

FITTING THE PUZZLE TOGETHER

Gurli Bagnall

A liar should have a good memory.

Quintilian

De Institutione Oratoria

Given the constant need to justify a fictitious stance, it is not hard to understand why the self-proclaimed psychiatric or psychological “expert” on Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) has a memory which frequently challenges that of the Alzheimer sufferer.

The “expert’s” explanation that suited a particular purpose on Monday might be ludicrous by Tuesday, and by Wednesday, the required contradiction and fancy footwork left/leaves only his arrogance to mop up the egg on his face.

For example, from a disease taken very seriously indeed, the title ME was replaced with a variety of trivializing names. The typical sufferer was described as a successful career woman from the middle classes. The diagnosis could have been chronic fatigue, chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) or Yuppie Flu. It could just as easily have been hysteria and where many were affected at the same time, mass hysteria. It didn’t much matter as long as the name given to the condition was in some way, demeaning.

The outbreak at the Royal Free Hospital in London affected very few of the patients who were already in bed and at rest. The doctors and the nurses were the victims in this instance and were less likely to accept, without protest, the Yuppie Flu model being promoted some years later.

A new explanation was obviously called for, and without a by-your-leave, the typical successful career woman from the middle classes was scrapped in favour of a poorly educated person from a low socioeconomic background. Well....why not? If the label CFS is pinned to those presented as disenfranchised and vulnerable, who in authority, is going to argue?

CFS is not a diagnosis — it is an opinion. Those who promote it, create confusion with the clear intention of setting one group against another. Having created the mayhem, they sit back, feet up on the desk, hands behind the head, sucking on a fat corporate cigar while smugly saying, “Well....after all, what can you expect from hysterical people?”

Their arrogance and their confidence in themselves to manipulate the system reached the point some years ago where an attempt was made by stealth and deceit, to alter the WHO’s International Classification of Diseases (ICD) which lists ME as a neurological condition. To the lay person, this might seem like a criminal act but no one has ever been held accountable for this and other actions — a clear indication of the enormous wealth and power of the puppeteers who are pulling the strings behind the scenes.

Many of those who suffer Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) are rightly adamant that whatever the above self-styled “experts” say, this condition bears no relationship to the group of psychiatric disorders that fall under the umbrella title of the politically contrived

CFS.

They are adamant about this because (a) CFS as defined by UK Professor Simon Wessely and his followers, does not match their circumstances whereas (b) the disease, ME, as defined by the WHO for approximately forty years, does.

With every passing year in the UK, it has become increasingly apparent that the title CFS was chosen to draw attention away from the true nature and severity of ME. The “experts” created further confusion and misunderstanding with the liberal use of their own newly invented words and terminology. The number of synonyms now in use for the word “hysteria” might seem funny until the patient realizes that this is how he is being diagnosed — sight unseen.

Jodi Bassett has taken a courageous step in her decision to eliminate the terms CFS, CFS/ME, ME/CFS from her website. (A Hummingbirds Guide to Myalgic Encephalomyelitis. www.ahummingbirdsguide.com) This is a good beginning and will go some way to stopping the confusion that surrounds ME.

“Repetition does not transform a lie into a truth.” (Franklin D. Roosevelt) But unfortunately, there are still those naïve enough to be taken in. A good example was published following the recent conference in the USA . It came in the form of a transcript of an interview. At one point the interviewer asked the following question:

“Is it because people are opening up to each other or are they learning new things to help them with their illness or is it both?”

His friend replied:

“I think it’s both. We have people who are very ill who are nonetheless leading high quality lives. The quality of life really does lie in the mind.”

It may not have been the interviewee’s intention to be offensive, but for any long term sufferer of ME who has done everything he or she could possibly do to get some normality back into his or her life, that old Wessely war-cry “It’s all in the mind” IS offensive.

Jokingly, the interviewer commented on his friend’s ability to enjoy the good things of life — like the prime ribs he had just consumed — but mention of those who feel themselves fortunate if they can manage a little pureed baby food was pointedly absent. If they cannot manage the baby food, their feeding comes through a tube and it ain’t prime ribs!

Whatever disorder the interviewer and the interviewee suffer, it is not ME.

The recent Judicial Review Decision which dealt a blow to the ME community in the UK, reminds us that: *“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere”* (Martin Luther King Jr.) Nevertheless, despite the odds, the pieces of the puzzle are there. They only need to be fitted together. Ironically the NICE guidelines have shuffled them into their positions without realizing it. Even the judge who made the negative decision has unwittingly contributed. Everything they have said and done, shouts to the world: THIS IS A COVER-UP!

There is no need to be academics and knowledgeable in the technicalities. The ME

community has something in abundance which is sadly lacking in the “experts” whether they be the puppets, puppeteers, politicians or racketeers.

They have common sense. When they experience a pain in the right ear, few are fooled any more by being told that their PERCEIVED pain is actually in the left big toe and psychosomatic at that. Ridiculous? Of course, but that is what has figuratively been happening for years.

The official guidelines on the management of CFS/ME as laid down by the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) are ridiculous on at least four counts where genuine ME is concerned.

(a) Doctors managing ME? Very few have shown themselves to be capable! In the interests of survival, most patients have no option but to manage their own illness. Indeed they would not survive for long if they relied upon their doctors.

(b) Tests known to show abnormalities are discouraged. NICE recommend that only basic and routine examinations and tests be carried out, and then only at the initial assessment. In so doing, NICE shouts to the world: COVER-UP!

(c) Despite the WHO ICD, the guidelines advise that treatments should be confined to the psychiatric field. That is, to cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), graded exercise therapy (GET) and psychotropic drugs. Few have benefited from these measures. In general, where genuine ME is concerned, they have shown themselves to be useless at best and highly dangerous at worst. COVER-UP!

(d) ME patients are barred from becoming blood donors. Why? Many have died while others are dying from complications such as organ failure. Why? These facts are swept under the carpet along with all the other scientific evidence of physical disease. COVER-UP!

The very people who promote the concept that the NICE guidelines are based on best practice and evidence based medicine, have shown their claim to be a sham, a lie and a COVER-UP.

Most distasteful of all, is the brainwashing (CBT) advocated by people who have already demonstrated their own questionable ethics, behaviour and flawed personalities. It has been noted that patient resistance to these measures incur the advocates’ wrath and outrage. In their minds, and in their arrogance, the patient has no right to protect himself.

"Brainwashing is a system of befogging the brain so a person can be seduced into acceptance of what otherwise would be abhorrent to him. He loses touch with reality. Facts and fancy whirl round and change places.... However, in order to prevent people from recognizing the inherent evils in brainwashing, the Reds pretend that it is only another name for something already very familiar and of unquestioned respect, such as education or reform."
(Edward Hunter, Brainwashing (New York: Pyramid Books, 1956, pages 185-186)

<http://www.crossroad.to/Quotes/brainwashing.html>

As the arguments rage, we are favoured every now and then with a calming statement designed to lull all into a sense of false security. The law, we were recently told, protects the mentally competent from being forced to undergo treatments that are unacceptable to them. For goodness sake, where have these people been? Have they not heard of the Strasbourg Convention on Biomedicine?

“The 1996 Strasbourg Convention on Biomedicine and the reform of the UK Mental Health Act: have they anything to do with the attempt to re-classify ME and CFS as mental illness in the WHO Guide to Mental Health in Primary Care?”

<http://www.meactionuk.org.uk/strasbourg.html>

Do not speak of specific viruses as the cause of ME for none have been found. Ask instead why a person’s constitution has been so weakened that a viral infection which usually runs its course in two to three weeks, causes profound and long-term illness. Ask, but do not expect an answer.

Seek information on flipper babies and those who are now second and third generation flipper babies. How were the first set of parents treated when they became suspicious of the drug, thalidomide? The ME victim who wonders why HIS genetic make-up has changed will find more answers in the cold, reptilian eyes of the puppets, the puppeteers, the politicians and the racketeers, than in his family tree.

As has happened in many other instances, how many documents relating to ME are there in official archives marked: SECRET. NOT TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC FOR FORTY YEARS. Most who would have been eligible for compensation and would have benefited greatly from that assistance, will be dead in forty years time. That is the way it works. We are not the first and we will not be the last.

Treated in this way were the victims of the defoliant Agent Orange; those in the armed forces who were, without benefit of protective clothing, deliberately exposed to the effects of nuclear blasts and in later years, chemical exposure in the Middle East including experimental vaccines; those who suffered lung damage from working with asbestos; farmers who were required to use animal dips containing organophosphates. Find out how those affected by the contamination of water at Camelford were treated. (<http://news.biomedicine.org/medicine-news-2/Camelford-water-contamination-did-lead-to-cerebral-function-damage-10333-1/>). Do not be surprised to find Wessely’s finger in that particular pie.

The list goes on and on and on and will continue to do so until stringent measures ensure the suitability of those with political ambitions.

Democratic governments need people with integrity and expertise — not incompetents with conflicts of interest.

Similarly, health systems need to be reorganized and run separately from money hungry commercial enterprises. The main impediment to an efficient and humane health system is the waste of resources used in dealing with what are euphemistically referred to as

“preventable medical error”. Medical personnel need to grow up, to stop whining and to be accountable. They would be the first to tell anyone else, “If you can’t stand the heat, get out of the kitchen!”

Simon Wessely, Professor of Psychiatry at Kings College in London, has been the leading force in the UK in persuading the public that ME (or, as he insists, CFS) and Gulf War Syndrome (GWS) are psychiatric conditions. He readily admits to having conflicts of interests amongst which are included that of adviser to health agencies and to the Ministry of Defence and its equivalent in the USA. We would have to be very naïve to believe that his reward for these services, concerned only a few handouts such as the odd note pad or plastic pen.

Those affected by asbestos, experimental vaccines, exposure to nuclear blasts etc have no doubt had their own Wesselys to contend with. “Wesseleys” who quietly slip away when the cover-ups are no longer possible or are no longer required — who slip away to some luxurious island paradise leaving a trail of death and destruction behind them.

“Justice consists not in being neutral between right and wrong, but in finding out the right and upholding it, wherever found, against the wrong.” (Theodore Roosevelt)

A google search on germ warfare research in the UK and the USA reveals much of which to be ashamed. The populations were never told of the aerial drops made over some of their own cities to determine the effects of experimental infections and chemicals. How many times were the effects upon them, labeled as Wessely now labels the ME community?

Search for Porton Downs in the UK where people, without being told, were used like rats in a laboratory and lived the rest of their days in unspeakable pain and severe illness. Look up the CIA of the USA and see how psychiatrists were paid handsomely to use their patients as guinea pigs in the destruction of their personalities by means of brainwashing techniques — of turning people into zombies or demented lunatics doomed to live the rest of their days in mental institutions.

The following are a few examples picked out at random.

“Three UK ex-servicemen have been given compensation after they were given LSD without their consent in the 1950s.”

“But they were given the hallucinogen in mind control tests, and some volunteers had terrifying hallucinations.”

“They stick to the old maxim: never apologise, never explain....”

“Last October, the government was found guilty of breaching the human rights of former soldier Thomas Roche, who claimed he developed health problems as a result of mustard gas and nerve agent tests in 1962 and 1963.”

BBC — Published: 24 February, 2006

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/4745748.stm>

[**Note:** Compensation paid after more than 40 years.]

How the spraying was done.

“This declassified Porton Down film <http://video.google.co.uk/videoplay?docid=-3695517097691289788>,

which is Crown Copyright, shows a Valetta aircraft making a number of passes in front of the camera - all the time spraying the Biological Warfare simulant - Zinc Cadmium sulphide. These experiments shown in this film were conducted during March 1958, and were conducted to determine the characteristics of an aircraft mounted Zinc Cadmium sulphide dispenser. The resulting information was then used in Porton Down's later public area BW experiments, some of which (the Large Area Coverage or LAC) contaminated vast swathes of the UK. A BW simulant is a supposedly harmless substance which mimics the physical properties of a real BW agent, in this case, size (between 1-5 microns). BW simulants are used in BW experiments in which, for safety reasons, a real BW agent could not be used.”

See also:

MoD test of aerial spraying over Norwich <http://www.nr23.net/govt/spray.htm>

The Independent — 27 August, 1999: Porton Down's secret human guinea pigs

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/porton-downs-secret-human-guinea-pigs-1115527.html>

BBC News — 20 August, 1999: UK Porton Down — a sinister air?

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/426154.stm

CIA brainwashing victims seek Canada court action

By James Stairs Jan 19, 2007

Montreal - In a case that sounds like science fiction, a Montreal court is deciding whether a class action lawsuit can be brought against the Canadian government on behalf of more than 250 psychiatric patients who were unwittingly subjected to radical experiments in the 1950s. The so-called MK-ULTRA tests were part of a secret mind-control programme funded by the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the Canadian government in the 1950s.

The Cold-War-era experiments, carried out by a Scottish doctor in Montreal, included forced isolation, induced-comas, electro-shock therapy and the use of hallucinogenic drugs, including LSD and paralysis-inducing narcotics.

(Opening of article: <http://www.ect.org/cia-brainwashing-victims-seek-canada-court-action/>)

*“1945 **Project Paperclip** is initiated. The U.S. State Department, Army intelligence, and the CIA recruit Nazi scientists and offer them immunity and secret identities in exchange for work on top secret government projects in the United States.”*

“1947 The CIA begins its study of LSD as a potential weapon for use by American intelligence. Human subjects (both civilian and military) are used with and without their knowledge. [Operation Artichoke]”

“1950 In an experiment to determine how susceptible an American city would be to biological attack, the U.S. Navy sprays a cloud of bacteria from ships over San Francisco. Monitoring devices are situated throughout the city in order to test the extent of infection. Many residents become ill with pneumonia-like symptoms.”

“1953 U.S. military releases clouds of zinc cadmium sulfide gas over Winnipeg, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Fort Wayne, the Monocacy River Valley in Maryland, and Leesburg, Virginia. Their intent is to determine how efficiently they could disperse chemical agents.”

*“1953 Joint Army-Navy-CIA experiments are conducted in which tens of thousands of people in New York and San Francisco are exposed to the airborne germs *Serratia marcescens* and *Bacillus glogigii*.”*

“1995 Dr. Garth Nicolson, uncovers evidence that the biological agents used during the Gulf War had been manufactured in Houston, TX and Boca Raton, Fl and tested on prisoners in the Texas Department of Corrections.”

<http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article3511.htm>

These events barely scratch the surface. They are not the product of paranoia or an overactive imagination. They are documented. They happened and they continue to happen.

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