Crisis of a missing person and the family's search
by Kathryn Koger Jodan

A thesis submitted to the Graduate Faculty in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
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Abstract:
A member who has disappeared may precipitate an urgent crisis in a family, and with one million
persons reported missing each year among the total population of the United States and Canada, this
hurtful family problem becomes a serious social problem approaching the magnitude of a national-
crisis.

An investigation was made to determine and evaluate the existing organized agencies whose purpose is
to lend assistance to families in the form of search and counseling. Based on a case study involving
personal experience, I added insights were gained into a family’s experience of disorientation when a
member leaves suddenly.

A continuing and frustrating problem facing the family may be the question of the thoroughness of the
agency because of lack of understanding of their purpose, procedures they use, and failure of the
agencies to disclose information on what has been done. Data was collected and tabulated on the aid
rendered by government, professional, and charitable agencies and an analysis was made of the extent
of each agency’s involvement and the kinds of, cases each accepts.

The emphasis in this study was on missing youth. It was found that a few agencies have realized the
opportunity that is offered for counseling the family for the return and reconciliation, besides
conducting a search. They have helped both the runaway and other members recognize the causes of
alienation and the need to build new empathy and understanding so a member will never, again want to
"lose" his family.

It was concluded that families and agencies both should be encouraged to continue a search. Some may
not want to be "found" but many who have left home want to return, although they feel trapped in their
decision by pride or despair. Whether or not a family should continue a search is voiced in one
runaway youth’s poignant letter "... keep looking." The investigation suggests further need for more
direction-in the establishment of a national clearing house for information and in providing readily
available counseling services to prevent troubled persons from using disappearance as a solution to
family problems.
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Graduate Dean

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An investigation was made to determine and evaluate the existing organized agencies whose purpose is to lend assistance to families in the form of search and counseling. Based on a case study involving personal experience, added insights were gained into a family's experience of disorientation when a member leaves suddenly.

A continuing and frustrating problem facing the family may be the question of the thoroughness of the agency because of lack of understanding of their purpose, procedures they use, and failure of the agencies to disclose information on what has been done. Data was collected and tabulated on the aid rendered by government, professional, and charitable agencies and an analysis was made of the extent of each agency's involvement and the kinds of cases each accepts.

The emphasis in this study was on missing youth. It was found that a few agencies have realized the opportunity that is offered for counseling the family for the return and reconciliation, besides conducting a search. They have helped both the runaway and other members recognize the causes of alienation and the need to build new empathy and understanding so a member will never again want to "lose" his family.

It was concluded that families and agencies both should be encouraged to continue a search. Some may not want to be "found" but many who have left home want to return, although they feel trapped in their decision by pride or despair. Whether or not a family should continue a search is voiced in one runaway youth's poignant letter "... keep looking."

The investigation suggests further need for more direction in the establishment of a national clearing house for information and in providing readily available counseling services to prevent troubled persons from using disappearance as a solution to family problems.
CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Importance of the Study

Crises in families may be precipitated by many factors—accidents causing injuries, birth of a baby, a crime committed, hospitalization or death of a member, or a sudden unexplained absence. When a family member is missing, serious and urgent questions are raised in regard to locating him. What procedures should be initiated? What follow-up is necessary? From what agency should the family seek help?

There is little documented evidence of how to trace a missing person. Lack of data underscores the need for obtaining much more information on an important social problem as well as a distressing and hurtful one for families during this crisis.

Studies have reported facts on the missing-persons problem since the early 1900's, while legal provisions had been set up three hundred years before that in English common law to solve perplexing problems left in the wake of a "lost person."

Among the total population of the United States and Canada the problem of a missing person emerges as a serious personal, as well as social, concern. These persons may include the truant from school, the family deserter (wife or husband), or the military evader. They all have in common the element of "disappearance" from habitual surroundings and activities. The ratio of missing persons to the United States population is 1 : 400.
Visualized another way, a typical small city of 20,000 persons could have as many as fifty individuals whose whereabouts are unknown.

Police interest has evolved out of public concern for the welfare and safety of missing persons, and law enforcement agencies, therefore, assume certain responsibilities for tracing missing persons. Voluntary social welfare agencies, law enforcement bureaus of missing persons, and private professional agencies are all sources of help in locating a missing member.

In recent years investigators estimate the problem of missing persons is increasing so rapidly that it is already approaching the status of a national crisis, especially the rates reported for runaway juveniles. There is conjecture as to whether much of this trend among teenagers is due to a natural desire to escape the conflict of adapting to the environment or a "bent" toward adventure. There is concensus among writers, however, that it is a dangerous situation, especially for youth. It is doubtful that there are any parents of missing children who would not agree with these writers.

While many want to be found, those who have disappeared may feel trapped in their decision, either through pride or despair. The family wants to be assured of the health and safety of the absent member even if it may mean accepting the condition that he may not want to return or that his welfare may best be served by not revealing his whereabouts.

Purpose of the Study

Unless there is reason to suspect fugues, murder, suicide, kidnapping or an accident, concern for the missing person rests with relatives, associates and friends and with the police.
Personal experience helped establish a need for data which would give specific guidelines to a family who experiences the sudden loss of a member as well as give accurate information and understanding of the aid various agencies render. There seems to be no investigative studies relating to the effectiveness of agencies nor data compiled to determine how these agencies function in aiding a family with this crisis problem. A lack of knowledge of the thoroughness of the agency may be a continuing source of frustration to the family through lack of understanding of the agency's purpose, procedures involved, or lack of disclosure of information by the agency on what has been done in a search.

In this study the investigator has reviewed the case of a missing person. This serves to show a family's experiences. In addition, a survey of methods of search has been made so that any family can understand the type and extent of services it can expect from the law enforcement, private professional, and social agencies.
CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Historical

Historically, missing persons have provided endless legends. Stories of famous disappearances such as Clapp's *Vanishing Point*[^1] and Churchill's *They Never Came Back*[^2] are accounts of unresolved cases and long-standing mysteries. Records as far back as the early 1900's have been kept on why people disappear and never return.[^3]

It is estimated that at least 500,000 persons annually are reported missing to United States law enforcement officials. Police departments are pressed by a growing demand for aid in their location. The extent to which people are missing is shown in a 1965 study by Rubin[^4]. A report from the Director of the Montreal, Canada, City Police Department stated that in 1964 an average of 413 persons were listed missing each month of that year. In that same year, Los Angeles reported 7,897 persons of all ages were missing. Missing persons reported to the Atlanta Police Department for the 1959-1964 period included 2,981 juveniles and the chilling figure of 91 children from

ages 1 to 5.9 years, plus 2,157 adults from 17 years up. The median age for juveniles was 13.4 years and for adults 30.3 years.

In 1967, a total of 1,000,000 persons were officially reported missing.\(^5\) It was Franzmeier's belief that the number of Americans who disappeared last year and the physical and emotional hardship they caused those they left behind has elevated the missing-persons problem to the status of a national crisis.

On the other hand, Fraenkel maintained that it is not easy to stay "lost." Our many facilities for tracing missing persons (television, radio, telephone, telegraph, teletype, photographs, newspapers) have aided police who use all of these media. Thus, they are able to efficiently coordinate their efforts. He writes of the problem, "It may be estimated that not more than 200, who are not found by search, disappear yearly in the United States in times of peace . . . without a trace. One hundred times as many were missing in action from the armed forces during three years of World War II. One hundred times as many Jews disappeared in the three years from the fall of 1941 to the fall of 1944. The proportional figures are 1:100:10,000."\(^6\)

Definitions

Studies require that missing persons be distinguished from runaways.

A study conducted by the National Institute of Mental Health focused on the


"intent of the runaway." The definition evolved was "the runaway is the child who leaves home with the knowledge that he will be missed." He is found or returns home voluntarily to the effective control and surveillance of the parents as well as to the security of the home.

What is a missing person? Ringold states that every child thinks about running away, many even threaten it, but there may never be a complete record of the number who do because many cases go unreported. Of those cases relating to runaway youth, Hildebrand shows an increase of 51 per cent over the ten-year period of 1950 to 1960 in New York City alone. A ten per cent higher rate for 1967 reported 225,000 teen-agers as runaways. Of these juvenile runaways 90,246 were arrested by United States law enforcement officers, and almost half of them were girls. The Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reports showed this as an increase of almost 10 per cent from 1966.

The Lowrey study of those who were officially classed as runaways with the New York Travelers Aid Society showed that the age range extended from 6 to 102 years. It was in contrast to other agencies that probably would not have classed as runaways those over 21, or perhaps even 18. Their argument stated, "If older individuals are absent from accustomed surroun-

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dings with consent or knowledge, particularly if incapacitated in any way, they are so classified."

It can be noted, therefore, that "the universe or population of 'missing persons' reported to police officials is not a precisely defined aggregate." Rubin pointed out that there are variations in definitions from one large metropolitan area police department to another and almost all police departments separate adults and juveniles, highly concentrating their efforts on finding a missing child. Kansas City, Kansas, police reported that a person is considered missing if he or she "has been absent for 24 hours without sufficient reason." Buffalo police stated that:

A missing person is one missing from his or her usual place of abode (including institutions) under circumstances not consistent with his ordinary habits, or who may be in need of police assistance by reason of age, infirmity, physical or mental handicap, or the possibility of foul play or accident.

When a person is missing for a significant period, can he be declared legally dead? The English courts formulated the common law on presumption of death in 1604: "If it is proved that for a period of not less than 7 years no news of a person has been received by those who would naturally hear of him if he were alive, and that such inquiries and searches as circumstances naturally suggested have been made, there arises a legal presumption that he is dead." Pertaining to the present day the same author


11Rubin, "Missing Persons and Tabulations."

referring to need for search on Presumption of Death for legal proceedings, writes:

The best form of instruction would be to require a finding that the absent person's abandonment of his home, desertion of his friends and concealment of his whereabouts from them, in connection with his age, health, disposition, moral character, social rank, financial condition, objects and aims in life, together with all other facts and circumstances in evidence, were inconsistent with his voluntary absence (70 F. 2d 569). Inquiry is to be made with the police departments, Bureaus of Missing Persons and appropriate cases with the corresponding agencies of the Army and Navy. Even a slender purse will be no excuse for omitting such requests.

Relation to Previous Studies

The interest for this study is in missing youth. An interpretation of why adolescents run away should be considered. It is important to keep in mind that the escape the adolescent seeks from conflict is an escape that leads to some sort of solution, some sort of adaptation, "a tentative attempt to fit into an environment not of the adolescent's creation. This point of view may be faulty and the judgments may be wrong but they are all that he has. This is not a sketch of the world as it is but of the world that the adolescent sees." One of the adjustments with escape "can now be scrutinized."

In almost all adolescents from time to time there is a distinct tendency to flee the environment, to run away from it. This running away is not used here in any mythical or figurative sense but is an actual physical

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piece of conduct which often is a surprising and starting experience for parents and others concerned. It is difficult to see why this sort of solution is not more common, because the means of accomplishing it are so simple and the impulse to run away is so logical. Between running away and slow and painful adaptation, the choice would always seem to favor the first. The more active and pleasanter performance of cutting loose (an answer to one of the most primitive of all impulses, that of flight in the face of environmental difficulties) would seem the most natural thing in the world. Many of the escapes are futile, unsuccessful, and some of them, though not many, end in disaster. By going back on a false trail the true path is often found.

Wattenberg found in his large study of runaway boys that the main motivation was search for adventure and, perhaps, a strong desire for independence. He also found that with the return families rallied their forces and better relationships with sons resulted.

Although Shallow does not exclude the possibility of individual disturbed and disorganized pathological behavior as a factor in running away, a conclusion was that these runaways "have taken the initiative"; it is a part of their "inept attempt to escape from the nowhere of adolescence."\(^\text{14}\)

Although psychological studies of runaways are fairly numerous and articles in popular magazines on this problem are increasing, there seems to be little documented evidence of how to trace missing persons. But whether to or not is summed up by a reader of one magazine:

Sirs: Your article ['Runaway Kids']\(^\text{15}\) is very real.
I was a runaway, too. I have one thing to say. . . .

\(^{14}\)Shellow, and others, Suburban Runaways, Monograph.

Keep looking for your daughter or son. They want to be found.

Corky Crandall
Cambridge, Mass.
CHAPTER III

PROCEDURES

Unless there is reason to suspect fugues, murder, suicide, kid-napping or an accident, concern for the missing person rests with relatives, associates and friends, and with the police.

Personal experience helped establish a need for data which would give specific guidelines to a family who experiences the sudden loss of a member as well as give accurate information and understanding of the aid various agencies render. There seems to be no investigative studies relating to the effectiveness of agencies nor data compiled to determine how the agencies function in aiding a family with this crisis problem. A lack of knowledge of the thoroughness of the agency may be a continuing source of frustration to the family through lack of understanding of the agency's purpose, procedures involved, or lack of disclosure of information by the agency on what has been done in a search.

In this study the investigator has reviewed the case of a missing person. This serves to show a family's experiences. In addition, a survey of methods of search has been made so that any family can understand the type and extent of services it can expect from the law enforcement, private professional, and social agencies.

The orientation of the investigator has been involvement in a personal survey beginning at the onset of the episode presented in the case study. An attempt has been made to utilize the strengths of the data that
had been obtained in a personal search, combined with the immediate data obtained through thesis investigation. The two main areas of information gathered were: (1) on the crisis state of a family experiencing a missing member, the typical phases which characterize the period of upset but which were supplementary to it; (2) on the type and extent of aid various agencies are able to render to a family in this crisis, through a questionnaire with a set of questions asked (see Appendix A) which served as the source of comparative data. The obtained sample expanded from three representative types specifically to include as many agencies as possible, categorized as law enforcement, private professional, and benevolent social service organizations. In a few instances some subject areas were covered by unstructured interview. This interview approach was limited, however, to those who were willing to give unusual and, at times, confidential information.

Sample

Several agencies were preselected in that these specific ones were participating in the search referred to in the case study. Others were selected from references found in background literature as individuals representing agencies working with missing persons cases. Several agencies or sources were brought to the attention of the researcher by personal reference from colleagues.

Methodology

Casework with a family and their agency contacts served as a background to finding new agencies and as a basis for evaluating data received from all agencies involved with missing persons. Tables were devised to
present data of various kinds: (1) number and kinds of respondents; (2) relation of purposes and kinds of assistance by each type of agency; (3) cases accepted for searching, related to agency definition of a missing person; (4) agencies conducting searches internationally; (5) media as reported used by all agencies; (6) data on how frequently families are advised of progress; (7) how long the agency will continue the search; (8) number of persons found compared to number of searches undertaken; (9) opinions of agencies on forming a National Clearing House of information or additional legislation in regard to facilitating searches.
CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS OF DATA

Case Study - Kevin Russell Wellcome

Background and History

Fort Devens, Massachusetts, was the birthplace of Kevin Russell Wellcome on November 15, 1944. The father, a radar officer, and the mother, a nurse, warmly welcomed his arrival.

By the time Kevin was four years old he and his sister Lisa, two and a half, had lived with their parents in Florida, Texas, Colorado, and a year in the British West Indies. After an interval spent in Bozeman, Montana, while the father finished his college work, the family again accompanied him on a series of foreign aerial photographic projects in which he participated. Kevin and Lisa attended schools in California, Canada, and in Philadelphia before going overseas to Iran in 1955. These moves were welcomed adventures for the whole family but the goal was always to return home to a wide green valley in the mountains of Montana. Living for two years in the scenes of ancient and modern Persia gave the family many new perspectives and leaving good friends was difficult.

A request came asking the family to adopt an "Iranian brother" for Kevin and Lisa. Being 13 years old and between their ages, he adapted well into the family while living in a Philadelphia suburb for the two years following 1957. The return "home" to Montana was made and all three entered junior high school after having made good records in the suburban school in
Pennsylvania.

As a child and into puberty Kevin was a cheerful, considerate, sensitive, enthusiastic boy. He was intense in his interest in many things and excelled in managing a paper route in Philadelphia, playing violin, and was elected president of the student council in the 1500-student junior high school.

As an older adolescent he began to be withdrawn and his open acceptance of adults and peers alike diminished. Occasionally there was an emotional upheaval involving rebellion at authority in a family situation. For example, at the age of 15 after playing a violin solo at a Parent-Teachers Association meeting, he walked a distance of several miles home in the cold, not waiting for the family. This particular situation of returning home from family affairs was always a problem from that time on. During the first school year back in Montana he did very well with music and moderately well with school work. His high school experience there was disappointing to him with so much emphasis being put on academic achievement for entering college and the socially exclusive cliques that thrived. He was not left out but he was very sensitive to injustices to others and empathized deeply with those who were not "in."

The adopted son, Taraj, during this time was causing some dissent and Kevin was developing a real loyalty to him which eventually grew into an unreasoning blind tie. It also made him sure that Taraj's rebellion and defensiveness was because the parents did not love him enough. Taraj was an excellent psychologist and knew how to play one against the other. This he did adroitly causing the father not to cooperate with the mother in situa-
tions to his advantage.

At the beginning of the summer of 1961, Taraj left home to work, with Kevin's help, and it became increasingly difficult to talk to and reason with Kevin. Soon after, he left without the parents' permission or knowledge for California to visit Taraj. In a few days Kevin called to ask his father to come down to try to persuade Taraj to return with them for school; but Taraj did not, then or later. Kevin returned home alone with his father.

Kevin was very interested in obtaining a car, and this was an unresolved conflict until the following spring. That summer he helped his father with heavy jobs such as haying. He seemed much calmer and fairly happy upon returning to school. He had stopped playing the violin the year before because he believed that the mother was exploiting him in this activity.

Then abruptly in the fall of 1962, during the first part of November, he left with a younger boy for California to "make his mark" with his new electric guitar. He was allowed to stay because this was near his eighteenth birthday and he wanted to be "independent." He had a difficult time finding jobs and was treated "shabbily" and "selfishly" by Taraj. This finally ended in total disillusionment.

The following April the father had a scientific paper to give at Yosemite, so he and the mother drove to California. They were joyously reunited with Kevin who came home with them. He immediately went to ask for his old job at a grocery store and seemed happy to be back. Not long after, the father had an opportunity to go overseas temporarily, and Kevin and a friend begged to do the farming on "shares," so this decision was made.

The family and friends sensed he could not face communicating any
personal problems which they all knew he had, but everyone tried to help. He did not wish anyone to query him but he occasionally divulged his feelings about his personal involvements with others—which were often critical and fault-finding. During this time pains in his stomach made Kevin think he had ulcers and he made a secretive visit to the family doctor. It was almost a year later that the family learned this doctor had detected abnormal behavior and thinking patterns and urged him to see a psychiatrist. Kevin agreed to do this, asking the doctor not to let his parents know of it. There was no follow-up and, in reality, he did not go to the psychiatrist.

The father returned to the United States in the middle of that summer and visited home in Montana, then proceeded to Arizona to finish his job. By September the work and all else seemed well at the ranch, so the mother joined the father in the south for a brief holiday. There was knowledge of Kevin’s desire to explore and prospect in the Southwest but an open invitation was not extended to have him come to visit in Arizona since it appeared Kevin would enter and finish his last year of high school.

The Disappearance

The parents had talked with Kevin by phone—and also to Lisa who was, very concerned about his leaving on a long-planned camping trip to explore. He promised them that he would not go until after they had returned. In spite of this he left, telling Lisa that he planned to go to South America for six months.

The crisis arose for the family suddenly on a November day, 1963 (about five and a half years after returning to the United States from the Middle East)—receipt of an airmail letter from Kevin addressed to Bozeman.
The letter revealed:

Dear Mom and Dad,
   I guess this is the end of the line for me. I'm sorry.
   The car will be by a bridge in the Otter Crest Loop off coastal highway 101 in Oregon. It's 11m. north of Newport and 2m. S. of Depoe Bay. That makes a long trip but it has to be this away. I'll put the key in the left front hub cap rather than send it. That tire pump is in the left door holding up the window. The tire will probably be flat by the time you get there so you will need it. I would like to just fade from this earth and the memories of all who know me without any fuss. I ruined my life, don't let me ruin yours also.
   Love,
   Kevin

The mother had returned from Arizona and her first thoughts were disbelief, then panic—thinking he was saying that he was going to do away with himself. Her next thoughts were that if he was that upset, then mercifully he might have become amnesic and they might even find him in a mental hospital.

She drove into Bozeman to a young pastor and his family and from there immediately called the sheriff's office at Newport, Oregon, for information. They had found the car and were about to contact the family. They had not seen Kevin. The father was contacted and the decision was made to meet in Portland the next day. They drove to Newport where they found kindness, cooperation, and concern far beyond the call of duty in the county and state law officers. Here is what they pieced together of Kevin's activities before communicating with them.

On the eleventh of October he quit his job in Bozeman. The thirteenth of October (Sunday) he left Bozeman, after trying to persuade a friend to go with him, with the intention of exploring old mines and prospecting in the
Arizona-New Mexico-Texas area. The fourteenth of October he stopped to buy surplus camp gear near Salt Lake City, Utah. Articles in the car, mud, a sketch found, and thorns in the tire confirm execution of this plan. Something disillusioned Kevin (reason not established) and he then began a long trek of 6000 miles. This trip included a stop at Punta Gorda, Florida—established definitely by a service station operator before the journey to Oregon began. Kevin and the car appeared on the West Coast on the seventh of November in Newport, Oregon. On the ninth of November he gassed up and asked some questions of a busy station operator. He looked as if he had been on the beach digging—barefooted and wet, though the day was cold. This was early morning. The weather in this area during this time of the year and during this particular week would be extremely depressing to one used to a drier climate—wild high winds and cold rain in torrents churned the pounding surf to a deafening roar.

The car was observed by a home owner who lives at a vantage point above the scenic turnout on Otter Crest Loop described in Kevin's letter. Kevin parked and meditated several hours; attention was drawn to him because toward noon he ran up and observed the road mileage marker, ran down the road a short way, and then returned to his Volkswagen. (It may be at this point he put the key in the hubcap, etc.) He was last observed by the same home-owner dogtrotting toward Depoe Bay some two miles away. To this man's knowledge, Kevin never returned to his vehicle. The letter had to be mailed between 12:30 and 1:00 P.M. to bear the postmark it had. This checks with the homeowner's observations. The postmistress identified the letter, since it was stamped on the wrong side of the envelope with two airmail stamps.
All camping gear and personal belongings, including identification, were left in the car intact. There was an unexplained CI can of wet sand on the passenger side and his large pistol was missing.

The Search

Authorities.—Every business establishment in Depoe Bay which was open on Saturday the ninth of November was quizzed by either the Officer of the Oregon State Police or Kevin's father. A picture of him was shown; no other identifications were made. The trail ended at this point. The police were pessimistic since an unidentified youth would have a hard time traveling without being picked up for checking draft status. An "all points bulletin" was put out in Oregon, Washington, and northern California—also in Arizona.

Few could visualize such a drastic step as suicide but they searched the wild gorge cutting into Otter Crest Loop, and once during that time the mother had a fleeting, but strong, feeling that Kevin was watching them. When she reported this, one of the officers said he'd had this feeling, too.

Some suggested he may have "shipped out and ships at Newport were checked on the eleventh and twelfth of November. This investigation should have been carried further but was not considered a good possibility at the time.

The parents made a trip to Salt Lake to visit the Missing Persons Bureau. They were advised that this was "a pattern" and that he would return in a year or two. They made many visits to the police. Fingerprints were attempted from Kevin's guitar, and the police promised to insert a Missing Person notice in the Police Bulletin of the Montana Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation at Deer Lodge. The FBI suggested that the boy had probably joined the military in some service under an assumed name.
Earlier when the family in the case study contacted the FBI local agent, they found that information on the case had already been received but it did not come within the jurisdiction of the organization at that time because Kevin was not only over 18 but also he had sent a letter of "intent" to the family. Later the U. S. District Attorney, acting on Kevin's lack of response to Selective Service correspondence, authorized the FBI to activate a search. A detailed amount of information was then obtained from the family (summer 1965) in personal interview but there has been little contact since and no information given to the family as to what has been done. The family has had to initiate those contacts. Fingerprints, always a concern, were obtained during this time from a locked electric guitar belonging to Kevin, with the cooperation of the county sheriff's office. A picture was obtained by the sheriff also to insert a missing persons notice in the Montana Bureau of Criminal Identification, but the family was never informed if this was done.

The FBI suggest going to the Social Security Administration and this the family did. After considering the "need" they informed the family that a personal letter written and addressed to Kevin's name would be forwarded to the Washington, D.C. office to be sent on to the last reporting employer under Kevin's social security account. This attempt at locating him was unsuccessful as information received from the Administration office in Helena informed the family that his last employer reporting was the grocery he was working for when he left home. A social welfare worker (a friend) attempted through a reciprocal agreement with the Social Security Administration to determine Kevin's whereabouts and had the same findings reported. The
researcher is informed that this agreement with social welfare agencies no longer exists.

Upon learning of their Missing Persons and Inquiry Bureau in 1967, the family in this case contacted the Western Territorial Headquarters of the Salvation Army and requested help. Subsequently, an inquiry form (see Appendix C) was submitted and reports of progress have been sent to the family frequently. A missing persons report with Kevin's picture was advertised in the War Cry and a copy was also sent to the family.

The Family. — The father left Newport in Kevin's car and explored areas in Arizona and New Mexico for several days with only a sketchy map Kevin had drawn. The mother drove back to Portland in despair.

Lisa stayed with friends until the father returned and the mother was relieved for several days to be alone. Many friends visited and were helpful in getting her to talk of the overwhelming situation.

Others. — The pathetic letter and story was taken to psychiatrists and opposing views found. One emphatically stated that this letter did not mean suicide and others were pessimistic.

The parents wrote many letters to friends whom they had known in their travels, where Kevin might be "found."

Help came from another quarter, too. Reverend Jay had done some work with the Suicide Prevention Center in Los Angeles and urged the family to write a case study that he would forward to them. This is Dr. Shneidman's reply:

This is in answer to your poignant letter of April 27.
We have, of course, no way of knowing . . .
even from the extensive information which you sent us ... exactly what the fate of young Kevin Wellcome is. As we read the material a number of logical possibilities (some more hopeful than others) occur. One is the young Mr. Wellcome is a victim of amnesia and will, sometime in the future, be restored "to his right mind" and will return to his family. Another possibility is, although a distressing one, that he is a victim of foul play; the third possibility is that he committed suicide. This possibility is given some credence by his note of November 9. The fourth possibility is that he has in effect committed psychological suicide ... that is, that he has chosen to disappear from his family and, as it were, start life over. We would be less than candid if we were openly optimistic in this case; on the other hand we have seen some miraculous turns of events. We certainly join with you and with the family in their earnest wishes and prayers that their young son who had so much to live for will be found alive and well. Please convey these thoughts to Mr. and Mrs. Wellcome for us
If there is anything more that we can do, do not hesitate to write to us.

Yours very sincerely,
Edwin S. Shneidman, Ph.D.
Co-Project Director

The parents also turned to a Chicago-trained graphologist and member of the International Graphoanalysis Society, living in Helena, who compared specimens of Kevin's earlier handwriting with his last letter. The report is as follows:

The letter in January indicated that he was beginning to skim the surface of things, not daring to do any real abstract thinking. Possible depression, but here was a boy who was super sensitive to criticisms and slights

that many times he imagined. He felt tremen-
dous hurts that led to a show of vanity. He
must have said to himself, "I don't think that
anyone cares very much for me so I will have
to build up a world for myself." Kevin was
basically an impulsive person with heart
involvement in all his decision-making. Thus
he could never be completely objective about
anything. His thought of suicide would not
have been premeditated... I believe this
boy was beside himself and wanted to make a
drastic change but I do not think that there
was suicide in his mind. I think he wanted
to get far, far away and to live a simple
life and to try to find himself. He may or
may not wish to come back.
I do not think that this boy felt he had been
respected or that he had measured up to other
persons important in the life of his parents.
This is a pretty hard thing to live with and
his note and his writing both indicate that
he is sincere in this belief. He despera-
tely needed assurance that he was loved and
respected.
I am sure... the police will back me up
in thinking that this boy did not commit
suicide but just planned to disappear. Let
us hope in his maturing years that he will
realize that all parents make mistakes but
they do the best they can at the moment
... even though in the minds of their
children... feel they were handed a "raw
deal." May the future confirm what I have
just written.

Louise M. Abel
Graphoanalyst

Assured that in handwriting specimens there was not a suicide
syndrome, but traits are looked for that would perhaps cause one to enter-
tain the idea. However, not any one set of traits would indicate a suicide-
type person.

Family Adjustment

At first there were many tears. Grief feelings were often over-
whelming and unexpected. The mother could not sleep, but prayer helped.
The visit to Newport had a nightmarish quality and she avoided Kevin's room and seeing his belongings. The decision was made to have the father sell Kevin's car before he returned to Bozeman from Arizona. But contrasted to the finality of death, there is hope and, also, the opportunity for activity.

Psychologically and emotionally they all withdrew, especially Lisa. Little social life was initiated, and many people who they knew they did not talk to about this nor did they communicate this crisis which they had faced in writing to many others. The mother felt a great deal of hostility toward the institution of the church because little comfort came from this quarter. The husband and most of the family would not discuss the situation with her, but it was always there.

Spiritually, there is always comfort for those who seek and the family feels that spiritual perceptions and understandings have increased. The mother says two other striking things have happened—feeling a gradual loss of concern over what people think or have thought about their crisis and other matters and feeling a loss of the fear of death, which is a great freedom.

Many of the family's friendships have been deepened and they have found personally that many more people have experienced this baffling problem than they could ever imagine. To paraphrase Cuber, "The family whose (son) has gone away often committed no overt offense — yet their world of hope collapsed upon them. This is a hurtful thing; that one thinks he knows the reasons is small comfort; the fact won't go away."17

Analysis of Crisis - Comparison with Literature

The Boy

Referring back to Dr. Shneidman's possibilities set forth, Sullivan writes, "If the maintenance of certain characteristic patterns of interpersonal behavior depend for their support on significant others, then to alter the composition of any person's community of significant others is the most direct and drastic way of altering his 'personality'." This reference to "psychological suicide" is an opinion shared by some doctors and nurses familiar with the case.

Schwab and Veeder write, "It is one of the surprising things in a study of the adolescent period to find out that there is nothing in the type, kind, or vigor of the conflict (to adapt) that warrants prophecy in regard to the type of escape eventually hit upon." They go on to postulate:

... suicides do occur in the adolescent period... as a direct answer to a series of circumstances and situations in life which he dares not face. When the effect of them on himself and others becomes unthinkable, there is no other way out for him than disappearance from life. The anticipated failure rather than actual failure creates the suicidal mind—the fear of the impossibility of adjustment rather than the attempt and unsuccessful issue.

There were so many questions—for a loss is enough of an impact—but without clear reason for this loss, it seems especially cruel. Why, in a sense, had he rejected his family or at least made the decision to


leave? What did Kevin mean when he said he had ruined his life? Was it only because he had dropped out of school or was it something deeper that the family knew nothing about? Randall Foster says the child with limited abilities to cope with "dangerous impulses" can run to escape temptation and search for safer gratification. Or was this a fugue as studied by Stengel—an altered consciousness (or narrowed) with the impulse to wander? Did he have a tendency to a depressive reaction of the constitutional type that Stengel observed in all the cases he studied on pathological wandering? Or was his a self-punishment motive undergoing hardships that would seem to give the runaway positive pleasure in this activity as Lowrey conjectured in his study of runaways and nomads? Could his main motivation have been a search for adventure and an effort to exercise independence, as found by Wattenberg in his meaningful study in Detroit? The paradox seems to be that Kevin's leaving Montana was planned and took a gradual course of gathering information and gear. His disappearance from Depoe Bay seems to be an "instantaneous escape" through wish-fantasy, perhaps for a change of scene and freedom from his relationships and responsibilities. Or what he might have felt was rejection by the parents of his ambitions or fancied injuries.

The Family

It is characteristic for a family to seek explanations, interpretations and to "rethink" incidents, especially in times of personal crisis when the individual is questioning himself about where he is going and must consequently consider where he has been. Vivian Cadden writes, "The hard

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work of grief (in dismemberment) that must be done if one is to surmount it, the job of remembering and holding up the image of the one who is gone, is of reviewing a life and our relationship to it."21

A crisis or hazardous event can have several meanings for a family. It can be a threat which is met by anxiety, a loss or deprivation met with depression, or a challenge met with a mobilization of energy and purposeful problem-solving activities. Kevin's family probably experienced all three, for there was both anxiety and depression at first, but later the search provided a task-orientation and a challenge. If reaction to grief is delayed or denied, then a later reaction may occur which can be destructive.

The kind of help the person needs, Dr. Caplan believes, is encouragement from those who are closest to him to acknowledge the fact that he is in trouble and it is natural to be upset by it. He goes on to point out that it is not only ordinary people who are afraid to "upset" a person in trouble but also doctors and hospitals and other presumably helpful agencies often fall into the same easy way. Caplan says, too, that the outcome of a crisis is not predetermined. "Whether a person will emerge stronger or weaker is not necessarily determined by his 'character' or his 'inner strength' but by the kind of help he gets during the trouble."22

Subsequent adaption for the family has proceeded from "the experience of personal shock to disorganization, through recovery, and readjustment," the crisis pattern formulated by Reuban Hill.

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Agencies Investigated

This part of the study is a survey of the kinds of agencies involved in the direct search for missing persons. Agencies which may act as coordinating or counseling agencies upon "finding" the lost or the runaway are surveyed. A mailed questionnaire served as the major source of information for comparative purposes but, as indicated later in the text, some agency personnel were interviewed by long distance telephone using selected questions from the questionnaire.

Out of twenty-six questionnaires sent to three different categories of agencies, seven responded completely. The majority responded by letter, often enclosing considerable printed material or a brochure. Of eight questionnaires sent to professional agencies, one-half were returned for lack of a forwarding address or because the owners were recently deceased. Personnel from a detective agency and a missing seamen's bureau were interviewed by telephone. After mailing a questionnaire and a follow-up letter, an attempt was made to contact the Family Location Service mentioned in literature and recommended by Travelers Aid, but no telephone listing was found. One private professional and four social service agencies did not respond. A total of seventeen agencies were surveyed from the data received (Table 1).

Agencies can be categorized into law enforcement, private professional and commercial, and benevolent social service agencies. The type of unit (i.e., Missing Persons Section of the Chicago Police) is in all cases an

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23 A list of respondents and other agencies mentioned in the case study with information for locating each appears in the appendices. Also included in the appendices are the following materials mentioned later in the text: questionnaire, follow-up letter, representative inquiry forms, and sample page police bulletin.
integral, but separate, function of each agency which is concerned with missing persons. The one exception is Tracers Company of America which is devoted exclusively to tracing missing persons. United Seamen's Service is a social service organization and does not maintain a missing persons service. They recommended contacting the Seamen's Church Institute.

**TABLE 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of Agency</th>
<th>Questionnaires Sent</th>
<th>Questionnaires Answered</th>
<th>Letter or Brochure</th>
<th>Unable to Locate</th>
<th>Out of Business</th>
<th>Phone Interview</th>
<th>No Reply</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law Enforcement</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Professional</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benevolent Social Service</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most law enforcement agencies were found to be very cooperative, although three replied with letters instead of responding to the questionnaire. One respondent believed information was wanted pertaining to tracing errant husbands (they do not engage in this practice), and that many questions could not be answered because "opinions and direct answers would not be in keeping with the purpose of that organization." 24

The reader will note that large cities may have separate missing

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24 Lt. Thomas Daly, Missing Persons Section, Chicago Department of Police.
persons sections or bureaus relating to the large numbers of persons reported missing (see pages four and six for a discussion of these statistics) in metropolitan areas. Other enforcement units of counties, towns, and states assist each other and exert every effort to cooperate and coordinate activities. Outside of law enforcement duties and traffic control, state police and highway patrols are stand-by units in helping with any kind of search.

The Montana Criminal Bureau of Investigation and Identification carefully pointed out their responsibility of disseminating information, but it was not explained how this was obtained. Unless publicity is given in newspapers and through television broadcasts, the information about a missing person in the police bulletin (see the sample page in Appendix D) from this bureau does not circulate anywhere except in law enforcement offices.

The response of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was a brief letter and it was indicated that they assist under special circumstances.

The Social Security Administration was not a part of this survey but it is included (see Table 2) as an agency involved in the casework experience.

Tracers Company of America, the largest investigating agency in the country, was founded in 1924 and is the only agency investigated which specializes in hunting the missing with services in all parts of the world.

E. H. Goldfadder, the general manager, has been quoted in popular periodicals by at least two writers, Franzmeier25 and Abramson26, on problems of missing persons, particularly husbands who have disappeared. Tracers

25Franzmeier, "Husbands—Teen-agers Leave".
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Service Rendered</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County Sheriff</td>
<td>Local Department</td>
<td>Law Enforcement</td>
<td>Accept need if in jurisdiction</td>
<td>Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Police</td>
<td>Metropolitan Areas</td>
<td>Locate and identify unknown persons</td>
<td>Specify and limit kinds of cases accepted</td>
<td>Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>Bureau of Missing Persons</td>
<td>Locate and identify unknown persons</td>
<td>Specify and limit kinds of cases accepted</td>
<td>Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>Youth Division, Missing Persons</td>
<td>All field work by youth officers</td>
<td>Attempt to locate any regarded as bonafide missing persons</td>
<td>Letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Lake City</td>
<td>Detective Bureau</td>
<td>Law enforcement</td>
<td>Specify and limit kinds of cases accepted</td>
<td>Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>State Police</td>
<td>Enforcement of all state laws</td>
<td>Exert every effort to locate missing persons</td>
<td>Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Enforcement of all state laws</td>
<td>Exert every effort to locate missing persons</td>
<td>Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>Highway Patrol</td>
<td>Traffic law enforcement</td>
<td>Assist other agencies in search for missing persons</td>
<td>Telephone Interview*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mont. Bureau of Crim. Invest. and Ident.</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Collect and disseminate information on criminals; missing persons</td>
<td>Publish police bulletins with information; furnish bloodhounds on request</td>
<td>Letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FBI</td>
<td>Local Investigator</td>
<td>Assist under special circumstances</td>
<td>File of missing persons in Ident. Div., Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>Letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security Administration</td>
<td>Local Office</td>
<td>Individual case determination</td>
<td>Letter accepted to be forwarded to missing person</td>
<td>Casework Experience</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Reported by permission of Officer Garrick, Bozeman, Montana*
advertise in such periodicals as the American Bar Association Journal for locating "heirs, legatees, witnesses, stockholders, property owners, debtors and others." To initiate a request for services the family must write to the agency and an inquiry form (see Appendix C) will be returned, or they must submit to a personal interview.

Continental Detective Service's owner, Frank Bartholomew, stated in the telephone interview that his agency has taken all kinds of cases of detective work but specializes in missing persons and particularly runaway husbands and wives. As an agency they have been able to help many families work out domestic problems. Many of these private detective agencies are operated by former police officers.

The Credit Bureau of Gallatin County also has a former chief of police, and the researcher found in an interview with him that this agency is able to trace people who have skipped out owing accounts to local creditors almost anywhere in the world. This is done through cooperating with national agencies and their international connections. Just by contacting the former employer (creditor has to write for income tax information) or a bank (he may be holding a time contract and is required to advise them of his intentions) the agency is often able to "skip-trace" the debtor. Credit Bureaus are readily used by law enforcement and fee-charging professional agencies as sources of information on those who have disappeared. (See Table 3)

Missing persons are sought and reports submitted to those making personal application (see Appendix C for inquiry form) or in response to requests from the Salvation Army's Territorial Missing Persons and Inquiry
Bureau. This department serves as a clearing house for all inquiries originating outside the territory from the entire "Salvation Army world."

**TABLE 3**

**TYPES OF PRIVATE PROFESSIONAL AND COMMERCIAL AGENCIES AND KINDS OF ASSISTANCE GIVEN IN SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Tracers Company of America</th>
<th>Continental Detective Service</th>
<th>Credit Bureau of Gallatin County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit</td>
<td>Privately owned</td>
<td>Privately owned</td>
<td>Merchant owned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>To trace missing persons of all kinds in all parts of world</td>
<td>Investigates any situations</td>
<td>To trace people who leave and owe local credit grantors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Rendered</td>
<td>On request and payment of fee</td>
<td>Specialize in searching for missing persons</td>
<td>Skip-tracing; cooperate with national agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Answer</td>
<td>Questionnaire</td>
<td>Telephone Interview*</td>
<td>Letter and interview</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Telephone interview with Frank Bartholomew, Director.

Their purpose is not only to search for the missing but also they render extensive services in reuniting families and friends by affecting reconciliations, counseling for the good of all, and helping to settle all kinds of family problems. It does discuss with the individual, when located the purpose of the inquiry. It helps the family understand why the individual may have left and in some cases why he may not want to return. It also helps both the family and the individual to prepare for the return.

The American National Red Cross states that major dislocations of people caused by war and similar upheavals have produced a continuing need for locating relatives or close friends. Through a Foreign Location Inquiry
Service, Service to Military Families is a part of the program through which the agency carries out its responsibility to servicemen and veterans and their dependents and to dependents of deceased servicemen and veterans in communities. The term "veteran" includes all personnel who have served at any time in any of the components of the armed forces of the United States. This service is initiated and carried on through Red Cross chapters which handle inquiries for persons in the chapter community seeking to locate relatives or close friends in foreign countries and endeavor to locate persons being sought by other Red Cross societies throughout the world. In the recent Yellowstone earthquake disaster, the Red Cross was the emergency official reporting agency which passed along information and messages on the dislocated and cooperated with the sheriff's office and all others involved in extending assistance.27

Travelers Aid Association of America has eighty-six societies in many cities in the United States, Canada, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. It offers a program of assortive casework and counseling to clients in crisis situations and, on occasion, it does try to locate a missing person. But the experience of each society may be different and there is no set pattern in the overall organization for this kind of search.

Seamen's Church Institute maintains a Tracer's Service but it is primarily a social service institution--home and hotel--for seamen. A family of a missing merchant seaman makes an inquiry and records of the Institute are checked as well as information sought from the United States Coast

27 Mrs. Roy Berg, Director of the local Red Cross Chapter at the time of the Hebgen Lake Earthquake Disaster, August 1959.
Guard. Semi-annually in January and July, Missing Persons bulletins are sent to various seamen's agencies (i.e. unions, shipping companies, Consulates, and Seamen's Homes) in all parts of the world (see Appendix C).

The Columbia Broadcasting System reported that on the Art Linkletter daytime "House Party" program they do not search for missing persons—only missing heirs. They broadcast a story on the air and when, and if, an heir is found they put him in touch with the attorney handling the estate. That ends their responsibility.

Huckleberry's for Runaways does not look for missing persons, but they are a unique organization in that they work with a very specialized age group (13-17) of runaway adolescents. They attempt to help the teenager face his problems realistically, especially that of relating to adults. They try to effect reconciliation with the parents (contact must be made only by the teenager by his own decision) and follow-up agencies are recommended to families in the home situation after counseling with them in San Francisco. (See Table 4)

An agency usually defines what they mean by a missing person by indicating the kinds of cases they will accept. Smaller police units seem to accept all kinds of cases. Large metropolitan Missing Persons Bureaus designate only juvenile cases (under 18) are accepted; or cases involving suspicious involuntary disappearances which may indicate foul play; or unexplained absences which might be due to drowning, suicide, senility or mental conditions. Cases not accepted are those who have announced their intention of leaving due to family difficulties, their absence is consistent with the pattern of life, or legal or criminal cases. (See Table 5)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Service Rendered</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salvation Army</td>
<td>Missing Persons Bureau</td>
<td>To search for missing persons</td>
<td>To reunite, reconcile, counsel, and settle family</td>
<td>Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Territorial Headquarters</td>
<td></td>
<td>problems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American National Red Cross</td>
<td>Foreign Inquiry Location Service</td>
<td>Services for military veterans and depend-</td>
<td>Locate missing persons through all chapters</td>
<td>Letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ents--emergency</td>
<td>worldwide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travelers Aid</td>
<td>Individual Societies</td>
<td>86 in United States, Canada and Puerto Rico</td>
<td>Each society determines own actions regarding</td>
<td>Letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>missing persons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seamen's Church Institute</td>
<td>Tracer's Service</td>
<td>To trace missing seamen of the merchant</td>
<td>Worldwide coverage by semi-annual bulletins</td>
<td>Telephone Interview* Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>service</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Linkletter</td>
<td>T.V. House Party</td>
<td>To search for missing heirs</td>
<td>Broadcast story</td>
<td>Letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huckleberry's for Runaways</td>
<td>Social Service</td>
<td>Specialized residence and referral service</td>
<td>Many agencies formed cooperative project to consider</td>
<td>Letter &amp; Printed Material Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>realistic approach to runaways</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Telephone interview with personnel.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Definition of Missing Person</th>
<th>Cases Accepted</th>
<th>Cases Not Accepted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>All are considered emergency cases</td>
<td>No cases turned down in jurisdiction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>One who is reported missing from New York City residence and is:</td>
<td>Under 18, or 18 and over and (1) mentally or physically affected—hospital may be required; (2) possible victim of drowning; (3) has indicated intention of committing suicide; or (4) absent without apparent reason under circumstances indicating involuntary disappearance</td>
<td>Persons for whom warrants have been issued; wanted for committing crime; 18 or over who voluntarily leaves home for domestic, financial or similar reasons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Lake City</td>
<td>No definition given</td>
<td>Only where juveniles are involved, or suspicious circumstances—the possibility of foul play, amnesia or mental conditions</td>
<td>Cases of missing husbands, wives, alimony, child support or heirs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>Bonafide missing persons</td>
<td>All juveniles and adults whose absence is unexplained and is a departure from the norm, senile persons, mentally ill, and those who may be in need of help</td>
<td>Errant husbands, adults whose absence was announced due to family difficulties or disappearance consistent with pattern of life of the missing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE 5

DEFINITION OF THOSE MISSING PERSONS CASES ACCEPTED FOR SEARCHING AND THOSE NOT ACCEPTED, BY AGENCY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Definition of Missing Person</th>
<th>Cases Accepted</th>
<th>Cases Not Accepted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>All are considered emergency cases</td>
<td>No cases turned down in jurisdiction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>One who is reported missing from New York City residence and is:</td>
<td>Under 18, or 18 and over and (1) mentally or physically affected—hospital may be required; (2) possible victim of drowning; (3) has indicated intention of committing suicide; or (4) absent without apparent reason under circumstances indicating involuntary disappearance</td>
<td>Persons for whom warrants have been issued; wanted for committing crime; 18 or over who voluntarily leaves home for domestic, financial or similar reasons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Lake City</td>
<td>No definition given</td>
<td>Only where juveniles are involved, or suspicious circumstances—the possibility of foul play, amnesia or mental conditions</td>
<td>Cases of missing husbands, wives, alimony, child support or heirs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>Bonafide missing persons</td>
<td>All juveniles and adults whose absence is unexplained and is a departure from the norm, senile persons, mentally ill, and those who may be in need of help</td>
<td>Errant husbands, adults whose absence was announced due to family difficulties or disappearance consistent with pattern of life of the missing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
 Organizations for hire make no distinctions and will try to trace any who are missing. Commercially owned credit bureaus seek to trace only creditors who have "skipped." (See Table 6)

The Salvation Army Bureau will not become involved in doing detective work, search for individuals wanted by the police, or search for individuals wanted for vindictive reasons, divorce, and similar reasons.

The American National Red Cross is concerned with people lost or "dislocated", as they define missing persons, in wars and similar upheavals due to changing world conditions. They have reciprocal agreements with other societies throughout the world to locate persons sought.

Travelers Aid and United Seamen's Service only incidentally help locate the missing. Seamen's Church Institute and Art Linkletter try to locate only merchant seamen and missing heirs. When a teen-ager seeks help, at Huckleberry's, parental consent of the runaway is needed in order to house him. (See Table 7)

Three agencies have affiliations or coordinating agencies with which they can work internationally—The Salvation Army, American National Red Cross, and the credit bureau. Seamen's Church Institute conducts searches internationally but through unrelated agencies, both official and commercial. Tracers Company advertise that they search internationally but do not coordinate their activities with any other agency. This is true of their activities in this country, too. Law enforcement agencies, such as the New York Bureau, will give assistance if requested from police departments of foreign countries. (See Table 8)

Initially, agencies must obtain a physical description (see inquiry
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Definition of Missing Person</th>
<th>Cases Accepted</th>
<th>Cases Not Accepted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Oregon</td>
<td>Anyone who is reported missing</td>
<td>Willing to accept responsibility and exert every effort to locate all kinds of missing persons except:</td>
<td>Cases involving alimony or missing heirs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana Highway Patrol</td>
<td>Any reported from an agency seeking help</td>
<td>All kinds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mont. Bur. of Crim. Invest. and Ident.</td>
<td>Those not missing persons are designated fugitives</td>
<td>All kinds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F.B.I.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sec. Admin.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Judged individually</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Prof. Tracers Co. of America</td>
<td>Anyone missing</td>
<td>Husbands, wives, adolescents, children, alimony, child support, heirs, alumni, stockholders</td>
<td>No designation made</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continental Detective Service</td>
<td>Anyone missing</td>
<td>Majority marriage problems</td>
<td>No designation made</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Bureau</td>
<td>Those who have moved</td>
<td>Who are creditors</td>
<td>Those who left with no debts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Definition of Missing Person</td>
<td>Cases Accepted</td>
<td>Cases Not Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable Salvation Army</td>
<td>The missing</td>
<td>Works especially with families</td>
<td>Detective, wanted by police or for divorce or vindictive reasons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American National Red Cross</td>
<td>Major dislocations of people caused by war or similar upheavals</td>
<td>Relatives and friends of military and veterans' families with whom contact has been lost due to changing world conditions. Also cooperates with societies throughout the world when persons sought are thought to be in the United States</td>
<td>Will only assist in locating civilians in emergency situations by facilitating communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travelers Aid</td>
<td>The missing</td>
<td>Try on occasion to locate missing persons but the experience of each Society may be quite different</td>
<td>No set pattern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seamen's Church Institute</td>
<td>Lost seamen</td>
<td>Only merchant seamen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Link-letter T.V.</td>
<td>Unlocated estate heir</td>
<td>Only missing heirs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huckleberry's for Runaways</td>
<td>Runaway adolescents between the ages of 13 and 17</td>
<td>Do not look for missing persons; missing must come of own accord</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Seamen's Service</td>
<td></td>
<td>Social service agency; do not maintain missing persons service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# TABLE 8

REPORTS BY AGENCIES ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATING SOCIETIES, LAW-ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION, AND SEARCHES CONDUCTED INTERNATIONALLY*  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>International Offices or Cooperating Societies</th>
<th>Cooperate with International Law Enforcement</th>
<th>Conduct Searches Internationally</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County Sheriff</td>
<td></td>
<td>In any way they can be of help</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City Bureau of Missing Persons</td>
<td></td>
<td>Through request of police department involved</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Lake Police Department</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon State Police</td>
<td>On occasion we enlist aid of foreign agencies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracers Co. of America</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Bureau of Gallatin County</td>
<td>Canadian and overseas agencies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvation Army</td>
<td>Network of officers able to search entire world</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American National Red Cross</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes, through worldwide Red Cross Societies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seamen's Church Institute</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes, through unrelated agencies both official and commercial</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All agencies not listed because answers were not given.*
forms in Appendix C) of the person missing and then initiate regular investigative procedures for undertaking the search. There is a wide variety of media used by the agencies studied. The only social service agency listing sources of information was the Salvation Army and the two professional agencies were Tracers Company and Continental Detective Service. (See Table 9)

TABLE 9

NUMBER OF AGENCIES REPORTING USE OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING MEDIA TO EXPEDITE SEARCHING FOR MISSING PERSONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items Designated</th>
<th>Government Agency</th>
<th>Professional Agency</th>
<th>Social Service Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choices on Questionnaire</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employers</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postal Authorities</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational Affiliations</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directories</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registries</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Vital Statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emigration Records</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchant Marine</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Enrollments</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penal Institutions</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Locators</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security Administration</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Records</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspapers</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Television</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attorneys</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coast Guard</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Agencies</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Agencies</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Bureau</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloodhounds</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff's Posse</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TABLE 9—CONTINUED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items Designated</th>
<th>Government Agency</th>
<th>Professional Agency</th>
<th>Social Service Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police Circulars and Bulletins</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welfare Agencies</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travelers Aid</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Law Enforcement Agencies</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FBI</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotels, Motels, Hospitals</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depots and Car Rental Agencies</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Record Sources</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbors and Relatives</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising in the War Cry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal History and Inquiry Form</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seamen's Church Institute Missing Persons Bulletin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Suggested in data returned from agencies.*

Reports of the progress of the search to families show that the decisions to report are made by the agency in most cases, depending on facts developed, results acquired, or necessity. Only one, the detective agency, reports as often as the family would like to be informed. (See Table 10)

Searches are continued until the whereabouts of the person is determined, all practical procedures are exhausted, or a decision is made by the agency or the family to terminate (close) the case. (See Table 11)

The average expense to a family who uses the agency service is a factor of prime concern to those involved in crises. Obviously, fees will range the entire spectrum, depending upon whether the agency must show a
TABLE 10

HOW OFTEN PROGRESS OF THE SEARCH IS REPORTED TO FAMILIES OF MISSING PERSONS*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Frequency of Reporting Progress of Search</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County Sheriff</td>
<td>As often as advisable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City Bureau of Missing Persons</td>
<td>Weekly, depending upon nature of case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Lake Detective Bureau</td>
<td>As often as investigating officer feels is necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon State Police</td>
<td>When facts are developed which are of interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracers Company of America</td>
<td>Monthly, or when results are acquired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continental Detective Service</td>
<td>As often as the family would like to be informed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvation Army Missing Persons Bureau</td>
<td>When new search procedures initiated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huckleberry's for Runaways</td>
<td>Runaway urged to contact parents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All agencies not listed because no answers were given.

profit and account for all manhours involved in a search. Unfortunately, most organizations interrogated were reluctant to give a definite answer and declined to reply. The Salvation Army asks $1.00 for entering an advertisement in the War Cry and charge for unusual expenses. Tracers estimated costs to run from $250.00 to $1500.00 for a search. Continental Detective Service, however, quoted: $65.00 to $75.00 a day with the hourly services of the investigator and a car. Charges by the case are much less (i.e. finding a person after five months' work - $500.00

Statistics showing finds to search ratios vary considerably from 25 per cent to 99 per cent of the cases solved—and these are mostly.
TABLE 11

REPORTS OF HOW LONG THE AGENCY WILL CONTINUE A SEARCH*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Length of Time Search Remains Active</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County Sheriff</td>
<td>Some decision is the case has been made</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City Bureau of Missing Persons</td>
<td>Until closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Lake Detective Bureau</td>
<td>Person located or unqualified as missing persons case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon State Police</td>
<td>Whereabouts of person determined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracers Company of America</td>
<td>All practical procedures are exhausted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continental Detective Service</td>
<td>Person found or decision of family to terminate search</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Bureau of Gallatin County</td>
<td>Creditor found</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seamen's Church Institute</td>
<td>Approximately three years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All agencies not listed because no answers were given.

approximate figures. As is shown (see Table 12) there is a possibility that records are not kept in several kinds of agencies.

In order to facilitate searches, opinions were asked of agencies on forming a national clearing house of information, compulsory fingerprinting and making social security information available. Opportunity was given to add other ideas on legislation. The sheriff believed most people are not fingerprinted, but this is not confirmed. The Salvation Army suggested that maybe people should be required to notify authorities or police of changes in address "since, if this were done, it would certainly be much simpler to locate folks." (See Table 13)
### TABLE 12

REPORTS OF NUMBER OF MISSING PERSONS FOUND COMPARED TO SEARCHES UNDERTAKEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Ratio of Finds to Number of Searches Started</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County Sheriff</td>
<td>Very good in all years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City Bureau of Missing Persons</td>
<td>For all years over 99 per cent closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Lake Detective Bureau</td>
<td>No statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon State Police</td>
<td>No statistics - service to public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracers Company of America</td>
<td>Approximately 80 per cent 1963 through 1967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continental Detective Service</td>
<td>Overall 25 per cent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvation Army Missing Persons Bureau</td>
<td>1963 - 2047 inquiries; 1075 found</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1964 - 2447 inquiries; 738 found</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1965 - 2084 inquiries; 893 found</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seamen's Church Institute</td>
<td>1963 - 42; 1964 - 39; 1965 - 33;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1966 - 45; 1967 - 54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*a All agencies not listed because no data given.

*b Report only for the Western Territorial Headquarters.

*c 108 seamen (great majority in the 60's) are reported missing in the January 1, 1968 bulletin. Also stated: 12,976 seamen located since January 1920.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Clearing House Information to Be Set Up</th>
<th>Compulsory Fingerprinting</th>
<th>Social Security Information Available</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gallatin County Sheriff</td>
<td>Work with FBI and Criminal Identification</td>
<td>Most people are</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City Bureau of Missing Persons</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Lake City Detective Bureau</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Information from postal authorities and all government agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon State Police</td>
<td>No objection</td>
<td>No objection</td>
<td>Would Assist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracers Company of America</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvation Army Missing Persons Bureau</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Would assist if change of address required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seamen's Church Institute</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All agencies not listed because no answers were given.*
CHAPTER V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

When a family member disappears, serious and urgent questions are raised in regard to locating him. This study was made in an attempt to produce a feeling for the confusion and frustration a family experiences at the time of a crisis—a missing member. Much of this disorientation occurs because of the lack of knowledge of how to proceed with a search.

Then an investigation was carried out to determine the number of existing organized agencies—kind and type—purporting to lend assistance to families in the form of search and/or counseling in the event of a missing member. The extent of each such agency’s involvement was explored and the kinds of cases each accepted were defined.

This investigation was begun through contacts and sources made known through involvement in the case study already mentioned. It was continued by means of a survey of literature which culminated in the directing of questionnaires, followed up by letters and phone calls, to three categories of agencies: (1) government; (2) professional or profit-oriented; and (3) charitable or non-profit.

Response was varied in depth and detail. Tabulations were made from the data obtained, based on some of the parameters just outlined. Additional information, made available by questionnaire response, was listed for the
use of families in this crisis situation, including such items as media and methods used in the search.

Conclusions

The researcher has stated that there is little documented evidence on how to trace a missing person. There is much left to be done in gathering comprehensive data to clarify, for the family, procedures that should be initiated, follow-up that is necessary, and choice of agency, depending on whether the one who has disappeared is a child, an adolescent, a wife or a husband.

Disclosure by nine respondents of interest in this research is heartening. The writer feels the responses of the agencies were handicapped by an instrument that was not adequate for the diversity of the agencies, even though they shared a common purpose.

Many who have left home may want to return but they may feel trapped in their decision, either through pride or despair. Fraenkel pointed out that there are only about 200 a year who disappear and are not "found." Whether or not a family should continue a search is voiced in a youth's poignant letter to Life as a runaway's opinion, "keep looking . . . ."

It might be difficult to accept but a family may have to accept the condition that the "lost" person may not even want his whereabouts revealed, as well as not wanting to return. One agency, The Salvation Army Bureau of Missing Persons, acts on this premise and the family must agree to this policy before a search is started (they will be assured of the health and safety of the absent member, of course).

One of the problems that keeps relation of service to the customer
from being completely satisfying is lack of communication on what is going on and what is being accomplished by the searching agency. This was the experience of the family in the case study.

Recommendations

The present study suggests several specific areas of research needed relative to the missing persons problem. This study has analyzed the role played by a few agencies only; this is a somewhat limited but representative sample of those who accept responsibility for tracing a person who has disappeared—and those agencies which offer limited services only.

Intensive and extensive study and experimentation are needed in the area of crisis problems and "stresser events." There was no research found on how a missing persons crisis can be used to promote the mobilization of a family's strengths for recovery. But certainly this can become part of the "task" of any helping agency, since it is the quality of help at the strategic time, rationally directed, that is effective. These skills in corrective intervention can become part of the activities of all helping professions, including those who stand ready to assist when families are unexpectedly faced with the unhappy situation of a missing member.

Efficiency in conducting the search is crucial, but part of the effectiveness of an agency can become an element almost more important. If persons in or out of helping agencies adopt the impersonality of a "desk-side manner" or hide behind policy or officialism, progress will not be made toward the real help the family needs, either in the anguish of the crisis event itself or in the opportunity offered for counseling the family after the return of the alienated member. It means becoming more
sensitized and alert to the way the family feels in this traumatic event. It means learning to understand, as Jourard's meaning is implied, "roles that sicken" and "transactions that heal" applied to the family participants and the helping agency.28

Upon the return of the runaway, a family should be helped to recognize the meaning of this alienation in the relationship. Perhaps it may compel a family to face honest feelings and to clarify the confusion and distortions of destructive emotions. Then new bridges of understanding and empathy can be built so that a member may never again want to "lose" his family.

Since legislation is not always the answer, possibly benevolent and church organizations nationwide (as those in San Francisco working with many social agencies to organize Huckleberry’s for Runaways) might launch on a task of disseminating information and initiating the supportive counseling so urgently needed. As a possibility, the Salvation Army, with its years of successful searching and perceptive work done in reconciling families, might direct the way. They already have a clearing house of information and a network set up for investigation and reporting.

This way, with a large information center operating, a great amount of uniform statistical and psychological data from many reporting agencies could be gathered together to provide a comprehensive framework for analysis of this important social problem.

The reason why a person leaves home is not a part of the present

study, for this is a complex subject which has had some extensive research. But there is a need for much greater probing to determine how family counseling can be used effectively to prevent the troubled person from using disappearance as a solution. Counseling services could become more of a part of the responsibility of the helping agencies. One writer, Franzmeier, has offered some clear direction for the future:

A national clearing house of information on missing persons and also a counseling service have been suggested. To give the service dramatic appeal, it might be called Runaways Anonymous. People who feel pressures mounting who are about to abandon their families could consult the counseling service. The millions who have run away and regretted it and those they left behind would agree that it's worth a try.29

29 Franzmeier, "Husbands - Teen-agers Leave," pp. 6-7
APPENDIXES
1. What is the purpose of your agency?

2. What are your policies in accepting the responsibility for beginning a search for a missing person?

3. What kinds of cases are accepted by your agency?
   - Husbands
   - Child support
   - Other
   - Wives
   - Heirs
   - Adolescents
   - Detective
   - Children
   - Police
   - Alimony
   - Mental

4. What kinds of cases are not accepted by your agency?
   - Husbands
   - Child support
   - Other
   - Wives
   - Heirs
   - Adolescents
   - Detective
   - Children
   - Police
   - Alimony
   - Mental

5. How is the search conducted?
   - In person
   - By other means
   - Please explain

6. With what other organizations do you coordinate your search activities?

7. Do you also conduct your searches internationally? Yes  No

8. In what countries other than the United States do you maintain offices?

9. What procedures are initiated when you undertake a search?

10. What is the follow up?
11. Check the media or devices utilized in furthering your search:

- employers
- postal authorities
- organizational affiliations
- directories
- registries
- Bureau of Vital Statistics
- emigration records
- Merchant Marine
- school enrollments
- penal institutions
- military locators
- Social Security Administration
- tax records
- newspapers
- radio
- television
- other

12. The initial steps that a family or an individual must take in requesting your services are:

13. The average expense to a family who uses your services is:

14. After enlisting the services of your organization the family is routinely informed of the progress of the search through regular reports __yes  __no

15. If yes, how frequently? ___weekly  ___monthly  ___only if and when results are acquired. (Please explain if necessary)

16. Your agency will actively continue a search until?

17. What is your agency's ratio of number of missing persons found compared with the number of searches undertaken in the following years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1963</th>
<th>1964</th>
<th>1965</th>
<th>1966</th>
<th>1967</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18. Would your agency favor the idea of setting up a National Clearing House of Information for tracing missing persons? __yes  __no

19. What legislation might be enacted in the opinion of your agency in regard to facilitating searches for missing persons:

1. Fingerprinting for everyone for identification purposes? __yes  __no
2. Release of social security information for certain stated authorities such as your agency? __yes  __no
3. Other? 


I have tried to make this questionnaire brief. Some questions are constructed so as to permit you to simply check ( ) the appropriate response item. There may be statements that require two or more responses. If this is the case, please place a check beside the appropriate response items.

Some of the questions require a written response. On these questions, please write in the answer.

When you have carefully completed the entire questionnaire, please place it in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope and mail it to me as soon as possible. Thank you.
March 20, 1968

Dear Sirs:

A missing person may precipitate a crisis in the family and, for those who face this experience, serious and urgent questions are raised as to what procedures should be followed (or initiated) and what agency sources are available to help them.

Police interest in missing persons has evolved out of public concern for their welfare and safety and police departments are assuming responsibilities for services in tracing missing persons. Other agencies are specifically organized to successfully resolve many of these cases and they are able to direct families who seek help in locating a missing member.

As a graduate student at Montana State University and with the approval of Dr. Clark Swain, my major professor, I have chosen to write a Master's thesis concerning the problem of tracing a missing person. This will be related to specific agencies that are organized to give competent advice and direction to the family's search.

With your help, I hope to collect and evaluate information of the type which might be used in a brochure or guide to provide families with accurate information and understanding of how the police and other agencies function to help the family in their search. Would you please complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it in the enclosed self-addressed envelope no later than April 2, 1968.

If there is any information so designated, it will be held in strict confidence. Also, a brief summary of the results will be sent at your request.

Thank you for your cooperation without which this study would be impossible.

Yours very truly,

(Mrs.) B. Kathryn Jordan

Enclosure
APPENDIX B

AGENCIES SENT QUESTIONNAIRES

United Service Detective Bureau
Albert R. Valeriati, Director
160 Broadway at Cortlandt Street
New York, New York 10017

Travelers Aid Association
44 East 23rd Street
New York, New York 10010
Telephone: 212 254-1700

James B. Nolan
Investigative and Protective Services Co., Inc.
7 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10017
(Moved - Not Forwardable)

Gilmore Bureau of Investigation
Family and Marriage Counselors
110 West 7th
San Pedro, California
(Inoperative now)

American Red Cross
17th and D Streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

Tracers - Investigations
Irv Gross, General Manager
257 South Spring
Los Angeles, California
(Inoperative now)

Seamen's Church Institute
Tracer's Service
25 South Street
New York, New York
Telephone: 212 269-2710

Continental Detective Service
Frank M. Bartholomew
615 Wilcox Building
Portland, Oregon
Telephone: 503 226-6561

Vanguard Ministry
1010 North State
Chicago, Illinois

A A A Associated National Detective Agency
1000 Aurora North
Seattle, Washington
(Moved - No Forwarding Address)

Merv Griffin Show
1293 Fourth Street
New York, New York

United Seamen's Service, Inc.
39 Broadway
New York, New York
Telephone: 212 422-4567

American Red Cross
17th and D Streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

Captain, Criminal Division
Oregon State Police
Salem, Oregon
Telephone: 503 363-3125

Gallatin County Sheriff
County Jail
Bozeman, Montana
Telephone: 406 586-2315

Tracers Company of America
515 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022
Telephone: 212 753-9030
Chief of Personnel Registration Center  
Maritime Service, Coast Guard Headquarters  
1300 East N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

Huckleberry's for Runaways  
1 Broderick Street  
Haight-Ashbury District  
San Francisco, California  
Telephone: 415 626-1886

Credit Bureau of Gallatin County  
Gallatin Trust & Savings Bank  
Bozeman, Montana 59715  
Telephone: 406 586-5477

Missing Persons, c/o Captain of Detectives  
Salt Lake City Police Department  
450 South Third East  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111  
Telephone: 801 328-7222

Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Identification  
Headquarters, Montana State Prison  
Post Office Box 7  
Deer Lodge, Montana  59722  
Telephone: 406 846-7222

Special Investigator  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Federal Building  
Bozeman, Montana 59715  
Telephone: 406 586-2315

Art Linkletter's House Party  
Columbia Broadcasting System  
Television City  
Hollywood, California  
Telephone: 213 653-4600

Captain Joseph M. Lynch  
New York Police Bureau of Missing Persons  
240 Center Street  
New York, New York 10000  
Telephone: 212 226-2000

Lieutenant Thomas M. Daly  
Chicago Police Bureau of Missing Persons  
Chicago, Illinois 60600  
1121 South State  
Telephone: 312 922-4747

Family Location Service  
Jacob Zukerman, Executive Director  
31 Union Square West  
New York, New York
Date of Inquiry
Full Name of Missing Seaman
Nickname or Alias, if any
Date of Birth, or Approximate Age
Place of Birth
When last heard from
Where last heard from
Race (White or Colored)
Personal Description

Distinctive Tattoos or Scars
Works aboard ship as (Rating)
Social Security Number
Z Number (number on seaman's identification card or ship's discharge slip)
Name of last Ship & S/S Co.

Name of Union
Union Book Number
Port last sailed from
Reason for Inquiry

Special Message

Relationship of Inquirer
Name and Address:

Remarks

RETURN TO -- Missing Seamen Bureau
Seamen's Church Institute of New York
25 South Street
New York 4, N. Y.
Telephone: Bowling Green 9-2710
TRACERS COMPANY OF AMERICA
PERSONAL HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION Form No. 30
(Co-nidential)

NAME IN FULL:
(First) (Middle) (Last)

OTHER NAMES USED

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS (when)

OTHER KNOWN ADDRESSES (when)

NATIONALITY COLOR

AGE DATE OF BIRTH PLACE OF BIRTH

HEIGHT WEIGHT BUILD (slender, medium, or stout)

SHOULDERS (broad, narrow or stooped)

HAIR (color and condition)

EYES (color and characteristics)

EYEBROWS (shape and characteristics)

WEAR GLASSES (if so, what kind)

COMPLEXION (dark, pale, florid or sallow)

MUSTACHE, BEARD, OR CLEAN SHAVEN

NOSE (size, shape, or peculiarities)

MOUTH (size and shape)

TEETH (condition, false or gold)

CHIN AND LOWER JAW (shape and characteristics)

EARS (size, shape, or peculiarities)

SCARS (injury, surgery, or birthmarks—location)

TATTOOS (description and location)

PERSONAL PECULIARITIES or CHARACTERISTICS (actions, walk, speech, expressions, etc.)

LEFT OR RIGHT HANDED SPEAK ANY FOREIGN LANGUAGE

TASTE IN CLOTHING TIMEPIECE

JEWELRY WORN MENTAL CONDITION

PHYSICAL CONDITION

EDUCATION

OCCUPATIONS

BUSINESS or PROFESSIONAL LICENSES HELD (when and where)

DRIVER'S LICENSE (when and where)

PILOT'S LICENSE (when and where)

OWN A CAR (make and license number)

RELIGION SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

PAST OR PRESENT MEMBER OF ANY ORGANIZATIONS, SOCIETIES, CLUBS, UNIONS,
LODGES, FRATERNITIES, Etc. (when and where)

MOTHER'S NAME FATHER'S NAME

BANKING CONNECTIONS
REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS
INSURANCE (where and when)
FAVORITE FOODS
FAVORITE SPORTS
HABITS (smoke) (drink) (gamble)
TALENTS (music, art, etc.)
MARRIED (if so, to whom, when and where)
DIVORCED (if so, when and where)
CHILDREN (their names and addresses)
OTHER RELATIVES (their names and addresses)
FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES (their names and addresses)
PAST OR PRESENT EMPLOYERS (names and addresses)
DRAFT BOARD (number and location)
MILITARY SERVICE (when, where and rank)
RECORD OF ARRESTS, IF ANY (charge, when and where)
EVER INVOLVED IN A LAWSUIT (if so, when and where)
EVER INVOLVED IN NEWSPAPER PUBLICITY (if so, when and where)
EVER ADMITTED TO ANY HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION FOR TREATMENT OR SURGERY (if so, when and where)
EVER EXPRESS A DESIRE TO LIVE IN OTHER PARTS OF THIS COUNTRY OR THE WORLD

Use this space for remarks or additional information. Attach 3 photographs of the missing person and give the approximate date that it was taken. Also enclose a specimen of handwriting if possible.
Return this form to
MISSING PERSONS AND INQUIRY BUREAU
P. O. Box 3816
San Francisco, Calif.

THE SALVATION ARMY INQUIRY FORM
(To enable us to help find the person you are making inquiry about, please answer all questions. All inquiries are confidential. Give more detail by letter if possible.)

RE: MISSING PERSON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FULL NAME (underline last name)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NICKNAME OR ALIAS (if any)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATE OF BIRTH</td>
<td>PLACE OF BIRTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATIONALITY</td>
<td>INSURED? IN WHAT COMPANY?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITIZEN - OF</td>
<td>MARRITAL STATUS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Build</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eyes</td>
<td>Hair</td>
<td>Race</td>
<td>Complexion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scars</td>
<td>Tattoo Marks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deformities or mannerisms by which he might be recognized?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ever Fingerprinted? When? Where?

EMPLOYMENT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trade or Occupation</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name and Address of last known employer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Names and Addresses of previous employers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Names and Addresses of Unions, Clubs, etc.

Social Security Number
If Seaman, give last known rating
Army or Navy Serial Number Rank, Grade or Rating
Has he received Veterans' Benefits? At what Veterans' Office

Did he ever operate/own an automobile? Hold any other license?

DATE LAST HEARD FROM In Person By Letter
LAST KNOW ADDRESS
REASON FOR GOING AWAY (if known)

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP NAME OF PASTOR

CHURCH ADDRESS

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF INDIVIDUALS WHO MAY BE ABLE TO GIVE INFORMATION CONCERNING MISSING PERSON
- 68 -

FAMILY DATA (list names, ages and addresses):
Father
Mother
Brothers and Sisters

If Married (list name and date of birth of):
Husband or Wife
Wife's Maiden Name
Names of Children

List Previous Marriages

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO LOCATE PERSON?

MAY WE ADVERTISE IN "The War Cry" IF NECESSARY?

RE: INQUIRER

FULL NAME (underline last name)
ADDRESS
TELEPHONE NUMBER
RELATIONSHIP TO MISSING PERSON
REASON FOR INQUIRY

Please quote this number in all correspondence

SIGNATURE OF INQUIRER

DATE

Please list all Documents enclosed:

NOTE

As there is considerable expense in carrying on this branch of our work we charge a small fee of $1.00 which includes advertising in The War Cry when necessary. If the applicant is unable to pay, the case will be accepted free of charge. Before we undertake to do special work in connection with the inquiry, we must know if you are able to assume further expenditure. Such expenditure might include insertion of photograph with advertisement in The War Cry, securing of Government or Municipal certificates, advertising in local papers, etc. (Use a letter for extra details.)
APPENDIX D
MONTANA STATE BUREAU OF CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION AND INVESTIGATION
DEER LODGE, MONTANA

Bulletin #245

October 1966

8783  MISSING PERSON- MINEOLA, NEW YORK

CATHARINA BARISTIC, WF, DOB: 10/21/49, 5'7", 130 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes, dark complexion.
MARKS & SCARS: Pierced ears.

Subject worked as a part-time secretary and may seek similar employment.
Social Security No. 115-38-5590.
Missing from home in Valley Stream, New York, since September 4, 1966. She had $600.00 and complete wardrobe in her possession.
ANY INFORMATION, NOTIFY: POLICE DEPARTMENT, COUNTY OF NASSAU, MINEOLA, NEW YORK 11501

8784  MISSING PERSON- WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON

SHARLENE VAN DE MARK, WFA, 16 years, 5'9", 165 lbs., light brown hair, brown eyes. Wears plastic rimmed glasses.

She is believed to be in company of John Francis Anthony Reynolds, 30 years, 6', 140 lbs., brown eyes, fair complexion. He is a machinist by trade and believed he will contact local Catholic Church for a handout. Subject believed to be driving 1950 Ford, white step van truck with Colorado License TF-6750. Reynolds reportedly a female impersonator, background indicates capable of foul play. He left Wenatchee, Washington on 9/15/66, possibly heading for Nova Scotia, Canada. Warrant on file charging Reynolds for abduction, bail $2500. WILL EXTRADITE IF LOCATED, DETAIN JUVENILE GIRL FOR HER OWN SAFETY, NOTIFY: DEPUTY, DOSS PAYNE, JR., SHERIFF'S OFFICE, WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON

8785  MISSING- KALISPELL, MONTANA

BERNEIL TWEET, (No Description)

$100.00 Reward for any information leading to the whereabouts of Berneil Tweet. Driving 1963 Ford Station Wagon, 4 door, brownish grey in color, Montana license 7-494.
ANY INFORMATION, NOTIFY: SHERIFF'S OFFICE, KALISPELL, MONTANA
LITERATURE CITED


Foster, Randall M. "Intrapsychic and Environmental Factors in Running Away From Home." American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, XXXII (1962), 486-491.


Lowrey, Lawson G. "Runaways and Nomads." American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, II (1941), 775-783.


