***Repressed Memories – Real or a figment of your imagination?***

It would be hard to imagine a more lively debate—filled as it is with accusations, counter-accusations, and downright insults—than the controversy about so-called “repressed” memories. The debate centers on whether or not traumatic experiences can be repressed out of conscious awareness and then later recalled, either spontaneously or through psychotherapy.

Repression is one of the most haunting concepts in psychology. Something shocking happens, and the mind pushes it into some inaccessible corner of the unconscious. Later, the memory may emerge into consciousness. Repression is one of the foundation stones on which the structure of psychoanalysis rests. Recently there has been a rise in reported memories of childhood sexual abuse that were allegedly repressed for many years. With recent changes in legislation, people with recently unearthed memories are suing alleged perpetrators for events that happened 20, 30, even 40 or more years earlier.

The research is out there. Repressed memories are still a theory. Your job today is to do a little bit of research on repressed memories. I need to you to go to three different websites that discuss repressed memories and/or motivated forgetting. \*\*However, I only want you to visit .edu sites.\*\* You can just add site:.edu to any Google search to limit the results. Visit 3 sites, review the information there – use this sheet to jot down notes. Then give me your informed opinion on the theory on the back of this sheet. Simply tell me if you believe in repressed memories or not and why you feel that way.

This assignment is worth 20 points. (3pts for each site summary, 10pts for the opinion and 1pt on whether or not I like you)

Site 1: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Summary / notes:

Site 2:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Summary / notes:

Site 3:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Summary / notes:

Your opinion on repressed memory theory:

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Opinion expressed by: