

## Número 448 (selección de artículos)

*No me hubiera perdido un Seminario por nada del mundo* – Philippe Sollers

*Ganaremos porque no tenemos otra elección* – Agnes Aflalo

***Hacia un “Libro negro” del comportamentalismo - Por Luc Miller***

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### **Hacia un “Libro negro” del comportamentalismo Por Luc Miller**



“¿Sabe usted que la armada americana cuenta con equipos especializados de comportamentalistas, designados por el acrónimo BSCT, y que operan tanto en Guantánamo como en Abou Ghraid?” escribía hace un tiempo Jacques-Alain Miller en *Le Point* (2005). Y agregaba “Allí habría material para un verdadero “Libro negro” si alguien quisiera interesarse en ello.”

Y bien, desde el mes pasado, la American Psychological Association le da una satisfacción. Ella se presta finalmente a una investigación que concierne a los “Behavioral Science Consultation Teams”, equipos de consultores en ciencias comportamentales, familiarmente llamados “Biscuits” que ayudan a los militares en el procedimiento de interrogatorios a sus prisioneros.

Episodios precedentes: la APA fue acusada de practicar la defensa de Nuremberg: “Following orders was an acceptable reason to violate professional ethics.”. A continuación, un candidato a la presidencia de la asociación, Steven Reiser, ubica la cuestión en su programa, con la ambición de restaurar la ética de la psicología. Fracasó por poco en ser elegido en 2013.

La asociación ha decidido ahora investigar la participación de los psicólogos en la práctica de la tortura durante la presidencia de G.W. Bush.

He aquí algunas referencias recientes, como también una lección práctica del Departamento de Defensa americano (2006), en cuanto a la distinción entre psiquiatría y psicología: ella amerita figurar en los manuales.

1.- Nov. 13, 2014. *Psychologists to Review Role in Detainee Interrogations*.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/14/world/middleeast/psychologists-to-review-role-in-detainee-interrogations.html>

«The American Psychological Association will conduct an independent review into whether it colluded with or supported the government’s use of torture in the interrogation of prisoners during the Bush administration.

For years, questions about the role of American psychologists and behavioral scientists in the development and implementation of the Bush-era interrogation program have been raised by human rights advocates as well as by critics within the psychological profession itself. Psychologists were involved in developing the enhanced

interrogation techniques used on terrorism suspects by the Central Intelligence Agency. Later, a number of psychologists, in the military and in the intelligence community, were involved in carrying out and monitoring interrogations.

Some longtime critics praised the move by the group. "The A.P.A.'s action is a long-needed step toward an independent review of their post-9/11 activities", said Stephen Soldz, a professor at the Boston Graduate School of Psychoanalysis. "It is vital that this review be fully independent and comprehensive in nature." "It's sad that the A.P.A., rather than protecting its members from engaging in interrogation activities, bent its rules to allow their participation in those interrogations," Mr. Soldz said.»

2.- Jan 22, 2014. *US psychology body declines to rebuke member in Guantánamo torture case. Complaint dropped against John Leso, involved in brutal interrogation of suspected 9/11 hijacker Mohammed al Qahtani*, <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/jan/22/guantanamo-torture-mohammed-al-qahtani-suspected-9-11-hijacker/print>



«The APA's move concludes a years-long effort within the organization to get the association to condemn members who took part in torture. Those who argued for censuring Leso said that the organization has opened the door to future wartime violations of its central do-no-harm ethos. "With Leso, the evidence of his participation is so explicit and so incontrovertible, the APA had to go to great lengths to dismiss it", said Steven Reisner, a New York clinical psychologist who unsuccessfully ran for the APA presidency last year. "The precedent is that APA is not going to hold any

psychologist accountable in any circumstance"»

3.- June 06, 2006. *Military Alters the Makeup of Interrogation Advisers*

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/06/07/washington/07detain.html>

« [After an overwhelming vote by the American Psychiatric Association discouraging its members from helping interrogators devise strategies to get information from detainees at places like Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, Pentagon officials said Tuesday that they would try to use only psychologists, and not psychiatrists.]

Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, told reporters that the new policy favoring the use of psychologists over psychiatrists was a recognition of differing positions taken by their respective professional groups.

The military had been using psychiatrists and psychologists alike on behavioral science consultation teams, called "biscuit" teams because of the acronym, to advise interrogators on how best to obtain information from prisoners.

But Dr. Steven S. Sharfstein, recent past president of the American Psychiatric Association, noted in an interview that the group adopted a policy in May unequivocally stating that its members should not be part of the teams.

The counterpart group for psychologists, the American Psychological Association, has endorsed a different policy. It said last July that its members serving as consultants to interrogations involving national security should be "mindful of factors unique to these roles and contexts that require special ethical consideration."»

Para una información más completa:

•Jean Maria Arrigo («American psychology really grew up with the military»):

- *Psychology Under Fire: Adversarial Operational Psychology and Psychological Ethics*

<http://www.eidelsonconsulting.com/papers/Psychology-Under-Fire-Arrigo-Eidelson-Bennett-2012.pdf>

-*A Lesson for World Psychology: Denunciation and Accommodation of Abusive Interrogations by the American Psychological Association* disponible en el sitio [www.ethicalpsychology.org](http://www.ethicalpsychology.org)

<http://ethicalpsychology.org/materials/Arrigo-Long%202008.pdf>

•Brad Olson, Stephen Soldz & Martha Davis: *The ethics of interrogation and the American Psychological Association: A critique of policy and process*

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2248202/>

**Traducción: Marcela Ruda**

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• comité de dirección

Presidente [eve miller-rose](mailto:eve.navarin@gmail.com) [eve.navarin@gmail.com](mailto:eve.navarin@gmail.com)

Editora [anne poumellec](mailto:annedg@wanadoo.fr) [annedg@wanadoo.fr](mailto:annedg@wanadoo.fr)

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• comité de redacción

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diseñadores [viktor&william francoboizel](#) [ywfcbl@gmail.com](mailto:ywfcbl@gmail.com)

técnico [markfrancoboizel](#) & familia & [olivierripoll](#)

lacan y librerías [catherineorsot-cochard](#) [catherine.orsot@wanadoo.fr](mailto:catherine.orsot@wanadoo.fr)

mediador [patachónvaldès](#) [patachon.valdes@gmail.com](mailto:patachon.valdes@gmail.com)

responsable de la traducción al español: [Biblioteca de la EOL](#) - [Marisa Chamizo](#) & [Nilda Hermann](#)  
[chamizomarisa@gmail.com](mailto:chamizomarisa@gmail.com); [nildahermann@gmail.com](mailto:nildahermann@gmail.com)

maquetación LACAN COTIDIANO: [Alejandra Glaze](#) & [Nilda Hermann](#)- Colaboración: [Gerardo Battista](#)

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