Recovered Memory And Issues Of Truth And Justice

In the mid-1990s, some psychiatrists seemed to forget the Hippocratic Oath as they oversaw an “epidemic” of serious and devastating allegations of childhood sexual abuse and satanic cult worship, says Dr. Paul McHugh, professor of psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Often with no evidence to support them, psychiatrists would prescribe suggestive treatments that dredged up false memories and multiple personalities, sundered daughter from father, sent innocent men to jail and wreaked widespread financial and social ruin. Please join us for an evening with the man who played a leading role in fighting—and eventually winning against—the recovered memory movement.

Speaker: Paul R. McHugh, M.D. is University Distinguished Service Professor of Psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Dr. McHugh is former Henry Phipps Professor of Psychiatry and Director of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science (1975-2001) as well as former Psychiatrist-in-Chief, The Johns Hopkins Hospital (1975-2001). In 2001, Dr. McHugh was appointed by President George W. Bush to the Presidential Council on Bioethics. The Council was charged with the task of making recommendations as to what the United States government’s policy regarding embryonic stem cells should be. In 2002, he was appointed to a lay panel assembled by the Roman Catholic Church to look into sexual abuse by priests. Dr. McHugh is the author of numerous books including *Try to Remember: Psychiatry’s Clash over Meaning, Memory, and Mind*, as well as numerous peer-reviewed journal articles including “From refusal to reconciliation: family relationships after an accusation based on recovered memories.”

Place: Mitchell Courthouse – 100 North Calvert Street – Main Reading Room of the Bar Library (Room 618).

Time: 5:00 p.m., Thursday, November 12, 2015, with a wine & cheese reception immediately following in the Main Reading Room of the Bar Library.

Invitees: Members of the Library Company of the Baltimore Bar and their guests, judges, employees of Baltimore City and its courts, courthouse employees, government lawyers, public interest lawyers, law librarians, law and college faculty and students. Others may attend on payment of $20 or upon application for Bar Library membership.

R.S.V.P.: If you would like to attend telephone the Library at 410-727-0280 or reply by e-mail to jwbennett@barlib.org.