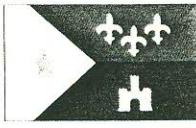


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The Magazine of the Cajun Country

Vol 14 No 1 (Sept 1989)

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Father Brennan's Battle With The Satanic Underworld

The Kingdom of Darkness

A Louisiana priest exposes the underground of Satanic cults
and their secret operations and influences
How to protect against the hand of Devil Down

Father Joe

- Unforgettable Coach Dick McCloskey
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Father Brennan's Battle With The Satanic Underworld

**A Catholic priest exposes the secret world
of Satanic cults and advises children
and parents to be on guard
against the quick hand of the Evil One.**

(From the book, *The Kingdom of Darkness*)

By FATHER JOSEPH BRENNAN

The phone call that would change my life came in on a cold October morning in 1986. I was working on routine correspondence at my desk in the rectory of Saint Genevieve Catholic Church in Lafayette. I had been pastor there for five years at the time.

The call was from a law-enforcement officer with the local Sheriff's Department. He was investigating a suspicious infant death and three suspicious suicides that had occurred all within a four-month period. He felt that these deaths might be linked to Satanic cults, and he wanted to see me to discuss the supernatural aspects of the cults.

I readily agreed to meet with him that afternoon to discuss the subject, though I was quick to point out that I

had little or no knowledge of the subject. Why he chose me, I'm not real sure, except that I consider myself a friend of the sheriff and others in law-enforcement.

In the course of our meeting, the deputy discussed these troublesome cases and raised some questions that made my blood run cold. Could the infant have been sacrificed to Satan? Were the suicides really suicides, or were these young people possibly murdered by fellow members of a Satanic cult because they broke the code of silence — or threatened to do so? Did any of them commit suicide because their sense of worth had been driven so low by the debasing, dehumanizing rituals of cult member-

ship that they felt their lives were not worth living anymore?

Was suicide the only way out of the cult in the minds of any of these kids? Did any of them kill themselves because they wanted to get out of the cult but were terrified by the threats of what would happen to them and/or their loved ones if they attempted to break free? The questions seemed unreal, almost inconceivable; the answers were even more so.

To say that the deputy's visit was disturbing would be a gross understatement. It was through his visit that I was introduced to what I felt could aptly be described as the Kingdom of Darkness.

I felt called to prayer, drawn into



meditation. It took time to ponder the reality of this evil kingdom, to accept its reality, to struggle over the question of whether I should get involved in trying to help some of the young victims. I began an extensive study of the subject of Satanic cults and the ritualistic abuse of children. The more I read, the more I understood the power of the Evil One and the nature and extensiveness of his kingdom on this earth.

I began to understand how young people are recruited into the Satanic covens by the lure of power; I learned of the initiation ceremonies that involve the consumption of blood and urine. When a young member wants to get out of a coven, it is difficult for

most and impossible for some. Many are held by the threat of death or injury to themselves and/or their loved ones. Others are blackmailed with the promise that certain embarrassing or illegal activities they were involved in will be made public if they dare to leave.

The more I learned about this subject, the more I realized there was to learn. The more I learned, the more I felt for the children who had been ritualistically abused and the young people who were trapped in the cults. Those who did manage to get out of the cult would need a special kind of counseling to restore their sense of self-worth, the sense that God and their fellowman love them, or that

they are loveable or valuable at all. I became convinced that without a special kind of spiritual-based counseling, it would be nearly impossible for these young people to lead mentally and spiritually healthy lives.

I am now a counselor of people — especially young people — whose lives have been adversely affected by the Satanic underworld. I spend time both as a counselor and as a parish priest. I have counseled more than 125 people: many children who are victims of ritualistic abuse; teenagers who got hooked into Satanic cults; some adults who were involved in worshiping Satan of their own free will or who were ritualistically abused at a young age and brainwashed into a life of evil. My

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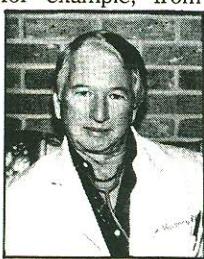
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While I am a parish priest living in Lafayette, I should point out that only a small percentage of the cases I handle come from this area. The cases have come from four states, in the South, West and Midwest.

'The Kingdom of Darkness'

One of the first people I saw as a counselor was a young man, age 17, who was a self-induced Satanist, that is, he deliberately chose to worship Satan of his own free will. He was not one of those who was lured into a cult, brainwashed and ritualistically abused by others. He was, however, introduced to and drawn into the worship of the devil by another individual.

This fellow had spent three or four years inducing the presence of Satan through rituals and incantations. After several years in this type of worship, the presence of Satan in his life was so predominant that a dual personality was created in the young man. He could assume his other self, his evil personality, by willfully inducing a trance. When the trance set in, his face was lifeless, particularly his eyes, and there was an air of evil in the face of what seemingly had been a normal teenager. He terrified and intimidated his classmates with this trance. He also physically abused smaller children on the school ground; he hit them, pulled their hair and was generally cruel to them. His parents had to take him out of school.

I had occasion to witness the trance first-hand when his mother brought him to see me. The woman was near despair, as all her efforts to correct this condition in her son had been futile. I spoke with the young man only briefly, and as I did he glared at me with great intensity, then he slipped into the trance. He was in this state about 10 minutes, and during that time I was praying for him. His mother was in the room, too, in my office. All of a sudden, in the next room, a blood-curdling shriek was heard by my secretary. She wasn't just scared by it; she was petrified. The shriek was a terrifying sound, but the fact that no one was there — at least, bodily — made it even more frightening.

Creating sounds like this in other

rooms is one of the powers possessed by this self-induced Satanist. He has reportedly displayed various demonic powers to others, though I personally have not witnessed them.

When the young man came out of the trance in my office, he told me he wished to give his life to Lucifer — now and forever. He made it clear that he hadn't come to see me of his own free will. His mother essentially forced him to come, hoping that something could be done to rid him of this Satanic presence. I wasn't able to do much in just one visit, and I haven't seen him since. I spoke with his mother once since then, and she said there had been no change in his condition.

Personally, I feel the young man is dangerous. He is quite capable of doing harm to others, physically, spiritually, psychologically. But he's still walking the streets, and there is no way he can be incarcerated or forced to get help of any kind, since he has passed the sanity tests given to him.

Another case I handled involved a young man who had been involved in a Satanic cult. His father brought him in to see me. He told me the boy constantly talked about Satan and even tried to burn a crucifix in their home.

In talking with the boy in our first meeting, I could see he was gripped with fear. He was terrified. He had been warned by others in the cult that if he told anyone what had happened at the ritual meeting, he would regret it. They promised him that harm would come to him and his family, and to dramatize their serious intent they put a cat in front of him and then gouged out its eyes. He was warned that the same would happen to him if he broke the code of silence. He took the warning to heart.

We met several times, and throughout our sessions I continually assured him of the love that Jesus Christ has for him. Through it all, his fear subsided, his faith grew, and he made great progress at returning to a normal life. He now lives with relatives in another state and is said to be doing well.

Perhaps the most disturbing kind of case I have handled involves the sexual and ritualistic abuse of children — oftentimes by their own par-

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ents or other relatives.

One mother, who had heard a television interview I had given on the subject, called me about problems with her nine-year-old daughter. The little girl had spent the summer with her father, and when she returned home she was a different person. The child was having fits that involved sexual exhibitions in front of the mirror. She also seemed to have become obsessed with her own defecation. In school, she was violent and physically abusive to her classmates.

She had nightmares two or three times a week. She dreamed that something evil was chasing her. As the thing was about to get to her, she would wake up screaming and sweating, and would run to her mother's room. The child would then sleep with her mom, and all would be fine until the nightmare returned a night or two later.

After many hours of counseling, she finally revealed the root of the problem. She told me that her father had sexually abused her in a shed behind his house. She said that he was involved in Satanic worship and that he had made her attend the coven gatherings. Not only was she sexually abused at these meetings, but she was forced to participate in debasing rituals that included the drinking of her own urine. She was told that Jesus had been killed and that Lucifer was the ruler now. She was told that she was trash, no good. They tried to brainwash her into thinking that she was evil — and that she was expected to do evil things. This kind of brainwashing is uncovered frequently in cases of ritualistic abuse of children.

I'm happy to report that the child is now on the road to recovery. The counseling, in this case and in similar ones, involves having the victim recall the evil that was done to her and having her understand that it is not she who is evil but the people who did these terrible things to her. It also involves assuring her of her inherent worth and goodness and of God's love for her.

The three cases discussed above are the kind I deal with on a daily basis in my work as a counselor to those whose lives have been touched by people who live in the Kingdom of

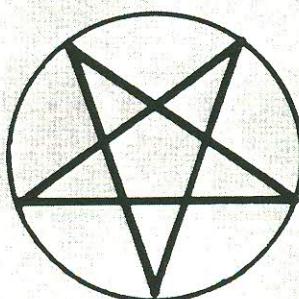
Signs of the Satanist

People in Satanic cults, as well as Satanists who are not in the cults, usually possess various items bearing Satanic symbols and will frequently draw these emblems themselves — on paper, on walls, on road signs and/or on their skin.

The symbols, which are also found on jewelry, are a means of reminding them of the evil spirit whom they follow. Some of the symbols are used in conjunction with various incantations designed to invoke the presence of Satan.

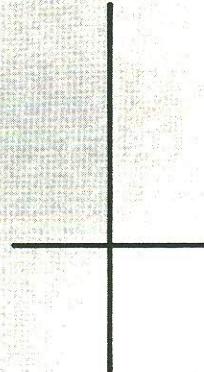
Some of the symbols are shown here as a means of identifying them to the reading public and explaining their occultic significance.

(The source of the material is Watch Network, P.O. Box 12638, El Paso, Texas 79913.)



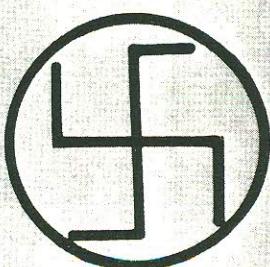
Pentagram

Perhaps the most widely used Satanic mark, the pentagram symbolizes the morning star, a name taken by Satan. The symbol is said to be used to conjure up evil spirits.



Upside-Down Cross

A mockery and rejection of the cross of Christ, this emblem is worn by many Satanists and can be seen on some rock musicians appearing on heavy metal music album covers.



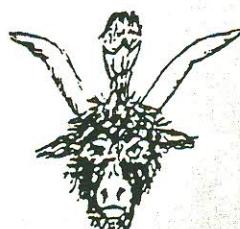
Swastika

The emblem of Nazi Germany, led by Adolf Hitler — one of the world's most infamous Satanists. Long before Hitler came to power, however, it was an ancient religious symbol used in Buddhist inscriptions, Celtic monuments and Greek coins. In sun god worship, it is supposed to represent the sun's course in the heavens.



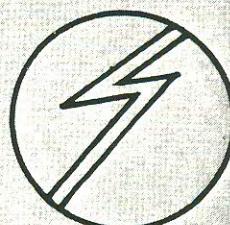
Mark Of The Beast

The mark of Satan, the beast, the anti-Christ, is made in four ways. In the last book of the Bible, Revelation, Chapter 13, verse 18, the number of the beast is revealed — 666.



Goathead

Symbolizing the horned goat, the goat of Mendes, the scapegoat, this is one of the Satanist's ways of mocking Christ as the lamb who died for the sins of humanity.



Satanic S

This represents a thunderbolt and means "destroyer." It was worn by the members of the feared death squads of Nazi Germany.

Advice for Parents

In my years of involvement with those harmed by the Kingdom of Darkness, I have spoken to many groups. A large portion of these groups were parents who were concerned with whether their children were involved in Satanic worship or related activities. Other parents wanted to know how to prevent this danger from touching the lives of their children.

It isn't always easy to determine if your children are involved in Satanic worship, but some of the things to look out for include these:

- Strong demands that their rooms be locked and no one allowed to enter.
- Aggressiveness when asked about their whereabouts and activities.
- Sudden and complete disinterest in going to church.
- Constant need to sketch Satanic symbols.
- Satanic jewelry such as the inverted cross, the 666, the pentagram.
- Books on the occult.

Darkness.

This kingdom is more real and more widespread in the United States than is commonly realized. In this country, there are 8,000 covens (small groups of cult members), with membership estimated at more than 100,000 people. And this doesn't count the self-styled, self-induced Satanists who don't belong to the covens.

For the sake of clarity, the people involved in the Kingdom of Darkness can be divided into three distinct categories.

First, there are those who are actively involved members of Satanic cults. This membership, in many cases, means dropping their worship of God and turning to worshiping Satan instead.

Second are the self-induced

- Black candles.
- Black robes.
- Posters with Satanic symbols and messages.
- Obsession with walking through graveyards.

Many young people who buy books on the occult, wear jewelry with Satanic symbols in public or constantly listen to heavy metal music are only dabbling. But dabbling in the occult can be extremely dangerous; it can lead to actual and active involvement in a Satanic cult.

If you find your children dabbling or if you have reason to believe they're doing more than just dabbling, by all means contact your pastor or a counselor and discuss a plan of action to prevent further involvement.

The surest way to avoid the Kingdom of Darkness from entering your home is to have your home as a place of prayer and a center of communications. When family prayer is practiced and

when communication abounds, there is little or no danger that the Evil One will come through the portals of your home.

On the subject of communication, always be aware that there is a difference between listening to your children and just hearing them. There is a big difference between saying, "It's okay to do your own thing," and giving them the time to sit down and share with you as their parents. This is how to keep the lines of communication open; this is a real act of love and a sincere gesture of interest in and concern for your child's well-being. This is especially important when you consider that one of the favorite targets of cult recruiters is unhappy children — young people who feel unloved and/or alienated from their parents, their families, their homes.

Let your house be a house of prayer — and let your Sundays be a time of the family worshiping at church together. Inevitably, your children are going to disappoint you at times as they grow into maturity, but never

Satanists. These are people who by their own will have induced the presence of Satan into their lives. They sought out the Evil One and committed themselves to follow and worship him. They don't act as part of a group, though they may have contact with others like themselves.

Third are the innocent victims of ritualistic abuse. These are people who have had evil inflicted upon them, usually at a young age. Typically, they are sexually abused and their lives are ritualistically handed over to Satan. In many cases the knowledge of this evil burden doesn't surface to the conscious mind until later in life. In some cases it never surfaces, and the victims live their entire lives thinking they are evil — and doing evil things that are consistent with their self-image.

Satanic cults

The idea of worshipping the devil is certainly a strange and foreign concept to most Americans. But as foreign as it may seem, Satanic cults have existed in this country since its very inception. They existed in other countries for hundreds of years before that.

Just as Christian churches have been formed around the world as a means of worshiping Jesus Christ, so too were these other kinds of "churches" founded to worship Satan. These groups are called cults; they are composed of smaller units called covens.

The one thing that all Satanic cults have in common is the worship of the devil. But they vary, sometimes widely, as to purpose, membership and activities. Some low-key covens

let them feel that you have abandoned your commitment to prayer, to communication and to their overall well-being.

Young people who are lured into Satanic cults are often those who are not involved in their church or any extra-curricular activities at school. It's true, as the old saying goes, "The idle mind is the devil's workshop." So, encourage them to get involved in choir, band, debate, 4-H, athletics or whatever. This will help keep them from loitering on the streets or in the pool halls, video arcades and shopping malls — all of which are the hunting grounds for those who recruit young people into their cults.

I feel that ritualistic abuse of children is perhaps the most disturbing aspect of the Kingdom of Darkness. While it may be difficult to determine if your child is involved in a cult, it can be doubly difficult to ascertain for sure whether he or she has been ritualistically and/or sexually abused. The signs to look for are:

- Obsession with urine and defecation

- Abnormal fits of exhibitionism
- Long periods of rage and over-aggressiveness
- Negative attitude toward morality stemming from an evil that is sensed internally.

If any of these signs are evident in your child's behavior, a pastor or counselor should be contacted promptly.

In some areas of the country there are support groups for survivors of ritualistic abuse. There is a group called Incest Survivors Anonymous.

Another one, which is spreading throughout the country, is called Believe the Children; its purpose is to listen to — and act on — the reports of children who speak of being ritualistically and/or sexually abused.

I have been asked on several occasions about the possible danger of the board game, Dungeons & Dragons, Ouija boards and the reading of books on Satanism. I feel that they are dangerous, and my advice is to stay away from them all.

In my opinion, and in the opinion of others, Dungeons & Dragons and other fantasy role-playing games can lead to

serious involvement in the Kingdom of Darkness — and eventually to crime. Dozens of deaths in this country have been linked to the playing of Dungeons & Dragons, according to Dr. Thomas E. Radecki, an Illinois psychiatrist and research director for the National Coalition on Television Violence. It begins as a board game, but it can lead to acting out the game in real life; it can be dangerous when the "dungeon master" has evil intent or criminal designs.

If your children do happen to stray into the Kingdom of Darkness, don't lose hope. I believe strongly that love can bring them back — your love and the love of God. The one thing that those in the Kingdom of Darkness wish to take from your children is the ability to love and to be loved. I have never seen a child brought to me for counseling who does not have this urge to love again and to be loved again. Supply that love in your home and in their lives, and you can be confident that, with the help of God's grace, they can be brought back from the darkness.

exist only to invoke and worship Satan, and are not necessarily a direct threat to other people. Others are what could be called expansionists, that is, they actively recruit young people as a means of swelling their own ranks and creating more covens — thus spreading the Kingdom of Darkness. This latter group sometimes contains members who callously and savagely abuse children in rituals designed to honor Satan. This abuse ranges from torture to sexual abuse of children to the sacrificing of newborn infants or other human beings. The cult members who engage in this kind of violence and other illegal acts are considered "non-traditional" Satanists, while those who do not are considered "traditional."

Cults also vary in the make-up of their membership. Some are com-

posed of teenagers and adults; others are for adults only. Some members may be incorrigible, anti-social teenagers, while others are pillar-of-the-community types who may be the president of a bank, a leader in a church, or the otherwise respectable businessperson who's been active in community-betterment projects for many years. You just never know.

Again, it should be noted that not all covens engage in crimes of violence, but enough of them do to justify keeping a wary eye on all of them.

Knowing who they are is no easy task either, because most devoted Satanists are no different in their outward appearance than the average person we see routinely at work or at play. Moreover, the cults are deliberately shrouded in secrecy. They do

their thing at night, or behind locked doors, or in remote places where they can't be found out. They often meet in barns and sometimes sacrifice animals there. Their favorite meeting place is in the cemetery, where they celebrate some feast days and carry out their Satanic liturgies.

The secrecy of many of the cults is protected, in part, by threats of violence to anyone who would inform outsiders about the rites of the cult or the identity of its members. This is quite evident from the reluctance and fear of former cult members to testify.

Although some cult members can and do get caught and prosecuted for acts that are against the law, there is no law that can stop them from worshiping the devil. On the contrary, the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, as it is presently interpreted,

protects and guarantees them the same freedom of religion as it does all other people in this country.

Recruitment and Initiation

While the age and type of person who may be lured into the occult varies widely, probably the biggest single target group is the impressionable teenager. It's the boy or girl with low self-esteem, usually with vague or confused religious and moral values. It's the young person with lots of idle time on his hands, one not involved in extra-curricular activities at

school. These people are much easier prey than the young person who is actively involved in his school and church.

Satanists look for people on the fringe areas. These are the ones who are most vulnerable, most impressionable, most readily available to try something new and daring.

It is with this type of lure, in many cases, that these young people are brought into their initial meeting of the Satanic cult. They are attracted by the prospect of power, by the promise of belonging.



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From the beginning of their membership, in some cults, fear tactics are used on them. They are told that if they say anything about where they were and especially about what they were doing, their parents will be harmed or killed — and that the same fate will be theirs.

The initiation ceremony usually involves participation in some type of sexual aberration. They are required to drink their own urine and eat their own defecation. At certain meetings they are required to consume the blood and the sexual organs of animals. They are told that once they do, they will become full-ritual members.

The act of consumption of urine, feces and animal blood is so debasing that, in many cases, these young people can never seem to overcome it.

The use of drugs and narcotics with people in these cults usually happens after this initiation ceremony. The dehumanizing effect of the initiation ceremony is eased somewhat by using drugs.

The people who make it through the initiation ceremony are then committed to the worship of the Evil One. They are committed to dropping any allegiance not to God, the Father — because Satanists do believe in God — but to Jesus Christ, whom they are taught to despise.

Behavioral Patterns

When young people are brought into the non-traditional Satanic cult, the fear and threats that are imposed upon them often overtake their personality. They become withdrawn and, in some cases, aggressive when asked about their whereabouts or about their activities.

The fear and threats used on these people make them almost impossible to counsel. They become strangely mute and almost distant when spoken to.

One of the signs of cult involvement is the constant need to draw and sketch the symbols of the Satanic cult. Another of the signs is an obsession with walking through graveyards — because it is there that they participated in some of the cult's rituals.

But above all, the most common sign is the demand that their room be locked and no one allowed to enter.

A Satanic cult is no place for children (Or adults, either)

The author of this bold new book is a man who does battle with the Satanic underworld on a regular basis.

He spends a great deal of time and effort trying to un-do the damage done by members of Satanic cults who have ritualistically abused innocent children in an attempt to turn their souls over to the devil.

He is Father Joseph Brennan, a Catholic priest and counselor of ritualistically abused children. He lives in Lafayette, Louisiana, and he counsels people from a four-state area.

Father Brennan is one of the nation's leading authorities in his field and, in fact, is one of the very few counselors who do this highly specialized kind of work.

It is from this unique vantage point that he gives us an insight into the Satanic underworld that is both clear and disturbing. To achieve this, he reveals the details of some two dozen case histories of people he has counseled.

He describes the nature and extensiveness of Satanic cults in this country and exposes the Satanic underground for what it is. He reveals the techniques by which cult members recruit others into their groups — and what happens to them once they enter.

He gives advice to parents and young people on how to steer clear of the influence of Satanic cults. And he offers advice to counselors who will be working in this field.

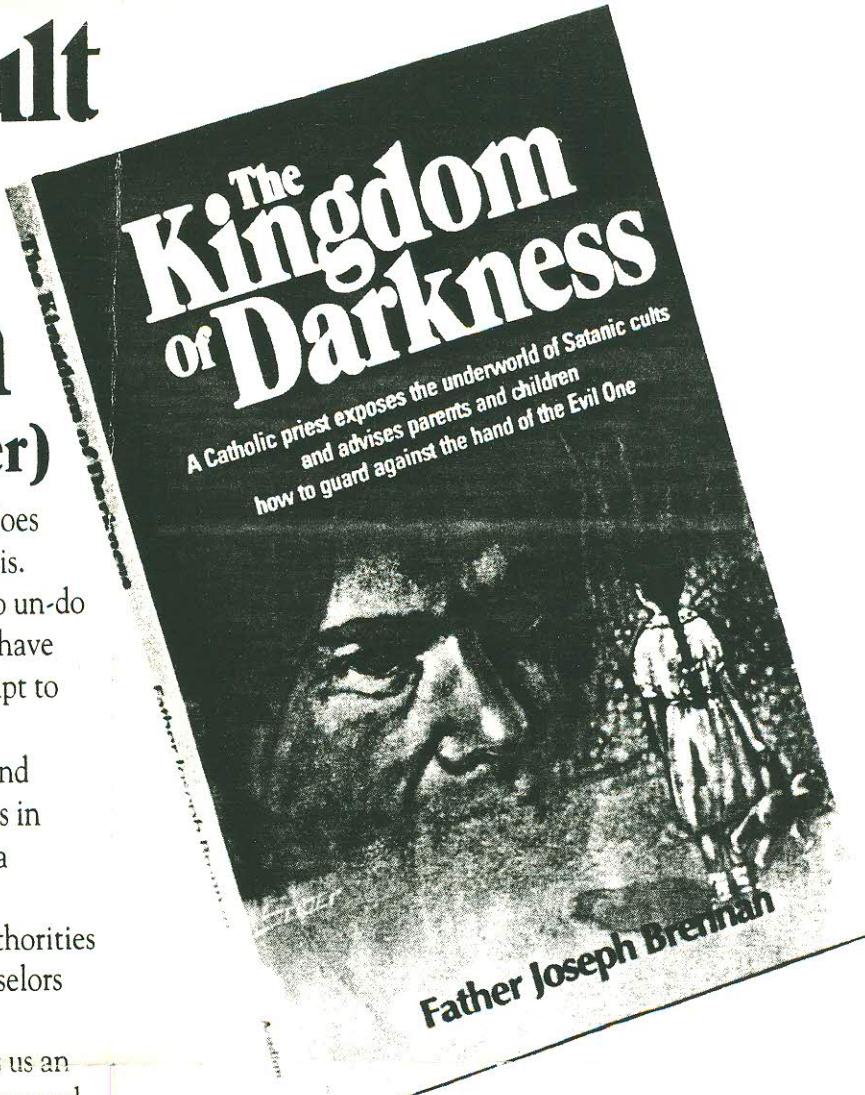
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'Burden that robs them of joy'



Lecture session evokes gasps at horrors of satanism

By MARCIA ROBERTSON
The Times

In a brightly lit room, the Rev. Joseph Brennan speaks of a darkness that surrounds and entraps its victims and worshipers.

He quietly explains horrors of satanism. He speaks of people drinking the animal blood and their urine, of children being sexually abused in satanic rituals, and of the inability to escape the fear once entangled in the occult.

Most often, they are middle-to upper-class white people, Brennan says. And in all cases, the people have one

common personality trait: no joy. "They carry this heavy, dark burden that robs them of joy," Brennan says. "And once they break away, they still have no joy."

There are no jokes or whispers in the room as the Lafayette Catholic priest talks about satanism to the Louisiana Conference of Social Welfare participants on Friday afternoon.

Instead, the social workers at the Holiday Inn-Bossier City session quietly take notes and occasionally gasp.

They have reason to. Brennan, who began counseling

people involved with satanism three

years ago and has since dealt with 175 cases, tells how a person was enticed into the worship of Lucifer.

He says, "The simple lure of the unknown, 'Hey, we are going somewhere tonight where you will get a kick,' and they will go out of curiosity. They may go twice. If they don't leave after the second meeting, they will be hooked."

Eventually, Brennan says, the person will be initiated. He will be asked to drink the blood of animals or his urine and eat his feces. He will be required to perform sexual acts with animals.

"And someone will be taking photographs," Brennan says. "They will be

blackmailed and threatened. By fear, the cult will become their environment."

Drugs will be introduced, Brennan says, and the abuse of drugs is usually the escape route out of the occult. The person will be admitted into a substance abuse clinic — sometimes after being arrested — and the satanic worship will come out during the counseling.

"You never seen fear until you have seen this," Brennan says. "Of all the people I have counseled, none has ever spoke about the occult. They are

■ See GASPS, Page 16A.

and frequent exposure are warning signs of Satan worship.

more accepting in their helps at horrors of satanism dark lecture session here

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and are it."

■ Continued from Page 13A

trapped by fear."

A woman once told Brennan that
a member of the coven she joined
took a cat and stabbed its eyes out in
front of her.

"Then they told her that is what
would happen to her if she ever talked
about the occult," Brennan
says.

Brennan says it takes about four
to five months to penetrate the fear
and convince the former satanist
that other worshipers cannot hear
him.

Brennan who has written a book,
Kingdom of Darkness, on the sub-
ject gave signs for social workers to
look. Sudden fits of rage and ag-
gression, obsession of their own uri-
ne and feces, obsession with privacy
and frequent exposition are usually
signs of Satan worship.

Brennan is asked if he has ever
performed an exorcism.

"No," Brennan says. "I counsel, I
guide, I do not exorcise. I am a pastor,
but I do not exorcist."

As he sits down, he tells the social
workers to call him if they need his
help.

"And pray for me," Brennan says.
"I could not do this job without
prayers."

La. priest presses fight against satanic cults

By VALERIE FACIANE
Staff writer

About 8,000 satanic groups with 100,000 members exist in the United States, says a Roman Catholic priest in Lafayette who has written a book on Satanism.

Some of the cults can be found in the New Orleans area, the Rev. Joseph Brennan said.

Since 1986, Brennan, pastor of St. Genevieve Catholic Church, has counseled 200 people around the country involved in Satanism. His 95-page book, published five months ago in Lafayette, is titled "The Kingdom of Darkness." It cautions parents and children about how people are lured into the satanic world.

Brennan said he goes to New Orleans twice a month to counsel former satanic worshipers and victims. He declined to reveal the address of his local office.

He said his concern for victims of the satanic world led him to do an in-depth study on the subject in 1986. It began one day when he received a telephone call from a Lafayette sheriff's deputy who was working on cases involving a suspicious infant death and three suspicious suicides. The deputy suspected that the baby could have been sacrificed to Satan and that the three young suicides were murdered by a satanic cult. He wanted Brennan to give him information on the supernatural aspects of the cults.

Brennan had little knowledge about the subject, but these cases aroused his interest in learning more about cults, he said. His quest led him to British Columbia where he studied under Lawrence Pazder, an expert on satanic cults and ritualistic abuse.

The cases were never solved but were suspected of being the work of Satanists, Brennan said.

Brennan said that in some satanic cults children are sexually abused and tortured.

In one case outlined in the book, Brennan said he tried to counsel a self-styled Satanist who was brought to him in chains and shackles. The man was serving time for rape and assault.

"He was dark-haired and unshaven, and his eyes were extremely dark, nearly black," Brennan wrote. "There was an air of evil about him . . . he had a far-away look in his eyes, like he wasn't really present, almost as if he were possessed. I'll never forget that look."

Brennan wrote that when he

him, the man went berserk.

"Upon hearing the word 'Jesus,' the man went wild. Even though he was chained, he lunged at me like a vicious animal, spitting and grunting and clawing his way over my desk," Brennan wrote.

Brennan said he wasn't hurt, thanks to policemen who wrestled the man to the ground.

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MAR 8 1990

Father Brennan provides LSUE students overview of Satanic cults

By LISA DELACERDA
Staff Writer

Calm education and not hysterical hype will turn the tide in the struggle against satanism and the number of satanic cults springing up in the United States, advised Rev. Joseph Brennan, who gave a lecture on satanism to a gathering in the science auditorium at LSUE Wednesday afternoon.

Fr. Brennan is the author of "Kingdom of Darkness," a factual accounting of his experiences with — and knowledge of — satanic cult activity in the United States. He is the pastor at St. Genevieve Catholic Church in Lafayette.

"THE DEMONIC CANNOT be defined," Brennan told the group. "In satanism, the joy and love are taken out of the human experience."

Brennan said that most who get involved in satan worship and cults today do so either because they're born into it — congenital satanists — or because they're curious.

"Satanists are 'doctors, lawyers, indian chiefs,'" he said. "They could be anyone. They're good at hiding it from the rest of us and usually attend one or two churches as a cover up for their activity."

"Joy and happiness are gone from their lives and their eyes just don't sparkle anymore," he explained.

"SOMETIMES PEOPLE join after going through an accident in which they've sustained heavy physical trauma, have almost died or after a loved one has died. They say, 'Where was God when my mama died' or 'Where was God when this happened to me.'

Brennan explained that satanists worship in two different ways and are referred to as traditionalists or non-traditionalists.

"When traditionalists incantate Lucifer to come and be part of their lives, they don't lure young children to them or offer live sacrifice," he stated.

"The non-traditionalists, for their ritual ceremonies, will slaughter animals, lure young people into their presence and abuse children," he said.

"THE IMPACT OF FEAR and secrecy is to a point that I have never seen it before," Brennan said.

If a young person is actively involved in Satanic worship for a two-year period, it would be better for that person to leave the area while he is returning from satanic life. From a positive point of view, he or she would get better out of town, away from the negativism of being under the influence of these people, Brennan advised.

Fr. BRENNAN EXPLAINED that demonic possessions are extremely rare.

"There are obsessions - yes, plenty carried by those who experience the and memories - but very, very few actual children 3 - 6 years of age are usually child abuse, both sexual and physical time, Brennan said.

"They are abused, not because they thing out of it, but so that the child will self-concept and no sense of self-worth children that this abuse will bring children believe it, going along with the abuse,"

SATANISTS BELIEVE IN Lucifer that Christ died forever on Good Friday high holy days, a day of rejoicing, according to Brennan said that the majority of Brennan said that the majority of only in Louisiana but nationwide, have and upward, white, catholic individuals "Catholics seem to have been chosen he said. Brennan's research shows this in the United States. The highest rates campuses.

(See FATHER, Page 2)

Brennan provides LSUE students overview of Satanism

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"The non-traditionalists, for their ritual ceremonies, will slaughter animals, lure young people into their presence and abuse children," he said.

"There are obsessions - yes, plenty of those - and heavy burdens carried by those who experience the satanic rituals, horrible dreams and memories - but very, very few actual possessions," he said. Children 3 - 6 years of age are usually the victims in cases of ritual child abuse, both sexual and physical, usually over a long period of time, Brennan said.

"They are abused, not because the abuser particularly gets anything out of it, but so that the child will go through life with a warped self-concept and no sense of self-worth," Brennan said. "They tell the children that this abuse will bring satan closer to them and the children believe it, going along with the abuse and misery," he added.

SATANISTS BELIEVE IN Lucifer as their lord and savior and that Christ died forever on Good Friday. Good Friday is one of their high holy days, a day of rejoicing, according to Brennan.

Brennan said that the majority of the cases he's worked on, not only in Louisiana but nationwide, have involved mostly middle-class and upward, white, catholic individuals.

"Catholics seem to have been chosen for this - I don't know why," he said. Brennan's research shows that satanism is not diminishing in the United States. The highest rate of growth today is on college campuses.

FR. BRENNAN EXPLAINED that demonic possessions are extremely rare.

(See FATHER, Page 2)

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and their eyes just don't

FATHER

From P-1

Myths

People who wear black all the time are satanists.

"Those involved won't take a chance on blowing their cover," Brennan said.

The satan worshippers who wear the black clothes, the pentagrams and the '666' are the dabblers, the ones who are not in the inner circle.

"Dabblers should be warned, though. If you play with fire, you're going to get singed," Brennan warned.

Heavy rock music makes kids want to be satanists.

"I have never heard of a case where the music brought them into the cult. The music of only a couple of groups, Alice Cooper among them, are considered to have any kind of satanic impact at all, but only after the person is inside," he said.

Satanic worship requires 12 people or a cult must be made up of 12 people to perform satanic rituals.

"Some of the worst cases I've seen — involving homicide — were of self-styled satanists, one person, acting alone," Brennan explained.

"One outward sign of almost all satanists is their dead eyes. The joy and happiness are gone from their lives and their eyes just don't sparkle anymore," he explained.