

Psychiatrists & Psychologists: Sexual Assault and Great Harm

Citizens Commission on Human Rights (CCHR) was established in 1969 by the Church of Scientology to investigate and expose psychiatric violations of human rights and crime and fraud in the field of mental health. A large part of CCHR's activity involves assisting individuals who have been harmed by psychiatrists and psychologists to file complaints and locate legal representation. CCHR makes law enforcement and civil attorneys aware of legal precedents and provides information and research. Finally, CCHR educates the public on the sex crimes of psychotherapists and encourages victims to know their rights, to speak out and to seek redress.



As CCHR made clear in a recent report, "Psychiatrists & Psychologists: Professional Rapists, Perverts and Pedophiles", sexual assault and exploitation of a patient in psychotherapy is *common*.

The statistics speak for themselves:

At least 10 percent of them admit to sexually abusing their patients. Some studies estimate that the figure is as high as 25%, and a California study claims 48%. All studies estimate that a vast majority of these rapes go unreported.

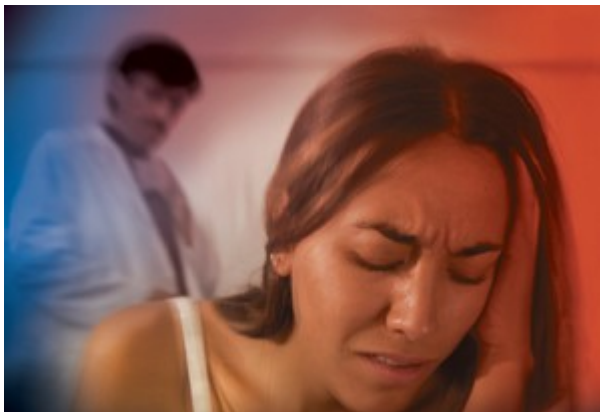
According to Robert Langs, author of the book, *Madness and Cure*, psychotherapists manifest three times as many incidents of "inappropriate behavior" as the people they are treating.

One report called two thirds of all psychiatrists "seriously mentally ill."

Psychiatrists divorce more than other physicians.

The United States loses approximately \$100 billion to healthcare fraud each year. Up to \$40 billion of this is due to fraudulent practices in the mental health industry.

"...GREAT HARM IS POSSIBLE"



Psychotherapist and author Jeffrey Masson noted, "I do not believe that abuse in the field of psychotherapy is unusual.... Everybody should know, then, that to step into the office of a psychotherapist, regardless of the latter's persuasion, is to enter a world where great harm is possible."

The damage that a psychotherapist is capable of doing when he sexually exploits a patient deserves grave penalty. And patients need to be informed that such exploitation is never therapeutic. It is only grounds for license revocation or criminal prosecution and anyone

who has been so victimized should file complaints right away. The following examples are cases that did just that.

- A married teacher at Harvard University entered into therapy with psychiatrist Joel H. Feigon in 1970 "to deal with boundary issues and her feelings about her extramarital relationship" with another man. Not only was Feigon permissive of the woman's sexual affair outside her marriage, but by May 1975, he too was having sex with her, explaining that, "...it was part of her healing to realize that her passion was good" and that "...it should not be discussed (with others) if healing was to take place." She paid him for each of these "sessions." Feigon treated the woman's two children for distress over their parents' separation. He also treated the man with whom she was having the extramarital affair (and who she later married). Though she left therapy in 1976, Feigon continued his psychiatric sex "healing" of the woman until 1981, when she ended the "relationship." In June 1996, the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine revoked Feigon's license.