



# **Moral Injury: Combat's Deep Wound**

## **A seminar for Mental Health Professionals, Physicians, Nurses and Clergy**

**Friday, October 11, 2019 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**  
**Holiday Inn, Downtown Concord, NH**  
**172 North Main Street**

Moral Injury involves the emerging recognition that experiences which transgress our deep moral beliefs and expectations can cause painful psychological injury felt as a deep wound to the soul.

Like a physical wound, a moral wound can be minor and passing, or severe enough to require professional attention. It is sharply different from post-traumatic stress disorder, the involuntary and inappropriate triggering of the fear-based 'fight, flight, or freeze' response. Both moral injury and PTSD can cause anxiety, insomnia, depression, anger and self-medication. However shame, guilt, loss of trust, loss of self-worth and hopelessness clearly mark *moral injury*, and *demand dramatically different therapies*.

Since Moral Injury is a wound to the soul it requires spiritual as well as clinical resources for healing. Mental health and medical clinicians will learn the importance of the unique resources and rituals that clergy can bring to the treatment protocol. Clergy will be given insights into the aspects of military culture that provide the background for moral wounding. In addition they will learn historical perspectives on cleansing the soul of the warrior after returning from the battlefield and the importance of integrating healing rituals with clinical treatment modalities. Effective spiritual interventions will be presented for clergy to utilize to make their congregations welcoming and healing communities for wounded warriors.

### **Presenters**

**Rev. Dr. Dayl Hufford** is a Licensed Pastoral Psychotherapist and an ordained UCC clergy with a psychotherapy practice in Salem, NH. For 25 years Dr. Hufford was a lecturer and trainer with the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council where she taught "Victim and Offender Psychology," "Traumatizing Impact of First Responder Duties," and "Interview and Interrogation Techniques." She was a consultant to hospital emergency departments assisting them in establishing protocols to treat victims of violence and proper preservation of forensic evidence. At Andover Newton Theological School Dr. Hufford taught courses on "Trauma as Soul Injury", and "Pastoral Counseling and Psychotherapy."

**David Wood** is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist who has covered war and conflict around the world for more than 35 years. His most recent book, *What Have We Done: The Moral Injury of Our Longest Wars* (Little, Brown, 2016) is based on his deep reporting in Iraq and Afghanistan and on veterans as they return home. A birthright Quaker and former conscientious objector, David has covered the White House, Pentagon and State Department and reported from Europe, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East as a staff correspondent for Time Magazine, the Los Angeles Times, Huffington Post and other media.

**Dr. Jessica Goodell** served in the Marine Corps from 2001 - 2005 during which time she deployed to Iraq as a member of a Mortuary Affairs platoon in 2004. She published *Shade It Black: Death and After in Iraq* a memoir that captured her experiences working in the Mortuary Affairs platoon in Iraq in 2011. She recently finished her PhD in Counseling Psychology from the University at Buffalo in NY and has conducted research on racial and religious identities of veterans as well as academic motivation, hardiness, and coping styles of student veterans in higher education. She has spent the last five years counseling veterans within the VA system focusing on issues of PTSD, substance use, and serious mental health concerns. She is currently focusing her efforts on her growing family.

**Ginger Munson** served on Active Duty with the US Army from 1988-1994. She has experienced numerous training deployments as both a service member and spouse of a service member. She and her family have supported her husband through 4 combat deployments over the span of 29 years. Ginger worked for Easter Seals NH Military and Veterans Services to develop services for military, veterans and their families. Additionally, she provided military cultural training within Easter Seals, in her local community and at several state-wide Veteran/Military conferences and events. Ms. Munson is a popular lecturer and trainer on topics relative to military culture, deployment and reintegration.

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Presented by the New England Pastoral Institute, Inc.

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In civilian life we may experience a twinge of moral regret. But those who serve in wartime are exposed constantly to morally perilous situations: seeing a close buddy injured or killed; killing another human being; being powerless to prevent needless violent death and destruction. The shame of failing to stop a suicide bomber who kills friends; the guilt of leaving family behind to deploy; and the loneliness, alienation and isolation of leaving loved combat buddies behind and returning to an uncaring civilian society.

**SEMINAR RESOURCES:** Presentation will be a combination of lecture, discussion, break-out groups to interview survivors of MI, and audio visual content

## SEMINAR TOPICS:

- Dynamics of Moral Development
- Understanding Military Culture
- Differences and Similarities between PTSD and Moral Injury
- Signature Military Wounds
- Moral Injury: Definition and Conceptual Framework for Treatment
- Multidimensional Moral Wounding and Healing Dynamics: Clinical and Spiritual integration model
- Re-entry Dynamics
- Historical purifications of the Warrior Soul
- Clinical Assessment of Moral Injury
  - Killing Cognition Scale (KCS)
  - Moral Injury Events Scale (MIES)
  - Moral Injury Symptom Scale—Military Version
- Clinical Treatment Protocols
  - Impact of Killing (IOK)
  - Adaptive Disclosure
- Suicide awareness and prevention related to Moral Injury and Military Trauma
- Spiritual Healing and Comfort for the Wounded Warrior

6 Continuing Education Units will include ethics and Suicide Awareness and Prevention CEU's

Cost of Seminar: Includes a continental breakfast, lunch, Training Manual and CEU Certificate

\$175.00 for registrations received after September 1, 2019

\$160.00 for registrations received before September 1, 2019

\$125.00 Discount for Military Personnel, Veterans, Clergy and Students. Current ID required

**Register online at [www.nepastoral.org](http://www.nepastoral.org)**

For additional information about content of this event contact Dr. Hufford: [hufford@nepastoral.org](mailto:hufford@nepastoral.org)