

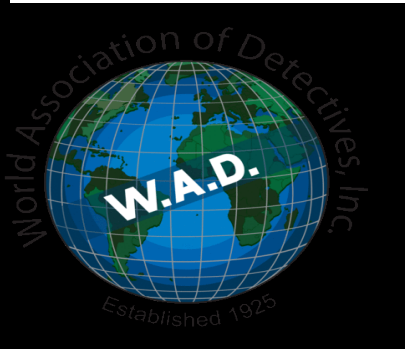
Forensic Hypnosis and Memory Recall

Presented by:

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Certified Master Hypnotist

I am a proud member of FAPI



About John Gaspar B.S , M.S , CSI , CFE ,BAI

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This presentation can be downloaded at:

- <http://www.afipi.com/media/>
- Select FAPI Forensic Hypnosis

Introductions

- So tell me who you are and what you do?
- Show of hands how many former LAW Enforcement officers ?
- How many from the private sector?
- How many of you are not from the USA ?
- Other ?????



A brief video to explain what Hypnosis is- In a FLASH

- youtu.be/Rjsjy5nbup8

(Click to watch on YouTube)



You now know everything about Forensic Hypnosis

So I can leave and go hangout with my
Granddaughters Willow and Hazel **BYE!!!**



News articles (see <http://www.afipi.com/media/>)

Their beats go on

Ex-New York cop finds peace in private work

By AUDREY PARENTE
Staff Writer

John Gaspar was an ordinary New York Police Department detective until an incident at a St. Patrick's Day riot changed his life to the kind that makes for great crime novels.

"In 1978, on St. Patrick's Day, I was paralyzed for 48 hours. During a riot, I was arresting someone and became the bottom of a pile-on. Part of the recovery process was a progressive relaxation program which involved self-hypnosis," Gaspar said.

He found hypnosis so interesting that he began to study it under experts and, before long, brought what he learned to his work.

Today the retired detective operates an expansive private investigative agency, with 10 offices around the country, from his home in Ormond Beach.

He has contracted with Dutton publishers to write his first novel, "Detective Houdini," based on his life experiences.

Recently he was called back to New York to be recognized with an award for his career accomplishments by the national Society of Private Investigators, presented by NYPD First Deputy Commissioner Patrick Kelleher.

During his years with NYPD, Gaspar's hypnosis skills were put to use to solve many cases, including kidnappings and serial rape cases.

"They (NYPD) put me on a major case schedule and called me in when they needed me. I went all over, to wherever they needed a forensic hypnotist, which is the art of doing hypnosis for the police department to recover memory that seems to be lost but actually isn't," Gaspar said.

In one case, an elderly man followed a bank robber out to the sidewalk. But the sidewalk was icy and the man slipped and fell. He only caught a quick glance at the license plate on the getaway car but didn't remember the numbers. Gaspar hypnotized the man.

"He was a good subject and went back in time to the incident. He was talking like he was actually there. I said, 'Just look up and read the license plate.' He rattled off the numbers, and they ran the plates. We got the robber," Gaspar said.



Neighbors/Roger Simms

Above: John Gaspar in his office at his home in Ormond Beach with awards and new clips on the wall after 14 years with the New York Police Department. He now has a private investigation company. **Below:** Former Daytona Beach police officer Dan Livingston, an ordained minister, established Halifax Worship Center in 1998 through affiliation with the Pentecostal Holiness denomination.

Vampires use Hypnosis



The Bela Lugosi's Technique

LOOK INTO MY EYES



What false stereotypes did that slide depict

- Hypnotist is Powerful
- Subject is weak
- That vampires exist LOL
- Or do they
- What else ????????

What we are going to discuss includes

Hypnosis & Forensic Hypnosis

- I- Hypnosis History
- II-What is Hypnosis
- III- Hypnosis use as Investigative tool for memory recall
- Training - Credentials – Experience
- Safeguards to support accurate memory recall
- How we can provide a service and make \$\$\$\$ at the same time ?
- Case law

Questions about Hypnosis

- The number questions is
- Q- Can I Be hurt from being hypnotized ?
- Q Can I do something that would hurt me when in a hypnotic state ?
- Q Am I aware of my surroundings while under hypnosis ?

The History of Hypnosis

- Austrian Physician Frank Mesmer in the 18th (1713-1815) Century is noted to be the Western Father of contemporary Hypnosis – He applied hypnosis with a scientific view point
- He was one the first to develop a consistent method for hypnosis
- Very Mesmerizing



The History of Hypnosis



- Sigmund Freud studied with Charcot, in France, in 1885 and was impressed by the therapeutic potential of hypnosis for neurotic disorders. On his return to Vienna he used hypnosis to help neurotics recall disturbing events that they had apparently forgotten. As he began to develop his system of psychoanalysis, theoretical considerations, as well as the difficulty he encountered in hypnotizing ... “some patients who became hysterical” . Hence he referred to Hypnosis as *Hysteria*

The History of Forensic Hypnosis

Just a few decades ago

- In 1974 a NYPD Detective Sgt. in NYPD named Charlie Diggett came across a book called “Hypnosis in Criminal Investigations “ by Harry Arons “
- Diggett and NYPD’s department Psychologist Dr. Schlossberg in the 9 months laid the foundation for NYPD’s Hypnosis Unit

The History of Forensic Hypnosis

Just a few decades ago

- Dr. Martin Riser Training Psychologist & Director of LAPD's Behavioral Science Unit – applied the use of Forensic Hypnosis to support memory recall in Police work
- When I was an NYPD Detective assigned to SID Hypnosis Unit -I had the opportunity to be trained and mentored by Dr Riser.

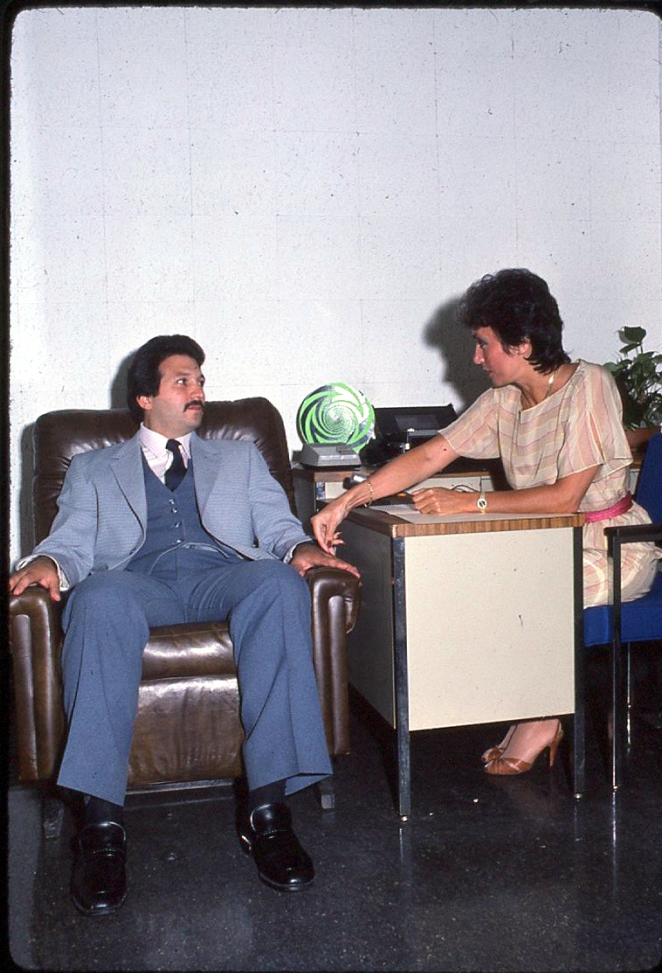
The History of Hypnosis

- Herbert Spiegel MD author of Trace and Treatment and Professor at Columbia University
- I studied under Herbert Spiegel MD
- He was also my Mentor and a NYPD consultant.



The History of Hypnosis / NYPD Hypnosis Unit

In the day when Polyester suits were fashionable





The History of Hypnosis



- NYPD Hypnosis Unit was Supervised by Lt. Timothy Burns, a Certified Forensic Hypnotist .
- I enjoyed the distinction of being one of five New York City Police Department Hypnotists in NYPD's history. During my tenure in the Detective Division's Special Investigations Hypnosis Unit, I became one of the 10 most experienced Forensic Hypnotists in the United States. I worked on many Major and unsolvable cases .

More about Hypnosis

- **Did you ever lose track of what exit you were at on a highway only to discover you traveled past your destination ?**
- **AKA Highway Hypnosis**
- **Did you ever come home from the beach on a nice summer day, sit in your favorite chair and were so relaxed that when the phone rang you didn't get up to answer?**

Interviewing Skills

- Be an active listener
- Do not interrupt the Interviewee
- Monitor body language
- Do not provide information (it is not a TV show)
- View the interviewee's account(testimonial account) and compare it to the Forensic and Physical evidence

The Process of Hypnosis

- See next slide



The Hypnosis process

Scooby doo Hypnosis Technique



Back to reality and away from Myth

- Hypnosis is a normal natural process



Hypnosis TRUTH or FICTION

- Can you do something to harm yourself under hypnosis?
- Can you Lie under hypnosis?
- Can you get “stuck in a hypnotic trance?
- Are people with low IQ's (Not smart) more susceptible to hypnosis ?
- Is hypnosis a voluntary process?

The Forensic Hypnosis process

Always audio and or video tape all sessions

- I- Hypnosis is a voluntary process
- II- Get only the basic information on the case whenever possible. This supports less of a chance for the Hypno-Investigator to influence the subject (that is called confabulation)
- III- Find a quiet location with a comfortable setting
- IV- Develop a rapport
- V- Form open-ended questions

The Forensic Session and Investigative Process

- Forming questions for hypnosis
 - Did I say -Always audio/ video from start to end - WHY?
 - Open-ended recommended
 - Never give information only, obtain information – this protects tainting a subject (confabulation)
 - Allow time for the subject to answer
 - Observe body language

The Forensic Interview process and Induction techniques

- Progressive relaxation
- Counting backward
- Using a metronomic sound
- The swing watch or pendent
- Conversation – think of school
- The Spiegel Eye Roll (see next slide)
- Arms Rising and Falling

The Forensic Interview process

- Spiegel Eye Roll



EYE-ROLL SIGN FOR HYPNOTIZABILITY

ROLL		SCORE
		0
		1
		2
		3
		4

The Forensic Interview process

- Progressive relaxation



The Forensic Interview process

- Possible environmental sounds (Ocean or Forest)



The Forensic Interview process

- Age regression (see it works)



The Forensic Interview process

- Use a Remote control watching TV method



Forensic Hypnosis Signs Include:

- REM
- Breathing change
- Body Posture
- Lethargy
- Tingling in arms and/ or legs
- Others to be discussed

What are Barriers for Memory Recall?

- Drugs
- Alcohol
- Pain
- Biological and or Psychological problems
- Other things that distract someone's attention span

Forensic cases

- See next slide (s)



Criminal case – Missing Person Police Say 5-Year-Old Haleigh Cummings is Dead, Identify Persons of Interest in the case

- [Haleigh Cummings](#), the 5-year-old who vanished from her father's Florida home a number of years ago, is believed to be dead and investigators said that they've identified several people of interest.
- Misty Croslins Cummings



How did I get involved

- *Tim Miller of Texas Equusearch called me in on the case
- Worked in cooperation with FDLE and Local Law Enforcement
- Went to the father's Florida home to do the Forensic hypnosis session
- Misty Crosline Cummings was the subject to be interviewed
- I was given basic information Date/ Time / Location and who was present when [Haleigh Cummings](#) went missing
- I made a floor plan of the house and marked each area that everyone was at and who was present
- *Tim is the devoted *Missing Person's* Investigator that helped in The Natalee Holloway case and many others

Current Florida Hypnosis cases

- Include :
- Haleigh Cummings Interview
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4rJl0k19XtU>

Investigative Findings

- Information provided by Misty Croslins Cummings – did not match the forensic information provided by the police or the layout of the house
- Misty Croslins Cummings was a voluntary witness who intentionally or unintentionally resisted relaxation

How did the Forensic Hypnosis...



- Interview of Misty Croslins Cummings helped the FDLE Investigation by establishing that:
 - Her account of what happen did not match the physical and forensic evidence (birds eye view of the layout of the home)
 - She was a volunteer yet she resisted relaxation
 - Her body language and verbal responses indicated hesitation and that she may not be forthcoming

Philadelphia Civil Case

Another application of Forensic Hypnosis used as tool for memory recall

- 79 year old women cannot find \$250,000 of cash & Gold Coins
- 5 people had access and knowledge of the money but not the location
- The PI was a former DEA Agent I worked with
- If you were the Investigator, how would you proceed?

Case Summary

- The lady was a good subject for age regression
- Went back to numerous hiding spots
- She remembered a new location and the valuables were found
- \$250,000  
- A good day for all involved

Bank Robber

- NYPD Special Investigations Division Hypnosis Unit
- Two Midtown NYPD Detectives presented a witness who could not remember a (Plate) tag number
- The subject was a M/Hispanic / 48 years old/ Blue collar worker
- The Location was a Chase Manhattan bank in Mid-Town Manhattan

Bank Robber

- Bank Robbery I/S the bank at lunch in February and it was very cold outside
- No Dye pack / No Bullet proof windows
- Robber handed a note that said “Give me all your money or I will blow your f---ing head off”
- Robber exited without incident
- The witness followed the subject
- I will now tell you verbally what happened.

Bank Robber -The process

- I Police Plaza – 11th Floor
- Detective behind a two way wearing ear phones
- Hypnosis session audio taped

The story

- Witness walked out of the bank after he saw how scared the teller was

- He was Cold and hurt his



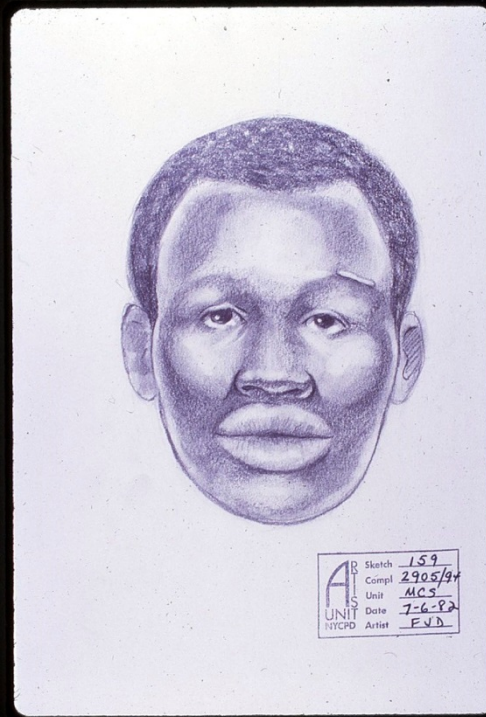
and the witness fell



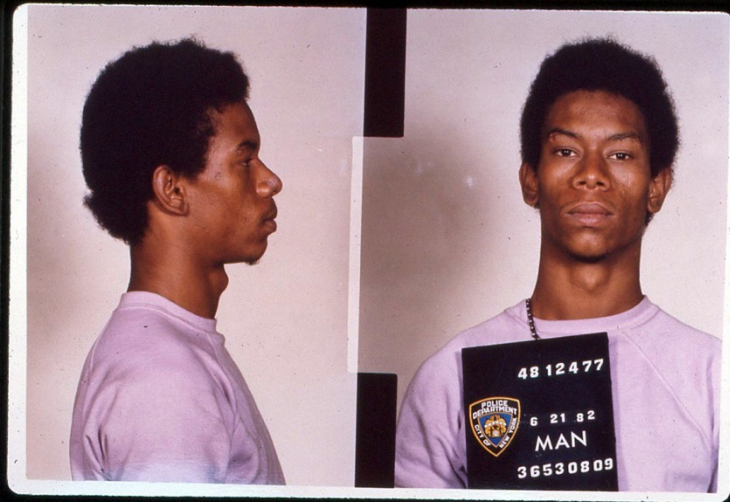
Results of the Forensic Session

- Tag obtained under hypnosis
- Computer check matched the description of a brown Toyota viewed by the witness
- Tag ran and the owner was identified as the bank robber from fingerprints at the scene and a Corporal line up
- Case closed

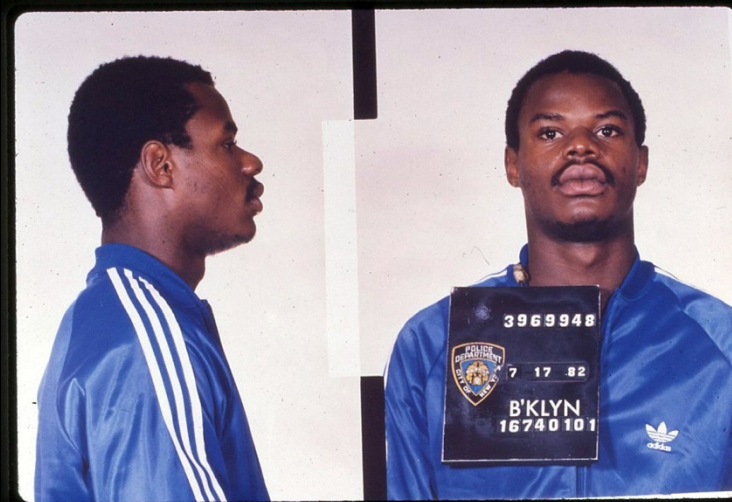
Sketch under Hypnosis



Mug Shot Photo



Mug Shot Photo



Sketch under Hypnosis



NYPD CASE

- Etan Patz Case - NYPD Detective John Gaspar

STILL MISSING

POLICE
DEPARTMENT
CITY OF NEW YORK



**LOST
CHILD
ETAN
PATZ**

Missing Since Friday May 25th, 1979. Last seen 8 a.m., at Prince St. & West B'way.

DESCRIPTION:
Date of Birth: October 8, 1972 Male, White, 6 yrs.
Height: 40 inches Weight: 50 lbs.
Blond Hair, Blue Eyes, Wearing Black Pilot Type Cap, Blue Corduroy Jacket, Blue Pants, Blue Sneakers with Fluorescent Stripes; Carrying Blue Cloth Bag with Elephants Imprinted.



Persons Having Any Information Are Requested To Call
(212) 374-6913



FACTS AND FINDINGS

- About three years after Etan Patz was abducted a witness - cab driver came forward
- He was placed under hypnosis to provide a better environment for memory recall by Detective Gaspar

FACTS AND FINDINGS

Overview

- The cab driver was taken back 3 years and remembered, with great clarity, the day, the weather, and what the North and South of Houston street area looked like. Even though a major construction face lift was given to that neighborhood, the cab driver was able to give important information to Detective Gaspar.

Article on Forensic Hypnosis Finding Full text article

- About three years after Etan Patz was abducted, a potential witness came forward to detectives in charge of this high profile child abduction / missing person case. Detective John Gaspar of NYPD Forensic Hypnosis Unit was called upon to interview the witness, a taxi cab driver, who was placed under hypnosis to provide a better environment for memory recall. The driver reported, while under hypnosis, that Etan Patz entered a cab with a white male. The cab driver was taken back three years to the day and time that Etan was abducted. The cab driver remembered, with great clarity, the day, the weather, and what the North and South of Houston street area looked like. Even though a major construction face lift was given to that neighborhood, the cab driver was able to give important information to Detective Gaspar. Detective Gaspar, to be sure that the cab driver was a good subject, researched the city records, and the interview under hypnosis was established to be accurate.

Article on Forensic Hypnosis Findings

- The cab driver was taken back three years to the day and time that Etan was abducted. The cab driver remembered, with great clarity, the day, the weather, and what the North and South of Houston street area looked like. Even though a major construction face lift was given to that neighborhood, the cab driver was able to give important information to Detective Gaspar. Detective Gaspar, to be sure that the cab driver was a good subject, researched the city records, and the interview under hypnosis was established to be accurate.

PEOPLE v. GRAY

- [154 A.D.2d 480]

CASE LAW Summary ([154 A.D.2d 480])

- I- Detective John Gaspar, a hypnotic investigator assigned to the Hypnosis Unit since 1981, testified that on May 18, 1982, at approximately 1:00 P.M. Officer Maillie arrived at the hypnosis unit at 1 Police Plaza with Detective Cordero.
- II- Gaspar had no information regarding the case prior to that day.
- III- Cordero left the interview room before Maillie entered and Gaspar spoke alone with Maillie.

CASE LAW Summary ([154 A.D.2d 480])

- IV- Maillie initially told Gaspar that there were 2 individuals but that only 1 had fired upon him.
- V- He stated that the shooter was 8 to 10 feet away and was 5 feet 10 inches to 6 feet tall with a slim build and wore a beige suit jacket. Maillie also described the defendant's accomplice.
- VI- Following Gaspar's administration of a technique described as "progressive relaxation" Maillie reiterated his previous description of the shooter and added that he had short hair and that he might have had a moustache.

CASE LAW Summary ([154 A.D.2d 480])

- VII-Gaspar and explained that the hypnotic session enhanced his concentration thus enabling him to recall the moustache and short cropped hair.

How can you utilize Forensic Hypnosis

- Missing persons
- Missing Property
- Missing anything
- Missing memories
- Criminal witnesses
- Witnesses in civil cases
- Open the floor to questions

How can it benefit you and your Agency

- Closed cases get new leads to follow- additional leads (“ a billable”)
- Offer your client more options
- Referral fees for recommendations when allowed by law

My (CV) Curriculum vitae

- Can be found on line go to:
- <http://afipi.com/about-us.html>
- Google John Gaspar Forensic Hypnosis
- http://almexperts.com/images/Photos/143910_16008_11G_2973_ResumePath.pdf
- <http://afipi.com/media/forensic-hypnosis.html>
- Quick Snapshot Educationally ...
- From Nova Southeastern University
- BS- Behavioral Science / Criminal Justice
- MS- Master's in Criminal Justice
- NYPD & FCSO Detective & Forensic Hypnotist

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