

**INCEST: UNDERSTANDING AND TREATMENT.** By DC Renshaw. Boston: Little, Brown and Co., 1982. xi + 178 pp. \$19.95.

Reviewed by Helen L. Morrison, MD

The author, in the introduction to this volume, states that "careful large studies recording ethnic, religious, social class, geographic . . . and educational factors, as well as types of incest are sorely lacking." In addition, the author states that "incest seems today to be a media theme whose time has come." The author continues that "incestuous desires (attraction) are natural psychological sexual feelings." Once the reader does understand the author's statement of the book representing "my path to an improved understanding of incest," the focus of the volume is clarified.

The author begins with definitions of incestuous behavior and then examines the anthropological perspectives, family aspects, and presentation of incest cases in her experience. Case reports define these various presentations in the context of the author's recommendations for treatment of participants and surrounding environmental aspects of the incestuous part- and surrounding environmental aspects of the incestuous partners.

It would have been very helpful to this reviewer to have had a more concise picture of research findings related to incest. The continual statements throughout the volume about the lack of research or the inaccuracies of research belie the tradition and extensive work done since 1937 by L. Bender, W. Fairbairn and C. H. Kempe and colleagues.

One very important aspect missing in this book is in the area of prevention. For those who work with children and adolescents, who are involved with assessment and treatment planning, prevention becomes primary. This volume is recommended in the context of the author's personal viewpoint of this phenomenon. It cannot be recommended as the latest presentation of empirical research in this very difficult area.

**FORENSIC HYPNOSIS: CLINICAL TACTICS IN THE COURTROOM.** By MV Kline. Springfield, IL: Charles C Thomas, 1983. 154 pp. No price.

Reviewed by Helen L. Morrison, MD

The author appears to present extensive information related to the controversial issue of the role of hypnosis in forensic sciences, especially in determining the application of the technique in the processes of legal case