Satanic Ritual Abuse (SRA)

and

Multiple Personality Disorder (MPD)

(now called Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID))

Books on deliverance and/or inner healing that cover healing from Satanic Ritual Abuse (SRA) and Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) are rare. See the list at the end of this section. While seekers with these problems may not be common, deliverance and inner healing ministers never-the-less need to be able to recognize seekers who have been exposed to Satanic Ritual Abuse, and may experience multiple personality disorder as a result. Most seekers will not disclose they are suffering from SRA, and may not realize they are experiencing MPD. The purpose of this section is to make ministers more aware of the symptoms and other indicators of SRA, and to be able to minister to victims if the minister has the skills and experience, or refer them to qualified Christian counselors who can help.

What is Satanic Ritual Abuse?

SRA consists of all the emotional, physical and sexual abusive acts that take place during satanic worship and rituals. Much of satanic worship consists of activities and experiences that mock main Christian values such as: ceremonies that mock the death of Jesus on the cross, black mass, a nude body representing Mary the mother of Jesus, fecal matter takes the place of bread, and blood (ideally human blood) and urine take the place of wine and water. Sexual orgies, violence, pain, torture, animal and human sacrifice are all part of such worship. Satanism is Christianity turned on its head. Jesus’ love is mocked by Satan’s hatred mistrust.

Most exposure for children begins when they are age 3-5 years. It is not the purpose of this material to describe in detail what happens during these worship time. However it may be important to know the general areas common to SRA. (from a study done by Margaret Smith, Ritual Abuse p 10)

- Sexually abused by adults 94%
- Photographed nude 8%
- Drugged during abuse 59%
- Mutilation or killing of animals/humans 58%
- Silenced by threats of harm to family 64%
- Use of robes, candles, and/or knives 48%

For those children abused in day care centers, the percentages were virtually 100% for each victim. There are graphic descriptions of these experiences in the books listed at the end of this section. Suffice to say children are tortured by parents, made to perform sacrifices of
animals or humans, used as objects of sexual orgies, and threatened with torture or death of they tell anyone.

**Symptoms and other indicators of ritual abuse** Ryder, Daniel, Breaking *the Circle of SRA*, pp 67-75.

- Sleep disorders: insomnia, fear of falling asleep, inability to stay asleep, regularly wake at certain times of night, nightmares, night terrors
- High pain tolerance, painless childbirth, unaware of injury to self
- Seizures/epilepsy with or without organic evidence
- Liver malfunctions
- Adrenal gland malfunctions
- Digestive tract disorders
- Genitourinary problems
- Chronic bladder/kidney infections
- Frequent skin irritations, disorders
- Headaches/migraines
- Asthma
- Overweight
- Gynecological maladies and symptoms:
  - Vaginal/penile/rectal scarring
  - Frequent, persistent vaginal discharge
  - Urinary tract infections/diseases
  - Sexually transmitted diseases
  - Uterus is sterilized/scarred/absent
- Unusual scars (shape, location, design) various places on body
- Exaggerated reactions to particular olfactory stimuli: the smell of blood, urine/feces, alcohol, formaldehyde, burning hair, smoke from fire, incense
- Significant pain/numbing/psychic paralysis in different parts of the body
- Exaggerated startle responses: loud noises, surprises
- Easily triggered into “flight or fight syndrome
- Hyper-vigilance
- Panic attacks
- Allergies
- Missing digits (fingers, toes
- Chronic pain

**Behavior Indicators of Ritual abuse survivors**
- Seeks out any form of pain, cutting etc.
- Noticeable aversion to drinking water (prefers coffee, soda, juice)
- Extreme fluctuation in behavior and skills
- Self-mutilation/self-destructive behavior:
  - Cutting skin
  - Burning skin
  - Hitting self with fists/objects
- Head banging
- History of driving vehicle at high speeds or in dangerous manner
- Placing self in physically dangerous locations
- Seeking out physically abusive relationships
- Artwork/poetry has themes of death, pain, occultism
- Suicidality
  - Long-standing history of suicide attempts
  - Obsessive thinking about or planning of suicide
- Speaking in unknown languages
- Chemical dependency
  - Alcohol
  - Other drugs, illegal or prescription
- Eating disorders
  - Anorexia
  - Bulimia
  - Bulimarexia
  - Compulsive overeating
- Extreme mood swings
- Speaking in different voices – extreme intonation changes
- Draws or doodles occult/satanic symbols
- Often fascinated by or drawn to aspect of:
  - The supernatural
  - The paranormal
  - Psychic phenomena
- Multiple psychiatric hospitalizations with minimal alleviation of symptoms
- Amnesiac periods/fugue states (a pathological condition: one is apparently conscious of his/her actions, but has no recollection of them after returning to a normal state).
- Easily induced into a trance state
- Fear of being photographed/videotaped
- “Fires” or switches therapists frequently
- Avoids or seeks out physical contact
- Sexual dysfunctions:
  - Hyper-sexuality
  - Sexual perversion
  - Bestiality
  - Sadomasochism
  - Frigidity
- Frequent unexplained crying or laughing
- Frequent regressive behavior
- Strong negative responses to certain holidays
- Fear of one’s birthday
- Compulsive washing of body/genitals
- Sense of panic when one becomes the focus of attention
- Bedwetting (as a child or adult)
- Strong reaction to circles, even discomfort when sitting in group formed in a circle.
Psychological indicators of ritual abuse

- Fear of talking to therapist, authority figures
- Extreme reaction to animals killed on roadways
- Frequent diagnostic labels:
  - Multiple personality disorder
  - Dissociative disorder
  - Paranoid schizophrenic
  - Borderline personality disorder
  - Manic/depression, bipolar
  - Psychotic disorder
  - Addictive disorders
  - Depersonalization disorder
  - Psychogenic amnesia
  - Psychogenic fugue
  - Post-traumatic stress disorder
- Frequently labeled “maligner”, “liar”, “hypochondriac”, and “imaginative” as a child.
- Occult obsession/revulsion:
  - Drawn to or repulsed by occult themes, books, art, concepts
- Imagined taste of blood in mouth
- Extreme claustrophobia
- Pervasive sense of impending doom
- Convinced they are “possessed” by evil
- Belief that they are controlled by something/someone outside themselves
- Imaginary friends/playmates as a child or adult
- Unexplained loss of time-hours, days, more
- Intense paranoia/dreams of family being hurt/killed
- Auditory/visual hallucinations
- Sense of surrealism, unreality
- Feeling that they could belong to Satan.
- Black and white thinking
- Sense of being “dead:
- Contempt/rage at God, Jesus Christ, Christianity
- Different styles of handwriting
- Exaggerated trust issues
- Flat or blunted affect
- Claims of being “haunted, “seeing spirits
- Acquired items they cannot account for (clothes, books, jewelry, toys, etc)
- Use of “we” rather than “I” in referring to self
- Unusual fears/phobias
- Denial of behavior witnessed by others
- Sudden shifts in unusual behavior
- Conversion symptoms, hypochondrias
• Numerous diagnostic labels
• Hearing voices/chanting inside or outside of body, voices often urge/demand self mutilation or suicide
• Belief that they are crazy
• Belief that they are always being watched or followed
• Depression
• General sense of terror
• Repressed tears or repressed screaming
• Perpetual fear of abandonment
• Belief that they will be institutionalized for the rest of their lives.

Ritual Abuse Survivors’ Obsessions/Repulsions
• Death
• Dead humans/animals
• Costumes/masks
• Fire
• Violent, bloody films/books
• Mutilation (self/others)
• Telephone
• Certain colors (red, white, black)
• Raw meat
• Blood
• Feces/urine
• Satan/demons
• Knives, blades, sharp objects
• Menstruation
• Bestiality
• Pornography
• The supernatural realm
• Occult themes

Possible Fears and Phobias of Ritual Abuse Survivors
• Christian symbols/artifacts:
  o Crosses
  o Bibles
  o Altars
  o Robes
  o Chalices
• Churches
• Authority figures
  o Lawyers
  o Law enforcement personnel
  o Doctors
  o Judges
  o Teachers
- Therapists
- Incarceration/imprisonment/confinement
- Hospitals
- Medications
- Any type of surgery
- Bones
- Needles
- Blood
- Feces/urine
- Certain symbols/designs (often occult)
- Coffins, trunks, boxes, cages
- Cemeteries
- Ropes, chains, wires
- Water
- Raw meat
- Crying babies
- Pregnancy
- Pits/holes
- Certain letter/number configurations
- Certain animals:
  - Goats
  - Cows
  - Pigs
  - Rabbits
  - Cats
  - Dogs
  - Birds
  - Rats
  - Snakes
  - Spiders
- Camera/video equipment
- Being photographed
- Electrical stimuli
- Hypnosis, relaxation techniques
- Mirrors
- Receiving mail, phone calls
- Particular colors (red, black, white)
Ministry to SRA Victims

If the minister is sure there are no “alters”, having the seeker repeat the following may be helpful as part of the inner healing ministry.

Special Renunciations for Satanic Ritual Involvement (from Winning Spiritual Warfare by Neil Anderson pp 22-23)

- I renounce ever signing my name over to Satan or having had my name signed over to Satan
- I renounce any ceremony where I may have been wed to Satan
- I renounce any and all covenants that I made with Satan
- I renounce all satanic assignments for my life, including duties, marriage and children
- I renounce all spirit guides assigned to me
- I renounce every giving of my blood in the service of Satan
- I renounce ever eating of flesh or drinking of blood for satanic worship
- I renounce any and all guardians and Satanist parents who were assigned to me.
- I renounce any baptism in blood or urine whereby I am identified with Satan.
- I renounce any and all sacrifices that were made on my behalf by which Satan may claim ownership of me.

Special Announcements for the Kingdom of Light.

- I announce that my name is now written in the Lamb’s Book of Life
- I announce that I am the bride of Christ
- I announce that I am a partaker of the New Covenant with Christ
- I announce and commit myself to know and do only the will of God and accept only His guidance
- I announce and accept only the leading of the Holy Spirit
- I trust only in the shed blood of my Lord Jesus Christ
- By faith, I eat only the flesh and drink only the blood of Jesus in Holy Communion.
- I announce that God is my Father and the Holy Spirit is my Guardian by which I am sealed.
- I announce that I have been baptized in Christ Jesus and my identity is now in Christ
- I announce that only the sacrifice of Christ has any hold on me.
- I belong to Him. I have been purchased by the blood of the Lamb.

Cutting

While SRA victims are not necessarily all cutters, and all cutters are not necessarily SRA victims, it may be helpful to include information about this recent phenomenon. According to Sherri Piscopo who presented at the 2011 ISDM annual meeting on this subject, 40% of youth have tried cutting in the past 3 years. It is prominent across all economic classes, and mostly by teens but some adults. The pain seems to be a way to remind them that they are still alive and hurting. A new form is erasing, that is- erasing their skin until it bleeds. Cutting/erasing is a
symptom of something else going on inside their lives. It is a form of living suicide. Sherri has some good suggestions about how to deal with cutters.

**From Sherrii Piscopo – 2011 ISDM annual meeting**

- It is a spiritual problem
- Includes burns, bites, banging head, pulling out hair
- Mostly in ages 13-15
- It is really a cry for help
- For them it is coping mechanism
- It is addictive
- Can be caused by Peer pressure
- They don’t know how to release emotions
- They have mental health issues going on
- They hide cuts because of shame, rejection, hurt
- You can’t stop them from cutting
- Moves them toward suicide
- Becomes popular – no pain
- Tattooing is another form of cutting
- Cutting may be a blood covenant
- Replace emotional pain with physical pain
- Pain is a way to remind me that I am still alive. A numbness and fact that they are hurting. Common place today.
- In all prominent across economic classes. Mostly in teens but some adults.
- Consider it another way of coping with their stresses. A form of temporary relief
- Symptom of something else going on inside their lives.
- It is acceptable
- 40% of our youth have tried cutting in past 3 years.
- A form of living suicide.

**How do we minister to cutters.**

- Can reach out to them
- Connect with those cutters.
- To give help, form a relationship first
- Use love and forgiveness, love on them
- Refer them to a professional
- Don’t judge them, don’t panic
- Let them speak
- Use questions
- How will your cutting effect your relationship with God
- Don’t ignore, deny or minimize the cutting.
• Get help from Christian professional counselors
• Get them to sign a privacy waiver so we can have open dialog between the counselors and the pastor staff.
• Get to the root of the cutting.
• Usually it is an issue of fathering and mothering.
• Get to the issues so we can get rid of the behaviors.
• Fill them up with Love, joy, confidence,
• Accountability comes out of relationship.
• Have them journal what they hear from God, and what they are feeling.
• Don’t be afraid to work with doctors. Doctors are not evil.
• Don’t tell them to come off meds.
• Counseling and deliverance both required.

Characteristics of Eating Disorders
• It is acceptable
• Out of control
• Complex, difficult to treat
• Binge eating
• Girls most  boys 5%
• Work with depression, substance abuse
• Very unhealthy ups and downs
• Depression
• Inner healing and deliverance is treatment
• Love on them a lot
• You have to want this
• They feel in control
• Parents never satisfied

Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID), formally called multiple personality disorder (MPD)

There are two ways that nature copes with experiences that are too painful, physically, mentally and/or emotionally. When children are exposed to this extreme pain, their minds try to stop it. When the mind is successful, children are able to completely forget about the abuse and the pain caused through traumatic amnesia. When they are not they develop other personalities or alters in a process referred to as dissociation.

Dissociation is nature’s way of protecting children (and adults) who have experienced severe trauma and/or SRA and allowing them to survive psychologically by creating “alters”, the technical term for another personality. Some believe this is a God-given gift enabling children to survive these intolerable, emotional experiences. There may be a few altars, or several dozen. Alters are parts of the person’s real personality that need to be put back together. These “splits”
are not separate entities, but are all parts of the entire person that need to be integrated. This usually takes many sessions and considerable time.

Most SRA/MPD victims will disclose their SRA to a counselor reluctantly, or not at all. They have learned to distrust everyone. They may have been programmed not to remember anything about the SRA experiences, and probably will not know they have DID. SRA victims fear man’s betrayal. They will have extreme difficulty accepting that you care, or really love them. Love to them is associated with sex. Handle with extreme care; you are dealing with a delicate life and death situation. A Christian psychotherapist who believes in inner healing and deliverance prayer is the ideal person to help SAR victims. If one is not available, a reputable non-Christian psychologist is more likely to help than a deliverance/inner healing minister who is inexperienced in this kind of need.

If you suspect that a seeker has been exposed to SRA, or has DID, listen with compassion. They will expect you not to believe them. Few others do, sometimes even their parents. Be patient, the survivor will probably not remember everything that happened and may seem confused. It will be difficult for him/her to believe that you are truly concerned about their welfare.

Alters have names as demons do, and therefore some inexperienced ministers may think they are evil spirits and try to cast them out. This is probably the worst kind of ministry. Alters have distinct differences from demons. The resources listed below will help ministers to know the differences as well as help them identify those they suspect may be SRA sufferers, and who may have DID as a result.

Unless the intercessor has had professional training and experience in dealing with SRA victims and DID, the best strategy for the intercessor, is to become well informed on the symptoms of SRA and DID, and then refer the seeker to a professionally trained counselor.

Resources


James Friesen, Uncovering the Mystery of MPD, 1997 ISBN 1-56819-062-7


Francis MacNutt, Deliverance from Evil Spirits, 1995, 0-8007-9232-7, Chap 17, pp 223-235 (best introductory material)

Daniel Ryder, Breaking the Circle of SRA, 1992, 0-89638-258-3 (an excellent book by a Christian counselor)
Margaret Smith, *Ritual Abuse, what it is, why it happens, how to help*, 1993, 0-06-250214-X (in depth information about SRA and MPD)

The following professional associations focus on trauma and disassociation [www.sidran.org](http://www.sidran.org), [www.issd.org](http://www.issd.org)