

# TREATMENT

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Excerpted from



OCTOBER.

DOCTOR, ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL THIS COURT THAT IT SHOULD LEAVE A CONVICTED CHILD MOLESTER FREE IN THE COMMUNITY? IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?

NO, MR. MONTGOMERY, THAT IS WHAT *YOU* ARE SAYING. THE DEFENDANT SUFFERS FROM PEDOPHILIA. THAT IS, HE IS SUBJECT TO INTENSE, RECURRENT SEXUAL URGES AND SEXUALLY AROUSING FANTASIES INVOLVING SEXUAL ACTIVITY WITH PREPUBESCENT CHILDREN.

FANCY WORDS, DOCTOR, BUT THEY ALL COME DOWN TO THE SAME THING, DON'T THEY? THE DEFENDANT IS A **HOMOSEXUAL** WHO PREYS ON LITTLE BOYS... ISN'T THAT RIGHT?



NO, THAT IS NOT RIGHT. IN FACT, YOUR STATEMENT IS RATHER TYPICAL OF THE IGNORANCE OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY WHEN IT COMES TO ANY OF THE PARAPHILIAS.

A HOMOSEXUAL IS AN INDIVIDUAL WHOSE SEXUAL PREFERENCE IS FOR THOSE OF HIS OR HER OWN GENDER. SUCH A PREFERENCE IS NOT A DISORDER, UNLESS SUCH FEELINGS ARE DYSTONIC TO THE INDIVIDUAL...

... AND THAT IS RELATIVELY RARE. YOU WOULD NOT CALL A MAN WHO ENGAGED IN SEXUAL ACTIVITY WITH YOUNG GIRLS A HETEROSEXUAL OFFENDER, WOULD YOU? OF COURSE NOT. THE ROOT OF MUCH OF THE HOSTILITY AGAINST PEDOPHILES IS, ACTUALLY, NOTHING MORE THAN THINLY VEILED HOMOPHOBIA.

ARE YOU SAYING THE STATE HAS PROSECUTED THIS OFFENDER BECAUSE OF HOMOPHOBIA, DOCTOR?

IT SURELY IS A FACTOR IN THE EQUATION. ISN'T IT TRUE THAT YOU PERSONALLY BELIEVE HOMOSEXUALS ARE "SICK," SIR?

THEY ARE!  
I... I'LL ASK THE QUESTIONS HERE, IF YOU DON'T MIND.





I DON'T MIND. I WAS TRYING TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS MORE FULLY, TO GIVE THE COURT A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE PHENOMENA INVOLVED. IF YOU CHECK THE DIAGNOSTIC AND STATISTICAL MANUAL OF THE AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION, YOU WILL SEE THAT HOMOSEXUALITY IS NOT LISTED AS A DISORDER...



...PEDOPHILIA IS THE SPECIFIC CODE, FOR YOUR INFORMATION, IS 302.20. HOMOSEXUALITY IS PRESENT AT BIRTH, HARD-WIRED, IF YOU WILL. SEXUAL ACTIVITY WITH CHILDREN IS, ON THE OTHER HAND, VOLITIONAL CONDUCT.



AND THEY'RE NOT BORN THAT WAY?

NO. THERE IS NO BIO-GENETIC CODE FOR PEDOPHILIA. THE ESSENTIAL ETIOLOGY IS AN EARLY SEXUAL EXPERIENCE -- THOSE YOU WOULD CALL PERPETRATORS BEGAN AS THOSE YOU WOULD CALL VICTIMS. ONCE INFECTED, THE VICTIM LEARNS TO WEAR A MASK. THEY ARE CAPABLE OF THE MOST COMPLEX PLANNING, OFTEN WITH GREAT PATIENCE.



SO EVERY CHILD WHO IS MOLESTED BECOMES A MOLESTER?

CERTAINLY NOT. SOME DO, SOME DON'T. AS I EXPLAINED, IT ESSENTIALLY COMES DOWN TO A MATTER OF CHOICE. NO MATTER WHAT A PERSON'S CIRCUMSTANCES, HE ALWAYS OWNS HIS OWN BEHAVIOR.



SO, THEN...  
WHAT DOES THIS MANUAL  
OF YOURS SAY ABOUT  
RECIDIVISM, DOCTOR?

THAT'S A GOOD  
QUESTION. THE COURSE OF THE  
DISORDER IS USUALLY CHRONIC,  
ESPECIALLY AMONG PEDOPHILES  
FIXATED UPON THE SAME SEX.  
RECIDIVISM, HOWEVER, FLUCTUATES  
WITH PSYCHOLOGICAL STRESS--  
THE MORE INTENSE THE STRESS,  
THE MORE LIKELY THERE  
WILL BE A RECURRENCE.

DO YOU  
ADMIT OFFENDERS LIKE  
MR. WILSON HERE ARE  
MORE LIKELY TO  
COMMIT NEW  
CRIMES?


ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL, YES. HOWEVER,  
WE DON'T TREAT SUCH INDIVIDUALS  
WITH CONVENTIONAL THERAPY. WE  
UNDERSTAND THE CHRONICITY OF  
THEIR BEHAVIOR, AND IT IS THE GOAL  
OF TREATMENT TO INTERDICT THAT  
BEHAVIOR...

... TO CONTROL THEIR CONDUCT, NOT THEIR  
THOUGHTS. I AM COMPLETING MY RESEARCH  
FOR A JOURNAL ENTRY NOW, BUT ALL THE  
PRELIMINARY DATA INDICATE AN EXTREMELY  
HIGH RATE OF SUCCESS. THAT IS, WITH  
PROPER TREATMENT.


THIS TREATMENT  
OF YOURS, DOCTOR...  
IT DOESN'T INCLUDE  
PRISON, DOES IT?

NO, IT DOES NOT.  
INCARCERATION IS COUNTER-  
INDICATED FOR PEDOPHILES. THE  
SENTENCES, AS YOU KNOW, ARE  
RELATIVELY SHORT, AND THE  
DEGREE OF PSYCHOSOCIAL STRESS  
IN PRISON FOR SUCH INDIVIDUALS  
IS INCALCULABLE. IN FACT,  
STUDIES SHOW THE RECIDIVISM  
RATE FOR PREVIOUSLY -INCARCERATED  
PEDOPHILES IS EXTRAORDINARILY  
HIGH.







BUT HE  
WOULDN'T BE  
MOLESTING  
CHILDREN IN  
PRISON,  
WOULD HE?




I UNDERSTAND YOUR QUESTION TO BE  
RHETORICAL, SIR, BUT THE REAL ISSUE IS  
LONG-TERM PROTECTION OF THE COMMUNITY,  
NOT TEMPORARY INCAPACITATION. EVEN  
WHEN THERAPY IS OFFERED IN  
PRISON, AND IT RARELY IS...




... IT IS AN AXIOM OF OUR PROFESSION  
THAT COERCIVE THERAPY IS DOOMED  
TO FAILURE. NO TREATMENT IS PERFECT,  
BUT WE KNOW THIS: THE PATIENT  
MUST BE A PARTICIPANT IN  
TREATMENT, NOT A MERE  
RECIPIENT OF IT.




DOCTOR, SO  
WHAT YOU'RE SAYING  
IS THAT MOTIVATION  
IS THE KEY?



YES, I AM, YOUR  
HONOR. AND MR. WILSON HAS  
DISPLAYED A HIGH LEVEL OF SUCH  
MOTIVATION. IN FACT, HE CONSULTED  
OUR PROGRAM BEFORE HE WAS  
EVEN ARRESTED, MUCH LESS  
CONVICTED.



SURE! BUT HE KNEW  
HE WAS ABOUT TO BE  
INDICTED, DIDN'T  
HE, DOCTOR?



I HAVE NO WAY OF  
KNOWING WHAT WAS IN  
HIS MIND. AND THE  
SOURCE OF THE MOTIVATION  
IS FAR LESS SIGNIFICANT  
THAN ITS PRESENCE...





SO WHAT'S THIS  
'CURE,' DOCTOR? WHAT'S  
THIS WONDERFUL  
'TREATMENT' OF YOURS?

THE TREATMENT  
IS MULTI-MODALITY. NOT ALL  
PEOPHILES RESPOND TO THE SAME  
INPUTS. WE USE GROUPWORK,  
CONFRONTATION, AVERSION THERAPY,  
INSIGHT-ORIENTATION,  
CONDITIONING, EVEN LIBIDO-  
REDUCING DRUGS WHEN  
INDICATED.



HOW MUCH  
WERE YOU PAID  
FOR YOUR  
TESTIMONY TODAY,  
DOCTOR?



OBJECTION!  
THAT'S  
IRRELEVANT!



OH, I THINK  
I'LL ALLOW IT. YOU  
MAY ANSWER THE  
QUESTION,  
DOCTOR.



I WAS PAID NOTHING FOR MY  
TESTIMONY TODAY, SIR. I EVALUATED  
MR. WILSON, PROVIDED A REPORT TO  
HIS ATTORNEY, A COPY OF WHICH  
HAS BEEN FURNISHED TO YOU.  
I CHARGE MY TIME  
AT SEVENTY-FIVE  
DOLLARS AN HOUR. I  
HAVEN'T SENT IN A BILL  
YET, BUT I IMAGINE THE  
TOTAL WILL COME TO  
AROUND FIFTEEN  
HUNDRED DOLLARS.



NO  
FURTHER  
QUESTIONS...





YOU'RE AS GOOD AS THEY SAY YOU ARE. NOBODY KNOWS THESE PEOPLE LIKE YOU DO.



IT'S JUST AMAZING... THE WAY YOU PREDICTED EVERYTHING THE PROSECUTION WOULD DO. HELL, I THOUGHT WE WERE DEAD IN THE WATER ON THIS ONE.

TOLD WILSON HE COULD EXPECT TO DO ABOUT FIVE YEARS IN THE PEN. AND HERE THE JUDGE HANDS HIM PROBATION ON A PLATTER.



PSYCHIATRIC PROBATION...

YEAH, I KNOW. HE HAS TO STAY IN TREATMENT WITH YOU FOR THE FULL TERM OR HE GOES INSIDE. BUT SO WHAT? IT'S A BETTER DEAL THAN HE WOULD HAVE GOTTEN IN THE JOINT.



I KEPT MY WORD?



YOU SURELY DID, MY FRIEND. AND DON'T THINK I'VE FORGOTTEN ABOUT OUR ARRANGEMENT. HERE YOU ARE, JUST LIKE I PROMISED.



THE CHECK WAS DRAWN ON HIS ESCROW ACCOUNT. FIFTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS. I PUT IT IN MY ATTACHE CASE ALONG WITH THE TEN THOUSAND IN CASH LYING NEXT TO IT ON HIS TEAKWOOD DESK. AS AGREED...



DECEMBER...

THIS WON'T BE EASY, MR. WILSON. WE HAVE TO REMAKE YOU, START FROM THE BEGINNING, AND WE BEGIN WITH HONESTY, ALL RIGHT?

YES, THAT'S WHAT I WANT. HONESTY. I DIDN'T SEE MUCH OF IT DURING THE TRIAL.

TELL ME ABOUT THAT.

I DIDN'T FORCE THEM... ANY OF THEM. IT WAS LOVE. A SPECIAL LOVE. ALL I WANTED TO DO WAS BE SOMETHING SPECIAL TO THEM...

WELL, THE BOYS LIED. I DON'T MEAN ABOUT... WHAT WE DID. BUT ABOUT HOW THEY FELT ABOUT IT. YOU KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING?

... A LOVING, SPECIAL FRIEND. THAT D.A., HE TURNED IT INTO SOMETHING UGLY. THE JURY NEVER HEARD MY SIDE OF IT.

HOW DID IT START?

WITH THAT BOY WESLEY... THE FIRST ONE TO TESTIFY. WHEN I FIRST MET HIM, HE WAS EIGHT YEARS OLD. AND YOU NEVER MET A MORE SEDUCTIVE LITTLE BOY...

... ALWAYS WANTING TO BE CUDDLED. HE DOESN'T HAVE A FATHER, YOU KNOW. I MEAN, IT'S NATURAL FOR A BOY TO SEEK LOVE...



I  
KNOW...

AND I  
**LOVED** HIM. WHY  
SHOULD THAT BE A  
CRIME? I NEVER USED  
FORCE, I NEVER HURT  
HIM EVEN ONCE.

HOW DO YOU  
FEEL... ABOUT BEING  
PROSECUTED?

I FEEL LIKE  
I'M THE VICTIM. I DID  
NOTHING WRONG. IT'S THE  
LAWS THAT ARE WRONG.  
AND, SOMEDAY, YOU'LL  
SEE, THE LAWS WILL  
CHANGE...

WHAT GOOD  
IS THE RIGHT TO  
SAY 'NO' IF THEY  
DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT  
TO SAY 'YES'?

... I MEAN,  
KIDS HAVE RIGHTS  
TOO, DON'T  
THEY?

THE LAW  
SAYS THEY'RE TOO  
YOUNG TO CONSENT  
TO SEX.

THAT'S A LOT  
OF CRAP. KIDS KNOW  
WHAT THEY WANT. YOU  
KNOW HOW WILLFUL THEY  
CAN GET, HOW DEMANDING.  
I'VE BEEN AROUND KIDS  
ALL MY LIFE. THAT'S  
THE WAY THEY ARE.



OKAY, LOOK.  
YOUR PROBLEM  
IS A SIMPLE  
ONE, ISN'T  
IT?

YOU GOT  
CAUGHT.

WHAT DO  
YOU MEAN?

BUT...

THAT'S YOUR PROBLEM,  
MR. WILSON. YOU GOT CAUGHT.  
AND OUR TREATMENT HERE,  
IT'S TO GUARANTEE IT DOESN'T  
HAPPEN AGAIN.

HOW  
COULD YOU  
DO THAT?

FIRST OF ALL, WE SET THE  
STAGE. YOU'LL GET THERAPY FOR A  
WHILE, LEARN HOW TO TALK THE TALK. THEN,  
EVENTUALLY, YOU'LL BE RELOCATED. YOU'LL  
NEVER BE ABLE TO LIVE AROUND HERE AFTER  
WHAT HAPPENED. NEVER GET A JOB  
WORKING AROUND KIDS. BUT, AFTER A  
WHILE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MOVE TO  
A NEW TOWN. AND START OVER.

IS THIS  
A TRICK?

NO TRICK. I  
KNOW MY BUSINESS  
AND I'M SMART ENOUGH  
TO KNOW IT'S ALL A  
MATTER OF  
PACKAGING.





THIS IS AMERICA,  
MR. WILSON. WHATEVER WE  
CALL THINGS, THAT'S WHAT  
THEY BECOME. AND WHAT  
THEY'RE GOING TO CALL  
YOU IS 'CURED'.  
UNDERSTAND?



YOU SAID  
SOMETHING IN  
COURT... ABOUT  
DRUGS...



DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. SOMETIMES  
A COURT INSISTS ON DEPRO-POVERA... SO  
CALLED 'CHEMICAL CASTRATION.' BUT THAT'S  
NOT A PROBLEM HERE. AND EVEN IF IT  
WERE, WE COULD GIVE YOU ONE OF THE  
ANDROGEN GROUP, REVERSE IT  
ALMOST INSTANTLY.

MY LAWYER  
SAID IT WOULD BE  
REAL  
EXPENSIVE...



OH YES.  
WE'RE THE ONLY CLINIC  
IN THE COUNTRY THAT  
PROVIDES THIS RANGE  
OF SERVICES, BUT  
LOOK WHAT YOU'RE  
GETTING FOR  
YOUR MONEY...



... NO VICTIM  
CONFRONTATION, NO SHOCK  
TREATMENTS, NO ENCOUNTER  
GROUPS, NO DRUGS. JUST PREPARATION  
FOR HOW YOU'RE GOING TO ...  
SUCCEEDFULLY... LIVE THE REST OF  
YOUR LIFE. AND YOU DON'T  
SPEND A DAY IN JAIL.  
PRETTY GOOD, ISN'T IT?





HOW  
DID  
YOU...?

GET INTO THIS? IT'S EASY  
ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND. WHILE I  
WAS STILL IN MEDICAL SCHOOL, I REALIZED  
THAT PEDOPHILE TREATMENT IS THE  
GROWTH INDUSTRY OF THE 90'S. THE  
MONEY'S GREAT, THE MALPRACTICE  
PREMIUMS ARE LOW, AND THERE  
ARE OTHER BENEFITS, TOO.

LIKE  
BEING PAID  
IN CASH?

LIKE  
THAT...

APRIL...


WELL, MR. WILSON, YOU'RE  
ABOUT READY FOR DISCHARGE. OUR RECORDS  
SHOW YOU'VE COMPLETED INTENSIVE INDIVIDUAL  
PSYCHOTHERAPY, PARTICIPATED IN GROUP,  
UNDERGONE AVERSIVE CONDITIONING. ALL  
SATISFACTORY. I CAN TRUTHFULLY SAY  
YOU'RE READY TO LIVE WITHOUT  
PROBATION SUPERVISION. HAVE  
YOU MADE ANY PLANS?

I SURE HAVE. IN FACT,  
I'VE BEEN CORRESPONDING WITH  
A FEW BOYS IN AN ORPHANAGE IN FLORIDA.  
YOU KNOW, COUNSELING THEM ABOUT  
THEIR PROBLEMS. I'VE BEEN OFFERED  
A JOB DOWN THERE, AND I'LL  
BE LEAVING AS SOON AS MY  
LAWYER GETS ME RELEASED  
FROM PROBATION.

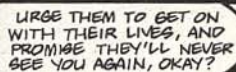
GOOD. THERE'S  
JUST ONE MORE THING.  
YOU'VE NEVER REALLY  
APOLOGIZED TO THE BOYS,  
AND MOST THERAPISTS  
THINK THAT'S A KEY  
ELEMENT IN  
TREATMENT.

I DON'T  
WANT TO...







NO, OF COURSE YOU WON'T HAVE TO SEE THEM. WHAT WOULD REALLY HELP PERSUADE THE COURT IS A LETTER FROM YOU TO THE BOYS... JUST TELLING THEM YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU DID, HOW YOU TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY. LIKE WE TAUGHT YOU, REMEMBER?




URGE THEM TO GET ON WITH THEIR LIVES, AND PROMISE THEY'LL NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN, OKAY?



YOU THINK IT'LL WORK?



I'M SURE IT WILL WORK. I KNOW THESE PEOPLE. WRITE ME OUT A COUPLE OF DRAFTS, AND I'LL STOP BY TONIGHT WHEN I'M DONE WITH THE LAST GROUP AND LOOK THEM OVER. THEN WE'LL PICK OUT THE BEST ONE.



THANKS, DOC. YOU SAVED MY LIFE AGAIN.

HE LIVED IN A HIGHRISE NEAR THE CITY LINE. THE PLACE IS MOSTLY A RETIREMENT COMMUNITY. I INSISTED HE MOVE FROM HIS OLD ADDRESS TO A PLACE WHERE THERE WERE FEW CHILDREN AROUND. TO REDUCE THE TEMPTATION.



WILSON HAD HALF A DOZEN SAMPLES READY FOR ME IN HIS EDUCATED HANDWRITING ON PERSONALIZED LIGHT BLUE STATIONERY. HE STEPPED OUT ON THE BALCONY TO SMOKE WHILE I READ THEM THROUGH.

I RANG HIS BELL AROUND 11:30. HE BUZZED ME IN AND I TOOK THE STEPS TO THE 26TH FLOOR, NOT EVEN BREATHING HARD. I DON'T GET TO WORK OUT AT THE DOJO ANYMORE, BUT I LIKE TO STAY IN SHAPE.

FINALLY, I FOUND ONE THAT WAS SUITABLE.

HIS SIGNATURE WAS STRONG, SELF-ASSURED. I LEFT THE LETTER I SELECTED ON HIS DESK. THEN I WENT OUTSIDE AND JOINED HIM ON THE BALCONY.

WAS THAT WHAT YOU WANTED, DOC?

E.W.  
I'm sorry for everything I did. I know now that no excuse, no nationalization will ever make things right. I've been learning about myself and how I know the truth. You are the victims, not me. I know why I did what I did, and why I did for all the pain I'm sorry for all the this I caused. I'd better see you again. I hope you and up to be good citizens, and always stay true to yourselves. Goodbye Edward Wilson

PERFECT. LOOK OUT THERE, MR. WILSON... SEE YOUR FUTURE.







I STEPPED BACK INSIDE, DIALED  
911, TOLD THEM THAT HE HAD  
JUMPED.



WHILE I WAITED, I  
TORE THE OTHER  
LETTERS INTO SMALL  
BITS AND FLUSHED  
THEM DOWN THE  
TOILET.



TREATMENT WORKS.