

Matamoros murders: a satanic paradigm

by Carol White

The discovery in Matamoros, Mexico on April 11 of a dozen hideously mutilated victims of a Satanic cult murder was as shocking and noteworthy an event, as the Manson Family killings had been 20 years earlier. Mark Kilroy, a Texas college student who had crossed the Mexican border to party with his friends, was kidnaped by a group of individuals who were subsequently identified as large-scale drug traffickers, and who as well were practicing Satanists. The kind of abuse to which Kilroy was subjected before and after he was killed, was so evil that it compelled attention, even from those who wished to deprecate the significance of the growing wave of Satanism among young people. It was a grim warning of where the unchecked growth of Satanism is leading.

The elements of the case, as it unfolded, included ritual cannibalism and sex magic, practiced on both sides of the border. Not only were hardened criminals involved, but also young people studying at a Texas border college. Victims of the gang ranged from drug enforcement agents, to recalcitrant gang members, to students such as Kilroy, and apparently to very young children as well. The "entertainment industry" in Mexico City was brought into the investigation; homosexual blackmail was intimated; and there were anthropologists in the background who had been—at the least—promoting the *study* of "primitivism."

No isolated instance

The importance of the Matamoros story is that it was not an isolated instance of a brutal ritual murder, horrible but unique. To the contrary: Many features of the torture, killing, and desecration of the body of Mark Kilroy are an established feature of rituals being practiced today, throughout the United States and in Western Europe as well.

Many of the young people who kill themselves "for Satan" in the United States have done so because they wish to escape the horrible practices of the Satanic grouping with

which they are involved, but have been threatened with murderous retribution should they try to leave the cult. Even the youngest children brought into Satanic rituals report that they have been told that their parents will be killed should they reveal what has occurred. Grave-robbing has been widely reported throughout the United States, and the desecration of corpses involves cannibalism in many instances.

Such rituals involve criminal activity—the torture of animals, grave robbing, kidnaping of human victims, or worse. Most such rituals are tolerable to even the most hardened participants, only if they are under the influence of drugs. In some instances, drugs are administered to initiates without their being aware of it, for example, disguised by incense. Many participants in the so-called "white" witchcraft groups are subject to various forms of soft brainwashing, including the administration of psychedelic drugs, while they are being screened for possible recruitment to hard-core Satanic cults. Acoustic effects are also key in such attempts at mind control.

The Satanists are therefore brought directly into contact with criminal networks, which supply them with drugs and, in some instances, human body parts, and for protection against the law. Conversely, satanist groups can support their activities by providing services for organized crime. Ritual sex magic, including at times the murder of the sacrificial victim, and the sexual abuse of very young children, becomes the subject of high-priced pornographic films which are marketed internationally.

In many documented instances, apparently reputable members of a community secretly participate in such rituals. When they are filmed, this opens them to blackmail as well. There is also an overlap between homosexual prostitution rings and Satanists, particularly where pederasty is involved, although a distinction can be made between pedophilia and the *ritual* abuse of children.

Recruitment to Satanism then tends to become recruitment to organized crime as well. There are also indications that some Satanic cults have been integrated into a Murder, Inc.-type of apparatus: Sacrificial victims are chosen for them by mafia controllers or, in some instances, professional killers are integrated into their rituals in order to accomplish certain purposes. This appears to have been the case in the Son of Sam murders, which occurred in New York City in 1979.

William Mentzer, who is currently on trial in California for murder, has been implicated in the Son of Sam murders by investigative journalist Maury Terry, in his book *The Ultimate Evil*. Mentzer was a security guard for *Hustler* magazine publisher Larry Flynt. The murder in question involved the investment by cocaine traffickers in the film *Cotton Club*, produced by Robert Evans, who was apparently able to balance a close friendship with Henry Kissinger with his acquaintance with drug traffickers and occultists.

Satanism is inextricably connected with the trade in pornography and the trafficking of drugs. It is penetrating the

State legislatures move to ban satanic activity

State legislatures responding to pressure from outraged and terrified constituencies are beginning to develop legislation aimed at outlawing Satanic ritual activity and affording some measure of protection to children and other victims. The reality of a growing epidemic of Satanic cult activity became a matter of national concern with the publicity surrounding the April 1989 discovery of ritual slayings in Matamoros, Mexico.

However, even prior to this exposé, organizers associated with the Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations, the Schiller Institute, and the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC—the political action committee of the LaRouche wing of the Democratic Party) were organizing to outlaw Satanism. In discussing the problem with people around the United States, members of these organizations have been deluged with stories of kidnappings, murders, mutilations, and suicides, many of them involving children.

To help in the fight against Satanism, the Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations sponsored a tour of internationally noted anti-Satanism expert Dianne Core, the founder of England's Childwatch group, who spoke to hundreds of people in six states during a 10-day period in March 1989. Thousands more heard Mrs. Core's presentation through a widely circulated videotape. Over 150,000 copies of a pamphlet, "Is Satan In Your Schoolyard?" were distributed by activists.

In this context, state legislators began to move on the issue. In Louisiana, a bill passed unanimously by both houses of the legislature became the first anti-Satanic legislation in the country. The bill amends the state criminal code, making it a felony to commit certain "deviant ritualistic acts including mutilation, dismemberment or torture

of animals or humans, and drinking of blood or wastes as part of a ceremony, rite or practice." Those found guilty may be sentenced to up to five years imprisonment, fined up to \$5,000, or both. The bill also makes a murder committed during a ritual, a capital crime. The Louisiana bill was sponsored by Rep. James David Cain (D-Dry Creek) and 10 other lawmakers from both parties. It also had strong bipartisan support in the Senate.

The legislation was initiated in a grassroots organizing drive which mobilized ministers, law enforcement officials, and other concerned citizens. The effort was headed by Democratic Party activist and NDPC leader Fred Huenefeld of Monroe, who marshalled broad-based statewide support.

Significant legislation was also passed in Illinois, where in June two bills sponsored by Rep. Robert Regan of Crete passed the legislature. Representative Regan received 1,000 petition signatures from citizens demanding legislation to outlaw Satanic activity. The two bills passed by the Illinois legislature would increase the penalties for crimes that are performed in the context of ritualistic activity. Regan said that he drafted his legislation after sponsoring forums on the problem with hundreds of law enforcement officials throughout Illinois; many of these officials testified on behalf of the legislation. While the bills passed the state legislature in June, they were not signed into law by Gov. Jim Thompson until September. Thompson was known to be influenced by opposition to the legislation from the Anti-Defamation League, and signed only after a concerted grassroots effort demanded his action.

The Texas legislature also amended state law to increase penalties for crimes committed in a ritualistic setting, but tabled more far-reaching legislation, as did the legislatures in the states of Pennsylvania and Washington.

With Satanic practices running essentially unchecked, it is to be expected that more hideous episodes like the Matamoros killings will force more state legislatures into action in 1990.

home and the schoolyard, seizing young children to witness and participate in hideous crimes.

The murder of Mark Kilroy inspired action in the United States by parents, Christian groups, and other concerned citizens, including the National Democratic Policy Committee—the LaRouche wing of the Democratic Party—to pass anti-Satanic legislation. This removes the cover of First Amendment protection from the hideous practices of Satanists.

But on the highest levels, a coverup continues. Kenneth Lanning, the FBI's expert on ritual abuse, has used the weight

of his position to systematically oppose such efforts against satanism. He has been seconded in this by the Wiccan church and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

One article by Lanning, published in police journals, has also been circulated by the United Wiccan Church. The article is entitled "Satanic, Occult, Ritualistic Crime: A Law Enforcement Perspective." In it Lanning says: "This article was completed after the killings in Matamoros, Mexico, became known in April 1989. There is nothing known to the author about this case which changes the opinions and recommendations set forth in this article."