

those who desire a deeper appreciation of the translation of the mystique of hypnosis into the pragmatic use of hypnotherapy, Douglas Flemons' *Of One Mind: The Logic of Hypnosis, The Practice of Therapy* will be a wor-

thy guide. Flemons does an outstanding job of assembling the theory and practice of hypnotherapy in a readable and absorbing volume. Clinicians of every stripe will find his thoughts on the art of psychotherapy illuminating.

including professionals in the fields of psychiatry, psychology, social work, criminology, and law. The book is comprehensive and balanced in its approach, covering both clinical and research aspects of studying memory and suggestibility.

In summary, *Memory and Suggestibility in the Forensic Interview* is a valuable resource that will benefit mental health and other professionals seeking to learn more about memory and its controversial role in the courtroom.

Memory and Suggestibility in the Forensic Interview

edited by Mitchell L. Eisen, Jodi A. Quas, and Gail S. Goodman; Mahwah, New Jersey, Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 2002, 496 pages, \$99.95

Stephen G. Noffsinger, M.D.

Forensic mental health professionals and courts have long struggled with the accuracy of witnesses' and victims' memories of events that are subject to criminal or civil litigation. Defendants, victims, and plaintiffs in legal matters have much at stake based on the accuracy and admissibility of witnesses' and victims' testimony about their memories, including the accuracy of criminal convictions and civil monetary awards.

The accuracy of eyewitness identification of perpetrators, the impact of witness suggestibility on memory, recovery of a crime victim's repressed memories, and implantation of false memories by a psychotherapist have been frequently litigated and remain controversial topics. Courts have struggled with decisions of whether to admit into evidence potentially inaccurate and unreliable testimony from victims and witnesses about memories of the event in question, especially memories that have been hypnotically refreshed, obtained by coercive or suggestive interview techniques, or offered by child witnesses. Forensic mental health professionals are often called on by attorneys or courts to form expert opinions about the accuracy of witnesses' or victims' memories, and courts have struggled with decisions of whether to admit such expert testimony into evidence.

In *Memory and Suggestibility in*

the Forensic Interview, editors Mitchell L. Eisen, Jodi A. Quas, and Gail S. Goodman have assembled a team of psychologist authors who thoroughly address these topics. The book begins with a comprehensive discussion of the historical development of memory theory and an in-depth analysis and literature review of the current knowledge of how memories are formed and retrieved. Other topics include how the strength of memories is determined, changes in the status of memory, memory distortion, hypnosis and its role in memory recovery, face recognition and identification of witnesses, the effect of witness bias on memory and witness identification, and the impact of trauma on the formation of memories.

Several chapters specifically address children's memories and the testimonial capacity of children. The use of children's drawings and anatomical dolls in sexual abuse investigations is presented, as are the effect of suggestion on children's memories, false childhood memories, eyewitness memory errors, and the corruption of childhood memories by adult authorities. Another chapter is devoted to the cognitive interview method, a specific interview technique that reportedly enhances the accuracy of adult eyewitness recall.

This book is readable and is broken down into 18 easily digestible chapters. The reader does not need any existing expertise in the science of memory, other than a general mental health professional background. This book will appeal to a wide audience,

Principles and Practice of Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry

edited by Diane H. Schetky, M.D., and Elissa P. Benedek, M.D.; Washington, D.C., American Psychiatric Publishing, Inc., 2002, 432 pages, \$67

Kamlyn Haynes, M.D.

From the front cover's inviting photo of arctic poppies to the back cover's poetic explanation for the choice of this flower, *Principles and Practice of Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry* is a carefully crafted and comprehensive textbook. It offers indispensable assistance for those of us beginning our careers as child and adolescent forensic psychiatrists. As the authors suggest, a wide audience, including mental health clinicians, forensic examiners, attorneys, and judges, will find in this book a user-friendly, well-organized, unique reference that succeeds in shedding a bright academic light on an all too often neglected subspecialty.

The book is divided into six sections: "Basics," "Child Custody," "Child Abuse," "Youth Violence," "Juvenile Offenders," and "Legal Issues." Each of these sections includes five to seven chapters and serves as either an encyclopedic introduction or a succinct summary, depending on

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the reader's experience with the topic. Most chapters follow a fairly consistent yet nonrestrictive format that begins with evocative clinical examples. These examples are followed by concise descriptions of the relevant legal or clinical issues. When appropriate, an overview of the evolution of the relevant legal or clinical matters places current concerns in a historical context. Some chapters follow the case examples by clarifying key legal or clinical issues, which is necessary for a more complete understanding of the text to come. Although these explanations were very helpful for those chapters, this neophyte frequently wished that the editors had included a forensic glossary.

Most chapters offer helpful warnings and recommendations to the practicing clinician and end with a section titled "Case Example Epilogues." Although I found the coverage of certain types of evaluations disappointingly superficial and a few others not optimally well organized, other discussions were extremely helpful mini-manuals on how to perform certain types of forensic evaluations—for example, parenting assessment in cases of abuse and neglect and termination of parental rights.

The chapters on foster care and adoption, introduction to forensic evaluations, sexually aggressive youths, prevention of youth violence, and forensic ethics are all commendable chapters that stand out as well-written introductions to their respective topics. Each of these chapters spells out the inherent difficulties in working with the population or topic reviewed, yet each manages to do so honestly while offering younger, inexperienced clinicians reason to hope for progressive changes on the horizon. Chapter 2, "Introduction to the Legal System," was an absolute joy to read—it is the only chapter during which I laughed out loud twice.

After reviewing the relevant data and simplifying the complex topic of what happens to children's developmental trajectories when they are maltreated, Chapter 19, "Neurodevelopmental Impact of Violence in Childhood," addresses the political

reality that society has always and will always reap what it sows. Without preaching, the author, Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D., ends his chapter by suggesting that increased evidence of the detrimental effects of violence should and can provide parents, professionals, public officials, and policy makers the evidence they need to advocate for policies that ultimately decrease the amount of violence in youngsters' lives. The entire textbook reflects a similar style.

Without ever climbing on a soap-

box, the various authors of the chapters in this volume advocate for increased professionalism, better collaboration, and an honest appraisal of one's motivations. In many ways, the book urges its readers to bring rigor and discipline to more fairly evaluate and assist the legal system in the care, protection, treatment, and disposition of youths who are involved with the juvenile justice system, family courts, and foster care. This is a welcome and valuable text, and I highly recommend it.

Unto Us A Child: Abuse and Deception in the Catholic Church

by Donald T. Phillips; Irving, Texas, Tapestry Press, 2002, 238 pages, \$24.95

Maxine Harris, Ph.D.

Donald T. Phillips, the author of *Unto Us a Child: Abuse and Deception in the Catholic Church*, has written a moving account of one family's tragic struggle with the aftermath of sexual and physical abuse. The seven surviving members of the Albert family have lived with mental illness, severe alcohol abuse, poverty, underemployment, and fractured relationships—all, the author suggests, as a result of their abuse and mistreatment at the hands of the Catholic Church.

After they were removed from the family home because of profound poverty and neglect, the seven Albert children were placed in a Catholic orphanage. While they were there, at least four of the five boys were physically and sexually abused. One of the girls became pregnant by a priest and was sent to a Catholic-run home for unwed mothers, where she gave birth to—and relinquished custody of—an infant son. All the children suffered emotional deprivation and abuse. At every turn, the caretakers who were supposed to be helping them were the source of disappointment or outright betrayal and torment.

When, as adults, the Alberts at-

tempted to get help from the Catholic Church, they experienced what felt to at least one of the brothers like "being abused all over again." The church officials denied the accusations and countered that the Alberts were lying and merely seeking financial gain. In the courts, the Alberts again met defeat, in part because of the powerful and well-funded church lobby. Only in their support of one another and their shared knowledge of what went on in their childhoods did they find any relief or solace.

The strength of Phillips' account lies in his ability to tell a good story. As a professional writer, he knows how to engage the reader in the lives of his characters. Unfortunately, he does not place those lives in the larger context of what we know about physical and sexual abuse. Other than some commentary in the afterword, Phillips does not refer to the literature on abuse, nor does he help us to see the Alberts' story as more than a personal tragedy.

Although it is certainly true that the Albert family sees sexual and physical abuse at the core of their current struggles, and Phillips is telling their story, the picture that emerges is far more complex. Extreme poverty, with all its attendant consequences, precedes the abuse that the children experience. And their mother's struggle

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