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Bogus Social Workers?

From: "R.Bull" <RAB@cadcentre.co.uk>
Date: Thu, 22 May 97 10:18:00 PDT
Fwd Date: Thu, 22 May 1997 10:20:10 -0400
Subject: Bogus Social Workers?

Hi everyone.

As part of a research project I'm doing for BUFORA on Men In Black, I've started wondering about Bogus Social Workers, as being a sort of 1990s Female In Black (FIB, not that MIBs have gone away).

I've not researched this yet, but I think they are a fairly recent phenomenon (the earliest reference I've seen is Fortean Times issue 57, spring 1991, Mike Dash).

With a lot in the press (in the UK at least) about alleged child abuse (Orkney Isles case, and others) and related stories about social workers not doing their job, could people's fears about nuclear annihilation now be replaced by fears for their children? Women's fears anyway, BSWs are almost always female and they almost always visit mothers, not fathers. Could the BSWs (who never show credentials, and who always flee when asked for them) be some kind of projection of these fears?

I've only read about UK cases. Do BSWs exist worldwide? ('social workers' may be called other things in other countries of course - 'community health workers' ? 'welfare support workers' ? I'm guessing).

Thanks for any thoughts or hard info that you may have.

Rob Bull

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