

Reading a Child Protective Services Report –

A Trip to an Alternate Universe, An Alternate Reality...

As I was reading the CPS report prepared by social worker, Bobbi Fehrer, I questioned whether CPS hires staff based on the lowest possible IQ's or the most sadistic personal psychodynamics. This report, as well as thousands of others, serves as an “automaton like” movement through a bureaucratic system in which staff are allowed to tell blatant lies, libel, defame, and attempt to humiliate and discredit professionals who are mandated reporters. These mandated reporters have a moral and ethical obligation to file legitimate complaints for Child Protective Services to investigate. This is the same bureaucracy that is supposed to be invested with the sacred trust of protecting children who are suspected of being in danger.

The social worker, Bobbi Fehrer, begins her report with an interview of the child, who has disclosed the profoundly miserable state of his life, replete with humiliation, verbal and physical abuse and exposure/forced engagement in animal abuse. This child has reported abuse and misery to more professionals than most adults meet through the course of their lives. The child is 10-years-old, living with his accused abuser, and prohibited from any contact with his mother. Further, this child's alleged abuser openly has declared the child's mother to be "crazy, insane, out of control." The alleged abuser holds the child in a death grip, not for a desired relationship, but to prove his own power because of his intense desire and need for control and to deprive the mother and child of their desperately desired relationship. Having met and spoken with the alleged abuser, I can speak with authority both from training and experience.

On the other hand, this social worker, Bobbi Fehrer, her supervisor, Susan Girioso, Administrator Nancy Voight, and the Director of the Child Protection Services (CPS) office, have approved a report in which the original reporter of abuse, as per multiple discussions with the child and other related adults, is referred to in the most deprecating terms. Jill Jones-Soderman, PhD, MSHS, and Executive Director of the Foundation for the Child Victims of the Family Courts, filed a lengthy, typed report documenting the statements and events that led to the CPS referral. The information contained in the report was considered by this reporter as an extremely serious event and should have resulted in extremely serious consequences.

Paul Berman, PhD, was court- appointed to investigate and provide an educated opinion to the Court about the best interests of this child. However, he later submitted the most vicious report attacking the subject child and the child's mother on a very personal level, not customary for a custody evaluation. Berman is the progenitor of this toxic mess. He generated a custody evaluation that is filled with conclusory statements, not only professionally inaccurate but also demeaning and humiliating to the subject child in the eyes of anyone who reads the report. Paul Berman referred the child for therapy to Gavin Behrens, LCSW. Behrens was described to the

Court by Berman as a child expert who worked with severely traumatized children and had a great deal of experience. Behrens later disclosed he did not even know Berman, or why Berman would have referred this child to him. Behrens is a social worker, who is located in a city a great distance from where the child currently resides. Behrens met with the child three times, the mother one time and the father one time. The father and his attorney reported several false allegations against the mother in court, which again labeled her as the unstable parent. Jason Bouma and Christopher Rand, the attorney for Bouma stated that Behrens met twice with the mother and twice with the child. They also stated to the Court that Behrens decided to terminate his services based on his fear that the mother would sue him and that the mother was unstable. Behrens adamantly denies that he ever made such statements about the mother suing him or being unstable. He is willing to confirm this with anyone who wishes to speak to him. Behrens clearly stated that he decided to terminate his services based solely on the fact that he did not believe he could provide the child with the services that he needed. This child is, and has been, in a serious crisis, and Behrens recognized that difficulty and made a choice not to use the child's vulnerable state in order to receive money for therapy.

Fehrer chose to report incorrectly that Behrens is a PhD and refers to him as Behrens throughout her report. Fehrer appears to feel comfortable playing fast and loose with facts, such as relating the Jill Jones-Soderman, PhD - psychoanalyst, MSHS, law and expert witness testimony/forensic expert is a member of a "Maryland support group" and is in some manner aligned with Mrs. Bouma as an ally and not a Forensic Expert. Fehrer refers to Director of the Foundation as "some sort of Advocacy group." The Foundation works to aggressively analyze, strategize and defend the most difficult cases that present in courts across the country. Further details as to confabulations of Fehrer will be noted in a line by line critique of the CPS report which depicts many aspects of the fear and abuse to which this child was subjected. Based on Fehrer's report and a useless psychological evaluation paid for by CPS in which the psychologist preferred not to arrive at a conclusion, after being paid \$20,000 for her report, the child was afforded absolutely no care, support or protection. In fact, Fehrer's interventions were so absurd and ludicrous that Ms. Fehrer would be referred to any licensing board for removal of her license - if she had a license or any training. The only resolution for this child as to the violation of his rights and multiple injuries sustained by him will be pursued in the courts with rigorous legal remedies dealing with CPS. Until a claim can be filed, the child and his family will seek justice in the press and the public forum.

The line by line critique of the absurd report, replete with lies by Fehrer, reviewed and approved by supervisor, Susan Gioroso, Administrator Nancy Voight, and Director of the Howard County CPS, Michael Demenick is protected, confidential material, maintained as such to protect the lies and liability of those culpable of such stupidity, cruelty, ineptitude, and failure to protect children and other vulnerable populations. Further, the failure is not only to keep the abuse hidden, but to consciously make the decision to protect the abuser and his family, collaborators in mean spirit who are bullying and ridiculing an innocent child. This unconscionable behavior,

without question, may hasten the suicidal actions of a child who has notified adults of his misery and desire to die because “no one listens to me and believes me.” He has expressed continuous fear that his own father will “kill” him. The social worker, Fehrer, quotes the child in detail as he verifies the content of abuse written in the original referral report of Jill Jones-Soderman, Executive Director of The Foundation for the Child Victims of the Family Courts. Fehrer has the nerve to write in this report that she "gave her contact information to the child," who has no access to a phone and whose personal cell phone was taken from him by his father so that he has no access to help. The child even alluded to this fact, but Fehrer decided to take the word of the paternal abusive grandmother, that the child can use the phone whenever he wishes. Again, this material related by Fehrer as an intervention is not only ineffectual, but her actions and inaction place the child in significant personal danger. The presentation of Fehrer and her cohorts will be discussed in the context of the lack of education and training of the entire bureaucracy that constitutes CPS. The worker is so uninformed and not empathic, lacking in any form of insight, blind to her intense counter transference to the mother, out of touch that she appears to have no idea as to how her words indict her. Unfortunately this report and the actions of this worker are emblematic of the vast majority of workers in this corrupt, viciously unproductive, destructive bureaucracy in which statistics indicate that more children die in foster care or under the supervision of CPS than in the most violent, dysfunctional homes.

Reading this CPS report written by Fehrer is definitely an experience from Alice's trip down the rabbit hole, or perhaps an experience of having a bad acid trip, as described by the psychotic experiences of reporters of such experiences.

Endless literature published by the Department of Health and Human Services opines on the value and concerns for life and protection of children, yet time and again we who work with abused children and other vulnerable populations are faced with dealing with inept, unschooled staff with power over life and death. Many of these “professionals” have ongoing, miserable daily existences. These individuals cannot or will not get facts or the information correct, either due to stupidity or profound malice torture, or they are simply too lazy to be bothered. The facts as reported by these employees of CPS appear to twist the data to conform to a reality that confirms their desired outcome. That outcome, all too often, appears to do nothing, or constantly to do the absolutely incorrect intervention. The motivation for such mean-spirited and vicious action is beyond speculation or comprehension.