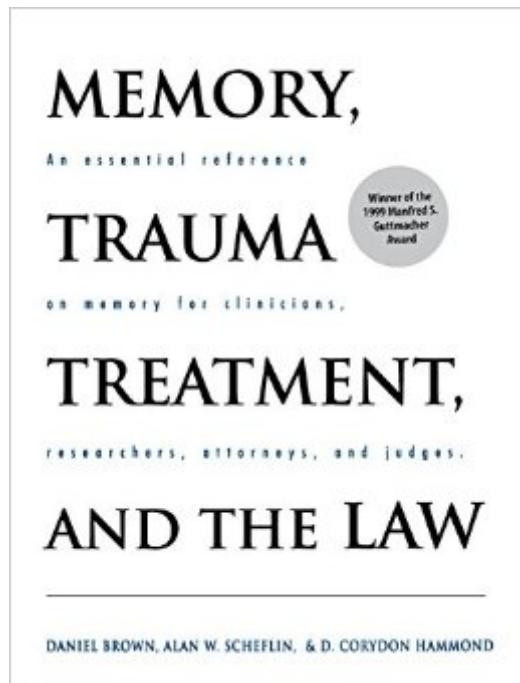


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# Memory, Trauma Treatment, And The Law (Norton Professional Books)



## Synopsis

This book is designed to be a one-stop text for clinicians and experimentalists who wish to understand the workings of memory in and out of the therapeutic arena. In addition, it will guide attorneys and judges in litigating and resolving hundreds of cases now in the courts concerning memory and the use of hypnosis to recover memory. The authors critically review memory research, trauma treatment, and legal cases pertaining to the false memory controversy. They discuss current memory science and research with both children and adults, pointing out where findings are and are not generalizable to trauma memories recovered in psychotherapy. The main issues in the recovered memory debate are covered, as well as research on emotion and memory, autobiographical memory, flashbulb memory, memory for trauma, and types of suggestions, such as misinformation suggestions, social persuasion, interrogatory suggestions, and brainwashing. Research on the reliability of memories recovered in hypnosis is reviewed and guidelines for using hypnosis with patients reporting no, partial, or full memory of having been sexually abused are outlined. The authors review the development and current practice of phase-oriented trauma treatment and present a standard of care that is effective and ethical. Their exploration of memory in the legal context includes a review of malpractice liability and current malpractice cases for allegedly implanting false memories in therapy, as well as the evolving law around legal actions by people who have recovered memories and around hypnosis and memory recovery. This is an essential reference on memory for all clinicians, researchers, attorneys, and judges.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is the Bible for all those who are interested in the most scientific and thorough understanding of the treatment of trauma survivors, the current understanding of how memory functions and the law as related to both therapists and patients. The authors had to spend several chapters undoing the misinformation that has been prominent during the last few years both in the popular press and in books without scientific merit. These books that have misinformed the general public and professionals are now corrected by this book. It deserves the award it has been given and more. It is a must read for all professionals, patients, lawyers and journalists who wish to honestly write about these areas of the field of psychology.

Invaluable as a one-stop text for clinicians seeking to understand the dynamics of memory in and out of the therapeutic arena. Useful as a reference for researchers, attorneys and judges. Memory research, Trauma Treatment and legal cases pertaining to the false memory controversy and current memory science are all critically reviewed. The authors cover issues in the recovered memory debate, as well as research on the emotion and memory, flashback memory, autobiographical memory, and memory for trauma. Memory recovery through hypnosis is discussed along with current practice of phase oriented trauma treatment. This book is an invaluable reference.

Brown, et al, have produced a book reviewing the state of the art regarding memory, trauma and treatment that is unbiased and complete as I have seen. Their views are supported by the research and thoroughly scientific. Lawyers, judges, and especially clinicians will benefit from the clear rendering of standards of care and methods of trauma treatment. This book suggests treatment protocols that will reduce the likelihood of "false-memory" litigation and increase the frequency of positive treatment outcome.

This book really should be the final word on the "debate" about whether, and the degree to which, traumatic memories can be repressed. The authors thoroughly and rigorously examine the scientific evidence showing that traumatic memories are indeed often forgotten. They also show, at great length, the many logical holes in the arguments of many of the proponents of the so-called "false memory" position. Yet the book's great strength--its thoroughness--is also its weakness. Presumably because so much of this so-called debate so clearly disregards scientific evidence, the authors go

to exhaustive lengths to show the scientific evidence for amnesia of these memories. That's a wonderful and important thing to do. But it also doesn't always make for the most exciting reading. Thus the one-star reduction: in their desire to make sure that every angle is covered from any possible attack, the authors end up repeating themselves a fair amount. The book (weighing in at more than 650 pages of text) could probably have been cut to about 450 pages without losing anything. Then it would certainly have been a five star book.

This book recently won another Guttmacher award! Alan Scheflin, a law professor at Santa Clara University, co-authors another thought-provoking and informative work. Well worth the price.

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