

# Could This Happen Here?

## Destructive Cultism

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## How this Workshop Came About

- Dr. Judith Guedalia's Background
- Hillel's Zeitin's Background

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## JG Case Presentation :

- "Everyone wanted to live at their action packed house."
- One older sister
- Then two brothers
- Then M
- At about age 16
- The 'Extra Family' Enters- Dad's Mitzva
- Dad's daughter from his first marriage 'appears'
- Mom relates that older sister was from Her first marriage.
- Parents' Divorce and Get; Parents Re-Marriage
- M. marries at about 19 years

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- Autocratic Dad
- Mom minimizes her own 'strengths' family connections to 'promote' Dad
- Move to Israel Flower business break off with successful Her family business.
- Five years hard work, lots of money spent business not successful.
- Go back to USA to Mom Family Business
- Blow for Dad—he is working for Mom and her family...

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"Divorce, Orthodox Style: Playing Hard to Get in Manhattan Beach" (New York Magazine, January 25, 1993) reports the highly profiled divorce case of Naomi and Yehuda

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## Mom takes child to 'baby sitter'

- Fills out personal form where child is 'legally' handed over to friend in a distant city.
- 'Baby Sitter' notices burns on child's feet and severe difficulty walking
- Baby sitter reports to Social Services
- The wheels begin to grind and it takes a few days for Social Services to do a 'family visit'.
- By now 'family' is ensconced in grandmother's home. Grandparents, in States know nothing about what's going on.

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### Court Decision- Tools of Abuse

- Chen and his accomplices allegedly severely beat the three-year-old boy in his face. When the child fell to the floor, Chen and his accomplices picked him up, and continued to beat him harshly.



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### In Prison in Brazil-Then Extradited to Israel, The Case:

- Abusive' rabbi' charged with ongoing abuse of eight children. Chen accused of beating children wit hammer, burning organs with lighter, leaving one child in vegetative state**
- A harsh indictment was filed Monday morning against Elior Chen, also known as the "abusive rabbi". Chen was charged with abusing a helpless minor and assaulting a minor.

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### Cont...

- The 20-page indictment details the severe abuse of eight children from a Jerusalem family. Despite the severity of his actions, he has not been charged with attempted murder.
- The abuse left a three-year-old boy in a vegetative state. The indictment describes how Chen and his accomplices abused the child in an incident which took place during Hanukkah, 2007.

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### Korean War-Prisoners of War

- In the Korean War the "criticism and self-criticism" sessions held for the American prisoners of war by the Chinese clearly had deeper effects than the POWs could initially comprehend, and when they found out, it was too late

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### What we'll discuss today:

- Introduction of us
- Case presentation
- Fertile ground
- JG, my involvement as case breaks
- Mom Arrested, in almost Fugue State
- APB for rabbi Creep.
- Need for mother to be Assessed in jail
- The case unfolds- What happened to social services

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### Outline of JG involvement, Then HZ expounds, illustrates and teaches us:

- Creep runs to Canada, then Brazil Extradited to Israel
- Mom turns States evidence Indicted jailed de-brain washed
- Case now
- My involvement: now getting vegetative SCHOOL TO ACCEPT MOM
- JG most recent contact-Erev Rosh Hashana
- Mom getting out soon, Society Abhors her: How could this happen????????

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And now ...

- Hillel Zeitln, LCSW-R

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### First organized research of: Brainwashing— The Korean War Prisoners

- In the beginning many prisoners found this whole procedure just childish, and were inclined to take it merely as something of a joke, but without them being able to realize it, the situation of being subjected constantly to the criticism of one's comrades became humiliating.

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### War Prisoners (Continued)

- This continuing feeling of humiliation became crucial in the gradual psychological break-up of the prisoners' personalities.
- Furthermore, this ongoing process of "criticism and self-criticism" was bound to cause mistrust for one's own comrades: it was the tactics of "divide and conquer" as the ancient Romans would have called it.
- ("Criticism and self-criticism" were also widely applied during China's "Cultural Revolution" starting in 1966, as a method of "re-education".)

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### Ideological Totalism

Robert J. Lifton


- 1) Milieu control
- 2) Mystical manipulation
- 3) Demand for purity
- 4) Cult of confession
- 5) Sacred science
- 6) Loading the language
- 7) Doctrine over person
- 8) Dispensing of existence

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### Tactics of Brain Washing


1- CRITICISM AND SELF-CRITICISM

The subjects are supposed to feel uncertain; under the constant threat of being humiliated and despised.



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### 2-HYPNOSIS




HOW?

Inducing a high state of suggestibility, often thinly disguised as relaxation or meditation.

a. Repetitive Music (most likely with a beat close to the human heart 45 to 72 beats per minute). Most likely used during "study sessions" as the teacher will say the music helps you relax and concentrate better!



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### Hypnotism Cont.: Voice Roll


- A "voice roll" is a patterned, paced style used by hypnotists when inducing a trance.
- It is also used by many lawyers, several of whom are highly trained hypnotists, when they desire to entrench a point firmly in the minds of the jurors.
- A voice roll can sound as if the speaker were talking to the beat of a metronome or it may sound as though he were emphasizing every word in a monotonous, patterned style.
- The words will usually be delivered at the rate of 45 to 60 beats per minute, maximizing the hypnotic effect.

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### Room "Feel"



- The way a room feels is essential to hypnotizing unknowing subjects.
- It needs special lighting, florescent lights are best because they aren't too dim, but aren't too harsh.
- Room Temperature helps a bit, usually a little cooler than normal room temperature.
- You need to have the unknowing subjects very relaxed, perhaps even close to falling asleep.



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### Then...



- 3) PEER GROUP PRESSURE - Suppressing doubt and resistance to new ideas by exploiting the need to belong.
- 4) "LOVE BOMBING" - Creating a sense of family through physical touch, thought & feeling sharing and emotional bonding.

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- 5) REJECTION OF OLD VALUES - Accelerating acceptance of new lifestyle by constantly denouncing former beliefs and values.
- 6) CONFUSING DOCTRINE - Encouraging blind acceptance and rejection of logic through complex lectures on an incomprehensible doctrine.
- 7) METACOMMUNICATION - Implanting subliminal messages by stressing certain key words or phrases in long, confusing lectures.


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- 8) REMOVAL OF PRIVACY - Achieving loss of ability to evaluate logically by preventing private contemplation.
- 9) DISINHIBITION - Encouraging child-like obedience by orchestrating child-like behavior

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- 10) UNCOMPROMISING RULES - Inducing regression and disorientation by soliciting agreement to seemingly simple rules which regulate mealtimes, bathroom breaks and use of medications.
- 11) VERBAL ABUSE - Desensitizing through bombardment with foul and abusive language. (Physical abuse, such as torture, is the more extreme form of this.)

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12) **SLEEP DEPRIVATION AND FATIGUE** - Creating disorientation and vulnerability by prolonging mental and physical activity and withholding adequate rest and sleep.

13) **DRESS CODES** - Removing individuality by demanding conformity to the group dress code.

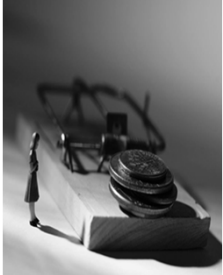
14) **CHANTING OR SINGING** - Eliminating non-cult ideas through group repetition of mind-narrowing chants or phrases.

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### Confession and Financial Commitment

15) **CONFESSION** - Encouraging the destruction of individual ego through confession of personal weaknesses and innermost feelings of doubt.

16) **FINANCIAL COMMITMENT** - Achieving increased dependence on the group by 'burning bridges' to the past, through the donation of assets.



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- 17) **FINGER POINTING** - Creating a false sense of righteousness by pointing to the shortcomings of the outside world.
- 18) **ISOLATION** - Inducing loss of reality by physical separation from family, friends, society and rational references.
- 19) **CONTROLLED APPROVAL** - Maintaining vulnerability and confusion by alternately rewarding and punishing similar actions.

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- 20) **CHANGE OF DIET** - Creating disorientation and increased susceptibility to emotional arousal by depriving the nervous system of necessary nutrients through the use of special diets and/or fasting. Also applying drugs for these purposes fall in this category.
- 21) **GAMES** - Inducing dependence on the group by introducing games with obscure rules.



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- 22) **NO QUESTIONS** - Accomplishing automatic acceptance of beliefs by discouraging questions
- 23) **GUILT** - Reinforcing the need for 'salvation' by exaggerating the sins of the former lifestyles.
- 24) **FEAR** - Maintaining loyalty and obedience to the group by threatening soul, life or limb for the slightest 'negative' thought, word or deed.

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### What is the Neuropsychology of Cult induction success?

- Whereas a healthy individual has normal brain function, the areas of Short Term/Working Memory and Executive Function: Abilities such as
  - Judgment,
  - Prioritizing
  - Sieving out extraneous information
  - Attention to detail
- Are all 'numbed' in Cult Induction

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- Losses: Time, innocence, value
- Depression, loneliness
- Decision-making
- Dissociation/Unwelcome Altered States
- Loss of Elite status

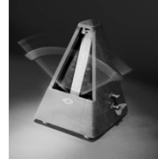
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- Spiritual/ethical uncertainty
- Fear of reprisal/damnation
- Difficulty explaining what happened
- Fear of Commitment, Relationships
- Guilt & Shame
- Loss of cognitive and cultural skills

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### What Makes Cultism Destructive?

- 1) Leader is presumed flawless, and not accountable
- 2) Questioning is discouraged/punished
- 3) Mind Control practices:
- 4) Leaders dictate how to think, act and feel



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### 5) Elitism

- 6) Us vs. Them Outlook
- 7) Ends justify means ethic
- 8) Control Induced by shame/guilt
- 9) Totalist Subservience
- 10) Suppression of personal goals & history

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- 11) Group preoccupation with recruiting and fund-raising
- 12) Members pressured/required to socialize only with other members
- 13) Outside life is demonized
- 14) Fear of reprisal/damnation for leaving or thinking of leaving

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### Working with families affected by Cultism :Helplessness and blame

- Feeling "replaced"
- Having to learn the lingo
- Rage at their powerlessness
- Abuse of children
- Breaking up of marriages
- Cultic sexual abuse or control
- Divided families



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- Education
- Legal Options
- Reflection and Leadership



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### Court Decision- Tools of Abuse

- Chen and his accomplices allegedly severely beat the three-year-old boy in his face. When the child fell to the floor, Chen and his accomplices picked him up, and continued to beat him harshly.



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### IN OUR CASE THIS IS THE REAL MONSTER



This is the real MONSTER

Cults can happen anywhere...  
to anyone....

Thank You for Participating

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