

## CHILD TORTURE WHEN TO CALL A SPADE A SPADE



Sharon W. Cooper, MD  
Developmental & Forensic Pediatrics, PA  
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill  
School of Medicine

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1. Participants will be able to define the concept of intrafamilial child torture (ICT).
- 2. New definitions are more practical when defining intrafamilial child torture. Participants will be able to recognize and discuss the reality that parental psychopathology plays an important role in the severity of child maltreatment such that the outcome may constitute intrafamilial child torture.
- 3. Participants will be able to recognize that the impact of ICT includes physical, psychological and often sexual abuses the latter of which may constitute sadistic sexual harm.

CHILD MALTREATMENT POLICY RESOURCE CENTER  
POLICY REPORT  
INtrafamilial CHILD TORTURE: MAKING THE CASE FOR A  
DISTINCT CATEGORY OF CHILD MALTREATMENT  
2022 (Miller, Rycus & Hughes)

- This presentation will summarize and afford discourse specifically focused on **intrafamilial child torture (ICT)**.
- A clear definition of ICT will be provided with a foundation for professionals in medicine, mental health, and child welfare as well as risk assessments.
- Despite states that may not have torture statutes pertaining to children, this presentation will provide a resource for criminal law, family law, and legislative definitions.
- Participants will be given the tools to argue that ICT is a distinct form of child maltreatment particularly within families.



JARED MICHAEL GREEN, 5 YEARS OLD

- Paramedics found Jared Green dead Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> in his Fayetteville home. Police say the boy was tied to a chair and his mouth was taped shut as punishment for soiling his pants.
- The boy's father, Ft. Bragg soldier Michael Earl Green, and his girlfriend, Alexandra Goehl, are charged with first-degree murder and felony child abuse.
- They are both in the Cumberland County Jail without bond. (Fayetteville Observer Times)

## DEATH BY HYPONATREMIC STATUS EPILEPTICUS CAUSED BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION OF TAP WATER

FAYETTEVILLE — Fayetteville police are investigating the death of a 5-year-old boy, calling it one of the worst cases of child abuse they have ever seen.

Paramedics found Jared Michael Green in full arrest at 3 a.m. Thursday in his Waters Edge Drive home. He was rushed to Cape Fear Valley Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead less than 20 minutes later.

Police questioned and arrested the boy's father, Michael Earl Green, 30, and his girlfriend, Alexandra Goehl, 29. The two were charged with first-degree murder and felony child abuse late Thursday morning.

Investigators believe the murder was premeditated. They say they found numerous cuts and bruises on the boy's body.

"Through their experience, looking at the child and listening to what the father and the girlfriend had to say concerning the injuries, they knew something was suspicious about the child's death," says Sgt. James Todd with the Fayetteville Police Department.

Police say that Green and Goehl showed no emotion after officials arrived at the home. The couple said they had disciplined Jared, but police say that it was a definite case of child abuse.

## DEFINITION

- The word torture makes one think of war crimes, sadistic treatment of hostages, or interrogation of a prisoner by a covert entity
- Often however, children are victims of torture though as a rule, this term is used infrequently.
- The term "torture" is not just a legal term but readily available as a medical diagnosis or as a description of severe physical or emotional abuse.

# LOCAL & STATE

FRIDAY  
January 12, 2007

The Fayetteville Observer

CALENDAR 28 • OBITUARIES 58 • WEATHER 6B

www.fayettevilleobserver.com

## Father's sentence reduced

### Michael Green admitted killing 5-year-old

By Nancy McCreary

A father who killed his 5-year-old son in 2001 had 12 months shaved off his original sentence Thursday in Cumberland County Superior Court.

Michael Earl Green, 30, was ordered in 2003 to serve a prison term of between 14 years, 2 months and 21 years, 8 months in the state prison for the 2001 death of Jared Green.

The child died after he was beaten, gagged, tied to a chair and in a closet and suffocated with a bag, with large wounds of

Green and Alexandra Goehl, his female girlfriend, were charged in the death.

Under a plea agreement, Green and Goehl, who were initially charged with first-degree murder and felony child abuse, pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and felony child abuse.

Goehl was given a prison term of between 14 and 18 years.

Green was sentenced by Cumberland County Superior

Court Judge B. Lynn Johnson to 12 months, including work-release factors in Green's favor and those against him.

The Appeals Court ordered a new sentencing for Green based on a federal and state court ruling that says judges can't require fathers that weigh against a defendant in the sentencing — the ruling says only fathers can be held liable for sentencing recommendations.


The state Appeals Court also ruled that Johnson erred by failing to give Green credit for his

ing a history of steady employment. Green's lawyer, Harold Carlin, said his client was not given enough credit for his military service from 1990 until he arrived in 2001.

Carlin said Green should be given credit for four household disciplines and re-educating each time. His final discharge was not honorable, according to Carlin's testimony.

Green is a former sergeant in the Third Airborne, a paratrooper and a war hero.

See GREEN, Page 4B



Self photo by Peter Hill

Michael Earl Green sits in court Thursday as he awaits a new sentencing to the death of his son in 2001.

## CHILD MALTREATMENT POLICY RESOURCE CENTER

TREASURE TROVE OF CASE STUDIES

LEGAL POLICY INFORMATION ON MAKING CHILD  
TORTURE A DISTINCT CATEGORY OF CHILD  
MALTREATMENT

VICTIM IMPACT AND PROFESSIONAL INTERVENTIONS

## IMPACT OF TORTURE

- A Confirmatory Factor Analysis supported a six-factor correlated model consisting of:

- Re-experiencing
- Avoidance (Av),
- Threat (Th),
- Affective dysregulation (AD),
- Negative self-concept (NSC), and
- Disturbed relationships (DR).

\*December 2021

\*Torture: Quarterly Journal on Rehabilitation of Torture Victims and Prevention of Torture 31(3):96-112  
DOI: 10.7146/torture.v31i3.122780

## DEFINITION OF INTRAFAMILIAL CHILD TORTURE

Previously, child torture was not noted in the child abuse literature in a manner that was a clear and separate form of maltreatment. It was woven into *severe* physical abuse.

Child torture was more acceptable by definition if the offender was not a family member.

## PREVIOUS CLASSIFICATION OF TORTURE

- **Physical-** beatings, crushing injuries, shaking, blunt force head trauma, penetration injuries, asphyxiation by covering a child's mouth face with plastic, submerging a child in a fluid, or by hanging a victim, burning , electrical shock to include stun guns, cattle prods, and restraints with handcuffs, shackles, wires or ropes as well as seclusion in a small place for prolonged periods leading to sensory deficits.

## CLASSIFICATION OF TORTURE

- **Mental** – acts such as restraint and extreme deprivation of food, external stimuli or ability to ambulate as is often seen in false imprisonment, forced ingestions of highly aversive materials particularly excrement, intentional terrorizing as would be seen by exposure to violent abuse of a loved one or pet, or extremely frightening scenes for a child such as a near death experience.

## CLASSIFICATION OF TORTURE

- **Sexual** – abuse which entails rape, sodomy, fellatio, pornographic victimization, forced sexual contact with another child, genital or anal painful trauma as is experienced in female genital mutilation, attempted or completed castration, testicular trauma, or other forms of severe sexual abuse. It is relatively common for victims to experience all three forms of torture during a single event.

## INTRAFAMILIAL CHILD TORTURE (ICT)

- ICT is a type of child maltreatment that, while often including other forms of child maltreatment, manifests its own unique and specific set family dynamics and outcomes for its child victims.
- ICT differs from other types of child maltreatment largely in the type and **extent of parental psychopathology** that creates situations of ICT.
- ICT is also substantially different in the lived experiences of child victims when compared with the experiences of victims of other forms of child maltreatment.

Child Maltreatment Policy Resource Center, 2021

## INTRAFAMILIAL CHILD TORTURE (ICT)

- ICT is a necessary specific category of child maltreatment which will empirically require supported practices to identify, protect, and support its child victims and to rehabilitate and restructure family integrity if possible.
- This should include strategies for effective identification reporting, investigation, child welfare and criminal litigation, permanency planning, and treatment of child survivors.
- Because established professional responses to other forms of child maltreatment may not be effective for ICT, child-serving professionals must engage in ongoing research, learning, and policy development specific to ICT, as well as to the part other forms of child maltreatment often play in ICT.

Child Maltreatment Policy Resource Center, 2021



## Couple face murder charge

The Associated Press

**TARBORO** — A couple accused of killing their 13-year-old son by tying him to a tree for two nights for punishment appeared in a courtroom Monday on charges of murder and felony child abuse.

\* Arrest warrants for Brice Brian McMillan, 41, and his wife, Sandra Elizabeth McMillan, 36, of Macclesfield, said the child sustained "bruising to the wrist, cuts to entire body, missing flesh from buttocks, results from being tied to a tree for approximately 18 hours resulting in death."

## THE STEPMOTHER AND FATHER PLEAD GUILTY OF FATAL CHILD ABUSE

- The cause of death for this 13-year-old child was heat stroke, dehydration, and had multiple insect bites over all four of his swollen extremities where plastic ties had kept him restrained for 18 hours.

- Stepmother – 16 years in prison

- Father – 14 years in prison



## NORTH CAROLINA V LYNN PADDOCKS



## INTRAFAMILIAL CHILD TORTURE

- Extent of Parental Psychopathology
- The father was a carpet layer who left at 0500 and did not return until nearly dark every day.
- On Sundays, the **adoptive mother** paraded the children into the rural church glowing in the accolades of being such a "giving" parent to children who "needed so much"!




<b>Hannah</b>	<b>Ritual</b>	<b>Sadistic</b>	<b>Torture</b>
	Recurrent beatings	Trembling, strip and sit in front of fan	Binding with duct tape
	Forced sitting with no outside activities	Walking around with feces in bag around her neck and then ingestion <i>"That will be something for Hannah to tell her kids about"</i>	Water in face while mouth duct taped, near drowning <i>"Wouldn't that be hard to explain to the ambulance [laughing]"</i>
	Rebounder until collapse	Soap in eyes	Starvation
		Coerced hand on electric fence	
		Fall from bunk bed when expected to be caught, hitting the floor spread-eagled	

<b>Kayla</b>		
<b>Ritual</b>	<b>Sadistic</b>	<b>Torture</b>
Recurrent beatings	Rebounder for long hours breaking only for bathroom and drink	Entombment with extreme bondage
Forced sitting with no outside activities	Forced ingestion of feces	Duct tape wrapping
Rebounder until collapse	Water intoxication	Starvation

<b>David</b>		
<b>Rituals</b>	<b>Sadistic</b>	<b>Torture</b>
Recurrent beatings	Ingestion of vomitus on his birthday	Starvation
Forced sitting with no outside activities	Fan when wet in his bed in the winter	Forced immobility in a bedridden state
Rebounder until collapse	Eat food on floor and allow animals to eat	Bowel control (diapers, and no permission for stooling)

## Sean

Ritual	Sadistic	Torture
Repeated beatings	Isolation in the puppet house	Binding of hands, face leaving only his eyes with duct tape, standing for hours
Forced sitting	Forced ingestion of feces	Extreme bondage and being placed under a couch and a bed, alone in an attic
Rebounder until collapse	Nightly forced "blanket wrapping" from the chin to the knees; Child then placed under a couch with only the head visible	<i>Slow Suffocation to Death as "Mother" lay on a thin mattress yelling at this 4-year-old in the attic; Postmortem diaphragm rupture</i>



**PADDOCK**  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

of murder in the first degree. Prosecutors are not saying that Paddock calculated Sean's death. Instead, they have suggested that they'll ask the jury to find her guilty of first-degree murder through a more unusual legal theory: murder by torture.

Cooper stood beside a flip chart Thursday afternoon, a few feet from the jury of strangers who will decide Paddock's fate. The doctor scribbled notes about the methods that distinguish ritualistic abuse from torture. Binding a child at night and signaling the essential human function of sleep is torture, she testified. Paddock's orders to her children to drink quarts and quarts of water, then sit in their urine-soaked underwear, Cooper testified, was sadistic child abuse.

"They're set up," Cooper said. "They can't escape. They'll get beaten regardless."

Paddock's lawyers had tried to block Cooper from testifying. They've complained to a judge that she didn't turn over any of the medical studies or textbooks she drew from her opinions. Cooper and prosecutors say her conclusions come from a catalog of exposure to abused children and from a library of pertinent literature. Reading her notes in court Thursday took nearly 15 minutes.

Paddock's lawyers persuaded a judge Thursday to prevent Cooper from telling jurors her



**Doctor says it was torture**  
*Paddock 'set up' children*

**Lynn Paddock is on trial for the suffocation of her adoptive son, Sean, age 4.**  
STAFF PHOTO BY TRAVIS LONG

opinion that Lynn Paddock adopted foster children to collect money. The state paid Paddock and her husband more than \$2,000 a month to rear their six adopted children.

On Thursday, Paddock's attorneys rose to object to Cooper's testimony many times. Twice, they asked the judge to declare a mistrial, saying Cooper testified about things she had never mentioned in her reports. They also argued that Cooper was trying to profile Paddock as a particular kind of child abuser, a tactic that they argued is not allowed.

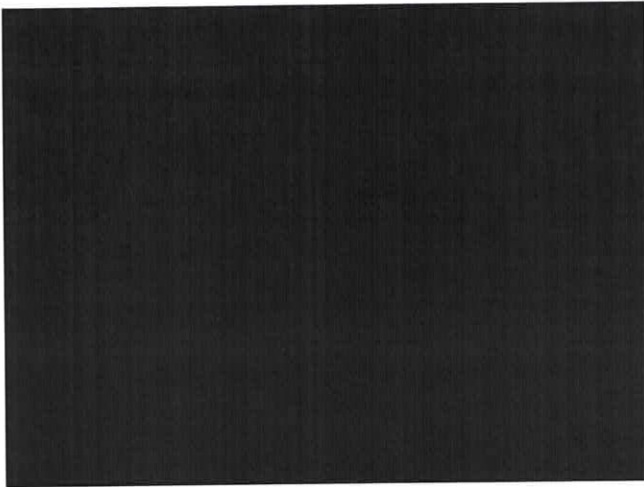
Today, Paddock's lawyers will get their chance to grill Cooper. Then, the state plans to rest its case and turn over the witness box to Paddock's attorneys.

mandy.locke@newsobserver.com  
or (919) 629-8927

## WRONGFUL DEATH LITIGATION

## SEXUAL INTRAFAMILIAL CHILD TORTURE

- May entail not only sexual assault and sadism but may also include the online memorialization of such abuse to be subsequently shared with like-minded offenders who may, in fact, observe via live web cam.
- Sexual torture may also entail a parent making a young child available to individuals with whom a parent shares similar sexual proclivities, particularly sexual sadism. The victim may subsequently be trafficked to another location e.g. a children's theme park with many family friendly hotels for the purpose of providing a child to a like-minded sex offender while the parent observes and videotapes for future networking and sexual gratification.



### HOW DOES ONE HIDE TORTURE?

- Physical beatings are inflicted with skin protection such as padding over the clothes or using an instrument that cause less visible trauma such as boxing gloves, PVC pipe, etc. Offenders will keep the child at home until bruises have resolved.
- Duct tape restraints with mouth occlusion
- Strangulation to near loss of consciousness, then release with wide object such as upper arm or suffocation with a pillow or plastic wrap.

### STRANGULATION

- Suspension may cause nerve damage by direct mechanical compression of a nerve which may occur when a victim is suspended by the wrists or the ankles
- Second mechanism of injury is axonal damage from forced traction. This occurs when a victim is suspended by the head and neck—causing damage to the brachial plexus or in a hanging technique.

### NEUROLOGICAL OUTCOMES IN SURVIVORS

- Headaches—most common
- Vertigo
- Loss of consciousness
- Dizziness
- Head trauma is frequent during torture with beatings to the head occurring in as many as 73% of adult torture victims
- Paresthesias
- Seizures



## PSYCHOLOGICAL OUTCOMES

- PTSD is the most common outcome. PTSD occurs in the general population at 1-9% frequency but in sexual assault victims 47% and 22% of non-sexual assault victims
- Female trauma victims who have been incarcerated report PTSD at 81%
- An international study of victims from 6 countries revealed PTSD at a prevalence of 69-92%



## The Turpins are sentenced to 25 years to life in prison after their children testify about years of torture

Dakin Andone Holly Yan  
By Dakin Andone, Paul Vercammen and Holly Yan, CNN  
5 minute read  
Updated 6:36 AM EDT, Sat April 20, 2019

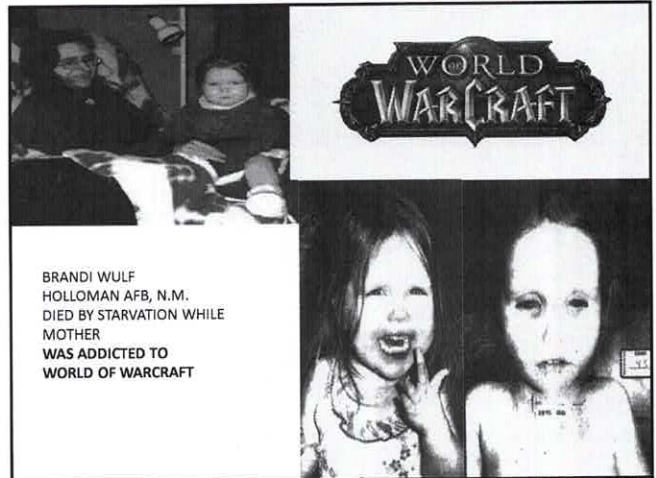
SOMETIMES A PRE-MEDITATED FORM OF CHILD HOMICIDE

SOMETIMES SEVERE NEGLECT

## STARVATION & TORTURE



# CHILD STARVATION AS INTRAFAMILIAL TORTURE ..... INTERNET ADDICTION



## INTRAFAMILIAL CHILD PHYSICAL TORTURE

- When a child is murdered and one parent is exceedingly frightened to even consider that the death of the child was nonaccidental, there are additional considerations.
- This case involved a foreign national mother from Nicaragua, whose toddler was a stepchild and whose stepfather was becoming more and more physically abusive to both the mother and the toddler.
- At the time of the toddler's death there was evidence of attempted crime scene tampering (use of Luminol Blood Detection Reagent ). The plethora of injuries of numerous ages affirmed physical torture. At trial, the offender accused the toddler's mother as the offender and he sent her back to her home country.



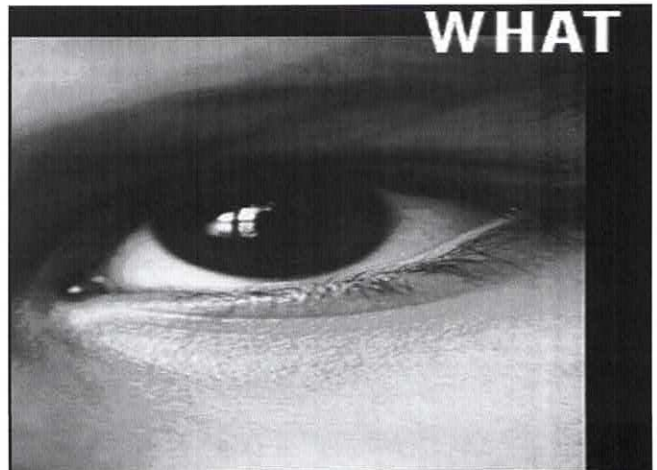


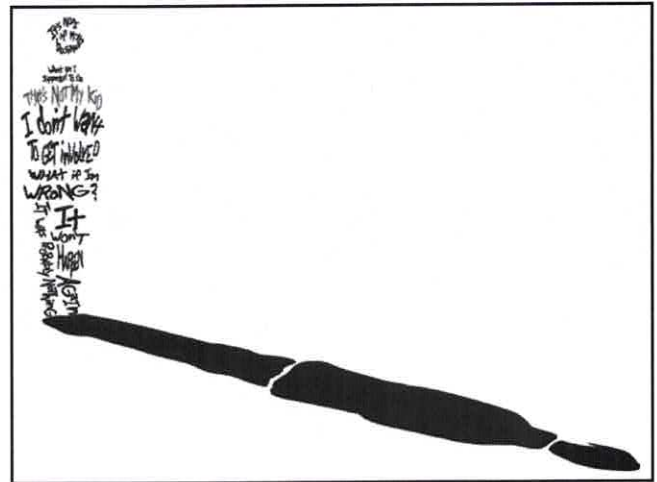
TOTAL NUMBER INJURIES


**44** INJURIES

WITH

**10** FRACTURED BONES







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**Intrafamilial Child Torture: Victim Impact  
and Professional Intervention**

Pamela J. Miller, JD, MSW, LISW-S  
Senior Policy Analyst  
APSAC Center for Child Policy

1706 E. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43203  
www.the-ihf.net