

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

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work. Despite the extensive history of controversy over this technique, the author quite clearly delineates the vital importance of "distinguishing between a validated experience and an experience that represents only additional distortions of memory." The author maintains the essential need for continual accounting of contamination of memory in contrast to recollections which are valid and restorations which are accompanied by their behavioral concomitants. The author defines the crucial issue as the recognition of factual from manufactured recall of memory.

This volume presents limitations and contraindications for the use of the technique. The greatest value in the book is in the context of *Considerations in the Role of the Expert Witness: Voluntariness and Police Prosecutorial Misconduct*. Clear presentation is made of the *Dyas Test* and the *Frye Test*, which delimits forensic hypnosis as a tool to be used in the defense of criminal cases. This volume will provide for the neophyte, as well as experienced clinicians, better understanding of the hypnosis situation and the use of this tool in forensic situations.

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON DSM-III. By RL Spitzer, JBW Williams, and AE Skodol. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Press, 1983. xviii + 413 pp. No price available.

Reviewed by Donald A. Swanson, MD

This fascinating book reflects the international attention given the third edition of the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-III). It presents perspectives on DSM-III from a large number of clinicians and researchers throughout the world, many of whom have made major contributions to the classification of psychiatric disorders.

The book is divided into five sections. The first, Background for International Perspectives, provides a detailed comparison between DSM-III and ICD-9. Since half the world still uses ICD-8 and has never accepted the quite different ICD-9, the comparison is of limited international interest. There is no viewpoint representing the perspective of the World Health Organization.

The second section, General Perspectives, contains thoughtful critiques of DSM-III by major scholars of international psychiatry. In general, they are favorably disposed and express surprisingly little concern that the many