

Satanic Ritual Child Abuse :

- does **not** exist in the United States, as reported by the FBI's National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime in 1992, after an 11-year study. "There are many children in the United States who, starting early in their lives, are severely psychologically, physically, and sexually traumatized by angry, sadistic parents or other adults. Such abuse, however, is not perpetrated only or primarily by satanists. The statistical odds are that such abusers are members of mainstream religions ... For the last eight years American law enforcement has been aggressively investigating the allegations of victims of ritual abuse. There is little or no evidence for the portion of their allegations that deals with large-scale baby-breeding, human sacrifice, and/or organized Satanic conspiracies." (*Investigator's Guide to Allegations of "Ritual" Child Abuse*, January 1992)

- does **not** exist in the United States, as concluded by an exhaustive national study for the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect: "In a survey of more than 11,000 psychiatric and police workers throughout the country, conducted for the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect, researchers found more than 12,000 accusations of group cult sexual abuse based on Satanic ritual, but not one that investigators had been able to substantiate. 'After scouring the country, we found no evidence for large-scale cults that sexually abuse children,' said Dr. Gail Goodman, a psychologist at the University of California at Davis, who directed the survey. The survey included 6,910 psychiatrists, psychologists, and clinical social workers; and 4,655 district attorneys, police departments, and social service agencies. They reported 12,264 accusations of ritual abuse that they had investigated. The survey found that there was not a single case among them where there was clear corroborating evidence for the most common accusation, that there was "a well-organized, intergenerational Satanic cult who sexually molested and tortured children in their homes or schools for years and committed a series of murders," said Goodman. (Daniel Goleman, *New York Times*, reprinted *San Francisco Chronicle* 11/1/94)

- does **not** exist in the United Kingdom, as reported by the British Government's Department of Health in 1994, after a three-year investigation. "There is no evidence that these ["Satanic ritual abuse"] have taken place in any of the 84 cases studied ... The study of cases in detail showed that the Evangelical Christian campaign against new religious movements has been a powerful influence encouraging the identification of satanic abuse. Equally important in spreading the idea of satanic abuse in Britain are the professional 'specialists', American and British. Their claims or qualifications are rarely checked. Much of their information, particularly about cases in the United States, is unreliable." (*The Extent and Nature of Organised and Ritual Abuse*, HMSO, 1994)