfunction - Response to Commentary by Rind and Tromovitch (2007); Jake M. Najman, Michael P. Dunne and Frances M. Boyle; Archives of Sexual Behavior, December 2006 - Abstract
- 33 Vern Bullough Obituary; Vern Bullough, 77; Prolific Author Was Scholar of Sex History; Elaine Woo, LA Times, July 2, 2006
- 35 Boy-love man wins right to sue police; Monday, 17 September 2007, stuff.co.nz
- 36 **Ipce's Internal Matters**
- 36 Report of the secretary
- 37 Report of the webmaster
- 37 Ipce's two teams
- 38 Financial report
- 39

Documentation List 23 September 2007

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Ipce is a forum for people who are engaged in scholarly discussion about the understanding and emancipation of mutual relationships between children or adolescents and adults.

In this context, these relationships are intended to be viewed from an unbiased, non-judgmental perspective and in relation to the human rights of both the young and adult partners.

Ipce meets once every one or two years in a different country, publishes a newsletter and a web site, co-ordinates the (electronic) exchange of texts and keeps an archive of specific written publications.

Introduction

Here is Ipce's Newsletter number E(lectronic) 23. The Newsletter is made on line and in a paper version for those who have no access to the Internet or who want to download and print the Word version. But note that the Newsletter gives only some interesting files, but that the updates of the website and Ipce Magazine give far more information.

As usually, there is a line or a thread in this Newsletter. We start with "Principles", but now principles about "a war" and "an enemy" - not the usual language in Ipce circles, but the principles are about a "non-violent" warfare.

A war? What follows are the 'Hegelian' principles and strategies of those who want to gain power and control, especially by manipulating people in the media.

Control, manipulation, power? Yes: read the article about false convictions. Read also the articles that describe the fear for men, implanted in our youth, about the myths and the moral panic, and also about the manipulation with recidivism rates of sex offenders. These rates *are* quite low, but are always said to be very high: manipulation, lies, power.

Read about other lies, myths and about the failure of the laws that do not protect any child, in contrast to what the legislators (hoping to be re-elected) said.

Read a call to change laws and read discussion about research on child sexual abuse. And more.

Ipce tries to give some counter balance - and has now and then to meet and to take discussions, thus has its annual internal papers, also to be found in this Newsletter.

Your Secretary,

Frans

Principles of Non-Violent Warfare

Author & source unknown

1. The enemy is never a person

The enemy is a combination of an oppressive set of social practices and a structure of rationalizations that justifies them. It is inevitable that we develop negative attitudes toward the people who carry out the procedures by which society marginalizes us, robs us of our dreams and our freedom, and may even kill us. But in so far as is humanly possible, without resorting to denial and pretense, we should try to uproot our hatred of all other people through focusing on understanding rather than judging them. Non-violence begins with a non-violent attitude toward those who oppress us.

2. Non-Violence as a practical absolute

For all practical intents and purposes, one must act as though violence against people is simply not one of the options open to him or her in the pursuit of political goals. It cannot be denied that there may be specific situations in which a violent act may be the most loving one. Also, an effort to defend oneself in response to an immediate physical attack is not inconsistent with non-violent political action. But violence is never initiated by the non-violent political activist as a means of changing the targeted ideas and social structures that are the enemy. By making non-violence a practical absolute, the activist is forced to invent forceful, aggressive and effective means of challenging and disrupting the ideas and structures that must be changed.

3. The Internalization of the enemy

The first place where the enemy must be confronted is within our own souls. It is almost certain that we have internalized oppressive and debilitating ideas, and a negative identity, from the dominant culture that oppresses us. Every successful revolution begins with a consciousness raising of the oppressed group. We must expose these ideas in ourselves to the light of evidence and clear rational thought, and we must also challenge others who are oppressed, to do the same.

4. Gaining a group

Networking with others in the oppressed group is essential. If this is opposed by the dominant forces in society, or it is not happening due to issues of negative identity, the need for networking must be given top priority. It is necessary to connect with others and to commit to forming a community of mutual support. There is a risk in this; one might be betrayed by someone who purports to be a friend. But there is also a risk of cutting oneself off from needed friends and co-workers. As well as is humanly possible it is necessary to wend one's way between the Charybdis of naive trust on the one hand and the Scylla of excessive suspicion on the other.

5. Gaining a voice

The dominant group in a society always attempts to prevent the voice of the oppressed group being heard. This is true even in societies that are to some extent democratic and pride themselves on a free press. The dominant ideas must be challenged in public places. Narrative is powerful. The alternative stories must be told and must be heard. More than any other single thing, revolutions are about the competing narratives by which we understand our lives.

6. Challenging demonization

Demonization is always the rational by which dominant oppressive groups justify their violence against the oppressed. Demonization itself must be challenged. Even those people who are objectively dangerous, destructive, and oppressive cannot be understood by demonizing them. One of the most powerful challenges to demonization is to be found in narratives that attempt to tell truthful stories. The next most important challenge to demonization is probably found in personal non-hostile contact. It is very difficult to demonize a person who is actually present to you, or that you have come to know personally.

7. Strategies

It is necessary to develop strategies that target the real enemies which are

- (1)oppressive ideas,
- (2)oppressive social practices,
- (3)the internalized enemy,
- (4)voicelessness,
- (5)demonization and

(6) false narratives.

It is very useful to study the strategies that other non-violent groups have found successful. At the same time, the specifics of strategy must be tailored to the actual situation. There may be general principles that are more or less universal, but the implementation of these principles in each new situation must be unique.

8. Alliances

Alliances must be made with all sympathetic or helpful people and organizations, even if they support only part of our agenda. The less isolated an oppressed group becomes, the more resources it will command. At the same time, it is essential that the oppressed group not allow any other group, however helpful they may seem to be, to take over the primary planning and directing of where they need to go.

9. Common denominators

It is important to seek out common denominators with the oppressors and with the other members of society. This is useful both for making alliances and for negotiating with the oppressors.

10. Visibility

It is important to determine the optimal level of visibility. In general it is best to be as visible as possible. But at times the oppression is so rigid and violent that one simply needs to go underground. There is no absolute rule about visibility, but it should not be left to chance. The issue should be considered consciously and decided upon in a sensible strategic manner.

11. No nightmare mode

When dangers are objectively real and fear is chronic, it does not take much to throw a person into a panic. Life then takes on a nightmarish and dissociated quality. As much as possible it is important to keep out of nightmare mode. Members of the oppressed group who are able to network together should support each other in avoiding panic; they must try to assess situations as coolly as possible, and find ways to be as safe as possible, without giving up the struggle.

12. The Transcendent

If one is in any sense spiritually inclined, it is important to have confidence in whatever it is that transcends both us and our oppressor, and seek direction from this entity, principle or power in whatever way we best do this.

The Hegelian Principle

By Ray Thomas, 2000 - Found on <
<http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml> >. or <
<http://www.geocities.com/thomasreport/hegelian.html> >
 Publication without earning allowed.

This is the "basic con" the power seekers use and is the basis for every other con. The "con" exposed herein that allows the power seekers to gain ever more power over us is very simple, and easy to understand after it is explained to you. From that time on, you are able to "read between the lines" in everything they do, and start being "an obstacle" to their plans instead of agreeing to your own enslavement. - Ray Thomas

- Why is it that just now, when the heavy push is on to enact more and more restrictive laws against self-defense, children are taking guns in hand and murdering their classmates?
- Why hasn't it happened before?
- What is it about our society that makes people (not just children) go on killing sprees, then, in most cases, kill themselves in the end, and for small things?
- Why are people being murdered almost daily over such small things as "sticking their noses in the air" and ignoring their classmates?
- Since when has refusing to associate with people whose demeanor and way of life you do not like (and we're not talking about racism here) required a "death sentence"?
- Why does a man go to two different places and kill people because of some real or imagined slight?
- Why do two people who have an accident, instead of letting the insurance company handle it, start shooting each other.?
- How about that guy who purposely drove his car into several children, killing some?

Oops. Forgot. That didn't involve a gun so the "anti-gun fanatics" aren't interested. But all those questions deserve an answer. Why, indeed, are these things happening, one after the other, -- just now?

Some people suspect a plot by the power seekers (liberals) to use such incidents as a lever to get more restrictive laws passed and have sponsored or caused these killings to whip up support for their new laws. Some even think these people who do these killings are brainwashed, a la "The Manchurian Candidate," where the Chinese Communists programmed a POW to kill a presidential candidate on verbal a signal he got over the phone to "activate" him after years as an "upstanding citizen."

Others, such as I, believe that if you search the news morgues, you're going to find that such incidents have happened with some regularity for as long as anybody can remember. The reason it seems like it is happening with increasing regularity today is because it has been

purposely highlighted by the mainstream news media at the behest of the power seekers (many of whom WORK in the media).

The Hegelian Principle

I've written before about the "Hegelian Principle," which the power seekers have been using with amazing success for a lot longer than I can remember to create support for their power grabs. It's a simple principle. It has only three steps:

- Step one: CREATE A "PROBLEM":
Create it or take one that does exist and build it up out of all proportion to its real importance;
- Step Two: PUBLICIZE THE "PROBLEM":
Make sure a story about this problem appears in the news media each and every day, in newspapers, news magazines, radio, and television. Hit it again and again in a "steady drumbeat" that soon has people who don't pay real attention to politics (which is the majority of them) clamoring for a "solution" to the problem;
- Step Three: OFFER A "SOLUTION":
A solution that takes away one or more of our rights and further undermines the constitutional protections we all are supposed to enjoy. One that involves higher taxes (to pay for this "solution," of course), and one we would not have allowed them to do without this previous conditioning of the public.

Works like a "charm"

They've been using this method for a long time now, and it's working for them. It has allowed them to "tighten the noose" on the American people to a point we wouldn't have believed even a few short years ago.

Another example of the use of the Hegelian Principle is the so-called "child protection crisis."

There is no child protection crisis. Child abuse has actually been going down in recent years, while "reports" of it have been rising exponentially. Children have suffered, but in many cases, from the neglect of the "child protectors" for the real cases while they pursue the false ones. By their own figures, 80% of all child abuse reports cannot be substantiated. Eighty percent.

There's a good reason for that: they've been "whipsawing" us for years (step two) about it until (step three) a sweeping child protection law was passed that created what we now call the "Good Samaritan Laws," which absolutely protect child protection workers and others who "report" child

abuse from all legal repercussions, even if it can be proved that the "report" was given for a malicious reason.

Then they told all the people who work with children such as teachers, medical personnel, school bus drivers, etc. that they were "mandated reporters." What that means is that if they see something that gives them the slightest suspicion of child abuse, they must report it or be subject to civil and criminal charges themselves. Even if they don't believe it, they must report it or take chances with their own futures.

In other words, if they "report," even if they don't really believe it is child abuse, they're completely safe. If they don't "report" and some bureaucrat later decided it was child abuse, they will not be safe. What would you do? Because of this lawyers are now advising their clients, not just in contested divorces but in all kinds of litigation, to call in an anonymous "report" of child abuse on one of those ubiquitous "Child Abuse Hotlines" the child protectors have set up all over the country. Then their opponent in the original case will be so busy defending against that, he/she will be less able to pursue the original action. The reason they do this is: there is no penalty to be paid for those calling in false child abuse reports.

Couple that with child protection workers who treat every case as if it were "solid gold," even if supported by nothing more than an anonymous phone call and pursue it to "the bitter end," going for "termination of parental rights and adoption even in cases where the parents are completely innocent, and you have a recipe for disaster. And a perfect opportunity for those "small-time dictators" to control others.

They do this (the locals) because there is a financial incentive for it in addition to satisfying their own small-time quest for power. Their agency gets \$4,000 a month for each child in foster care. They get lesser figures for each child they can take away from their parents, for however short a time. And if they can get the parent's rights terminated and put that child up for adoption, the agency gets \$10,000. And, in many, I would even say, most cases, the individual worker who causes this to happen gets a cash (or merchandise) bonus. And they get to keep their jobs. Keeping their jobs is very important to a bureaucrat. And, with the possible exception of the "lower levels," (who get the bonuses) being in the child protection racket can be very lucrative. Some of the higher executives make \$100,000 or more a year.

Curriculum control

The entire system of payments for "Results" was set up by the power seekers in the federal government for a single purpose: to take total control of what is taught our children away from parents and put it in the hands of the federal government. They know, just as did Hitler and Stalin and most other power seekers, that in order for their scams to work, they must get to the minds of the children at as early an age as possible and teach them the values of the power seekers, not of the parents. To teach

them collectivism and "forced altruism," where money is taken from those who earn it and given to those who don't in return for the votes to keep the power seekers in office. This so they can continue to wield power and enjoy the "perks" such power gives them. Not to mention the "heady brew" of being able to control, absolutely, what others may do.

No, I don't think the power seekers are "setting up" these mass killings to whip up support for their laws against self-defense. But I do think they're doing an excellent job of taking advantage of those things that happen all the time, but are usually "local stories" until the "big boys" take them and build them up to the point where it seems that "violence is increasing and we've got to do something about it!"

Never mind that they've got about 20,000 anti-gun laws already on the books, which they rarely (in selected circumstances only) enforce. They immediately go out and clamor for more laws as soon as news of yet another massacre hits the news. They don't enforce them (unless it suits their purpose) because gun laws that work don't help them in their quest for complete disarmament of the American population. And they must disarm us if they are to become our dictators.

They fear us

Even now, we're seeing evidence that the people running our governments fear us. Every government building is now an "armed camp" where you must submit to a "warrantless search" in order to enter when they demand your presence. As people grow ever more irritated with their ever-increasing interference in everybody's daily lives, they know that soon people who have guns are going to take serious offense to the things they do to us and they're deathly afraid of the result.

So the drive to disarm us goes into "high gear" and every occurrence that can help their cause is "touted to the skies," while the ones that don't (such as the one in Atlanta a few days after the more famous Atlanta shootings, where the attacker was killed by people on the scene who had their own guns before he could kill anybody) are studiously ignored. If they succeed in this, you will indeed become a "slave" to the whims of any bureaucrat who wants to "lord it over you." They will make so many laws that there will be no way for you to live without breaking one.

Create criminals

Philosopher Ayn Rand said:

"There's no way to rule innocent men. The only power any government has is the power to crack down on criminals. Well, when there aren't enough criminals, one 'makes' them. One declares so many things to be a crime that it becomes impossible for men to live without breaking laws. Who wants a nation of law-abiding citizens? What's there in that for anyone? But just pass the

kind of laws that can neither be observed nor enforced nor objectively interpreted -- and you create a nation of law-breakers- and then you cash in on the guilt." (Ayn Rand, "Atlas Shrugged")

That's what they're doing, and you can make no mistake about it. If we continue to allow them to get away with it, they'll win. Then we'll all be slaves. You'll know it is happening when people like me either disappear or become subject to false charges that have nothing to do with what we're saying. We'll be the first to go - and you'll be next.

42 MVMO [*] Court cases with allegations of multiple sexual & physical abuse

[* Multi-Victim, Multi-Offender]

http://www.religioustolerance.org/ra_case.htm

Quotations

"A mere suspicion of witchcraft justifies the immediate arrest and torture of the suspected person. If the prisoner mutters, looks on the ground, and does not shed any tears, all these are proofs positive of guilt." Jean Bodin, French lawyer, judge and witchhunter, "The Demonomanie," published circa 1580.

"A prisoner may be promised immunity or reduced punishment if he accuses his accomplices." Jean Bodin

"In the Little Rascals day-care-abuse case in North Carolina, one mother told reporters that it took 10 months before her child was able to "reveal" the molestation. No one at the time considered the idea that the child might have been remarkably courageous to persist in telling the truth for so long." Carol Tavis [*1]

The following quotations relate to the Fells Acre case, but apply to many others as well:

"We just suspended intellectual integrity. We believed the absurd when it came to child abuse cases." Kimberly Hart [*2]

"It has nothing to do with lying and everything to do with the implanting of false memories...Studies have shown that children will vehemently defend the veracity of implanted memories. They recall reporting them, and those reports produce mental images of the events that these individuals cannot distinguish from their real experiences. But the kids are not responsible for that. The interviews are." Debra Poole [*3]

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We have studied over 40 Multi-Victim, Multi-Offender (MVMO) cases at 24 locations, mostly involving allegations of ritual abuse, since 1995.

In other areas of this web site, we do not take sides. We do not reach conclusions. We merely report both or all sides of each issue and let our readers make up their mind. However, with these ritual abuse cases, it seemed obvious to us that grave injustices had been done. As Kimberly Hart of the National Child Abuse Defense Center said, the police and District Attorneys' offices had suspended their "intellectual integrity." They readily "believed the absurd." We decided to write the essays with the assumption that most of the defendants were innocent.

We believe that some sexual molestation did happen at Country Walk, in Miami FL, and perhaps in a few of the remaining cases. But it is our opinion that:

- No ritual abuse occurred in any of the cases.
- Any criminal acts were non-ritual abuse by a single perpetrator.
- Most or all of the crimes never happened.

Hundreds of adults were convicted of ritual abuse of children, mostly during the 1980s and early 1990s. Almost all have had their cases revisited. Most convictions have been overturned because of what we now know about:

- How easy it was for investigators to get false disclosures of abuse from young children by simply asking direct questions, repeatedly.
- How meaningless the past standards of evidence were for sexual abuse of girls.
- How meaningless past STD lab tests were on children.

A few innocent people continue to rot in prison in the United States and elsewhere. A list of addresses of US prisoners is available. [*5]

Child psychologists and police investigators now are generally aware of how to avoid improper questioning of young children. New cases dried up in the early 1990s. However, one strange case did surface in Lewis Island, Scotland, in late 2003.

US Cases

Location > People and Facility Involved [The on line version has links and additional literature]

- Bakersfield CA > The McCuan and Kniffen Families (and 8 other cases) (The "Bakersfield Witch Hunt:")

- Bucks County, PA > A Day School teacher, and others
- Edenton, NC > Robert "Bob" Kelly et al (Little Rascals)
- Unknown location, NC > Michael Parker
- Malden, MA > The Amirault Family (Fells Acre)
- Manhattan Beach, CA > Peggy & Ray Buckey and Virginia McMartin (McMartin Preschool)
- Maplewood NJ > Kelly Michaels
- Marty I.R., SD > J Rouse, D Rouse, G Feather, R Hubbeling, D Rouse
- Miami, FL > Francisco and Iliana Fuster (Country Walk)
- Niles, MI > Allan Barkman
- Olympia, WA > Paul R. Ingram
- Pittsfield, MA. > Bernard Baran
- Robin Hood Hills AR > Damien Echols and two others, "The West Memphis Three"
- Roseburg, OR > The Gallup family
- San Diego, CA > Dale Akiki
- Smithfield, NC > Patrick Figuered & Sonja Hill
- Wenatchee, WA > Rev. Robert Roberson & dozens of others
- Westchester, NY > Rev. Nathaniel Grady (and 4 others)

The Justice Committee has examined many child sexual abuse convictions that were triggered throughout the United States by the Bakersfield and McMartin cases. They believe that there are more than 1000 persons who are innocent of the crimes for which they have been convicted. The Committee's main project is to persuade Congress to hold hearings to study the causes of these prosecutions and initiate remedies for the unjustly convicted. They have obtained support from Congressmen Bill Archer, Dick Armey, Sonny Bono, and others. [*3] ABC-TV's Turning Point program of 1996-NOV-15 stated that:

"Since 1980, in over 40 [US] communities, some 200 people have been accused of these crimes... Today, 141 people, -- nearly three quarters of the accused in these cases -- have been acquitted, had their convictions overturned or charges against them dropped.."

Canadian cases:

Location > People Involved

- Cornwall, ON > Allegations of sex-rings and ritual abuse
- Martensville, SK > The Sterling Family ("The Martensville Nightmare")
- Prescott, ON > 120 adults! We call it the Prescott Nightmare -- perhaps the worst (and least-reported) miscarriage of justice in Canada's history
- Richmond, BC, Canada > Michael Kliman
- Saskatoon, SK > The Klassen family and 11 other adults "The Scandal of the Century"

Cases Outside North America

Location > People accused

- Sydney, Australia > "Mr Bubbles"
- Charleroi, Belgium > Marc Dutroux
- Muenster, Germany > Rainer Moellers
- Ashhurst, NZ > The Venus Case 6
- Christchurch, NZ > Peter Ellis and 4 other cases 6
- Bishop Auckland, UK > 4 families
- Lewis Island, UK > Group of 8 adults
- Newcastle, UK > Christopher Lillie and Dawn Reed
- Nottingham, UK > Group of 9 adults (the one that started the UK Satanic panic)
- Pembroke, UK > Group of 6 adults
- Rochdale, UK > Group of 10 adults

Three groundbreaking books

that explain how the justice system failed both children and adults:

- Stephen Ceci & Maggie Bruck, "Jeopardy in the Courtroom: A scientific analysis of children's testimony," American Psychological Association, (2000).
This book was largely responsible for changing child interview techniques across North America, and bringing an end to implanted false memories of child abuse.
- Dorothy Rabinowitz, "No Crueler Tyrannies: Accusation, False Witness, and Other Terrors of Our Times," Wall Street Journal Books, (2003).
"No Crueler Tyrannies" recalls the hysteria that accompanied the child sex-abuse witch-hunts of the 1980s and 1990s: how a single anonymous phone call could bring to bear an army of recovered-memory therapists, venal and ambitious prosecutors, and hypocritical judges -- an army that jailed hundreds of innocent Americans." (Amazon.com review)
- Mary de Young, "The Day Care Ritual Abuse Panic," McFarland & Company, (2004).
"This work is a sociologically based analysis of the day care ritual abuse panic in America. It introduces the concept of *moral panic* and analyzes its relevance to the ritual abuse scare, explores the ideological, political, economic, and professional forces that fomented the panic, discusses the McMartin Preschool case as the incident that brought attention to satanic menaces and children, and examines the dialect between the various interest groups that stirred up and spread the moral panic and the day care providers accused of ritual abuse.
Also covered are the popular culture representations of day care

ritual abuse, the diffusion of the scare to areas overseas, the institutionally symbolic and ideologically contradictory social ends of the panic, and the outcomes of the panic in various settings. The book ends with a discussion of moral panic theory and how it needs to be changed for a complex, multi-mediated post-modern culture, and what lessons can be learned from the scare."

(Amazon.com review)

References & notes

[1.] Carol Tavris: "Mind Games: Psychological Warfare Between Therapists and Scientists," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Section: The Chronicle Review, Vol. 49, Issue 25, Page B7, 2003-FEB-28.

[2.] Kimberly Hart is executive director of the National Child Abuse Defense Center in Ohio. The quote came from the *National Post*, 2001-JUL-10, Page A10. The *National Post* is a conservative Canadian newspaper.

[3.] Debra Poole is a professor of psychology at Central Michigan University. She is the author of the forensic interviewing protocol for children now mandated by Michigan law.

[4.] Carol Hopkins, News Release, The Justice Committee, 625 Broadway, Suite 1111, San Diego, CA 92101. Issued 1996-AUG-11

[5.] Bob Chatelle has a list of falsely accused inmates at:
<http://www.ultranet.com/~kyp/prisaddr.html>

[6.] For other false allegations in New Zealand, go to Brain Robinson's web site (no relation) at:
<http://www.wave.co.nz/>

Are We Teaching Our Kids To Be Fearful of Men?

Jeffrey.Zaslow, online.wsj.com, August 23, 2007

When children get lost in a mall, they're supposed to find a "low-risk adult" to help them. Guidelines issued by police departments and child-safety groups often encourage them to look for "a pregnant woman," "a mother pushing a stroller" or "a grandmother."

The implied message: Men, even dads pushing strollers, are "high-risk." Are we teaching children that men are out to hurt them? The answer, on many fronts, is yes.

Child advocate John Walsh advises parents to never hire a male babysitter. Airlines are placing unaccompanied minors with female passengers rather than male passengers. Soccer leagues are telling male coaches not to touch players.

Child-welfare groups say these are necessary precautions, given that most predators are male. But fathers' rights activists and educators now argue that an inflated predator panic is damaging men's relationships with kids. Some men are opting not to get involved with children at all, which partly explains why many youth groups can't find male leaders, and why just 9% of elementary-school teachers are male, down from 18% in 1981.

People assume that all men "have the potential for violence and sexual aggressiveness," says Peter Stearns, a George Mason University professor who studies fear and anxiety. Kids end up viewing every male stranger "as a potential evildoer," he says, and as a byproduct, "there's an overconfidence in female virtues."

In Michigan, the North Macomb Soccer Club has a policy that at least one female parent must always sit on the sidelines, to guard against any untoward behavior by male coaches. In Churchville, Pa., soccer coach Barry Pflueger says young girls often want a hug after scoring a goal, but he refrains. Even when girls are injured,

"You must comfort them without touching them, a very difficult thing to do," he says. "It saddens me that this is what we've come to."

TV shows, including the Dateline NBC series "To Catch a Predator," hype stories about male abusers. Now social-service agencies are also using controversial tactics to spread the word about abuse. This summer, Virginia's Department of Health mounted an ad campaign for its sex-abuse hotline. Billboards featured photos of a man holding a child's hand. The caption: "It doesn't feel right when I see them together."

More than 200 men emailed complaints about the campaign to the health department.

"The implication is that if you see a man holding a girl's hand, he's probably a predator," says Marc Rudov, who runs the fathers' rights site TheNoNonsenseMan.com. "In other words, if you see a father out with his daughter, call the police."

Virginia's campaign was designed to encourage people to trust their instincts about possible abuse, says Rebecca Odor, director of sexual and domestic violence prevention for the state health department. She stands by the ads, pointing out that 89% of child sex-abuse perpetrators in Virginia are male.

Mr. Walsh, host of Fox's "America's Most Wanted," began advocating for missing children in 1981, after his son was killed by a stranger. He knows some men are offended by his advice to never hire a male babysitter. But as he sees it, if a teenage boy wants to experiment with sex, you don't want him using your kids.

"It's not a witch hunt," he says. "It's all about minimizing risks. What dog is more likely to bite and hurt you? A Doberman, not a poodle. Who's more likely to molest a child? A male."

Airlines use similar reasoning when they seat unaccompanied minors only with women. They are trying to decrease the odds of a problem.

Certainly, many men would be safe seatmates for kids, but sometimes, especially on overnight flights in darkened cabins,

"You have to make generalizations for the safety of a child," says Diana Fairechild, an expert witness in aviation disputes. Airlines have had decades of experience monitoring the gender of abusive seatmates, she adds, quoting a line repeated in airline circles: "No regulation in aviation takes effect without somebody's blood on it."

Most men understand the need to be cautious, so they're willing to take a step back from children, or to change seats on a plane. One abused child is one too many. Still, it's important to maintain perspective.

"The number of men who will hurt a child is tiny compared to the population," says Benjamin Radford, who researches statistics on predators and is managing editor of the science magazine *Skeptical Inquirer*. "Virtually all of the time, if a child is lost or in trouble, he will be safe going to the nearest male stranger."

Avoiding Kids: How Men Cope With Being Cast as Predators

Jeff Zaslow, online.wsj.com, September 6, 2007

These days, if Rian Romoli accidentally bumps into a child, he quickly raises his hands above his shoulders. "I don't want to give even the slightest indication that any inadvertent touching occurred," says Mr. Romoli, an economist in La Cañada Flintridge, Calif.

Ted Wallis, a doctor in Austin, Texas, recently came upon a lost child in tears in a mall. His first instinct was to help, but he feared people might consider him a predator. He walked away. "Being male," he explains, "I am guilty until proven innocent."

In San Diego, retiree Ralph Castro says he won't allow himself to be alone with a child -- even in an elevator.

Last month, I wrote about how our culture teaches children to fear men [*see the article here above]. Hundreds of men responded, many lamenting that they've now become fearful of children. They said they avert their eyes when kids are around, or think twice before holding even their own children's hands in public.

Men, do you find yourself limiting contact with kids for fear that you'll be accused of being a predator? Is there anything that can be done about this societal problem? Share your thoughts.

Frank McEnulty, a builder in Long Beach, Calif., was once a Boy Scout scoutmaster.

"Today, I wouldn't do that job for anything," he says. "All it takes is for one kid to get ticked off at you for something and tell his parents you were acting weird on the campout."

It's true that men are far more likely than women to be sexual predators. But our society, while declining to profile by race or nationality when it comes to crime and terrorism, has become nonchalant about profiling men. Child advocates are advising parents never to hire male babysitters. Airlines are placing unaccompanied minors with female passengers.

Child-welfare groups say these precautions minimize risks. But men's rights activists argue that our societal focus on "bad guys" has led to an overconfidence in women. (Children who die of physical abuse are more often victims of female perpetrators, usually mothers, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.)

Though groups that cater to the young are working harder to identify predators, they also ask that risks be kept in perspective. *Big Brothers Big Sisters of America* does criminal background checks on each of its 250,000 volunteers, and has social workers assess them. Since 1990, the group says, it has had fewer than 10 abuse allegations per year. More than 98% of the alleged abusers were male.

"If we wanted to make sure we never had a problem, one approach would be to just become Big Sisters -- to say we won't serve boys," says Mack Koonce, the group's chief operating officer. But, of course, that would deny hundreds of thousands of boys contact with male mentors.

The *Boy Scouts of America* now has elaborate rules to prevent both abuse and false accusations. There are 1.2 million Scout leaders, and the organization kicks out about 175 of them a year over abuse allegations or for violating policies.

These policies can be intricate. For instance, four adult leaders are needed for each outing. If a sick child must go home, two adults drive him and two stay with the others, so no adult is ever alone with a Scout. "It's protection for the adults, as well as the children," says a Scouts spokesman.

The result of all this hyper-carefulness, however, is that men often feel like untouchables. In Cochranville, Pa., Ray Simpson, a bus driver, says that he used to have 30 kids stop at his house on Halloween. But after his divorce, with people knowing he was a man living alone, he had zero visitors. "I felt like crying at the end of the evening," he says.

At Houston Intercontinental Airport, businessman Mitch Reifel was having a meal with his 5-year-old daughter when a policeman showed up to question him. A passerby had reported his interactions with the child seemed "suspicious."

In Skokie, Ill., Steve Frederick says the director of his son's day-care center called him in to reprimand him for "inappropriately touching the children." "I was shocked," he says. "Whatever did she mean?" She was referring to him reading stories with his son and other kids on his lap. A parent had panicked when her child mentioned sitting on a man's lap.

"Good parenting and good education demand that we let children take risks," says Mr. Frederick, a career coach. "We install playground equipment, putting them at risk of falls and broken bones. Why? We want them to challenge themselves and develop muscles and confidence.

"Likewise, while we don't want sexual predators to harm our kids, we do want our kids to develop healthy relationships with adults, both men and women. Instilling a fear of men is a profound disservice to everyone."

The bogeyman myth

In seeking to protect our children from pedophiles, we are also, sadly, undermining the healthy bonds between men and children.

Simon Castles, *The Age* (Australia), July 8, 2007

At my local cafe, which is plain and daggy enough to be family-friendly, children often sidle up to where I'm reading the paper to say hello. They don't actually say hello, of course. They stare at me, seemingly fascinated, or say something random like, "I've got white shoes on", or they show me something they're holding in their sticky little hands. Occasionally, if I'm on one of the couches, they'll climb on up, placing a steadying hand on my thigh as their feet sink into the cushions.

When I'm with my girlfriend, these moments are amiable and warm. The child's parents are at ease (as much as parents can be). When I'm on my own, though, it's different. Something darker enters the picture when it's just me, a man in his mid-30s alone, and there's a child who has

wandered away from his or her parents in search of distraction. I sense the parents' apprehension, even as they try to fight it. Discomfort acts like a contagion: they feel it, I feel it, the child feels it. It's as if the moment can't quite bear the weight of all the things thought and not said.

I suspect most men know this dispiriting feeling. In an age haunted by the spectre of pedophilia, average men do pay a price for the sins of a few. It's in the wariness and suspicion that now attends their interactions with children. A clearly positive imperative - to protect children from a most repugnant crime - has a downside, in the way it has corrupted the informal, healthy bonds between men and children.

Many men today worry (and if you don't believe me, ask a few) about appearing to enjoy children too much, about innocently touching children, about picking children up from school, about photographing children. The natural has come to feel aberrant.

Men have every right to feel saddened by this, and even a little angry. It is not in any way to play down the crime of child sex abuse to point out that, in our response to it, the sensitivities of the majority of men are somewhat trampled because of the actions of a minority.

Nowhere is this sad fact better illustrated than in a policy now common in the aviation industry. On many major airlines, including Qantas, United Airlines and British Airways, men are banned from sitting next to a child travelling alone. News of this discriminatory policy came to light when average blokes began coming forward with stories of their humiliation at being shifted 'with suspicious passengers looking on' away from children. (Qantas says it moves the children, not the men.)

British MP and journalist Boris Johnson recently revealed how he was asked to move on a British Airways flight. "We have very strict rules," the stewardess told a confused Johnson. "A man cannot sit with children." Johnson remained seated to allow the children next to him to say something. "But he's our father," they chimed.

Airlines have defended the policy by saying they're simply erring on the side of caution and reflecting the concerns and wishes of parents. But in their efforts to cover (presumably for legal reasons) what is surely a minuscule risk, they stamp all men potentially dodgy, and send a message to children that men aren't to be trusted.

A policy like this does more harm than good. It takes risk aversion to a phobic extreme. It insults men, and cottonwool-balls children. It views all interactions between men and children as somehow poisonous, which actually blurs the distinction between good and bad.

Some will say that if such a policy saves just one child from abuse, it will have been worthwhile. This sounds like common sense, but really isn't. What of the damage - impossible to measure - done to the fabric of

society by practices that essentially presume guilt in all men, foster suspicion, collapse trust, and discourage casual bonding between men and children?

Given the social trend towards seeing male interaction with children as potentially suspect, it is hardly surprising that the number of men lining up to work with kids continues to fall. In the past decade, the proportion of male primary teachers in Australia dropped from 23.8 per cent to 20.6 per cent. The younger the children, the less likely a man will be within cooed: in Victoria, about 1 per cent of preschool teachers are male.

A culture of suspicion must also impact on the number of men willing to put their hand up to coach a sports team or help with a school camp. A recent study by a British children's charity found that 13 per cent of men wouldn't volunteer to work with children because they feared being judged a pedophile.

There is a terrible paradox here. Good men are staying away from supervising children for fear of how they will be perceived, and yet at the same time many parents - and particularly single mothers - desperately want their children, especially their sons, to be exposed to good male role models. No parent wants a child's schooling and play to be a male-free zone, and yet society looks with some wariness at men who are keen to mentor and coach children. Messages are mixed, instincts are in conflict.

The sadness of all this is trumped by the difficulty of knowing exactly what to do about it. There are pedophiles in the world, after all, and parents want to protect their children with every ounce of their beings.

But we mustn't allow a fear of pedophiles to turn into a phobia that undermines much more than it achieves. All phobias begin with a "what if" scenario that builds on its own logic, escalates in intensity, and turns an unlikely occurrence into something so terrifyingly real that it seems perfectly sensible and rational to shut out the world and bolt the door. It isn't. About 95 per cent of child sex abuse happens within families. The abuser is likely to be someone the parents and the child knows - not the creepy stranger at the park (or on the plane) who looms large in the collective imagination. We may like to think we can lock child abuse out, but the sad truth is we are more likely to lock it in.

Today, most people over 30 can't help but notice, usually with some wistfulness, that children don't play on suburban streets any more. We have become very protective of children, and fearful of neighbourhood threats that, on the evidence, are no greater than they ever were. Perhaps as our own lives feel busier and less certain in areas like work and housing, overprotecting children becomes a means of securing some sense of order and control.

Whatever the case, treating all men as potential predators will do nothing to stamp out child abuse. But it will give rise to horrors - not of bad men

touching children in ways that revolt us, but of good men too scared to touch children at all.

Peter Pan(ic): is it a paedophile nightmare, or an innocent tale?

Richard Morrison, *The Times* (UK), December 29, 2004

One hundred years after the play *Peter Pan* opened in London, some of the proscriptive passions that it now excites in our modern era are deeply disturbing. VINTAGE year, 1904. Londoners saw the beginnings of three institutions that have graced the capital's cultural life ever since. The first to appear, improbably forged out of a monumental bust-up, was the London Symphony Orchestra. Then Oswald Stoll unveiled his magnificent London Coliseum, the most lavish playhouse the West End (or indeed the Western world) had ever seen.

And then, 100 years ago this week, a strange play opened over the road from the Coliseum, at the Duke of York's Theatre. It was a whimsical, weird fairytale from the pen of Sir James Barrie, a once-celebrated Scottish author whose powers were generally thought to be in decline. Yet the play not only eclipsed all else that Barrie wrote. It also transcended the very limits of theatre and the Edwardian age. For Barrie had conceived not just a memorable drama. He had created a brand, an archetype — a myth for all time. He had invented Peter Pan, the "boy who couldn't grow up".

As has since been strenuously chronicled (most recently, though with blithe disregard for fact, in the film *Finding Neverland*) the "boy who couldn't grow up" proved both a blessing and curse to those most closely associated with him. On the plus side, Barrie's play became a meal-ticket not just for himself but for thousands of actors in the century that followed: everyone from the 14-year-old Noël Coward to Julia Roberts. It has also, of course, provided a unique and continuing source of funds for the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children.

But on the minus side there is much that is odd, disturbing and dark about the play — not least the irony that the family which inspired this tale of childhood infinitely prolonged was later to be so horribly hit by multiple tragedy. The story (superbly told in Andrew Birkin's 1977 BBC dramatisation *The Lost Boys*) is unbearably poignant. Barrie befriended five little brothers while they were playing in Kensington Gardens, and subsequently got to know their parents, an unsuccessful barrister called Arthur Llewelyn-Davies and his wife Sylvia. Despite their father's resentment, the married but childless (and, it was said, impotent) author showered the boys with affection, holidays and Eton educations. And when father and mother died of cancer within three years of each

other, "Uncle Jim" insidiously installed himself as guardian of the (by now famous) five.

But the boys continued to be hit by tragedy. George, the eldest, was killed in Flanders in 1915. Michael, the brother on whom Barrie most doted (2,000 letters between them were later burnt by the family) drowned in Oxford in 1921, the evidence suggesting a suicide pact with a male friend. And a third brother, Peter, despite becoming a successful publisher, threw himself under a Tube train at Sloane Square in 1960, a month before the centenary of Barrie's birth — an event that he knew would refuel his unwanted association with what he called "that terrible masterpiece".

And what of the terrible masterpiece itself?

For a work inspired by (and ostensibly written to amuse) children, it is astonishingly full of lurid Oedipal overtones, even if they were frequently obscured by candyfloss sanitisation (as in Disney's 1953 cartoon) until the groundbreaking 1982 RSC staging by Trevor Nunn and John Caird. For instance, Peter professes to hate his own mother, yet desires to turn the virginal Wendy into a mother-figure; while Captain Hook, whom he destroys, is specifically associated with the abducted boys' father by the play's simple expedient of casting the same actor in both roles. As for the persona of Peter himself, only the tradition of casting an adult actress in the role cloaked Barrie's audacity in creating a stage-hero who was both a pubescent child and also dangerously charismatic, even sexy.

To modern eyes, in short, the whole play reads like the work of a man determined to cram into one seemingly innocent night in the theatre every titillating fixation and fetish to be found in Sigmund Freud's casebook. Yet in 1904 Barrie could not have known Freud's work. And that makes Peter Pan even more disturbing. For if Barrie was not tapping into an external source to create this peculiar dramatic world — one that deliberately teases away the distinctions between adulthood and childhood — then there is only one other place from which he can have drawn his inspiration: his own fractured psyche.

We know that Barrie had a traumatic childhood. His revered older brother met with a fatal accident at 13 (thus becoming, like Peter Pan, forever fixed in boyhood). Barrie felt that he could never replace his dead brother in his mother's affections, try as he might — and he did try, dressing up in the older boy's clothes. And somehow this experience seems to have frozen his emotional growth in perpetuity. Right through his adulthood he struck all who came into contact with him as (in Max Beerbohm's phrase) "a child absolutely".

The story of Barrie's childhood certainly illuminates much that is odd about Peter Pan, from the protagonist's claim that his mother locked him out of the nursery to the obsession with cheating death. But it's not the whole story. And here we come to what, for modern sensibilities, is the

play's most jarring aspect: the fact that its creation was triggered by Barrie's attraction to five beautiful boys.

Five boys, what's more, whom he went on to photograph, clothed and unclothed, taking part in elaborate pirate games that he had devised for their amusement. There is no evidence that Barrie had a physical relationship with any of the brothers he so adored. In fact the youngest, Nico, interviewed near the end of his life, dismissed the notion with the memorable line: "I don't think Uncle Jim experienced a stirring in the undergrowth for anyone."

That, however, hasn't stopped some modern commentators from declaring Barrie to be a paedophile — with the additional implication that we are somehow legitimising paedophilia if we continue to enjoy Peter Pan. And it's certainly true that if a grown man today exhibited such a desire for intimacy with children to whom he was not related (or even to whom he was), he would attract cries of "pervert" at the very least.

Such a stance, however, raises three large questions.

- First, should we let our judgment of art be coloured (or, rather, discoloured) by what we know of its creator's conduct?
- Secondly, should we be suspicious of any art that glorifies childhood to satisfy the emotional needs of middle-aged men who wish they were still boys?
- And thirdly, if Barrie's friendship with the boys disturbs our sensibilities so much today, when it seems to have been acceptable both to the boys' mother and Edwardian society generally, doesn't that say something about our own age's paedophile phobia — a collective obsession that makes it near impossible for a male adult to develop any friendship with children?

The first question

... became horribly relevant earlier this year, when William Mayne, a popular children's author once described by the Times Literary Supplement as "the most original writer for young people in our time", was convicted of a string of indecent assaults carried out 40 years ago on young girls. So do you stop your children reading his books, which have not a whiff of anything improper about them? And if the answer to that seems clear-cut, then what about Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, written by an unmarried loner obsessed with a ten-year-old girl?

The second question

... is even more complicated. There's no doubt that a huge amount of 19th and early 20th-century literature was written by men (it's mostly men) yearning to relive their own childhoods, but in idealised form. It ranges from Arthur Ransome's *Swallows and Amazons* to Kenneth Grahame's *Wind in the Willows*, and from the Biggles yarns of Captain W. E. Johns to the nursery tales of A. A. Milne.

All of these books, one way or another, project the notion of a bunch of chums emotionally frozen in pre-adolescence (even if they are toads, teddy bears or fighter pilots). Condemn such writing for its “infantile” tendencies, its denial of adulthood’s complexities (particularly sex), and you also find yourself decrying many of the greatest comic writers in the English language, from Lear and W. S. Gilbert to Wodehouse.

But it’s the third question

... which strikes me as most urgent for our own age. We may shake our heads in disbelief at what Barrie or Charles Dodgson “got away with” in their relationships with young children. It seems redolent of an age that was carefree to the point of negligence about the potential corruption of their young. To me, however, it suggests the opposite. At the start of Victoria’s reign, most British children lived in abject terror, unmitigated squalor or both. Writers such as Dickens, Charles Kingsley and Thomas Hughes (of Tom Brown’s Schooldays fame) played a huge role in pricking adult consciences through their vivid, angry descriptions of the inhumanities inflicted on children.

So much so, in fact, that by the end of the century society’s attitude to children had been transformed. A general callousness towards the young had been replaced by a doting idealisation of childhood “innocence” and a corresponding desire to postpone adulthood, with its attendant cares and woes, as long as possible (and preferably indefinitely). As Rupert Brooke put it, in words that Barrie and many other Edwardians might have endorsed: “Is there a greater tragedy than for a boy to die, except for him to grow old, to live?”

Today this desire for an infinitely prolonged golden childhood (a powerful concern of English culture right through to the 1950s) may strike us as creepy. But as I look round Britain today I wonder whether we have any right to feel superior to our predecessors. They may have carried the idealisation of childhood to a risible extreme. But now we have a society that has swung so far the other way that virtually nothing is “off limits” to the average 13-year-old.

We have turned “child protection” into a vast state bureaucracy. Yet we mysteriously find ourselves imprisoning more children than almost any other country in the Western world (more than 2,800 at any one time), and spending billions on remedial social work — mostly because we regard the notion of parents sticking together “for the kids’ sake” as “hopelessly Victorian”.

Perhaps, in the end, that is why Peter Pan remains such a powerful play. It has always appealed to that most English of collective emotions — nostalgia. But for Barrie’s Edwardian audiences, the nostalgia it triggered was for the joys of their own childhoods. For us, by contrast, it evokes a long disappeared and apparently unrenovable era — when the very concept of childhood itself had real meaning.

Castrate this sick debate

Not another British paedophile panic? The unhealthy obsession with child sexual abuse should stop. Full stop.

Mick Hume; spiked-online; 14 June 2007

Even Madeleine McCann's desperate parents have, it seems, had enough for now of the month-long media circus surrounding the disappearance of their four-year-old daughter, and have said they will adopt a lower profile while they try to come to terms with their loss. No such loss of appetite is evident elsewhere in Britain, however, with stories of how alleged international paedophile rings might have spirited her away still making the news almost daily.

[In the meantime, the parents are suspected - Ipce]

And if one child abduction story fades, we can be sure that another horror tale about paedophiles will be along soon, bringing with it the ghosts of previous cases. So it is that, as 'our Maddie' moves to the inside pages, she is replaced on the front pages of the UK press with headlines declaring 'Paedos to be chemically castrated' or the blunter 'Fiends to get chop'.

If summer is coming, it seems it must be time for another unhealthy paedophile panic. Last June, home secretary John Reid announced New Labour's latest 'crackdown' on child sex offenders, berating judges for their allegedly lenient treatment of those convicted of such offences and promising to introduce a British version of 'Megan's Law', the American legislation which gives the public access to information about convicted sex offenders in their area. British campaigners for such a law call it 'Sarah's Law' after the murdered eight-year-old Sarah Payne.

Now it is June again, and the government has announced its Child Sex Offenders Review. Having apparently given in to demands for Sarah's Law a year ago out of political opportunism, Reid is now backing away from a fully-fledged version (for reasons which are no more admirable). But that is buried beneath new proposals for another 'crackdown' on child sex abuse, ranging from voluntary drug treatments supposed to curb the sex drive of offenders (hence the overblown 'chemical castration' and 'get chop' headlines), to laws allowing mothers to check if their new boyfriend has convictions for child abuse and families to do the same with new members.

New Labour has also pledged a new 'paedophile awareness campaign', as if it were possible to raise public 'awareness' of this issue any higher. The campaign will, in the words of one report, 'hammer home the grim message that 90 per cent of child abuse is carried out by people the

victims know'. In other words, the government wants us to be more 'aware' (or perhaps just beware) that 'stranger danger' is the least of our worries, and that any parent or loved one could be a pervert and a paedophile, too. Inevitably, the loudest criticism of the New Labour proposals has been that they do not go far enough.

There is indeed a 'grim message' behind all of this. But it is not about the minimal and largely unchanging threat that paedophiles pose to children in our society.

(The fact that Sarah Payne, still the best known such case, was killed back in 2000 should remind us how rare these tragedies are.)

It is more about the danger that the unhealthy and ever-more exaggerated obsession with child sexual abuse poses to a civilised society. The solution to that problem will not be provided by even more laws, campaigns, propaganda or treatment aimed at a relative handful of predatory paedophiles. We would be better off trying to address the deeper causes of our obsession with them, and why paedophile-hunting has become a popular national sport.

Plenty of practical arguments have been put forward, on *spiked* and elsewhere, against the demands and proposals for a new 'crackdown' (see Sarah's Law can't protect us from fear, by Mick Hume). For a start, there is no evidence that Sarah's Law would make children any safer - indeed, the legal right to know if convicted sex offenders live locally would have done nothing to protect Sarah Payne herself, abducted and murdered by a paedophile many miles from her home.

- If we are to have a public register of sex offenders, why not of convicted murderers, wife-beaters, racists, drunk drivers, drug offenders or burglars?
- What about the principles of criminal justice that say offenders should be punished for what they have done, not what they might do or fantasise about doing in the future, and that those who serve their sentence have paid their debt to society?
- And leaving aside the contentious issue of whether 'chemical castration' works (and whether giving volunteer offenders a few mood-altering drugs deserves that dramatic description), when did free societies become comfortable with the notion of using medical treatments to 'cure' crime?

As we argued on *spiked* since the Sarah's Law controversy began seven years ago, these measures are all worse than useless when it comes to protecting us from the biggest danger to our children's freedom: fear.

Seen in this context, it is arguable that the government's compromise on a sort-of-Sarah's-Law will give us the worst of both worlds. It will reinforce the notion that we are besieged by a spectral army of predatory paedophiles and that Something Must Be Done. Yet at the same time, its

insistence that most information must be kept secret, and the threat to prosecute single mothers who make public information they are given about a boyfriend's record, can only further feed public fears and paranoia about invisible paedophiles. The Sex Offenders Register itself is perhaps the worst culprit here, a blunt instrument that is widely perceived as a secret list of 30,000-odd dangerous perverts, yet includes not just rapists and violent paedophiles but everybody from flashers and downloaders of illegal internet porn to teenagers who have under-age sex and women teachers who seduce young men.

As the paedophile panic has continued regardless of all these holes in the case for further crackdowns, however, it has become clear that there are wider issues that need to be addressed. It is not a matter of opposing this or that aspect of the campaign. There is a pressing need to question the very basis of this unhealthy obsession, and try to castrate the 'paedo' debate altogether.

What does it really say about the perverse mindset of our society that so many should now want to turn child sexual abuse into such an all-consuming political issue? It looks like a morbid symptom of a culture afflicted by an epidemic of paedophile-phobia - a condition that has been spread from the top echelons of the state downwards.

Of course, as Frank Furedi points out in his latest Really Bad Ideas column, these things are not genuine 'phobias' or mental illnesses (see Really Bad Ideas: Phobias, by Frank Furedi). What we might call paedophile-phobia is more a sign of a cultural and political sickness in a society that has lost its sense of purpose and direction and turned in on itself, always focusing on the darker side of human experience and fantasising about the basest behaviour being the norm. A culture that tends to interpret everything in terms of vulnerability and victimhood inevitably sees children as in need of ever-more protection.

The public obsession with paedophiles is also an expression of how deeply many of us now mistrust each other, and indeed ourselves, in a fragmented society of insecure individuals. The paedophile becomes not just the shadowy stranger out there, but the beast within the community, within the family, maybe even within you. This is the fear the government's latest 'awareness' campaign about abuse at home can only feed. It is already having a destructive impact on not just adult-child but also adult-adult relationships, as men feel wary of volunteering to work with kids and children are 'protected' from unsupervised contact with grown-ups. Stranger danger? There seems little danger of many children even meeting a stranger today (see Who would be a boys' football coach?, by Josie Appleton).

When it comes to spreading these fashionably poisonous prejudices about the human condition, leading voices on the 'other' side of the paedophile debate - such as those in the child protection industry opposed to a fully-fledged Sarah's Law - are at least as bad as its proponents. The National

Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC), for example, is a semi-state institution dedicated to publicising the alleged threat posed to children by their parents in its multimillion-pound 'Child abuse must stop. Full stop.' PR campaign. The NSPCC has welcomed the new emphasis on raising 'awareness' of familial abuse, and the proposal to limit access to information about paedophiles - because it fears that otherwise dangerous gangs of 'vigilantes' could drive the perpetrators 'underground'.

Here the prevailing view of what people are like is lowered further still, to the point where the paedophiles too become the victims of human passions. These professionals fear 'the mob' (aka the public) even more than they do violent perverts. This is the flipside of misanthropy in the abuse debate: either we are all viewed as potential paedophiles, or as a mob-in-waiting of ignorant bigots eager for an excuse to daub 'paedo' on a paediatrician's door. No doubt some would like to be able to inject people in order to suppress those feelings, too. In any case, the consensus in high places is that one way or another we are not to be trusted and all need to be supervised by the experts, with the help of the police and the thought-police.

The permanent paedophile panic has come to symbolise much that is wrong with the mindset of our society: the degraded state of public and political debate, the self-loathing and mistrust that now shapes influential views of our humanity, and the contempt with which the authorities look down on the public - especially those suspicious parents.

Britain is in danger of becoming known as a nation of paedophile-phobics. Of course paedophile panics are not really a peculiar British characteristic - America has experienced many similar episodes, and the Italians are now caught up in a wild 'Satanic abuse' scare similar to those that took off over here a few years back. But perhaps Britain does lead the field in turning paedophilia into a sordid national and political obsession.

It is as if, amid all the troubled discussion of what 'Britishness' might mean today, some have decided to show the world that we can still get more hysterical about the abuse of children than heartless Johnny Foreigner. Don't it make you proud?

How the NSPCC faked child abuse stories to generate cash

Daily Mail (UK), 11th September 2007

Children's charity the NSPCC has become the latest high profile organisation to be involved in a faking scandal - this time with made-up examples of child abuse.

In a letter sent out to generate donations, the society used a number of shocking examples of cruelty to young people. These featured a young girl who rang the service and talked of a baby-sitter "doing things to her she didn't like".

Shocking: But the NSPCC used made-up stories to get donations

Another described a boy's drunk and abusive father "punching" his step-mother. The distressing letter, sent to 200,000 supporters, looked like a genuine call transcript between operators and desperate children. But it has now emerged that the examples, used to raise cash donations for the telephone counselling service ChildLine, were made-up after several recipients complained to watchdogs about the "upsetting" content.

The Advertising Standards Authority slammed the NSPCC for its actions.

In a damning summary, it upheld the claims of three recipients who complained the letter looked like a genuine example taken from a case of a child who had been abused, which could cause distress to young children who might have picked them up. A spokesman for the watchdog said:

"We considered that in the absence of clarifying text the log sheet did not make clear that the details were examples of the type of calls received. We considered that some recipients could believe the log sheet was genuine and, because it could be the first thing they would see and it wasn't clear who it was from, the mailing could cause undue fear and distress."

Mum-of-three Kelly Winters, 34, from Gravesend, Kent, said:

"If any of my children had picked up these letters I would be very angry.
"They have some very graphic descriptions which could easily upset them. I can understand awareness of child abuse does need to be raised but to send out these blanket mailings without any thought for who might pick them up is negligent to say the least."

The NSPCC, famed for helping children who suffer the abuse of violent parents, said it would amend future mailings about ChildLine, which was launched by telly favourite Esther Rantzen in 1986 with the memorable 0800 11 11 slogan.

An NSPCC spokesman said:

"We have reviewed the ad and now believe it was not clear in the letter that the log sheet gave examples, rather than factual accounts, of the type of calls ChildLine volunteers received."

Recidivism Studies Expose Fraud

Multiple State's Sex Offender Recidivism Studies Expose Fraud Upon The American Public By Lawmakers And Mainstream Media

Amanda Rogers, The American Chronicle, September 13, 2007

We've all heard the catch phrases:

- "They cannot be cured",
- "They have the highest recidivism rates out of any other type of criminal" and
- "Its only a matter of time before they re-offend again".

We hear these types of claims, stated as fact again and again by mainstream media and politicians. Indeed, even when lawmakers pass new laws pertaining to sex offenders these phrases are found again and again throughout the minutes of legislative hearings across the country.

Numerous studies which have been bought and paid for by the American people tell a much different story however. In fact, these studies clearly demonstrate that the exact opposite is true.

Why are they all lying? The short answer: money, ratings and control. Fear has always been a great motivator throughout history to get people to submit to things they would not ordinarily submit to. The laws that have been created under the guise of protecting the public undoubtedly have a very chilling effect on the constitution and create a springboard for further abuses which will ultimately affect us all.

Instead of using the information contained in the studies-which may very well hold the key to making a significant reduction in the number of sex crimes, they create sound-bites and catch-phrases in an attempt to scare the public for votes, ratings, and corporate profit - all at the expense of our children. If the laws they have created were working (which they are not) Dru Sjodin, Jessica Lunsford, and Carlie Brucia would still be alive today.

Most if not all studies clearly define which sub-categories of offenders pose the most risk, make up the bulk of recidivism and pose the greatest danger to society. Yet, instead of focusing on this specific sub-group of offenders, and tailoring legislation and attention of those most dangerous, they lump everyone convicted of a sex crime together. As a result, the American public is mistakenly led to believe that all are highly dangerous ticking time bombs. IF this were true, given the fact that there are over

600,000 registered sex offenders in this country, we could have a 24 hour news channel devoted to nothing but repeat sex offenders and never cover them all. The reason registered sex offenders who do commit another sex offense make the evening news is because it is RARE!

Lawmakers and the media are not only defrauding the American public, they are also effectively doing society and children a huge disservice - creating an unnecessary and overblown climate of fear and anxiety, while continuing to put America's children at risk.

Take a look at some of the findings from these studies

Links have been provided [in the on line version] so that the studies can be viewed in their entirety. Pay close attention to the number of "new sex crimes" committed by registered sex offenders. This is quite different from technical violations and failure to register. We think most readers will be shocked at what these studies and statistics reveal.

The notion that most sex offences are committed by strangers, that sex offenders have high rates of recidivism, and that treatment does not work is NOT supported by the extensive and growing body of research regarding registered sex offenders. Here is a glimpse of what these studies reveal, which proves that what is happening is the exact opposite of what the American people are repeatedly being told.

- **Arizona Reports** - A 5.5% recidivism rate for a new sex crime. This was a fifteen years study done between 1984 and 1998.
<http://www.azcorrections.gov/adf/faq/recidivism.asp>
- **Wyoming Reports** - Recidivism rates between 2% and 7.5%. Their study covers a five year period between 2000 and 2005.
<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/PubResearch/2005/05RM078r.pdf>
- **Minnesota Reports** - After an eight year follow-up a recidivism rate of 10%. They are careful to note which category of offenders pose the highest risk, those being individuals whose victim was a stranger.
<http://www.doc.state.mn.us/documents/04-07SexOffenderReport-Recidivism.pdf>
- **Ohio Reports** - A recidivism rate of 8% as a result of their 10 year study. Rapists with adult victims were the highest risk while those convicted of incest were the lowest risk with a 7.4 recidivism rate.
http://www.drc.state.oh.us/web/Reports/Ten_Year_Recidivism.pdf

To put things in perspective,

DUI recidivism hovers around 50%. Given the high number of fatalities each year caused as a result of drunk driving accidents, for example, During 2005, 16,885 people in the U.S. died in alcohol-related motor

vehicle crashes. This does not include victims who become permanently disfigured and/or disabled as a result of DUI related accidents. Many of them are children.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/factsheets/driving.htm>

Additionally

over 1,400 children die each year at the hands of their own parents due to abuse and neglect.

Sex crimes are a terrible social ill and there are ways to prevent them. The knowledge and information that is needed to make effective laws is available and we need to demand that our lawmakers acknowledge this information and start using it effectively. What kind of politician would ignore vital information and hard evidence that could effectively protect our children and perpetuate these lies?

Here are a few examples

- “Because of high recidivism rates, Congress can and must do more to ensure that offenders who could strike again are not roaming our streets.”
- Congresswoman Nita Lowey
- "Studies have clearly shown that sexual predators have the highest recidivism rates."
- Senator Frank Padavan (R-C, Bellerose)
- “With the high-rate of recidivism of sex offenders, the state must have the ability to provide additional rehabilitation to those who pose a threat to our communities.”
- Senator John J. Flanagan.
- “Studies show that sex offenders are four times more likely to be rearrested than other criminals.”
- Congressman Vito Fossella (R-NY13)
- “Sex offenders are not petty criminals. They prey on our children like animals, and they will continue to do so unless we stop them. We need to change the way we track these pedophiles.”
- Former disgraced Republican Senator Mark Foley, FL - accused of soliciting male minors online and who also spearheaded the Adam Walsh Act.
- We know that the recidivism rate of convicted child molesters is extremely high. When many leave the penitentiary, they continue their ways against our greatest resource, children.”
- Ted Poe Representative Texas

- “There are over 500,000 registered sex offenders across the country, and statistics have shown that the recidivism rate for those criminals is high.”
 - Representative James F. Sensenbrenner(R) Wisconsin who spearheaded the Adam Walsh act
- "Recidivism rates are alarmingly high" for sexual offenders.
 - Rep. Earl Pomeroy (D) of North Dakota
- “Unlike other criminals, sex offenders pose a unique challenge to law enforcement and communities due to high recidivism rates.”
 - Representative Anthony D. Weiner NY

The threat of child abuse typically lurks close to home

Jonel Aleccia, Spokesman Review, April 8, 2007

The thing is, the abuser was such a nice guy. He wasn't a monster, some stranger preying on the single mom and her 7-year-old daughter. He was a friend, a neighbor, a 35-year-old man who said he saw how hard the Spokane woman worked and wanted to help out. He carried her groceries. He bought her dinner. He offered to baby-sit. And then, late at night, under the guise of watching TV, the nice guy molested the second-grader.

"He started by rubbing her legs," said Detective Doug Orr, who conducts polygraph exams for the Spokane Police Department and the state Department of Corrections. "Then he penetrated her."

The scary thing isn't just that such a scenario occurred, said Orr, who administered a maintenance polygraph last week aimed at holding the convicted sex offender, now 42, to the terms of his probation. Equally alarming is how often it happens.

"This is as routine as it gets," said Orr, who has interviewed hundreds of offenders in a two-decade career.

While popular perception warns of "stranger danger" and urges society to protect children from outsiders, law enforcement experts and advocates for abused children say the real threat most often lurks close to home.

Nearly 85 percent of abused children are hurt by a parent acting alone or with another person, according to the federal Child Welfare Information Gateway. That includes about 80 percent of sexual abuse cases and nearly 90 percent of neglect, and the ratio is as true in Eastern Washington and North Idaho as it is in the rest of the country. Perpetrators almost always are known to the victim, advocates say. Even worse, they're usually trusted relatives, friends or authority figures who use intimacy as a means for abuse.

"People who are worried about kids, about people on the playgrounds snatching them up, you're kind of misdirected," Orr said. "I've only seen two or three of the 'bogeyman' type offenders in my career."

Abusers spend considerable time and energy getting close to their victims, a process known as "grooming," Orr said. That view is echoed by Marcia Black-Gallucci, an advocate with the Victims Rights Response Team, a Spokane agency that saw more than 9,000 clients last year.

"If you're a trusting sort, the offender can groom the parent first," she said. "It can go on for a year or a long, long time."

Serial abusers often reveal that they target vulnerable women with children, advocates said.

"The really common scenario is a single mom whose boyfriend is really good with her kids," Black-Gallucci said. "Afterwards, she says, 'He didn't value me, he didn't want me, he wanted access to my children.' "

Other abusers seek out positions in which they'll have access to and authority over children. That can include coaches, teachers, youth group leaders and others.

"Lots of Santa Clauses and clowns are child molesters," Black-Gallucci said.

Once they've gained trust, offenders slowly begin to display aberrant behavior. Physical abuse might begin with a shove, a slap or a harder-than-necessary spanking. Sexual abuse can start with affectionate back rubs or massages that gradually veer into private areas.

"It starts with tickling over the clothing and then moves to tickling under the clothing," Orr said.

Many offenders don't intend to hurt their victims, Orr said. They often claim to care about the children and tell themselves that the behaviour wasn't wrong or that it wasn't as bad as it seemed.

"There's a lot of denial and minimization," Orr said.

Offenders blur physical and psychological boundaries so thoroughly that victims often don't know they're being abused, experts said. They'll offer gifts, treats or special favors. They'll tell children that the abuse is OK, that it's normal, that everybody does it, Black-Gallucci said.

"They'll tell the child: 'You and I are special. I love you in such a special, unique way.' "

Physical abusers will tell their victims that they deserved the punishment, said Tinka Schaffer, an advocate at the Children's Village treatment center in Coeur d'Alene.

"They'll say, 'I never hit you that hard; it was just a little swat,' " she said.

The hardest thing about confronting abuse is cutting through the web of denial and distortion that surrounds it, experts said. The first step requires becoming aware that sexual, physical and emotional abuse exists.

"We see it everywhere," said Black-Gallucci. "We walk down the street and say, 'You're an offender, I can just tell.' "

That doesn't mean that people should become universally suspicious, Orr said. Even after two decades of analyzing sex offenders, he tells his children, ages 17, 15 and 11, that most people are good.

"I tell my kids, that's only a small percent of the population," he said.

He urges parents to communicate with their kids, to talk to them about good touching and bad touching and why no one has a right to make them uncomfortable.

"You don't have to worry about it, but you have to be concerned about it," Orr said. "And you have to sit down with your children and talk. End of book."

Failure to Protect

America's Sexual Predator Laws And the Rise of the Preventive State

<http://www.wmitchell.edu/faculty/Eric-Janus+Failure-to-Protect.html>

In his new book, Vice Dean and Professor Eric S. Janus exposes the broad threat to civil liberties inherent in today's aggressive "sexual predator" legislation.

Laws such as civil commitment and Megan's law are reactions to sensationalistic crimes committed by predatory strangers, which are actually quite rare. Despite political and media hoopla, these aggressive laws are bad public policy and do little or nothing to reduce the majority of sexually violent crimes - committed by people known to the victim and family members.

The current sexual predator legislation also puts everyone's civil liberties at risk by legitimatizing preventive detention and actuarial profiling. Janus warns that these laws may be early harbingers of a "preventive state," in which government casts wide nets of surveillance and intervenes to curtail liberty before crimes of any type occur.

Instead of passing legislation that undermines everyone's legal rights, Professor Janus advocates more successful ways of preventing sexual violence. Going beyond critique, he proposes serious alternatives to the status quo, through a combination of criminal sanctions, public education, and community treatment and supervision of previous offenders. He also discusses how to overcome political obstacles to achieving rational policy.

<http://www.amazon.com/Failure-Protect-Americas-Predator-Preventive/dp/0801443784/>

Editorial Review

Most crimes of sexual violence are committed by people known to the victim-acquaintances and family members. Yet politicians and the media overemphasize predatory strangers when legislating against and reporting on sexual violence. In this book, Eric S. Janus goes far beyond sensational headlines to expose the reality of the laws designed to prevent sexual crimes. He shows that "sexual predator" laws, which have intense public and political support, are counterproductive.

Janus contends that aggressive measures such as civil commitment and Megan's law, which are designed to restrain sex offenders before they can commit another crime, are bad policy and do little to actually reduce sexual violence. Further, these new laws make use of approaches such as preventive detention and actuarial profiling that violate important principles of liberty.

Janus argues that to prevent sexual violence, policymakers must address the deep-seated societal problems that allow it to flourish. In addition to criminal sanctions, he endorses the specific efforts of some advocates,

organizations, and social scientists to stop sexual violence by, for example, taking steps to change the attitudes and behaviors of school-age children and adolescents, improving public education, and promoting community treatment and supervision of previous offenders.

Janus also warns that the principles underlying the predator laws may be the early harbingers of a "preventive state" in which the government casts wide nets of surveillance and intervenes to curtail liberty before crimes of any type occur. More than a critique of the status quo, this book discusses serious alternatives and how best to overcome the political obstacles to achieving rational policy.

About the Author

Eric S. Janus is Vice Dean and Professor of Law at William Mitchell College of Law. He is the author of *Law and Mental Health Professionals and Civil Commitment in Minnesota*.

Call to reduce the age of consent to 14

Kevin Schofield, *The Scotsman*, Sat 17 Feb 2007

THE controversy over the legal age of consent has been re-ignited after a Scots academic called for it to be lowered to 14.

Dr Matthew Waites, a lecturer in sociology at Glasgow University, said lowering the age limit from 16 to 14 for young people who are less than two years apart would recognise the fact that many teenagers regard sex as "normal behaviour".

His comments were described as "madness" by a family charity, but one of Scotland's leading child-protection bodies said under-16s who engage in consensual sex should not be criminalised.

Norman Wells, the director of the Family Education Trust, said:

"To suggest that teenagers are at the mercy of their hormones demonstrates a failure to respect them as rational people."

But Maggie Mellon, the director of Children 1st, said that while she was opposed to lowering the current age limit, common sense should be used when enforcing the law.

"We support the current legislation as it underlines that sexual activity involves emotional as well as physical maturity," she said. "It also protects young people under the age of 16 from exploitation by adults. We do not, however, believe in criminalising young people who engage in consensual sexual contact with a partner of a similar age and maturity. These young people should not

automatically face criminal charges or be put on the Sexual Offenders' Register. While we do not support a lowering of the age of consent, we would like every case involving people under 16 to be looked at carefully on its own merits."

Dr Waites has written a book, *The Age of Consent: Young People, Sexuality and Citizenship*, based on a worldwide survey of age of consent laws, which can vary from 12 to 21. He said the number of young people under 16 who were having sex was going up, which proved that the current laws were ineffective.

"The law stigmatises much of what many teenagers regard as normal behaviour and fosters a climate of denial among parents and some professionals which prevents some teenagers from seeking information and assistance," Dr Waites said.

"The minimum age for sexual activity should be lowered to 14 but supplemented by an 'age span' provision where people aged 14 and 15 would only be able to have sexual activity with a person less than two years older, until 16."

Dr Waites' comments are particularly controversial given the UK's appalling record for teenage pregnancies. A damning report by the United Nations last week found that Britain was ranked worse than average in rates of teenage pregnancy. The report also placed the UK bottom of 17 nations for the number of 15-year-olds who reported having had sex.

However, organisations such as the International Child and Youth Care Network say that an age of consent of 16 criminalises more than half of the teenage population.

Maggie Mellon said governments also had a responsibility to help prepare young people for sexual relationships.

"We want to see a lot more advice and information given to young people so that they are physically and emotionally ready to embark on healthy sexual relationships," she said.

Research discussed

1) Sexual Abuse in Childhood and Sexual Dysfunction in Adulthood: An Australian Population-Based Study

Najman, Jake; Dunne, Michael; Purdie, David; Boyle, Francis; Coxeter, Peter

Archives of Sexual Behavior, Volume 34, Number 5, October 2005 , pp. 517-526(10)

Abstract

This study examined self-reported adult sexual functioning in individuals reporting a history of childhood sexual abuse (CSA) in a representative sample of the Australian population.

A sample of 1793 persons, aged 18–59 years, were randomly selected from the electoral roll for Australian states and territories in April 2000. Respondents were interviewed about their health status and sexual experiences, including unwanted sexual experiences before the age of 16 years.

More than one-third of women and approximately one-sixth of men reported a history of CSA. Women were more likely than men to report both non-penetrative and penetrative experiences of CSA.

For both sexes, there was a significant association between CSA and symptoms of sexual dysfunction. In assessing the specific nature of the relationship between sexual abuse and sexual dysfunction, statistically significant associations were, in general, evident for women only.

CSA was not associated with the level of physical or emotional satisfaction respondents experienced with their sexual activity. The total number of lifetime sexual partners was significantly and positively associated with CSA for females, but not for males; however, the number of sexual partners in the last year was not related to CSA.

CSA in the Australian population is common and contributes to significant impairment in the sexual functioning of adults, especially women. These consequences appear not to extend to the other areas of sexual activity considered in this study.

**2) National Samples, Sexual Abuse in Childhood, and Adjustment in Adulthood -
A Commentary on Najman, Dunne, Purdie, Boyle, and Coxeter (2005)**

Bruce Rind and Philip Tromovitch
Archives of Sexual Behavior; December 2006
< http://www.ipce.info/library_3/files/rind_national_samples.htm >

Abstract

This article comments on the Najman, Dunne, Purdie, Boyle, and Coxeter (2005) study [*] on the relationship between childhood sexual abuse (CSA) and later sexual functioning in an Australian national sample.

We note the value of the Najman et al. study, being well conducted and using a generalizable sample, but critique Najman et al.'s interpretation that their study showed "significant impairment" due to the CSA. We computed effect sizes to show that the "effects" were small, and then show using meta-analysis that these small effects were consistent with results in a series of national samples from other countries.

We argue that Najman et al.'s causal statement about CSA's "impairment" effect was unwarranted given their lack of causal analysis, the well-established fact in other research that CSA is often confounded with third variables, and the fact that CSA was confounded with a key third variable in Najman et al.'s study.

Given the hyperbole that surrounds the issue of CSA, we emphasize the need for researchers to adhere to valid scientific principles in inference and precision when reporting the results of CSA research.

3) Childhood Sexual Abuse and Adult Sexual Dysfunction - Response to Commentary by Rind and Tromovitch (2007)

Jake M. Najman, Michael P. Dunne and Frances M. Boyle
Archives of Sexual Behavior, December 2006
< http://www.ipce.info/library_3/files/najman_response.htm >

Abstract

Rind and Tromovitch (2007) raised four concerns relating to our article (Najman, Dunne, Purdie, Boyle, & Coxeter, 2005. Archives of Sexual Behavior, 34, 517-526.) which suggested a causal association between childhood sexual abuse (CSA) and adult sexual dysfunction.

We consider each of these concerns:

- magnitude of effect,
- cause and effect, confounding, and
- measurement error.

We suggest that, while the concerns they raise represent legitimate reservations about the validity of our findings, on balance the available evidence indicates an association between CSA and sexual dysfunction that is of "moderate" magnitude, probably causal, and unlikely to be a consequence of confounding or measurement error.

Vern Bullough Obituary

Vern Bullough, 77; Prolific Author Was Scholar of Sex History

Elaine Woo, LA Times, July 2, 2006

When Vern Bullough was asked what launched him into the field of sexual history 50 years ago, he quipped, "I blame it all on my mother-in-law." His future wife's mother had abandoned her family to live in a committed relationship with another woman -- a scandalous event for Salt Lake City in the mid-1940s.

Bullough, then a teenager, was "more or less goggle-eyed" when he met them, but quickly quit gawking and began educating himself. He plied the two women with questions about homosexuality, soaked up what few books he could find on the subject and got to know their lesbian and gay friends.

Bullough, 77, who died of cancer June 21 at his Westlake Village home, eventually channelled his curiosity into a career as one of the most prolific scholars of sex, who wrote, co-wrote or edited nearly 50 books on topics ranging from prostitution to transgenderism.

"We have lost the most important historian of our field," said Eli Coleman, a past president of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality, who directs the human sexuality program at the University of Minnesota medical school.

"It would be very hard to find somebody that had so extensively studied so many areas within sexuality," Coleman added. "Vern was all over the field -- not in a superficial way but in a very deep way."

He literally had an encyclopaedic knowledge of sexual history. With his late wife, Bonnie, a noted nursing educator and sociologist, he wrote "American Sexuality: An Encyclopedia" (1994), a standard reference work in the field.

His other major books include

- "Sexual Variance in Society and History" (1976),
- "Homosexuality: A History" (1979), and
- "Cross-Dressing, Sex and Gender" (1993), which is used as a textbook in gender-studies programs.

His writings on homosexuality have been credited with helping to launch and sustain gay and lesbian history as a legitimate field of study.

Bullough also was a pioneering advocate of civil rights. In the early 1960s, he persuaded the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California to defend gays and lesbians -- making it the first ACLU chapter in the country to do so.

"He was the one who made the entire ACLU focus on discrimination against gays and lesbians. He was far ahead of everyone," Ramona Ripston, executive director of the ACLU of Southern California, said of Bullough.

Quiet, scholarly and conservative in appearance, Bullough served on the board of the ACLU for many years and was its chairman when the organization was at the forefront of high-profile battles, including the fight to desegregate Los Angeles city schools.

A native of Salt Lake City, he grew up in the Mormon Church but left it when he was a teenager, in large part because he and Bonnie, his high school sweetheart who was also Mormon, thought the church discriminated against blacks. They were married in 1947. Meeting Bonnie's mother and her mother's partner left a deep impression.

"Both of us became fascinated by the topic of homosexuality and lesbianism," Bullough wrote in the 1997 book "How I Got into Sex."

At the University of Utah, where he earned a bachelor's degree in 1951, and later at the University of Chicago, where he earned his master's and doctoral degrees, he wanted to study homosexuality but knew that it was a verboten topic. Instead, he studied history and became a medievalist with a dissertation on the development of medical education in the Middle Ages. He was hired to teach at Youngstown University in Ohio in 1954.

In 1959 he moved to Los Angeles to teach history at Cal State Northridge. Feeling more confident about his credentials after writing several articles and books on the early history of medicine and nursing, he shifted his academic focus to prostitution and published a book on it -- "The History of Prostitution" -- in 1964. He was officially a sex researcher. Over the next four decades he wrote voluminously on a wide range of topics, including birth control, pornography and women's history.

In 1976 he collaborated with Dorr Legg and others on "An Annotated Bibliography of Homosexuality," which listed 13,000 works on the subject from around the world.

"It was widely recognized as the first massive compilation of information about homosexuality," said Richard Docter, a gender researcher and retired professor of psychology at Cal State Northridge.

The landmark compendium helped to encourage serious scholarship on gay and lesbian issues, Docter said.

That same year, Bullough published "Sexual Variance in Society and History," which he considered his most important work. It examined "nonconforming sexuality" from prehistoric times through the 10th century and included material on sexual practices in China, India and the Islamic world.

In "Science in the Bedroom" (1994), which included material on marriage manuals, sex therapy, child sexuality, the impact of birth control on sexual attitudes and free-love theorists, Bullough surveyed the history of

sex research. The book particularly highlights the contributions of women and gays who conducted groundbreaking research, such as Karl Heinrich Ulrichs, the 19th century German researcher who investigated same-sex attraction and is considered the first gay activist, and Clelia Mosher of Stanford University, who interviewed women in the early 1900s about their sexual desires and practices.

He collaborated on two dozen books with Bonnie, his wife of 49 years, who died in 1996. Among them was "The Subordinate Sex" (1973), a history of attitudes toward women.

At the Cal State campus, Bullough was founding director of the Center for Sex Research, where he helped organize international conferences on prostitution and gender issues. He also established the Vern and Bonnie Bullough Collection on Sex and Gender, housed at the campus' Oviatt Library, which contains hundreds of rare or unusual materials, including a nearly complete series of a pioneering magazine for cross-dressers called *Transvestia*.

"It's an invaluable collection," said Stuart Timmons, a Los Angeles gay historian.

Bullough left the college in 1980 and moved to the State University of New York at Buffalo, where he served several years as dean of natural and social sciences. He retired in 1993, and the following year joined USC as an adjunct professor. He taught at USC until 2003.

Through his advocacy for gay civil rights at the ACLU, he came to know many of the pioneers of the gay rights movement, including Harry Hay, Jim Kepner and Don Slater. He had a long friendship with Virginia Prince, a pioneer of the transvestite movement. He rode in an early gay parade in Hollywood in the mid-1960s that Slater organized to demand that gays be drafted to serve in the Vietnam War. Bullough opposed the war but supported gays' rights to serve in the military.

In 1966, when Bullough was in the Middle East on a Fulbright scholarship, one of his two children, David, was killed in a hit-and-run accident in Jerusalem. The Bulloughs subsequently adopted three children of different races, two of whom are gay.

He is survived by his second wife, Gwen Brewer, a retired English professor; three sons, Jim Bullough-Latsch, Steve Bullough and Michel Hayworth; a daughter, Sue Bullough; brothers Darwin and Duane; a sister, Karen Hyde; and a grandchild, Jamie Bullough-Latsch.

An interviewer for the online magazine Gay Today recently asked Bullough to comment on rumors that he must be a cross-dresser because of his strong interests in the transgender community. Others assumed that he was gay and were disappointed to learn that he was an avowed heterosexual.

"If I was everything I wrote books about, I would probably be a very screwed-up person," he said, mentioning his works on sadomasochism, pedophilia, masturbation and other forms of sexual expression. I consider myself a sex researcher, and I will admit to having a strong interest in the way people sexually express themselves."

Boy-love man wins right to sue police

Monday, 17 September 2007, stuff.co.nz

The former president of the now defunct Australasian Man-Boy Love Association has been given the go-ahead to sue police for \$250,000 damages for alleged breaches of his rights.

Gerald Moonen says police have provided information that has led to him being tagged with Interpol as a "suspected paedophile", a claim which Mr Moonen denies. As a result Mr Moonen says Australian authorities harassed him in 2002 when he went to Bribie Island, Queensland, to take up a friend's offer of a free house to live in for the rest of his life.

In a decision issued in the High Court at Wellington, Associate Judge David Gendall said that in court documents Mr Moonen says he is not and never has been a paedophile, and that he has never been charged with or convicted of any sexual offence. Judge Gendall said Mr Moonen set up the Australasian Man-Boy Love Association and was its president. It ceased to function in 1998. Its purpose was "advocating a change in societal attitudes to loving sexual relationships between adult men and boys".

Mr Moonen said that when he went to Australia, customs officials questioned him in a way he thought indicated they had received the list wrongly describing him as a suspected paedophile. Less than three weeks later police searched the Bribie Island house where he was living. It was the final straw and Mr Moonen left Australia two days later, being searched and questioned by customs in both countries on his return trip to New Zealand. As a result he has sued the attorney-general, on behalf of police and customs.

The attorney-general asked for the case to be struck out on the grounds it could not possibly succeed but Judge Gendall said the only hopeless part was a claim based on an alleged breach of Mr Moonen's right to be presumed innocent. The judge said he was not aware of any cases, outside of criminal court process, recognising a right to be presumed innocent till proven guilty.

Saying someone was a "suspected paedophile" could lead to claims alleging defamation, and breach of privacy, but not a civil claim that presumption of innocence had been breached, he said. He struck out that part of the claim but said other grounds could proceed relating to Mr

Moonen's rights to adopt and hold opinions without interference, freedom of expression and freedom of movement.

Ipce's Internal Matters

Report of the secretary

Since July 2007, I have done a check of Ipce's membership by twice writing or mailing to all members and asking them to reply if they want to continue their membership and if they would be able and willing to pay the dues.

Here below you see the situation by making this report. "Rea or OK" means that these members have reacted or are well enough known by me. "Not yet" means: members who have not yet reacted. I may suppose that I have more data about the "not yet" group on the coming Ipce Meeting. I will send a third mailing to the "Not yet" group and remove them from the members' list if they still do not react.

	Paid	Rea or OK	Not yet	Member s
IMO	11	22	4	26
Other	5	20	19	39
Total	16	42	23	65

To be complete: some members are not reachable: e-mail returns (4 members now); other members have timely interrupted their membership because of different problems (3 members now). And moreover, we have two people who are not a member but a guest. Our members are living in 20 countries all over the world.

Report of the webmaster

Ipce's website has six sections now:

Section	Where	Files	MB Room
Ipceweb [*]	Ipce's domain	435	7.5
Library Two	Ipce's subdomain	202	10.0
Library 3 [**]	Ipce's domain	619	32.5
Newslette rs	Ipce's domain	172	12

Host	Ipce's domain	195	6
Booksreborn	Ipce's domain	103	67.5
Total		1726	135.5 MB

[*] With Library (1), Statements, Documentation lists, Links and all registers

[**] With "New" and the Ipce Magazine

We also have our internal forum IMO: *Ipce meets Online* placed by our third provider.

The Ipce Magazine is started in January 2007. This is factually an update of the website, be it concentrated on one theme. The Newsletter is on the website, but is also made in a printable Word version, especially made for and sent by paper post to those who have no connection with the Internet.

I must say that there has been pause in updating the website from February to July 2007, because your webmaster was too busy with making translations from and into several languages, especially for a symposium, a magazine, a foundation and a council, all to manage a dialogue between Muslims and others. Since July, several updates and two Newsletters (this is one of them) have appeared.

Two teams

Ipce has two teams, to be (re)installed by the annual Meeting.

- A Conflict- & Emergency Team (three 'wise old men'), but there has been no conflict and no emergency since the former report and meeting.
- A Membership Team: four members who invite and accept new members after some kind of acknowledgement by them or by a member from the same country or speaking the same language.

September 24, 2007

	Report 2005- 06 May 06 1.037,6	Expected 2006-07	Report 2006-07 July 07	Expected 2007-08	Interim Report 24-9-2007
Starting balance	3	475,22	475,22	-122,77	-122,77
Income					
Dues	205,74	500,00	225,00	800,00	321,16
Gifts	145,00	150,00	269,16	400,00	353,45
Other: rent	4,07	3,00	3,91	2,00	0,00
Total income	354,81	653,00	498,07	1.202,00	674,61
	1.392,4				
Start + Income	4	1.128,22	973,29	1.079,23	551,84
Costs					
Newsletters	-47,00	-200,00	-129,06	-200,00	-54,66
Meeting	-19,90	-125,00	-164,30	-100,00	0,00
Secretarial costs:					
Postbox & stamps	-64,60	-50,00	-56,30	-60,00	-13,50
Web site					
Providers *	-625,60	-630,00	-735,70	-630,00	-117,00
Other costs	-27,72	-50,00	-10,70	-25,00	-20,03
Various costs	-132,40	-50,00	0,00	-25,00	0,00
			-		
			- 1.096,0		
Total costs	-917,22	1.105,00	6	-1.040,00	-205,19
Final balance	475,22	23,22	-122,77	39,23	346,65
ASN Account	68,69		2,80		47,10
Postbank FG acc	406,53		-125,57		299,55
Total	475,22		-122,77		346,65

* 2006-07 is 14 months

Providers	Monthly	Yearly
Demon	-35,70	-428,40
Wannadoo	-6,85	-82,20
Bluebox	-10,00	-120,00

Total -52,55 -630,60

Documentation List # E 22b: June 2007

[From Ipce Newsletter # E 23, September 2007]

An @ means that the document is electronically available
at webmaster@ipce.info

07-061 @ 10 kb	Verslag des Gerichtsurteil über das 'anpreisen' von Brongersma's Buch <i>Loving Boys</i> . Mit Linken zum gerechtlchen Amtsberichten usw.
07-062a @ 60 kb	Bill 22 / Project de Loi 22, Canada: "age of consent 14 y" > "age of protection 16 y" - « âge de consentement 14 ans » > « âge de protection 16 ans ».
07-062b @ 10 kb	Summary of # 062a/ Sommaire de # 62a
07-063 @ 5 kb	Frequently Asked Questions [about the] Age of Consent to Sexual Activity - especially the Canadian Bill 22 (see #062a & 62b), answered by the Canadian Ministry of Justice.
07-064a @ 3 kb	The age of consent (NL, 1993) - By: Radio Netherlands (Wereldomroep) - The age of consent: dream or nightmare? Table of contents.
07-064b @ 13 MB	The same as a mp3 file.
07-065 @ 2 kb	Message about delay in Canada's new Law of Protection.
07-066 @ 3 kb	Canadians turned away at U.S. borders; Edmonton Sun, August 6, 2007 Tighter security at U.S. border crossings turned back more Canadians in the first half of 2007 than in the same period last year. Since January, more than 30,000 Canadians were refused entry at American borders, a Montreal newspaper reported yesterday. [...] The report said the primary victims are citizens who were pardoned for crimes. - Article & Comment.
07-067 @ 11 kb	Free speech or crime? 'Boy love' websites. Montreal is host to network for pedophiles; Paul Cherry, The Gazette (Canada), August 10, 2007
07-068 @	Remarks of Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales at the National Symposium on Sex Offender Management And

8 kb	Accountability in Indianapolis, Indiana; July 27, 2007.
07-069 @ 2 kb	Czech castration raises worries; 13 July 2007, Alix Kroeger, BBC News, Brussels. A European anti-torture watchdog has expressed "serious reservations" about surgical castration being used to treat sex offenders in the Czech Republic.
07-070 @ 7 kb	Death Penalty for Child Molesters? Hilary Hylton/Austin, The Times, May. 02, 2007 [...A]s [Texas] legislators there consider joining the small but growing number of states making certain convicted pedophiles eligible for the death penalty, a surprisingly vocal group of critics has emerged, arguing that the measure is short-sighted, counterproductive and probably unconstitutional.
07-071 @ 10 kb	Death for child rapists: House likes it, prosecutors don't; Legislature: Bill heads to Perry, but high court to ultimately rule on issue; Jennifer Emily, The Dallas Morning News, May 18, 2007
07-072 @ 11 kb	Can Nothing Be Done About the Pedophile Blogger?: How the Law Deals With Dangerous People; Sherry F. Colb, findlaw.com, Aug. 06, 2007
07-073 @ 13 kb	A plague in paradise, The Times (UK), July 1, 2007 Article about young sex slaves in Cambodia.
07-074 @ 20 kb	The Devlin Hornbeck Story - An Overview - A page with links to articles.
07-075 @ 12 kb	Baseball, Boys, One Man on Illegal Love; Think & Ask, John, April 2006. Transcript of interview with John (man) and Jesse (boy) about their 'illegal love'. Jesse "is my lover," John said, "but the feelings are mutual, this is a consensual relationship." John met Jesse (not his real name) when the boy was homeless three years ago.