

BFMS PRESS RELEASE

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False Memory ‘Grief and Injustice’

Therapy Gurus ‘Choose Belief before Science’

Therapy organisations which have failed to investigate evidence for the existence of false memories have been accused of opting for a ‘belief system’ rather than respect for science.

The result has been a huge and spreading, hidden pool of grief and injustice, the British False Memory Society states.

The society says that not only patients and their families have been damaged but that the mental health professions themselves stand to lose their credibility in the eyes of the public.

These observations are made in a brief pamphlet issued by the BFMS to draw the attention of the public and professionals to the ongoing plight of accused families, whose numbers continue to grow.

‘Thousands of parents in this country insist they have been falsely accused by their children of sexually abusing them and that their children are suffering from false memories. The accusations have arisen when an adult child has been undergoing therapy’, the BFMS says.

‘For weeks, months, possibly years the person making the accusation is listened to by the therapist or counsellor. But the accused person has no such opportunity to speak freely..... the psychotherapy organisations have failed to develop a means of examining parental arguments.’

‘By not investigating the evidence for false memories, and the phenomenon of the change of identity that takes place, the therapy organisations show a most unfortunate lack of respect for science in favour of a belief system. It is fraught with perils for the future.’

Notes to Editors

For further information and to arrange interviews, please contact: Madeline Greenhalgh, Director, British False Memory Society, Tel: 01225 868682 Email: bfms@bfms.org.uk / www.bfms.org.uk

Since it was founded in 1993 the British False Memory Society has had contact with over 2000 people affected by false allegations by their now adult children who have ‘discovered’ memories of sexual abuse in childhood.

The society continues to get calls daily from parents who are devastated that they could be accused of such a heinous crime by a loved one.