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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: On False Memory

From: **Brian Cuthbertson** <brianc@fc.net>
Date: Sat, 18 Dec 1999 23:04:29 -0600 (CST)
Fwd Date: Sun, 19 Dec 1999 07:25:52 -0500
Subject: Re: On False Memory

>Date: Sat, 18 Dec 1999 12:32:16 -0500 (EST)
>From: Kevin Randle <KRandle993@aol.com>
>Subject: Re: On False Memory
>To: updates@sympatico.ca

>Mack's comment was, and is, nonsense. I waited to see if anyone
>would bother to check the studies to which he referred to learn
>what, if anything, they had to do with personal memories. These
>studies are about memorizing lists of real words as opposed to
>nonsense words, among other things. They have found that people
>more easily, and more accurately, remember the lists of real
>words. In one study, a chess master more easily remembered the
>position of the pieces on the board if it revealed a crafted
>strategy rather than random placement. Mack's attempt to use
>these studies to suggest that a traumatic experience, which is
>of more importance to a subject than what he or she had for
>lunch seven weeks ago Tuesday, are more accurate does not apply
>here. The studies he cited do not show what he suggested they
>did and therefore, his comment about them was, in fact,
>nonsense.

Just to educate us on his research technique, I wonder if Kevin might point us at any web references that document his above claim which ties the studies he cites above to Mack's statement on the PEER site. Mack stated that people remember traumatic events much better than other events. The above studies sound totally unrelated to the study of memories of traumatic events.

Hence I'd suspect the above studies are NOT the ones Mack is referencing. Now, no doubt Mack may be involved in the above studies; in his position I assume he is/has been involved in any number of studies, past and ongoing. But if Kevin can cite hard references showing conclusively that Mack's comment specifically references the above study, I'd definitely like to see it "in print" (as it were) right here. Point us at a web page or journal or whatever, Kevin, that clearly ties Mack's PEER site remark to the specific study you cite above, to the exclusion of any other study Mack may be involved in.

If you can, my opinion of Mack may take a nosedive;
if you can't, the same may happen with respect to you.

Thanks in advance,

-Brian Cuthbertson

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