

# ECHOES OF THE GULAG

Volume III, Number 6

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SEPTEMBER, 2003

## Phila's and Ism's!

# “WHAT’S NEXT?”

## EDITORIAL

### The Truth-Lies Shall Set You Free!

By: Kevin Campbell

In 2001 I was speaking with a psychologist on Ward 2 about this SVP law and after about an hour of my presenting the facts, he finally agreed with me. He said to me, “the only advice that I can give you is to “fake it till you make it.”

After all the years of schooling. After all the years of internship. After all the years of experience. What was his advice to me?

“LIE!”

He stated this without the slightest hesitation. No regrets! No remorse! No thought of morals at all! In fact, he considers himself an “honest man.”

At every team I have attended, they have “advised “ me to accept treatment. When I explained to them that I **DO NOT HAVE A MENTAL DISORDER**, their only response has been, “It’s the only way you’ll ever get out.”

What then is the collective wisdom of these self-proclaimed “experts”?

“LIE”

We have all read at least a part of our files at some point and if you are anything like me, then you have discovered they have done one thing **CONSISTENTLY...**

“LIE”

Is it any surprise that these same Truth-challenged people would attend our trials, take the stand and commit perjury?

“LIES”

There are at least two inmates here who have completed the **ENTIRE** program. Yet, they are still here.

How many times have they promised us that if we complete the phases we will be released?

“THEY LIED!”

In God’s Ten Commandments it states very clearly, “**THOU SHALT NOT LIE!**”

You don’t have to believe me, or even trust me. But, you do have to consider this:

**THEY EVEN SPIT ON GOD’S LAW!**

## WHAT’S NEXT?

By: Lawrence Halbert

The DSM\_IV-TR (2000) sets its own standards for inclusion of diagnoses and text changes. The concept of paraphilia as a psychopathology was analyzed and assessed critically to determine if it meets the definition of a mental disorder as presented in the DSM; **it does not.**

Critiqued for logic, consistency and whether it constitutes a distinct mental disorder, the DSM presents “facts” to substantiate various points made in the text, however the veracity of these facts, when scrutinized, found little evidence to support the tradition of equating particular sexual interests with psychopathology. The conclusion is that paraphilia is so severely flawed; its removal from the DSM is advocated.

In societies attempt to control its members it uses a mechanism of classification of behaviors as pathognomonic for a mental disorder. Normal human sexual interests once thought to be aberrant are now considered to be “healthy”.

As such, empirically based, scientific definitions of healthy sexual behavior continue to elude us.

Cross cultural sexual activity considered acceptable in the United States is viewed as “stigmatized” in other cultures; similarly, sexual activity considered “stigmatized” in the United States is “acceptable” in other cultures. Example: non-marital coitus in accepted in the U.S., but is stigmatized harshly in many Moslem countries; topless sunbathing among women at public beaches is accepted in Western Europe, but is condemned in most of the United States. Violation of these cultural norms often results in negative reactions. Beliefs embedded in socio-cultural contexts raise questions of how sex experts understand sexual interests signify a mental disorder.

The American Psychiatric Association (APA) publishes the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) describing the diagnostic criteria and defining features of all formally recognized mental disorders. Its primary influence although mainly in the U.S., its impact is global.

It is not only used to communicate between professionals or to standardize research parameters, these diagnoses affect people in legal situations, job interviews, child custody or just simple self-esteem issues. The equating of unusual sexual interests with psychiatric diagnoses has been used to oppress minorities and to serve as political agendas, making this not just a scientific issue, but a human rights issue. The power of the DSM should not be underestimated.

Continued on Page Two—

## Absent Comrades In Memoriam

ECHOES asks everyone, everywhere, to pause for a brief moment each day and remember, with kindness, each of these, our Absent Comrades.

Jim Davis.....Jan. 21, 1999  
 Dean Danforth.....July 27, 2001  
 Larry Goddard ..... June 2, 2001  
 Edward Samradi..... May 3, 2001  
 Donald Lockett..... Jan. 23, 2001  
 David Stansberry..... May 10, 2000  
 Charles Rodgers..... May 29, 2000  
 Dan Cloverdance.....1998  
 Colman..... 2000  
 Greg Bowen-"Sluggo".....July 3, 2002  
 Lolyd Johnson.....2002  
 Wayne Graybeal.....2002  
 Freddy Cooper.....2002  
 Patrick Brehm.....March 15, 2003  
 Robert Alperin.....March 31, 2003  
 Tim McClanahan.....March 14, 2003

Released from this oppressive prison by  
the Compassionate Hand of God.

## ECHOES OF THE GULAG

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Don Plyler—Tim McClanahan

## Continued From Page One— "What Is Next?"

By: Lawrence Halbert

The DSM has been revised six times, to date. (APA 1952, 1968, 1980, 1994 and 2000). Currently the DSM-IV-TR is used. At first the DSM was a theoretically based psychoanalytic model, of mental illness and changed over time to an evidence based and descriptive model. With this transition, the basis of such disorders as "sexual deviation" changed to paraphilia, a theoretical non-pejorative descriptor. (A fancy way to say from fact to fiction).

On page xxvii of the DSM-IV-TR, it is asserted that a "comprehensive and systematic" review of the literature was conducted in the preparation of the DSM. To maintain the credibility it was, "...to be supported by an extensive empirical foundation". (APA 2000, Page xxiii).

A majority of the text remains unchanged. (APA, 2000, Page 829).

After review of the literature to support the assertions made in a paraphilia diagnosis, including several studies, found a contradiction in the text and was missing objective data to support the classification of paraphilia as a mental disorder.

When the APA removed Homosexuality from the DSM some observes thought it would be followed by removal of other paraphilias.

Bolstered by the lack of objective research and a failure to support the theory that Homosexuals fit a specific psychiatric stereotype, some observers believe the removal of Homosexuality was politically motivated. \*Bayer, 1981).

The diagnosis paraphilia, NOS (Not Otherwise Specified) is used by state evaluators under the W&IC law to describe rape as a mental disorder. Exclusion of a specific diagnosis for rape is believed to be classified as paraphilia, NOS, because of the possibility that a defendant may use it as a defense or to reduce culpability.

The term "paraphilia" as employed here in keeping with the literature, even though there are serious reservations about the validity of a diagnostic or applicability of this term. The issue of inclusion of a paraphilia diagnosis in the DSM will be addressed and challenged as it suggested that the construct of paraphilia is ambiguous and does not support the inclusion as a diagnostic category in the DSM.

This article has been re-written and edited for content from an extract of a report presented to the American Psychiatric Association symposium entitled "DSM-IV-TR and the Paraphilias: An Argument for Removal". Dated May 19, 2003, Charles Moser, Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, San Francisco, Calif., and Peggy J. Kienplatz, University Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

## "Criminal or Insane? Who Cares?"

Submitted by: R.D. LaFort, Unit 22

### How the Government Works (You Over).

"Are you a criminal? Do government profiling procedures indicate that you are an at-risk personality who may, some day, commit a crime?"

"Though it is not yet considered proper to arrest, convict and sentence a person for crimes the government is pretty sure you may commit, some day, it has another alternative: It can, according to the U.S. Supreme Court, secure your involuntary committal to a mental institution for an indefinite amount of time." (Don't we know it? It is time John Q. Public is informed as to what our court system has come to.)

Reprinted from the *Idaho Observer*, July 16, 2003, Vol.6, No. 20  
[www.idaho-observer.com](http://www.idaho-observer.com)

## What is Freedom?

Submitted by: No Name Given

Have you ever wondered how one-wire held up by ancient fence posts can keep horses in a pasture even though they could easily jump over or walk through them? Is it possible that walls erected in horses minds are much bigger than the tired, one-wire barrier that stands between them and freedom?

Not unlike pastured horses, people tend to diminish their own freedom by building fences in their minds. Once the fences are in place, they seek the counsel of experts to make decisions for them rather than becoming competent to represent themselves in areas vital to their personal health and prosperity.

Though most people will spend their entire lives romancing the notion of freedom, few actually live in freedom because the price of freedom is responsibility for one's actions. Inseparable from freedom is responsibility—responsibility for one's spiritual, political, physical and economic successes or failures.

Government is aware of peoples' desire to allow others to make decisions for them as the rancher is aware of the walls in pastured horses' minds. Government meets this demand by legislating regulatory schemes and hiring the government personnel to administrate and enforce them. Government uses these schemes to tell people what they can and cannot do. In exchange for government regulations of our political, physical and economic lives, taxes are levied, fines are imposed and penalties enforced. Similarly to how people adapt their spiritual beliefs to avoid the wrath of God(s), they adapt their political, physical and economic behavior to avoid the wrath of a vengeful state by complying with its regulatory schemes, no matter how absurd.

Fueled by revenues extracted from the responsibility-abdicating masses, the authority of organized religion and/or government inevitably grows

larger in the minds of their people. Eventually peoples' behavior becomes so influenced by the dictates of these outside forces they begin to do as they are told. They, in turn, teach their children how to behave in a society that rarely questions the intelligence or morality of the "laws" under which they exist.

The glue that holds people in this form of bondage is **FEAR**—fear of the unknown and fear their unauthorized actions may prompt punishment from the authorities they, themselves, have imagined into existence by paying various forms of tribute.

Those who intend to mold peoples' behavior to best suit their greed and power-driven interests, teach people to fear the world outside the fences in their minds. However, there have always been those who do not pasture well. History has been shaped by the people who have gone under, over, or through fences placed between them and the rest of the universe.

These people define freedom. Ironically, some of them were slaves. The truth is that NO government or religion is capable of keeping people in their pasture—unless, we build the fences ourselves.

Source of Article: *The Idaho Observer*, May 15, 2003—Don W. Harkins. "The Benefits of Activism can Last Many Lifetimes".

## MEDICAL RECORDS ADDENDUMS AND REBUTTALS

ARTICLE BY: Ken Herman

If any of my fellow Hosprisoners have been having documents removed from your medical charts; which you submitted for inclusion in your medical chart for the purpose of rebutting chart entries or other information found in your chart, then this article is important to you.

ASH administration has been citing Health and Safety Code Section

123111 as the basis for removing the documents. They have relied on this section in error!! This fact is proven by Health and Safety Code §§ 123135( c) and 123140.

Very basically, Heath and Safety Code section (herein: H&S §) 123111 is actually a section within California's Health and Safety Code, Division 106 (Personal Health Care), Part 1 (General Administration), Chapter 1 (Patient Access to Health Records).

In other words, Section 123111 is a section within Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 106 of the H&S Code. Also, within that same chapter (1) are sections 123135 (c) and 123140.

ASH Administration has been accurately summarizing what H&S §123111 states (including the 250 word limit, etc.). However, H&S § 123135 (Extent of access; application of confidentiality and information laws) states, "Except as otherwise provided by law, nothing in this chapter shall be construed to grant greater access to individual patient records by any person, firm, association, organization, or municipal or other public corporation, or government officer or agency. Therefore, this chapter does not do any of the following: [skip to sub-section "c"], e.g. (c) Relieves government agencies of the requirements of the Information Practices Act of 1977 (Title 1.8—commencing with § 1798) of Part 4 of Division 3 of the Civil Code.

This is followed by Section 123140 (Application of Information Practices Act; State Agency records). This section clearly disproves ASH Administration's position.

"The Information Practices Act of 1977 (Title 1.8—commencing with § 1798) of Part 4 of Division 3 of the Civil Code) **shall prevail over this chapter with respect to records maintained by a State agency.**" (Emphasis added)

Article Continued on Page 4

**Medical Records –Continued–**

Be certain to cite the Information Practices Act of 1977, Civil Code § 1798 et seq. when submitting your chart rebuttals or contesting the denial of your submission for inclusion in your chart. It is the prevailing law which is required to be followed by State agencies.

Finally, you may also consider this... The documents that were removed from the medical chart and (copies thereof) returned to the Hosprisoner were (in writer;s case) included in the chart when it was admitted into evidence in the commitment trial. Removing those documents without authorization of the Court is removing evidence. So, we have statutory violations and evidence tampering, perhaps. Certainly worth pursuing, and worth bringing to your legal counsels attention!!

# WAKE UP!

Article Submitted By: R.D. LaFort, Unit 22  
Reprinted from *The Idaho Observer*,  
July 16, '03, Vol. 6, No. 20 Front Page

“WAKE UP!” “As of June 30, 2003, the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) reports that 2,019,234 Americans are locked up in the nation’s State or Federal prisons. At year’s end 1990, the number of incarcerated Americans was, according to the BJS, 1 in 292. Just twelve years later, 1 in every 145 Americans are behind bars—not counting the estimated 4 Million in local jails. The average annual increase in the U.S. prison population is about 3.8 percent—20 percent of which is attributed to drug-related convictions. At the present rate of prison population growth, while factoring in the steady increase of city and county ordinances on the books and the volume of State and Federal laws being passed every year, we can expect all Americans will be sentenced to serve time behind bars by the year 2056. Those who still believe we live in the “land of the free”

are deceiving themselves—the numbers alone prove that point.

If the self-deceivers also believe America is still “the home of the brave” they are attaching to themselves courage that does not exist—the brave do not tolerate governments that imprison friends, family members and countrymen for anything other than the commission of real crimes against people and property. (So, John Q. Public, be Aware, be very Aware.)

## You Too Can Find Anyone!

By J.F. LaBlanc

I am often asked how someone can go about finding people or be able to do background checks on them. Below is a list of websites you can go to search, or download software to enhance your search. Some are free or can range from \$9.95 to \$125.00. You will be amazed at who you can find.

- [www.docusearch.com](http://www.docusearch.com)
- [www.mtgcorp.com](http://www.mtgcorp.com)
- [www.intellseek.com](http://www.intellseek.com)
- [www.peopledata.com/](http://www.peopledata.com/)
- [www.usp2.com/](http://www.usp2.com/)
- [www.peoplespot.com/](http://www.peoplespot.com/)
- [www.findlostones.com/](http://www.findlostones.com/)
- [www.people-finder.com/](http://www.people-finder.com/)
- [www.peoplesite.com/](http://www.peoplesite.com/)
- [www.ussearch.com/](http://www.ussearch.com/)
- [www.ezdetective.com/](http://www.ezdetective.com/)
- <http://socialsecuritysearchusa.com/>
- [www.howtoinvestigate.com/](http://www.howtoinvestigate.com/)
- <http://usfind.com/>
- [www.peopletrackers.com/](http://www.peopletrackers.com/)
- [www.switchboard.com/](http://www.switchboard.com/)
- [www.ancestrafindings.com/](http://www.ancestrafindings.com/)
- [www.1800whowhere.colm/](http://www.1800whowhere.colm/)
- [www.isis2020.us/](http://www.isis2020.us/)
- <http://ndet.collector-club.com/>
- <http://affiliates.jeanharris.com/>

Two sites had addresses too long to fit the width of this space.

Of Course there is also GOOGLE.

## Mr. Dean’s Cornerstone

**Does Mr. Dean’s Cornerstone really care about what happens to us?**

Well, does Mr. Dean give a damn about anything other than himself? I prefer to debate the question. What does it matter if I care or not? There are some people worth caring about, and there are some worth helping along. What does it matter whether or not I care? I am not one of the chosen few who needs to matter whether or not any one is worth saving. To cut to the chase so we can move along in whether or not I care. If I had the opportunity to decide w ho lived and who died there are whole wings in this institution that would perish over night. Let us say I would start at the “End of the Hallway and Work My Way Forward!” Answer your question?

In the short five years I have been here I have had the opportunity to come into contact with some interesting people. Some of the men are bad seeds with no hope of redeeming themselves in anyone’s society.

On rare occasions I have even ran across some real Ladies and some even stranger women. Stronger in heart, stronger in personality and even stronger in their humanities. I have stood before Monsters and I’ve stood before the Beast. The ones that make your skin crawl whenever they are around. The ones that stare at you like they are staring at their next meal. All in all, I have met some really caring men and women on both sides. The level of a persons humanities does not persuade me on my idea of what is right and wrong with the people I’ve met in the last five years. I consider people on the way they act around me, and to me personally. I am just a person who hopes to meet some really interesting people in an otherwise screwed situation. I am enjoying what I am learning about people and stress.

Article Continued on Next Page

Mr. Dean's Cornerstone—Continued—

I've taken it upon myself to set up the classroom, but I am the only student within.

DO I CARE ABOUT YOU? I care about what befalls all of you. Regardless of whether or not you caused your own grief or not, there is still a level of kindness in my heart for the most troubled souls in this hole.

### Editor's Notes:

#### PHONE BLOCKED?

Have your family or friends had their phone inadvertently blocked from receiving calls from this Hosprison?

If they have, you can write and tell them to call 1-800-231-0193 to get the block removed.

The blocks are automatically placed if the party you are calling pushes the wrong button. It only takes one time and the block is set, until they call to have it removed.

Hope this helps some of you overcome the phone disaster.

### Typographer's Notes:

You may have noticed, in the last two or three issues, that the articles are running onto a second page, or start in the middle of a column, etc. This is due to the fact we have gone to a larger type size in the initial type-setting of the **GULAG**. Everything is still reduced by the printing process—and some times we do not have the size of paper we would like on which to mount the original "drafts"; so things are still small—but we are trying to make the **GULAG** a little easier to read.

Also, as this may be my last issue, at least for awhile—I wish all Hosprisoners to know I consider it a privilege and a learning experience to have been able to be typographer for the **GULAG** for the last two and half or so years—I sincerely hope this newsletter will continue. If you know anyone who can take over typographer duties—the Editorial Board knows how to reach me

## Utopia Void

By: Allen Michael Harper

Inspired by David Whyte

It doesn't interest me if

roaring puppets lift the shining rainbow  
of reality's foreign cousin  
to the dazzled gaze of unsuspecting  
mortals,  
sugar sipping butterflies  
flitting  
from flower to vivid  
prismatic flower  
tasting sweet, empty  
saccharine dreams, hinting  
at life's golden promises.  
I want to know how you and I belong,  
or if we belong at all  
to each other,  
if your desire to reach out  
to share your spirit with mine has  
become  
a desiccated shadow, hiding  
under the cliffs  
of delusion's wretched scorn for reality,  
if flickering phosphor springs  
of laughter's jaded echoes  
swamp  
inner bulwarks  
of humanity's final sanctuary.  
I want to know how I, with my  
battered  
wings of butterfly love  
can save you.  
I've been told I  
can't even save myself.

## Hosprison Logic

By: Francisco Iniguez

Quote: Between staff member Jason and Hosprisoner Francis, Tier 21—

Question: "Are there going to be 9:30 PM showers tonight?"

Answer: "No, because there is not enough staff."

Question: "There are enough staff to do showers at 4:00 PM, but not for 9:30 PM?"

Answer: "Yeah, because I am going home at 6:00 PM."

Question: "Why?"

Answer: "Because there are too many staff."

## Echoes From the GULAG

Submitted by R.D. LaFort, Unit #22

The Idaho Observer, July 16, 03-

Vol. 6, No. 20

"How we burned in the prison camps later thinking: What would things have been like if every police operative, when he went out at night to make an arrest, had been uncertain whether he would return alive?"

If during periods of mass arrests people had not simply sat there in their lairs, paling with terror at every bank of the downstairs door and at every step on the staircase, but had understood they had nothing to lose and had boldly set up in the downstairs hall an ambush of half a dozen people with axes, hammers, pokers, or whatever was at hand?

The organs would very quickly have suffered a shortage of officers and notwithstanding all of Stalin's thirst, the cursed machine would have ground to a halt."

--Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Nobel Prize winner and author of "The Gulag Archipelago" (written after spending 11 years in Soviet concentration camps)

Note: "organ" refers to "organs" (or agencies) of the State.

## More Concepts of Achieving Power

From: The 48 Rules of Power by R. Greene

1) "Avoid the temptation of showing how clever you are—it is far more clever to conceal the mechanisms of your cleverness."

2) "If you are unsure of a course of action, do not attempt it. Your doubts and hesitations will infect your execution. Timidity is dangerous: Better to enter with boldness. Any mistakes you commit through audacity are easily corrected with more audacity. Everyone admires the bold; no one honors the timid."

# THE NATURE OF THE BEAST

By: Richard C. Bishop

A recent survey of senior German scientists by the prestigious scientific journal *Nature* (Vol. 424, July 10, 2003) revealed a belief that the growing coverage (in the German media) of research misconduct is undermining public confidence in science.

Significantly, most of the scientists (80%) felt that misconduct was a major problem in clinical research, but only 4% felt that it was a problem in physics and chemistry.

If there is clinical research misconduct of such magnitude in Germany, how big is the problem in the U.S.? Recent history suggests it is huge.

Beginning with Judianne Densen-Gerber's near-hysterical ravings in the 1970's about the harmfulness of child pornography, followed by the 1980's tidal wave of Satanic cult child-abuse prosecutions, and the wacky psychological theories of "recovered memory" that destroyed countless families, and rebirthing therapy, a crazy idea that resulted in the smothering death of a ten-year-old girl in Colorado, to today's flood of witch-hunting hate-the-sex-offender legislation, put forward as measures to protect the public (but accomplishing exactly the opposite), we have witnessed scads of outrageous examples of poorly-trained, unprincipled clinical psychologists who either haven't the faintest idea of the true nature of science or, if they do, who deliberately evade the strict requirements of scientific discipline in order to maximize their personal prestige and profit.

The problem begins with colleges that teach intellectually lazy versions of psychology to their students, many of whom enter clinical facilities, such as state mental hospitals, where their daily routine will consist of diagnoses, psychiatric treatment, writing clinical notes in patient's charts, filling out

reams of paperwork for Medicare and other governmental programs, drinking coffee and eating chocolate éclairs and barbecued spareribs in full view of the patients who are served typically tasteless low-quality institutional meals.

Colleges do not teach science very well to these future clinicians. Any real scientist knows that clinical research is the kind most subject to error, misinterpretation, or misconduct, as reflected in the German survey. Yet, clinicians seldom become aware that clinical evidence and hypotheses must be tested for validity by rigorous scientific trials. Obviously most of them zealously bull ahead with preconceived notions, twisted rationalizations, cognitive distortions in their obsessive drive for recognition and reward. And, if they harm patients or violate their rights, treating them as lab rats, so what?

The problem is compounded by professional societies, such as the American Psychiatric and the American Psychological Association, who do not police clinicians very well, and do not enforce strict criteria for research. While it is true that these societies have published sound, detailed guides to ethical conduct, the rules are violated on a grand scale and it is virtually impossible for an abused client to force a clinician to clean up his or her unethical conduct.

The American legal system must also be indicted on two counts: (1), allowing the judicial commitment of citizens who are presumed to be mentally ill, and (2), basing those commitment orders on dubious psychological testimony, to mental hospitals which, in reality, are prisons where ill-trained state-licensed professionals are free to treat their charges as slaves for however long they like, since the courts will not release them until the professionals declare it safe to do so. Due process in these cases is totally absent; whether a person is committed or released depends

almost entirely on the opinion of one or two clinicians who have a vested interest in filling the hospital beds with a full quota of bodies. In California, a number of psychologists have tripled or quadrupled their income simply by being willing to declare that most of the people they evaluate for the Department of Mental Health are mentally disordered and dangerous. Psychologists have been removed from the official roster of evaluators for reporting too few positive evaluations.

The scientific community should be deeply disturbed by the shoddy practices of clinicians. There should be a movement to beef up the education of psychologist and psychiatrists, to instill a working knowledge of science and respect for the scientific method, and there should be a mechanism to discipline practioners and professional societies failing to meet high standards.

There should be a thorough education for attorneys in forensic psychology, to better protect their client's interests.

Finally, there should be a recognition that psychiatric commitment is nothing but imprisonment to benefit an army of third-rate clinicians, where people who are poorly equipped to defend themselves are subjected to the whims and greedy impulses of those who are supposed to provide healing therapies but seldom do. To those who will open their eyes and ears, civil commitment is clearly a violation of the Thirteenth Amendment's prohibition of slavery and involuntary servitude, and the Fourteenth Amendment's guarantee of due process.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment states that no person, whether a citizen or not, may be subjected to slavery or involuntary servitude, "except as punishment for a crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted..."

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## Nature of the Beast—Continued—

The 14th Amendment prohibits states from enforcing "any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens..." and no state may "deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

It seems to me that locking a person inside a mental hospital is no different than locking a person inside a prison. The loss of liberty and livelihood, of personal possessions, of unfettered contact with family and friends, and of free engagement in commerce and governance, is exactly the same, no matter what you call the system. Your jailers have complete control over your movement; you are utterly subject to their beck and call; you may possess only what they allow, and anything you possess is subject to confiscation. This is involuntary servitude, plain and simple. It is slavery.

Taken together, these two amendments tell us that the only due process that may lead to loss of life or liberty is criminal prosecution, conviction and punishment. Sophists will argue otherwise, but the plain and clear language of the Constitution must win the day.

Clinicians are fond of predicting future behavior even though various scientific studies have demonstrated that their predictions are proven correct by subsequent events only about one-third of the time. In human terms, this would indicate that, of any one hundred persons incarcerated by the courts, based on a clinician's prediction of future dangerousness, roughly 66 are wrongly imprisoned. Conversely, predictions of non-dangerousness will have a comparable error rate, resulting in the release of large numbers of potentially dangerous persons.

Americans would be up in arms if such an alarming error rate infected our criminal justice system. Why do we allow it to occur in civil commitments? The answer lies in public perception, shared by Judges, lawyers and legislators, that psychology is a real science, and that psychologists are real scientists whose judgment is based on sound, generally accepted scientific principles.

I hope I have introduced some arguments that will cast doubt on those beliefs, and that readers will be motivated to initiate some corrective action. At any rate, I am confident that the public and the legal profession will eventually become acutely aware of the problematic nature of forensic psychology, and that sweeping corrective measures will be undertaken.

In closing, assuming that my vision of the future is reasonably correct, I will indulge in that most precarious of pastimes, predicting the future.

Beware, you fat cat psychologists and psychiatrists. You can't pull the wool over everyone's eyes forever. Like all scam artists, you are never satisfied; you will continue to commit ever more outrageous psychiatric atrocities. Eventually enough people will become so angered by your insensitivity and greed, a movement will arise and grow like wildfire, its purpose to rein in your excesses and punish you for your crimes against humanity. You will never again be free to exploit defenseless people.

If you are smart, you will clean up your own house before that day of reckoning. But, I doubt that you can overcome your institutional greed and arrogance soon enough. You will crash and burn, your credibility and cachet destroyed forever. New generations will revile you and your kind, pay homage to those who resisted you, and grieve for those you have destroyed. Your name will be anathema.

## Alternative Housing Assembly Bills Info.

By: J. La Blanc

**AB-659:** Assembly Bill 659 has actually been constructed by the Legislative law making body of the California State Assembly in two statutory parts, consisting of the Assembly's Language and Intent pertaining to the transportation, housing, supervision and treatment of the civil detainees or commitments of the State.

The first statutory section of the Bill addresses the guidelines and or procedures for the revocation of those civilly committed persons who have been granted "out-patient" community treatment release status, and are undergoing revocation of that out-patient status.

**AB-659-Penal Code 1610, Sub. (A)**

"Upon the request of the Community Program Director or a designee, a peace officer shall take, or cause to be taken, the person into custody and transport the person to a facility designated by the Community Program Director for confinement under this section."

The application for confinement shall be in the form of a declaration, and shall specify the behavior or other reason justifying the confinement of the person in a County Jail facility.

Upon receipt of the application for confinement, the Court shall consider and rule upon it, and if the Court authorizes detention in a jail, the Court shall actually serve copies of all orders and all documents filed by the Community Program Director upon the prosecuting and defense counsel.

The Community Program Director shall notify the Court in writing of the confinement of the person and of the factual basis for the opinion that the immediate confinement in a jail was necessary.

The Court shall supply a copy of these documents to the prosecutor and defense counsel.

## *The Joys Of Conditional Release*

By Gerald Johannes—May 27, 2003

As almost everyone knows by now, a Judge in Santa Clara County has ordered that **Brian DeVries** be conditionally released. Brian has completed all the phases of the sex-offender treatment program at ASH and has also been castrated. Nevertheless, Brian's conditional release has been opposed by ASH, and both DMH Director Steven Mayberg and Governor Gray Davis have written to the Judge, deploring his decision. The Mayor and City Council of San Jose, where Brian is to be released, have passed a resolution opposing it, and of course, the media has had a field day. Unlike the Judge in Carey Verse's case however, Brian's Judge has stuck to his guns. Mind you, he will probably be reassigned to traffic court in some rural area, but mean while the authorities are scrambling to comply with his order by finding a place for Brian to live.

They had lined up a motel in a semi-industrial area of San Jose, which already had some parolees and sex-offenders staying there, including a serial rapist who is classified a "high risk" sex offender under California's Megan's Law.

No one, not the Governor, the Mayor, the press, the public, or the motel owner, had any problem with these untreated, un-castrated, sex offenders living at that motel, but what a difference a label makes, because along comes this "Sexually Violent Predator", and every-one went ballistic. The press descended on the place and before the day was over, the owner had changed his mind- no vacancy for SVP's. So, at this moment they are still looking for a place for Brian.

If they do find a suitable spot, that is probably the easiest part. If the experience in Washington State is any indication. There is an SVP there, let's

call him Mr. H., who has been on conditional release for approximately two years.

He is actually allowed to live in his own home, with his wife. In a Seattle suburb, but while that may sound like the American dream, for Mr. H and his wife, it has been more like a nightmare. He is, of course, required to register as a sex offender and his name and picture have been flyered all over the neighborhood. He has a curfew and an ankle bracelet which alerts a monitor to his comings and goings from his house. He may not leave his house unless he has prior approval for a specific plan of activities. He must at all times be accompanied by approved chaperones, i.e. his wife, other approved family members, or staff from the Department of Corrections (DOC). He may not drive a car. Initially he was not allowed to work, but that restriction has now been rescinded providing a suitable job can be found. His last job offer was vetoed because there was a pediatric dental clinic located somewhere in the same industrial park.

Mr. H is understandably depressed about not working, but the only solution his minders suggest for that is medication. He is taking anti-androgens to lower his sex drive and DOC wants to up his dosage. He is required to take periodic "peter-meter" tests. He reports to a DOC supervisor he doesn't get along with and who is always accusing him of having deviant sexual thoughts. When he does leave the house, he must check in with DOC frequently by means of telephone calls and a Dick Tracy-like wristwatch communication device. There are annual court hearings to review Mr. H's release conditions.

Recently, Mr. and Mrs. H requested that he be provided with Viagra, for obvious reasons. DOC leaked that request to the press, and the media got more aroused about Mr. H's Viagra than Mr. H ever did, so that request was dropped.

At Mr. H's last annual review court hearing, the main issue was a camping trip Mr. H was requesting to make with his wife and other adult family members. The H family, quite understandably, felt they needed a break from all the media attention and invasions of their privacy and proposed 8-day camping trip in a state park in eastern Washington state. An investigator was sent there to check it all out. A plan was drawn up to advise the local law enforcement authorities in the area. The H's campsite would be visited three times a day by local, Sheriff's deputies, local radio stations would broadcast Mr. H's presence at the park, and in the park itself, flyers would be posted on bulletin boards, bathrooms, etc. giving a description of Mr. H, his crimes, and the location of his campsite.

The local Sheriff told the investigator that three local residents who were high risk sex offenders had been "run out of town" by vigilantes. You can imagine what a fun-filled and relaxing camping vacation this would have been for the H family. Luckily for all, the Judge at the hearing denied permission for the trip, not out of concerns for Mr. H's safety or enjoyment, but because there might be children at the park, even though the H's had been careful to schedule their plans for the fall, when schools are in session and few children would be at the park.

There will undoubtedly be some delusional souls who will tout Brian's impending release as a positive and hopeful development. My first response to that is to quote the Bard "One swallow doth not a summer make." It's taken nearly eight years for even one guy to win his release after going through the treatment program, and then only by getting castrated, agreeing to a million conditions, and even with all that, over the opposition of the hospital and State.

ARTICLE CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

## Jovs of Conditional Release—Con't:

So, how long will it be before the next guy and how long will it be for all those guys in the treatment phases get their turn—over 10 years, 20, 40? My second response is to say, hey, if what Mr. H is going through, and what Brian will go through, is called freedom, you can have it.

### Update and Apology on "Joys"

An apology to Mr. Johannes for the fact his excellent article is late, and was not included in an earlier edition.

Concerning Mr. DeVries—his Judge has allowed him, as we understand the situation, to live in Washington State. This takes a real "set" on the part of the Judge. It also means Mr. DeVries may be open to some of the same negative opposition conferred upon Mr. H, et al. However, the "noise" will die down, and Brian should have hopefully less, overall problems here than Mr. H.

Of course, the State of Washington's Attorney General, Christine Gregoire and the State's Governor, Gary Locke, for political reasons, screamed their heads off and the local media, and in particular the T.V. stations, had a good time yelling about California "dumping" their sex-offenders on Washington when Washington has enough of it's own. As far as is known, Mr. DeVries will not have a Washington State DOC or other supervisor checking his every move—and that is one of the things Washington was yelling about--we do not know if Washington and California will enter into some "agreement" regarding Mr. DeVries; but hopefully, Brian will have a little more freedom and a lot less B.S. here than Mr. H has had--

We of the **GULAG** wish Brian "good luck" and hope he can live in Washington with some dignity as a human being. Not all in Washington may share this view, but those of us, inside, know a man must be allowed a chance to live. We hope Brian gets that chance.

## HE WENT HOME HIS ATTORNEY DID GOOD

By: Hugh Grant

Bob Sterling went home this past May after going through his third SVP trial. Yes! I said his third trial. Bob had a hung jury at his first trial and then was found to meet the criteria at his second trial. I said his attorney did a good job, well, let me explain a bit of what I know...

Before even going to trial, Bob's attorney came to Atascadero State Prison, mind you I didn't say Hosprison, because this is not a hospital, it is a prison, and she did depositions on numerous staff members who have interacted with Bob during his stay here. His District Attorney was present at some of those depositions as well and that could possibly be a negative for some men, it wasn't for Bob.. These depositions gave his attorney information that she could and did use at Bob's trial.

Jury selection, once back in the county took an entire week. The attorney took her time and didn't rush through jury selection.. She did a complete and thorough jury questionnaire, emphasizing that a person is capable of change and a particular topic I find interesting—**FORGIVENESS**. Ask yourself—what is Forgiveness. Then think about how hard it is for you to forgive someone who has done you wrong. I brought this topic up to Bob some months back and I know he mentioned it to his attorney because he asked me if I minded him doing so.

"**FORGIVENESS**"—"Forgiveness is becoming aware of our anger towards someone, then choosing not to hold the offense against the person. It is deciding not to call up the memory of the offense, not to dwell on it, not to look for opportunities to take revenge." Now, you tell me—how important is Forgiveness to our juries. Each juror had to be able to forgive someone of

having committed a sex crime in the past, of giving that person a second chance, if you will.

Bob was able to impress the changes in his life through the witnesses for him, combined with the work he has done to change himself from who he used to be, to who he is today. He carried his conviction of "never re-offending" to the jury and showed them what he has done to ensure he will not re-offend. Bob had already set up a support system on the street before he went to trial, and his attorney was able to demonstrate to the jury how secure this support system was and will be.

Another important thing to consider was that my friend's attorney hired defense evaluators who have been leaders in the field of sex offending. She contacted these people and inquired of them just exactly what they would want to see in order to recommend Bob's release. She then told her client what the evaluators all said so he could work toward that goal.

Bob Sterling's trial was well planned and executed from day one. His attorney didn't wait until the last minute to work his case. She corresponded with other defense attorneys throughout the State and she shared information with these men and women. In turn, she learned new ways of dealing with the SVP Law.

Bob Sterling is a free man today because his attorney worked hard for him, but he also worked hard for himself. If would be remiss of me if I didn't state that Bob was in the Phases and the work he did there was/is valuable for him.

One final thought regarding Bob's trial—His attorney was able to stress to his jury the significance of nobody having been released through CONREP since the inception of the SVP Law and treatment her at ASH. That men have only been released through the Courts and by them having died at ASH.

**Continued On Next Page--**

## He Went Home—Continued—

In opinion it would be wise if we all were able to let our juries know that out of roughly 500 men here at ASH, there are only about 100 in the Phases. Out of those 100, ZERO- ( 0 ) have been released through the phase program, while 50 to 60 have been released from the hospital who have never once set foot in any treatment room for the phases. I'm not all that good with odds but I think it comes out as better odds than being in the phases. Mind you, I am NOT putting down doing work in the Phases Program because they are useful in their own way. I'm just stating that so far the phase program is baring 1000 in the RED.

## **Protecting Your Rights With State Evaluators**

**By: B. Cook**

### *From an Evaluator's report:*

On March 24, 2003 at 10 A.M., I requested a Correctional Officer in the Main Visiting room at Atascadero State Hospital, ASH, to call Mr. Cooke's Unit and request that Mr. Cooke come to the Main Visiting Room to meet with me for an Update on his SVP Re-commitment Evaluation as ordered by the Court.

At 10:20 AM Mr. Cooke came into the individual interviewing room, within the Main Visiting Room at ASH, where I was waiting to meet with him. He greeted me by name. As he sat down he said to me, "I spoke to my attorney, Lenny Banks, and he said to show up and be polite and ask some questions and to answer some questions. Now, Dr. Hirsh, you evaluated me on February 14, 2002; what do you think has changed between then now and then?"

My orientation in conducting an evaluation is that I am there to evaluate the person. I am not there to respond to questions from the person so they might evaluate me. Therefore, unless the person did not hear, understand or remember what I had asked him or said

to him, I would be the primary person conducting this interview. In this situation this meant that I would be asking Mr. Cooke questions, with an occasional need for Mr. Cooke to ask a question to clarify his understanding of what I had asked him, or to refresh his memory. Given that is my orientation I declined to answer Mr. Cooke's question. We then engaged in a brief dialogue which I began by asking, "Are you willing to answer the questions I have for you? As you know, there is a Court order for me to evaluate you."

Mr. Cooke's response was:

"Some questions I will answer and some questions have to be answered in Court. Is this a Court ordered update evaluation?"

I again said that it was. I then asked Mr. Cooke some demographic information such as the correct spelling of his full name, his date and place of birth, medications he was taking, etc. He told me he had "a personality disorder that has been caused by being incarcerated," that he couldn't describe.

Mr. Cooke told me that he did not participate in the ASH treatment programs because they were designed to give the district attorney a basis for keeping people at ASH. I then asked Mr. Cooke if, in his opinion, he needed any type of treatment for any sexual, substance abuse or other psychological problems that he might have. His response was:

"That would have to be discussed in the Courtroom. That is because I would have to be advised by my attorney and it requires witnesses."

I stopped the evaluation at that point and called the California Department of Mental Health to advise them that I would be ending this evaluation because it was apparent to me that Mr. Cooke was not going to be responsive to any substantive questions that I might ask him. After Mr. Bukowski conferred with me, advising me that he had the same sense of what Mr. Cooke was doing as I did, but that it was my

decision as to whether or not to continue the evaluation, I returned to the interview room. I then advised Mr. Cooke that if he wished to continue to answer in this manner I would take this as his declining to be evaluated by me despite a Court Order stating that he is ordered to be evaluated by me.

Mr. Cooke informed me that he wanted the interview to be audio taped and videotaped. He went on to say that there was no point in his being evaluated as there was no evaluator who ever recommended that anyone should be released from this program. (ASH).

I informed Mr. Cooke that he had ample time to obtain a court order to have the session audio taped, videotaped or both, prior to my meeting with him. If he had such an order I would comply with it. Given that he did not presently have such an order I wished to update my prior evaluation of him if he would consent to be evaluated.

Mr. Cooke informed me that he was not declining to be evaluated by me. He said, "I've showed up for the evaluation and I didn't have to do that. There are certain questions that one should have an attorney present in order to get advice about answering them."

I then advised Mr. Cooke that I understood his past and present statements to me, and his manner of responding to my questions to mean that he was declining to be evaluated by me on this day.

Mr. Cooke thanked me for taking the time to come to ASH to see him and he said that he understood that this was a contract job that I did for the Department of Mental Health. As he was leaving he asked me if I had any other patient's to see today.

### **Side Bar Notes from Mr. Cook--**

State evaluators are NOT your friends. It is YOUR choice to talk to them or NOT to talk with them.

Above evaluators letter reproduced as written. Underlines by Mr. Cook.

## “Jesse’s Song”

By: Jesse J. Calhoun

I write this article at the cost of exposing my self (that is, my BIG Self), and letting the little self fend for himself. We all have had some really hard times and sad times of late. We may even get to wondering “What’s the use” in trying any more? I try to always remember something I’m sure we’ve all heard many times—“We could always have it worse than what we do.”

Well, our past may wind up being far longer and older than what we want to believe. I have come to believe that we are all eternal in this SVP struggle and that is comforting somehow.

Recently, I had a very profoundly bad month. First, our dear, dear, Tim McClanahan died, and then my friend Patrick Brem hung himself...a week later my own mother called and told me, “hey, listen, I am going to live in a boarding home. I am selling all that I own, and I don’t want to give you my phone number or address. I don’t want to hear from you any more, and by the way, all your brothers and sisters feel the same way.” “I want you to know that I have very poor health and my heart is bad and I don’t want to think about you any more. I don’t know you any more Jesse.”

I was taken aback, totally by surprise. On the one hand I knew this is just the way life is, be it good or be it bad. It comes and it goes, like the people we meet and develop what we hope to be long lasting relationships.

The good thing is that my dear \$6600 brothers, nothing lasts forever, except our very deep inner Selves. That inner Self we must always try to struggle to develop faith in, even when we have no faith in ourselves or God, etc. That is the true test of any man or woman, can you keep going on when you feel there is no reason to? Can you rise above your own pile of “mucky-muck?”

Well, I like to think our “group” here, those of us \$6600’s, who have been through so much karma and unfortunate fate thus far, can keep on keeping on no matter if we fail or win each little skirmish.

It is not winning the War of life that counts the most; it is participating in the battle with invincible faith, love and pride in ourselves. We keep going against all odds. Against the deepest type of sadness.

Brothers, if I can do it, you can too! So, let us get in there and fight like true spiritual warriors, and never give in to self doubt.

This, this, is the Song of Jesse.

## The Angel In You

By: Poet Ellen M DuBois

You don’t see her, but I do.  
Each time your eyes twinkle  
I see her in you.

Every time you wipe my tears  
With your kind and gentle ways  
I see in you an Angel  
Sent to smooth the way.

I don’t know what I did  
To deserve such a friend,  
I thank God for you, my dear one  
My Angel until the end.

I hope that when you look  
To me for comfort and for Love  
You see in me an Angel  
Sent from up above.

It’s the part of us that’s giving,  
The part that’s so refined  
The part that’s made of only Love  
The part that is Divine.

We are Angels to each other  
Whenever we lend a hand  
Or dry a tear or sooth a wound  
It’s all part of His plan.

Reach inside your heart  
And you will surely find  
Part of you that is an Angel  
So loving, warm and kind.

## EVERYTHING HAPPENS FOR A REASON

From an article on the Internet by  
Harry Updegraff, Jr.

Sometimes people come into your life and you know right away they were meant to be there.. to serve some sort of purpose, teach you a lesson or help figure out who you are or who you want to become. You never know who these people may be but you lock eyes with them, you know that very moment that they will affect your life in some profound way.

And sometimes things happen to you at the time that may seem horrible, painful and unfair, but in reflection you realize that without overcoming those obstacles you would never realize your potential, strength, will power or heart.

Everything happens for a reason. Nothing happens by chance or by means of luck. Illness, love, lost moments of true greatness and sheer stupidity all occur to test limits of your soul.

Without these small tests, life would be like a smoothly paved, straight, flat road to nowhere safe and comfortable but dull and utterly pointless.

The people you meet affect your life. The successes and downfalls that you experience can create whom you are, and the bad experiences can be learned from. In fact, they are probably the most poignant and important ones. If someone hurts you, betrays you or breaks your heart, forgive them because they have helped you learn about trust and the importance of being cautious to whom you open your heart.

If someone loves you, love them back unconditionally, not only because they love you, but also because they are teaching you to love and open your heart and eyes to little things. Make every day count. Appreciate everything that you possibly can, for you may never experience it again.

Talk to people whom you have never talked to before, and actually listen. Let yourself fall in love, break free, and set your sights high. Hold your head up because you have every right to.

Tell yourself you are a great individual and believe in yourself, for if you don’t believe in yourself, no one else will believe in you. Create your own life and then go out and live it.

## WHAT LIFE IS ALL ABOUT

Life isn't about keeping score.

It's not about how many friends you have.

Or how accepted you are.

Not about if you have plans this weekend or if you are alone.

It isn't about who you're dating, who you used to date, or how many people you've dated, or if you haven't been with anyone at all.

It isn't about who you have kissed. It's not about sex.

It isn't about who your family is or how much money they have, or what kind of car you drive, or where you are sent to school.

It's not about how beautiful or ugly you are, or what clothes you wear.

What shoes you have on, or what kind of music you listen to.

It's not about if your hair is blonde, red, black or brown.

Or if your skin is too light or too dark.

Not about what grades you get, or how smart you are, how smart everybody else thinks you are,

or how smart standardized tests say you are.

It's not what clubs you're in or how good you are at "your" sport.

It's not about representing your whole being on a piece of paper, and seeing you will "accept the written you."

But, life is about who you love and who you hurt. It's about who you make happy or unhappy purposefully.

It's about keeping or betraying trust. It's about friendship, used as a sanctity or a weapon. It's about what you say and mean, maybe hurtful, maybe heartening.

About starting rumors and contributing to petty gossip.

It's about judgments you pass and why.

And who your judgments are spread to. It's about who you've ignored with full control and intention.

It's about jealousy, fear, ignorance and revenge. It's about carrying inner hate and love, letting it grow, and spreading it.

But most of all, it's about using your life to touch, or poison other people's hearts in such a way that could have never occurred alone.

Only you choose the way those hearts are affected, and those choices are what life's all about.

From: \_\_\_\_\_

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To: \_\_\_\_\_

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