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CRIMINAL DIVISION

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IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
GENERAL DIVISION
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

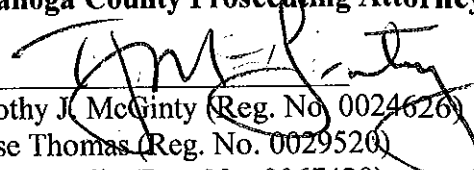
STATE OF OHIO)	CASE NO: CR-13-575419
(Plaintiff),)	
)	JUDGE MICHAEL J. RUSSO
vs.)	
)	STATE'S PRESENTENCE
ARIEL CASTRO)	INVESTIGATION REPORT
(Defendant).)	AND SENTENCING
)	MEMORANDUM
)	

Now comes the State of Ohio, Timothy J. McGinty, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor, and hereby submits to this Honorable Court the State's Sentencing Memorandum, attached hereto and incorporated herein, and respectfully requests that this Court adopt the factual findings contained herein to support the agreed recommended sentence outlined at the plea hearing on July 26, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. McGinty
Cuyahoga County Prosecuting Attorney

By:


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SENTENCING MEMORANDUM

I. Statement of the Case.

Defendant Ariel Castro (the "Defendant") was arrested on May 6, 2013, with a bond of \$8,000,000.00 set on May 9, 2013 along with a No Contact Order regarding the four victims in case CR-13-574231. The Defendant was arraigned on May 12, 2013 in case CR-13-574231 and his original bond was continued. The Defendant was arraigned in case CR-13-575419 on July 17, 2013, and the \$8,000,000.00 bond and No Contact Order were put in place under the new case number. During the several pre-trials that were held between the two case numbers, the Defendant underwent a psychiatric evaluation and was deemed competent to stand trial; and the State of Ohio provided over 4,324 pages of discovery, over 76 discs of photos, additional documents and statements, and numerous BCI lab reports. A trial date of August 5, 2013 was set on July 3, 2013.

On July 26, 2013, the Defendant pleaded guilty to an amended Indictment in Case CR-13-575419 with conditions set forth in a plea contract, which included an agreed, recommended sentence of Life Without Parole plus 1,000 years of incarceration.

II. Statement of the Facts.

For a period of 11 years, the Defendant kidnapped and subsequently held captive three young Cleveland girls in his home at 2207 Seymour Avenue, during which he serially abused them physically, emotionally, and sexually on a daily basis.

A) Michelle Knight, also known as Jane Doe 1.

Michelle Knight was taken on August 22, 2002 at the age of 21 from the area of W. 106th Street and Lorain Ave. She was spotted by the Defendant in need of assistance in getting to an appointment regarding her son. The Defendant lured her into his vehicle with promises of a ride.

The Defendant then took Ms. Knight to his home at 2207 Seymour Avenue and enticed her to go inside with promises of a puppy for her son. Once inside, Ms. Knight was subjected to innumerable physical, psychological, and sexual assaults that lasted for 11 years.

B) Amanda Berry, also known as Jane Doe 2.

Amanda Berry was taken on April 21, 2003 at the age of 16 from the area of W. 110th Street and Lorain Avenue. She was spotted by the Defendant as she was walking home from work. The Defendant lured her into his vehicle with promises of a ride home. Once inside the vehicle, the Defendant deceived her by offering to take her to see his daughter. He lured her into his home by telling her that his daughter was inside taking a shower. Once inside the house, Ms. Berry was also subjected to unimaginable physical, psychological, and sexual assaults that lasted for 10 years.

C) Gina DeJesus, also known as Jane Doe 3.

Gina DeJesus was taken on April 2, 2004 at the age of 14 from the area of W. 105th Street and Lorain Avenue. The Defendant saw her while she walking home from school. The Defendant, in keeping with his developed pattern of kidnapping, lured her into his vehicle by promising her a ride home. Once inside the house, Ms. DeJesus was subjected to countless physical, psychological, and sexual assaults that lasted for over 9 years.

D) Jocelyn Berry, also known as Jane Doe 4.

Jocelyn Berry's period of captivity began at birth on December 25, 2006. She was continually denied access to medical care, which put her at a risk of suffering serious physical harm. She was raised in an environment where acts of violence and abuse against the other captives were nearly constant.

The Defendant preyed on vulnerable young women. He was able to trick them and nullify their defensive instincts until he had them restrained in his house. Once the Defendant had them in his personal prison, he went to great lengths to ensure their captivity. His repeated mode of operation was to use physical restraints on the victims. He used chains to deprive them of their liberty and freedom. For years, the movements of the victims were absolutely controlled by the Defendant and his physical restraints. They were kept in locked rooms with physical restraints on their bodies. Very little movement was allowed throughout the house. Every aspect of the victims' physical freedom was dictated by the Defendant. There is only one bathroom in the house, on the first floor. The Defendant would not allow the victims downstairs to use the bathroom. They only had access to plastic toilets in the bedrooms. They were emptied infrequently.

In order to further imprison these innocent victims, the Defendant also employed psychological restraints. Through a program of prolonged physical, sexual, and psychological violence, the Defendant was able to keep the victims in a state of powerlessness. He made them believe that their physical survival depended on him, and he threatened to end their lives if they did not comply with his every demand. The Defendant controlled every aspect of the environment in which the victims lived. He controlled the temperature and the inflow of food and drink. He used the cold of the basement and the heat of the attic as punishment techniques. The Defendant kept a gun, and threatened to shoot the captives if they ever tried to escape.

The Defendant told his captives that he had other victims, and that some of them made it home, but that others had not. These and other threats had the effect of terrifying the victims into subservience. These courageous victims never had opportunities to leave, and the Defendant would assault them whenever they attempted to escape. The victims had to watch the rest of the

world turn as they were held in captivity. Holidays, world events, and even the passing of Ms. Berry's mother were observed by them, removed from the outside world.

At one point during the time period spanning August 23, 2005 to October 31, 2005, the Defendant forced the three victims into the garage behind his house. For three days, they were kept physically restrained in a vehicle in the garage, while the Defendant had a visitor at his house. The Defendant admitted this conduct in pleading guilty to counts 44-46, 296-298, and 320-322 of the indictment.

During the time period spanning March 1, 2006 to March 31, 2006, Amanda Berry became pregnant. The Defendant admitted to the sexual assault related to this pregnancy in counts 299-301 in the indictment. On December 25, 2006, Amanda Berry gave birth to Jocelyn Berry. Through DNA testing, the Defendant was found to be the biological father of Jocelyn Berry. The Defendant deprived Amanda Berry of any medical assistance during the pregnancy and birth. When the baby was born, she was not breathing. Michelle Knight breathed into the baby's mouth in an effort to save her. The Defendant threatened to kill Michelle Knight if she failed to save her life. Miraculously, the baby survived.

During the time period spanning November 1, 2006 to February 28, 2007, the Defendant raped and impregnated Michelle Knight. The Defendant admitted this conduct by pleading guilty to counts 3 and 4 of the indictment. During that same time period, the Defendant beat and starved Michelle Knight in order to unlawfully terminate that pregnancy. The Defendant admitted this conduct by pleading guilty to Aggravated Murder as charged in counts 1 and 2 of the indictment. In a statement, he admitted that he intended to terminate the pregnancy. The Defendant punched and kicked her in the stomach, jumped on her stomach, and starved her for days to terminate the pregnancy. The Defendant denied Ms. Knight any medical attention.

The victims of the Defendant's heinous crimes did everything humanly possible to retain a sense of normalcy. They were able to mark the passage of time through the maintenance of diaries. Several diary entries document abuse and life as a captive. The entries speak of forced sexual conduct, of being locked in a dark room, of anticipating the next session of abuse, of the dreams of someday escaping and being reunited with family, of being chained to a wall, of being held like a prisoner of war, of missing the lives they once enjoyed, of emotional abuse, of his threats to kill, of being treated like an animal, of continuous abuse, and of desiring freedom. Many of the specific counts of the indictment reflect conduct recorded by a victim in a diary.

On May 6, 2013, the victims won their freedom through a courageous escape. The Defendant was arrested the same day. Although he admits his disgusting and inhuman conduct, the Defendant remains remorseless for his actions.

III. Defendant Ariel Castro's History.

A) Childhood History and Education.

The Defendant was born on July 10, 1960 in Puerto Rico. His father, Pedro J. Castro was born in Puerto Rico on June 17, 1938 and moved to the United States in 1954. His mother, Lillian Rodriguez was born in Puerto Rico on March 22, 1942. His mother separated from his father when he was a young boy. The Defendant has three siblings sharing the same mother and father as he, Marisol Alicea (3/4/1958), Pedro Castro (3/1/1959) and Onil Castro (5/21/1962), he also several half brothers and sisters. Growing up, the Defendant lived on 2346 Scranton Rd. in Cleveland. He attended Lincoln Jr. High School from 1974-1976. He then attended Lincoln West High School from 1976 until he graduated in June of 1979, with a GPA of 2.15. The Defendant also lived at 2203 W.98th St., Cleveland until he moved to 2207 Seymour Ave. in Cleveland in April of 1992.

B) Family/Personal History.

In 1980, the Defendant met his former-common law spouse, Grimilda Figueroa (7/30/63) after his family moved into a home across the street from hers. Between 1981 and 1990 he fathered four children with Figueroa, Ariel Anthony Castro (9/27/81), Angie Marie Castro (1/13/83), Emily Lisette Castro (1/6/88) and Arlene Rosie Castro (9/6/90). The Defendant and Figueroa shared a hostile and abusive relationship. The defendant was arrested on Domestic Violence charges on October 31, 1989, December 27, 1993, and October 12, 2004. Consequently Figueroa and her children moved out of the Seymour home in 1996 and on January 22, 1997, the Defendant lost custody of all of his children to Figueroa and all visitation rights were terminated. On August 29, 2005, after complaining of two broken noses, broken ribs, knocked out teeth, a fractured skull and multiple death threats on her and her children, Grimilda Figueroa filed a protection order against the Defendant. In 2008, the Defendants daughter Emily was sentenced to 25 years in prison for cutting her infant daughter's throat. On April 25, 2012 Grimilda Figueroa died due to complications associated with a brain tumor. Subsequent to his relationship with Grimilda Figueroa and overlapping into the captivity of Michelle Knight, the Defendant dated a woman by the name of Lillian Roldan who described their relationship as normal. The According to Ms. Roldan, the Defendant ended that relationship because he had too many commitments. The Defendant has at least four grandchildren. The Defendant also fathered a child, J.J.B. (12/25/06), with one of his victims, Amanda Berry.

C) Employment.

The Defendant previously has worked for the following companies: Pick-N-Pay on W. 65th Street in Cleveland as a bagger and cleaner; Lesner Products on Columbus Rd. as a drill

press operator; and Cumba Motors at 3455 W. 25th St. as a helper and driver. On February 19, 1991 he was hired as a bus driver for the Cleveland Metropolitan School District.

Throughout his tenure as a CMSD bus driver, he was written up and suspended for multiple infractions. On January 26, 2004, he was given a Class I Violation for Unauthorized Stop, Failure to Follow Proper Radio Procedures, and a Class II Violation for Failure to Effectively Carry out Job Description Activities, which was written up by the Cleveland Police Department as Child Endangering and Abduction. The Defendant had picked up a mentally challenged student from his care provider. He then kept the young student in the back of his bus, drove to a Wendy's restaurant and told the student to "Lay down, bitch," and went into the Wendy's restaurant, leaving the young boy on the bus. He then returned to the bus, drove around for a while, parking in the bus parking lot for a period of time, and then dropped the student off at school. The Defendant was suspended from work for 60 days without pay, and a disciplinary hearing was held.

In early April, 2009, the Defendant was again written up for a Class I and Class II Violation: Disregard for the Safety of Passengers, and Negligence or Carelessness in the Performance of Work that Adversely Affects Quality, Equipment, or Personal Safety. He made an illegal "U-turn" in front of RG Jones Elementary School on W. 150th with students on board. A disciplinary hearing was held on April 15, 2009 and the Defendant was again suspended for 60 days.

Then on February 14, 2012, the Defendant was written up for a Class I Violation: Unauthorized Stop. It was learned that he was frequently grocery shopping at Marcs on Puritas and W. 154th St. in Cleveland while on his route, a deviation from his normal bus route. Finally, the Defendant was written up on September 20, 2012 for a Class I Violation: Unauthorized Use

of Division Equipment. He left his bus unattended at Scranton School for four hours and went home due to a widely posted route cancellation. A disciplinary hearing was held on October 4, 2012 during which termination was recommended due to this being his fourth demonstration of "lack of judgment." The Defendant was ultimately terminated from his position as a bus driver by the Cleveland Metropolitan School District on November 6, 2012.

D) Inheritance and Credit History.

According to the Defendant's Probate record, he received a portion of his father, Pedro J. Castro's estate. The Defendant's portion included \$11,037.89 and a 1997 Chevy Malibu appraised at \$1500. The Defendant has no credit history whatsoever as it was discovered he operated mainly in cash.

E) Vehicles.

It is known that the Defendant owned several vehicles and motorcycles including: a 1997 Chevy Malibu, 2000 Yamaha Motorcycle, 1982 Kawasaki Motorcycle, 1999 Jeep Grand Cherokee, 2001 Yamaha Motorcycle, 2004 Harley, Blue Mazda Miata and Toyota Tacoma.

F) Musical Career.

The Defendant played and own many musical instruments including various types of guitars. He was at one point a known member of several bands such as: *Sin Ti*, *Grupo Fuego*, *Grupo Kanon* and *Los Boyz Del Merengue*.

G) Social Life.

Despite Defendant's participation in numerous musical groups, he made conscious efforts to keep himself isolated and only build acquaintance type relationships, which he kept at a distance. During numerous media interviews, there was a general consensus, of those who knew the Defendant, that although he was friendly, he mostly kept to himself and was very private.

The Defendant set boundaries even for those who were closest to him. His family members rarely visited, and when they did, they were told to stay in the kitchen. The last intimate relationship the Defendant had, was with his former girlfriend, Lilian Roldan. The Defendant broke all ties with her in 2003 in order to successfully undertake kidnapping of the victims, without any interruption by his social connections.

H) Criminal.

Although the Defendant criminal past is not extensive, his criminal history indicates a strong pattern of violence and abuse. On October 31, 1989, the Defendant was first arrested for Domestic Violence against Grimilda Figueroa, his former common-law wife. After this incident, the abuse seemed to escalate with the Defendant once again being arrested on December 26, 1993, and then once again on October 12, 2004. Consequently, Figueroa suffered numerous injuries: two broken noses, numerous broken ribs, lacerations, knocked out teeth, a dislocated shoulder, and a blood clot on the brain.

On November 20, 1994, Defendant was involved in assault incident where he threatened to hit victim, Ernesto Santiago, with a shovel and "take care of him." This incident arose from an inquiry by the victim over his missing chain-linked fence.

On May 16, 1996, the Defendant was involved in a verbal altercation with victim, Fernando Colon, resulting in a police report for menacing. Another menacing incident occurred on August 16, 1996, involving victims Stokes and Parker, which ended in a civil judgment on July 1, 1997 ordering the Defendant to pay Parker \$241.00 in restitution. On January 26, 2004, after leaving child victim, T.S., on the bus, Defendant entered into a Wendy's to eat lunch. As a result, Abduction and Endangering Children complaints were reported against him.

IV. Defendant Ariel Castro's Statements.

In his statement to law enforcement, the Defendant admits to keeping three girls turned women, Michelle Knight, Amanda Berry, and Georgina DeJesus, locked inside his house at 2207 Seymour Avenue for a total of 11 years. During that time, he admits to having the girls chained by their ankles, with only one meal a day, showering infrequently, while he had “sexual relations” with them. In the end, he claims that he “gave them all a chance to escape” by leaving the door to Ms. Berry and her child’s room unlocked.

The Defendant admitted and realized this was a complicated double-life that he was leading. He also admitted that he did not have an exit strategy—the consequences of which could have been even more horrific.

A) Michelle Knight.

With regards to Michelle Knight, the Defendant admits that he was able to get her into his car in August 2002 at the Family Dollar store located near W. 30th and Clark Avenue by promising her a ride home. He then took her to his house at 2207 Seymour Avenue, but he claims he had “consensual” sex with her from that day in 2002 until a week before he was arrested on May 6, 2013. He also admits that he kept Ms. Knight locked inside various rooms in his house using chains and plastic zip-ties while securing padlocks on the exterior doors. He also put a piece of cloth inside of her mouth to prevent her from screaming.

He admits that on one occasion Ms. Knight told him she may be pregnant, and he claims that the two of them devised a plan to abort the pregnancy. The Defendant claims he was able to force a termination of that pregnancy by putting her on a diet of only tea for several days, making her perform “knee bends” and jumping jacks.

During the period of Ms. Knight’s captivity, the Defendant stated that he only gave her one meal per day, and a shower 1-2 times a week depending on the time of year.

B) Amanda Berry.

The Defendant admits to taking Amanda Berry in April of 2003 while she was walking on W. 110th Street. He was dropping off his daughter at her mother's house. When he was done, he drove in the direction that he had seen Ms. Berry walking and offered her a ride. He then drove her to his house and began "having sexual relations" with her around the time that he brought her to the house. He further stated that he gave her only one meal a day and one to two showers per week. He claims Ms. Berry otherwise had food her "her room" to eat throughout the day. He also prevented her from leaving the house by using chains and padlocks.

He impregnated Ms. Berry in 2006, and he claims that both he and Ms. Knight helped deliver the baby in a plastic baby pool.

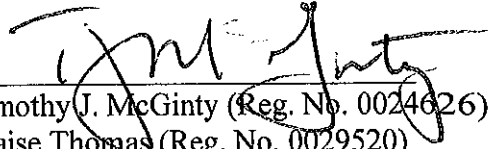
C) Georgina DeJesus.

Georgina "Gina" DeJesus was walking home with the Defendant's daughter from Wilbur Wright School in April of 2004 when he noticed that she and his daughter parted ways. He was attracted to Ms. DeJesus, who at the time was only 14 years old. He drove past his daughter who was still walking home in order to stop next to Ms. DeJesus. He then asked her if she knew where his daughter was—the same daughter who he had just passed on the street. He was able to get Ms. DeJesus into his vehicle by asking her to help him find his daughter. He then took her to his house and began "having sexual relations" with her. He claims to have allowed her the same eating and showering schedule as the other two girls.

V. Conclusion.

In conclusion, the State of Ohio respectfully requests that this Court adopt the factual findings contained herein to support the agreed recommended sentence outlined at the plea hearing on July 26, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,



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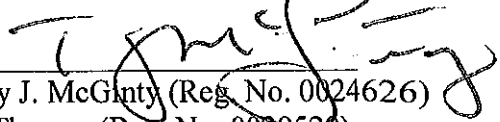
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

A copy of the foregoing Proposal was electronically delivered to Jaye Schlachet and Craig Weintraub, attorneys for the Defendant, on this 31st day of July, 2013.

Timothy J. McGinty
Cuyahoga County Prosecuting Attorney



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Frank M Ochberg, MD
4211 Okemos Road #6
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July 30, 2013

Timothy J McGinty
Cuyahoga County Prosecutor
1200 Ontario Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Dear Mr. McGinty:

You have asked me to evaluate the impact of confinement and abuse upon the victims of Ariel Castro.

Based upon material provided by your office which included video of victim interviews, transcripts and medical reports, the FBI investigative materials, visits to the crime scene, the proffer interview of Ariel Castro, and interviews with people familiar with the case, I reach these conclusions:

1. Castro hurt each of the three young women that he captured and confined in ways that create lasting psychiatric wounds.

A. He terrified them. The body responds to terror long afterward with uncontrollable visions, smells, sounds and sensations. These are called trauma memories and they are unlike ordinary memory. They come at night in the form of nightmares. They come in the twilight zone between falling asleep and awakening. They come in the middle of the day, often when there is a reminder. Trauma survivors call this "being triggered." Each young woman sustained many, many traumas. There is some evidence of post-traumatic stress documented in medical records. Often there are delayed effects, coming on after the exhilaration of rescue wears off.

B. He degraded, demeaned and diminished them. Some acts terrify, others degrade. To be bound, gagged, deprived of a toilet - to be treated in a less than human way - causes not only fear, but profound shame and humiliation. When this is done repetitively and relentlessly, it alters a person's sense of self. We have no official diagnosis for this, but we call it complex PTSD. It is the result of victimization over a long period of time, or in the years when personality and character are being formed, or both. Repetitive rape combined with captivity are crimes that terrify and degrade. I saw ample evidence of this.

C. He deprived them of ten years of normalcy during the stages of life when a girl becomes a woman, when we learn how to become intimate - to trust a trustworthy person. He deprived them of access to family, friends, school, work, community and country. These are profound losses and difficult to reconstruct. One may appear joyful at the return to freedom and to others who care deeply. That joy is wonderful to see and a good sign. But there is a lot of reconstructive work to be done before these survivors are really free, really able to judge who is an exploiter and who is a reliable friend.

D. He did additional damage, through beating, starving, impregnating and aborting. He fathered a child in a prison of his construction and promoted a delusion that this was a love child. He turned truth and common sense on its head and he fed that to his captives. They are in various stages of emerging from his false beliefs which he attempted to foist upon them.

E. He appeared to be evolving in an ever more dangerous direction, capturing younger and younger women, telling his captives he was hunting for replacements. And what would happen to them if he did capture new slaves? They felt, at times, that they would be replaced and freed. At some level of consciousness, they must have known that freedom was not an option and replacement meant death.

2. Each of his captives, including Jocelyn, the child, demonstrated remarkable qualities and they should inspire us all. First, there is Michelle. She suffered the longest and the most severely. But it was Michelle who served as doctor, nurse, midwife and pediatrician during the birth of Jocelyn. She breathed life into that infant when she wasn't breathing. She coached Amanda through labor and birth in primitive conditions. At other times, she interceded when Castro sought to abuse Gina, interposing herself and absorbing physical and sexual trauma. But each survivor had a will to prevail and used that will to live through the long ordeal. Amanda kept a journal with almost every entry addressed to her mother, first when her mother was alive and frantically looking for her missing daughter, Later Amanda wrote to her mother in heaven, seeking to soothe her mother as she prayed for own deliverance and the health of her little girl. On rare occasions, all four captives were allowed to be together and they managed to share faith and friendship. Home schooling and instruction in honorable values came from Amanda to Jocelyn and this was endorsed, when possible, by Gina and Michelle.

This is the good news, and it is very good, indeed. But it does not in any way paint a rosy picture for normalcy or a quick recovery. Grave damage has been done.

3. The Stockholm syndrome does apply, in part, as an explanation for the young women's compliance with Castro. The Stockholm syndrome is named for an infamous case in Sweden when a bank teller held hostage for less than a week became bonded to her captor who held her in a bank vault. Here's how it works. First, you are suddenly captured by a stranger who convinces you that you will be killed if you resist. You are shocked, scared and unable to do anything without his permission. You cannot walk, talk, eat or use a toilet. But then, little by little, you are allowed "the gifts of life." You are like an infant, totally dependent on your mother for survival. As you receive these gifts of life, without consciously realizing what is occurring, you feel some warmth -- even love -- toward that giver of life. You deny (again, unconsciously) that this is the very same person who has placed your life in jeopardy. You are bonded to your slave-master. There are other elements to the Stockholm Syndrome, but that is the one that describes Castro's initial hold over Michelle, Amanda and Gina.

Additionally, they were each isolated and degraded. In those conditions, many will become psychologically enslaved. Depression can sap your will and energy. Rational calculation of risk to self and risk to others can keep a person in an abusive relationship. 2207 Seymour Street is now an infamous address. How many homes are there across America where a tyrant keeps his battered wife and sexually abused children under emotional bondage? Experts in my field know many older sisters who feared for their young sisters should they leave the tyrant's home. So they stay.

I do not have enough facts to fully explain why these captives did not attempt to escape until a decade after capture. But I know this. They came out alive. They came out when they could come out.

They acted with fortitude, courage and grace. We have reason to be proud of them and to be inspired by them.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank M. Ochberg, MD". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Frank M Ochberg, MD

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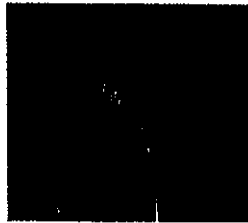
Gift From Within

PTSD Resources for Survivors and Caregivers



Resume: Frank M. Ochberg, MD

View or print Summarized Curriculum Vitae as .pdf file [CVJun2012.pdf](#).



*Congratulation to Dr. Frank Ochberg
for receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award
from the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies.*

Frank M. Ochberg, M.D.

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Formerly -
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Director, Michigan Department of Mental Health
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	Johns Hopkins University	M.D.	1961 - 1965
	USPHS Hospital SF Cal	Internship in Medicine and Surgery	1965 - 1966
	Stanford University	Residency in Psychiatry	1966 - 1969
	University of London	Fellowship in Forensic Psychiatry	1976 - 1977

EMPLOYMENT: National Institute of Mental Health
 -----Regional Director; Division Director; Assoc. Director 1969 - 1979

Michigan Department of Mental Health
 -----Director (Cabinet Position) 1979 - 1981

Sisters of Mercy Health Corporation: St. Lawrence Hospital
 -----Medical Director for Mental Health 1981 - 1984
 -----Founder and Director, Vicimization Program 1981 - 1984

Private Practice of Psychiatry
 1969 - 1979
 1981 -

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Michigan (active);
 California, Maryland, Washington DC (inactive)

MILITARY: United States Public Health Service Active Duty 1965 - 1981
 Reserve 1981 - 1986

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 -----Little Brown and Company 1970
 Victims of Terrorism (with Soskiss), Westview Press 1982
 Posttraumatic Therapy and Victims of Violence, Brunner/Mazel 1988

SCIENTIFIC AND LAY PUBLICATIONS:

Over 100 titles dealing with human time judgment (1963 - 1969), aggression, conflict and conflict resolution (1968 -), community mental health (1970 - 1983), public policy (1973 -), terrorism and hostage negotiations (1976 -), vicimization and traumatic stress, including "Stockholm Syndrome" (1982 -), journalism and trauma (1994 -).

EDITORIAL BOARDS:

Brunner/Mazel Psychosocial Stress Series 1985 -
 Journal of Family Psychotherapy 1986 - 1991
 Journal of Traumatic Stress 1988 - 1992

LISTINGS: Who's Who in America
 Best Expert Witness in America

CONSULTANTSHIPS, COMMITTEES, TASK FORCES, ORGANIZATIONS:

American Psychiatric Association
 Committee on Violence Member 1969 - 1971
 Task Force on Community Crisis Chair 1971 - 1973
 Council on National Affairs Member, Chair 1973 - 1978
 Committee on Women Member 1978 - 1983
 Task Force on Vicimization Chair 1983 - 1985
 Committee to Revise PTSD Member 1985 - 1988

Assn Research on Nervous and Mental Disease Vice President 1972
 National Committee on Patients' Rights Board Member 1975 - 1977
 National Task Force on Disorders and
 -----Terrorism (US Dept of Justice) Member 1975 - 1977
 Federal Bureau of Investigation Consultant 1976 -
 London Metropolitan Police (Scotland Yard) Consultant 1976 - 1977
 National Security Council: Counter-terrorism Liaison 1978 - 1979
 U.S. Secret Service Internal Advisor 1978
 Consultant 1979 - 1992

U.S. Air Force: Worldwide Briefing Mission 1978
 -----on Terrorism and Hostage Negotiation Director 1983
 Scientific Exchange, China Board Member 1985 - 1986
 Intl Society for Traumatic Stress Studies Member 1985 -

Michigan Victim Alliance Med. Advisor 1986 -
 The Dart Foundation Representative 1991 -
 Gift From Within (International PTSD nonprofit) Founder 1993 -
 Critical Incident Analysis Group Founder 1993 - 2003
 American Red Cross Volunteer 1994 - 2009
 National Center for PTSD Advisor 1997 - 2006
 Louis August Jones Foundation Board Member 1999 - 2004
 FBI School Shooter Symposium Expert 1999
 Columbine High School Consultant 1999 - 2002
 Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma Founder 2000 -
 Nat'l Center for Victims of Crime Board Member 2000 -
 National Center for Critical Incident Analysis Board Member 2004 -

Michigan Crime Victims Services
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Gift From Within - PTSD Resources for Survivors and Caregivers

The Ties That Bind Captive to Captor- Stockholm Syndrome

Frank Ochberg, MD

The curious case of Bobbi Parker, the missing deputy warden's wife who was found living 11 years later with the escaped convict who kidnapped her, has pop psychologists once again citing Stockholm syndrome. But what is the Stockholm syndrome, how was it identified, and does it really apply in this situation?

Three decades ago, after a rash of kidnappings, behavioral scientists and police negotiators began for the first time to collaborate intensely. At the time, I was the psychiatrist on the National Task Force on Terrorism and Disorder. Shortly after I took up the post, we became intrigued with the strange case of Kristin, a Swedish bank teller who was held hostage in a vault at Sveriges Kreditbank in Stockholm for several days in August 1973.

Kristin had become enamored with Olsson, her armed assailant; after she was released, she broke off her engagement to her fiancé. And both during and after her captivity, she lambasted then-Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme.

Kidnap and hostage experts already were aware that in certain cases an unexpected bond can form between captor and captive. Psychoanalyst Anna Freud called a similar situation that occurred in Nazi concentration camps "identification with the aggressor."

But what I saw in the Stockholm case and at least a dozen times afterward - and what I learned from a year of interviewing people once held hostage - was not identification and not behavior so aggressive that it would emulate a sadistic guard.

In Stockholm syndrome, there is a sudden, terrifying capture. The hostage is stunned, shocked and often certain that he or she will die. The hostage then becomes like an infant. He or she can't talk, eat, move or use a toilet without permission.

But then, in every one of these cases, little by little, small acts of kindness by one of the captors evoke feelings deeper than relief. "We know they were killers, but they gave us blankets, cigarettes," one Dutch ex-hostage told me, going on to explain the warmth and compassion he felt toward the men who chose not to kill him. It would be akin to what an infant feels when he gets attention, relieving his thirst, hunger, wetness or fear of neglect - a primitive gratitude for the gift of life, an emotion that eventually develops and differentiates into varieties of affection and love.

The attachment goes both ways. The captor often develops reciprocal feelings toward the hostage. When he does, we on the outside, concerned with rescue, have an advantage. The hostage-taker wants to protect the hostage. But both captor and hostage have little trust in us and may come to hate us. We are the common enemy.

That is how I defined the syndrome for FBI and Scotland Yard negotiators.

Could Stockholm syndrome explain a decade-long relationship between a married mother of two and the convicted murderer who says he abducted and threatened her? It could if she went through the stages of shock, terror and regression that are seen in sudden captures, and if she developed the ironic and profound positive feelings spontaneously and without conscious control. But if, by contrast, she made a calculated choice to stay with her assailant (or to leave with him in the first place), perhaps out of fear of harm to her family, perhaps out of preference for a different life, then the syndrome would not apply.

Although the syndrome was defined to help negotiators and incident commanders choose effective strategies when managing a hostage situation, it has other applications.

The significance of Stockholm syndrome goes beyond rare instances of kidnapping and hostage-taking. It explains aspects of attachment to battering husbands and incestuous fathers. It is not just conscious, willful behavior to avoid punishment. It is regression and recovery of a powerful, primitive feeling toward a giver of life.

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