



## Memory Warp

How the Myth of  
Repressed Memory Arose  
and Refuses to Die

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## The Author

### Mark Pendergrast

Independent scholar and science writer Mark Pendergrast has written well-researched, critically acclaimed nonfiction books about a wide range of subjects. He lives in Colchester, Vermont. You can reach him through his website, [www.markpendergrast.com](http://www.markpendergrast.com)

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### How the Myth of Repressed Memory Arose and Refuses to Die

The repressed-memory craze that tore apart millions of families in the 1980s and 1990s has been repudiated by the consensus of scientists who study human memory. However, Mark Pendergrast, who helped to expose this scourge more than twenty years ago in his book *Victims of Memory*, now revisits the subject, and finds that it is coming back, perhaps as virulent as ever, turning loving family relationships into nightmarish battlegrounds. Pendergrast warns that we face great risks as individuals, families, and society at large if we fail to learn from—and halt—the resurgence of this shocking episode of our recent past.

## PRAISE FROM EXPERTS IN THE FIELD

- “Must Paul Revere ride twice? Mark Pendergrast was heroic in opposing the recovered memory craze twenty years ago. It’s back—but so is he, with an urgent and eloquent plea for adherence to scientific truth about the mind.”  
—*Frederick Crews, author The Memory Wars and Freud: The Making of an Illusion*
- “In *Memory Warp*, Mark Pendergrast has captured not only the personalities of all those involved, but the science (or lack thereof) underlying the repressed memory debate. His compassionate, even feminist, account makes for compelling reading that explains how the repressed memory epidemic arose and (unfortunately) continues.”  
—*Elizabeth F. Loftus, Ph.D., UC Irvine Distinguished Professor of Social Ecology, and Professor of Law, and Cognitive Science, author, The Myth of Repressed Memory*
- “Science writer Mark Pendergrast makes a strong case that the repressed memory controversy is far from over and offers a clear warning about the worst pseudoscience in psychology in the modern era. *Memory Warp* is brilliantly written, with jaw-dropping details, stories, and insights that are novel, fascinating, and engrossing.”  
—*Lawrence Patihis, Ph.D., Director of the Cognition and Memory Laboratory, University of Southern Mississippi*
- “Reading *Memory Warp* could save your finances, your sanity, your family, and even your life. If you seek mental health treatment in the US health care system, you are at serious risk of being harmed by reckless methods based on dangerous junk science theories and practices. Mark Pendergrast has written a compelling, well-researched book about the epidemic of false memories of abuse that occurred in the final part of the 20th century and continues in a reduced—though still dangerous—form to this day, negatively impacting the lives of millions of people.”  
—*R. Christopher Barden, Ph.D., J.D., scientist-clinician-attorney-legislation and public policy expert specializing in multi-disciplinary analysis and reform*