

Forgiveness Among Individuals: Forgiving after Trauma, Grief, Loss or Violence

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"Does Forgiveness Enhance Brain Activation Associated with Empathy in Victims of Assault?"

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About the Investigators and Their Research in Forgiveness

Drs. Thomas Farrow and Peter W.R. Woodruff have collaborated on developing a functional MRI protocol to measure forgivability. They have determined both a measurement protocol and an interpretive scheme to determine when people are thinking about forgiveness. They then applied their measurement paradigm to assessing the changes in forgivability after patients have been through an intervention to increase their ability to forgive. They also measured brain activation during forgiveness attempts by schizophrenic patients.

Tom F.D. Farrow, B.Sc., Ph.D., is a Lecturer in Psychiatric Neuroimaging at the University of Sheffield, UK and Honorary NHS Clinical Scientist for Sheffield Care Trust. He specializes in structural and functional brain imaging of patients with post-traumatic stress disorder and schizophrenia, particularly in the field of social cognition. He studied neuroscience at the University of Sheffield, UK, before undertaking his Ph.D. in Clinical Neurology (structural MRI of temporal lobe epilepsy). He was previously a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in Psychiatry at Manchester University. In 2002, he was awarded a Royal Society (UK) Overseas Fellowship, and spent a year at the Brain Dynamics Centre, University of Sydney, Australia. He is author of many articles in professional journals and a contributor to several books and research publications.

Peter W. R. Woodruff, M.B., B.S., PhD, M.R.C.P., MRCPsych, is Professor and Head of Academic Clinical Psychiatry and Director of the Sheffield Cognition and Neuroimaging Laboratory (SCANLab) at the University of Sheffield, UK and Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist for Sheffield Care Health Trust. He specializes in the application of structural and functional neuroimaging techniques to investigate aetiological processes and brain mechanisms underlying psychopathology and its response to treatment in schizophrenia and the major mental illnesses. He trained in medicine at Newcastle upon Tyne Medical School, UK. He was Medical Lecturer at Kings College London and Visiting Lecturer, Juba University, Sudan. As Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland, seconded to The US Medical Research Unit in Cairo, Egypt, he worked on viral infections of the brain. He trained in clinical psychiatry at the Maudsley Hospital, London, UK, and commenced a research career at the Institute of Psychiatry, London, performing neuroimaging studies in schizophrenia and other psychiatric conditions. He studied neuroimaging in Baltimore, at Johns Hopkins Hospital, and as a Fulbright Fellow

at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston. He was previously a Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Psychiatry, London, and Honorary Consultant in Psychiatric Intensive Care, Maudsley Hospital; and Senior Lecturer in Psychiatry at Manchester University and Honorary Consultant for Salford Health Trust.

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