

Daniel P. Brown (1948 -2022)

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On April 4, 2022, one of the great teachers and researchers in the field of consciousness studies, Daniel P. Brown, Ph. D., passed away after a long illness, through which he continued to work, tirelessly transmitting knowledge in the several areas in which he was an expert (see <https://www.drdanielpbrown.com>). Among his many domains of expertise, Dan was a major contributor to the fields of psychology, hypnosis, and meditation research. He was a remarkable person, completing his undergraduate degree in molecular biology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and his Ph. D. in Religion and Psychological Studies at the University of Chicago before settling into a clinical psychology career that included early research on cognition, perception, and qualities of awareness. He was affiliated with Harvard University as a professor, training director, and researcher for the entirety of his professional career. Of the 24 books he authored or co-authored, several were considered foundational clinical hypnosis texts, including, with Erika Fromm, *Hypnotherapy and Hypnoanalysis* (1986) and *Hypnosis and Behavioral Medicine* (1987), and a *Festschrift for Erika Fromm Creative Mastery in Hypnosis and Hypnoanalysis* (Fass & Brown, 1990). In addition, he was the senior author of a major textbook on the treatment of attachment disorders in adults, *Attach-*

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ment Disturbances in Adults (Brown & Elliot, 2016), and authored two books on developmental psychopathology: a text on affect development, *Human Feelings* (Ablon et al., 1993), and one on self-development from a contemplative perspective, *Transformations of Consciousness* (Wilber et al., 1986).

A fierce protector of innocence, Dan also provided forensic psychology expertise to hundreds of child abuse cases, notably many by clergy, resulting in justice for many survivors around the world. As an expert witness and consultant on trauma and memory, he testified before the International War Crimes Tribunal for the Prosecution of war criminals of the former Yugoslavia. His testimony helped establish the standard of evidence for evaluating the reliability of memory for severe war atrocities. His testimony also contributed to three state supreme court cases on the reliability of children's testimony regarding sexual abuse. His text *Memory, Trauma Treatment and the Law* (Brown et al., 1998) was the recipient of awards from 7 professional societies, including the 1999 Manfred S. Guttmacher Award given jointly by the American Psychiatric Association and the American Academy of Psychiatry and Law for "Outstanding Contribution to Forensic Psychiatry."

In addition to his work in the fields of clinical hypnosis, attachment, and forensic psychology, Dan studied and mastered many meditation practices, including Patanjali's Yogasutras in the original Sanskrit, Burmese mindfulness, Indo-Tibetan concentration and insight meditation, and Mahamudra. During his 47 years of practice, he made important cultural contributions, translating many meditation texts from Tibetan and Sanskrit and offering these teachings in retreat settings to thousands of students over the past 3 decades. Dan was a pioneer in integrating Eastern

methodologies of consciousness development with Western models of health (e.g., Brown & Engler, 1980). Notably, he spent 10 years conducting outcomes research on beginning and advanced meditators, with an emphasis on researching the effects of intensive concentration meditation and the nature of the awakened mind. This is how I first met Dan -- when I was a graduate student some decades ago -- I asked him if I could use his Profiles of Meditation Experience (POME) scale. Graciously, he treated me as a young colleague and only asked that I validate the shortened scale I had proposed and send him the results. He was generous with his knowledge, precise in his work, and encouraged that same meticulousness in colleagues and students. In addition to his professional contributions, Dan had a deep sense of decency and integrity. All of these qualities made people want to learn from him and remain in his sphere, wherever possible. Above all, Dan was devoted to his sons and his wife, Gretchen who, along with his many students, colleagues, collaborators, patients, and friends, will deeply miss his beautiful and brilliant presence.

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