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The Satanist cult of Ted heath: Ethical implications of authority compromise

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Introduction Seven UK police forces are currently investigating the alleged involvement of the late Edward Heath (Prime Minister 1970–1974) in a child abuse ring with Operation Midland investigating specifically the alleged murder of three boys.

Objective The presentation raises international awareness of the investigation, sheds light on the suspected ‘Satanist’ ideology behind the cult and explores the implications for professional practice.

Aims The paper highlights the corrosive impact on society of powerful pedophile rings that are protected by compromised authority representatives and professionals.

Method Detailed accounts circulate on the Internet that name dozens of individuals allegedly active in the cult including high-ranking politicians, psychiatrists, psychologist, police officers as well as journalists and academics. Some of the alleged crimes can be corroborated with news reports or successful court prosecutions while the vast majority appear to be ‘known crimes’ that are successfully covered up.

Results The widespread organisational structures parallel the Marc Dutroux case in Belgium. It appears to be the case that compromised mental health professionals and authority representatives shield the cult. It becomes an ethical obligation for the silent majority to speak out against such criminality and demand from their government effective investigation and prosecution.

Conclusion Whilst an enquiry into historical allegations of institutional abuse is currently underway in the UK several cases emerged recently where satanic cults seemingly continue to be protected by the vested interests. Mental health professionals must stand up for victims and resist ill-conceived authority attempts to persecute abuse survivors and their supporters.

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Freedom as theme in psychotherapy and cognitive behavioral therapy

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Background The problems that a client presents with to therapy may be associated with his possibility of free choice.

Method Review of psychotherapeutic and cognitive behavioral literature.

Results From a psychological perspective, freedom may be either inner or outer, depending on the nature of obstacles and barriers that limit freedom. Therapy may be understood as a process through which the client is guided to actively increase his freedom. This refers to freedom from destructive habits, self-limiting attitudes, compulsive actions, symptoms etc. When creating the relationship, neither the client nor the therapist is entirely free as they bring past conscious and unconscious experiences into it. From the point of view of CBT, freedom is always relative. The idea of absolute freedom results from cognitive distortions – black and white thinking. CBT does not consider overall freedom but relatively free decision-making in particular situations that the client is in. The therapist helps the client to identify his errors in thinking and to learn a more realistic way to formulate his experiences and to use the new attitude to decide more freely. The change in attitude is realized through rehearsing freer behavior and experiments with it in one's life.

Conclusion Freedom may be either inner or outer, depending on the nature of obstacles and barriers that limit freedom. Therapy may be understood as a process through which the client is guided to actively increase his freedom.

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Values and values work in cognitive behavioral therapy

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Background Values influence our thought patterns, emotions, wishes, and needs. Although individuals may be fully aware of their value systems, these often lie more or less outside the area of full consciousness. At least occasional awareness of one's priorities and set of values may be an effective means of self-regulation.

Method Literature review and description of cases.

Results Cognitive behavioral therapy is aimed at dealing with practical problems and goals in life through changes in cognitive processes, behavior, and emotional reactions. Changes to some values naturally accompany changes to these processes. Life values also underlie motivation to achieve therapeutic changes. For this reason, clarification of patients' life values is important to therapists as focusing on values aids in connecting therapeutic goals with important areas of life. In addition to a better understanding of patients' life stories and difficulties that have brought them to a psychotherapist, the identified value system may become a part