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ABCNEWS

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20/20

April 5, 1984

| AV WESTIN Vice President & Executive Producer |
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| HUGH DOWNS Host |
| "A Case of Multiple Personality" |
| STANHOPE GOULD, LYNN MURRAY Producers |
| SYLVIA CHASE |
| "What Happened to the Children?" |
| DANNY SCHECHTER Producer |
| TOM JARRIEL Correspondent |
| Investigative Producers: Glenn Silber and Peter Greenberg |
| "Too Good to Be True?" |
| ABIGAIL ROCKMORE Producer |
| JOHN STOSSEL Correspondent |
| Special thanks to Florida Department of Law Enforcement |
| Mel Moore and Andy Thomas U.S. Postal Service |

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April 5, 1984

HUGH DOWNS: Good evening. I'm Hugh Downs. And this is 20/20.

ANNOUNCER: On the ABC Newsmagazine, 20/20, tonight:

The Columbus, Ohio, community is outraged by the release of this man.

WOMAN: Women of Ohio, be warned that there is a known rapist free on the streets that has been released.

ANNOUNCER: Billy Milligan was acquitted because the court believed he had multiple personalities.

SYLVIA CHASE: What happened?

BILLY MILLIGAN: Adalina, she— she committed the rapes.

ANNOUNCER: Sylvia Chase, with some critical questions in "A Case of Multiple Personality."

Saigon, April 1975: Operation Baby Lift, the rescue of Vietnamese orphans. But the plane full of babies crash landed.

SUSAN DIRGE: It was just a crashing bumping, and it was endless.

ANNOUNCER: For the survivors, anguish, possible brain damage, and years in the courts.

CHARLES WORK: It is a travesty that this case has not been resolved, even as of this date.

ANNOUNCER: Tonight Tom Jarriel, with the aftermath of Operation Baby Lift: "What Happened to the Children?"

Have you ever had a phone call like this?

"MIKE JOHNSON": Guess what. Your business has been selected by our computer to win one of three fabulous prizes.

ANNOUNCER: Consumer correspondent John Stossel goes to the source of the calls, follows some people who responded, and looks at the prizes, to see if what was advertised was "Too Good to Be True?"

DOWNS: Up front tonight, crime and our perception of justice. Sylvia Chase is here with a fascinating story right on that subject. You know, strange events keep testing our faith in the justice system in this country. Convicts on parole commit murder; felons are on the streets after short sentences; and increasingly, we are baffled and enraged by this sort of thing. The people near Columbus, Ohio, are facing this dilemma now. There's a man there who raped three women and offered a bizarre defense which was successful. Sylvia, tell us about it.

SYLVIA CHASE: That man was found not guilty by reason of insanity, because he had multiple personalities. You remember a few months ago, Hugh, I did a story about multiple personalities.

DOWNS: Yes.

CHASE: They are people who have many personalities within one body, and when one personality is in control of the body, the other personalities don't know what's going on — they're asleep.

DOWNS: So it seems.

CHASE: Well, Billy Milligan was found not guilty by reason of insanity. He did spend, oh, five years institutionalized, being treated for this. Now he's adjudged to be well, and he's back out. And that is what has the people of the Columbus area upset.

WOMAN [at meeting]: Women of Ohio, be warned that there is a known rapist free on the streets that has been released.

CHASE [voice-over]: In February, Columbus judge Jay Flowers heard how local women felt about Milligan's release.

NEWSCASTER: Today's decision by Judge Flowers represents a sweeping victory for the women in—

CHASE [voice-over]: For local reporters, it was a fresh episode in an old story. Local news programs have reported each new development, and newspaper headlines have reflected community fears of the man who kidnapped, raped and robbed three women. After Milligan's release was made public, community leaders stated their opposition.

ROBERT ALLEN, sheriff: You know, as far as I'm concerned, I don't even want him in my county. If Judge Flowers of Columbus wants him loose, let him turn him loose in his back yard, not mine.

NORA PALMATIER, president, Columbus NOW: He should not be out. He is a menace to women; he should be in prison, where rapists belong.

CHASE [voice-over]: But Billy says he is no longer a rapist, that he is a changed man.

BILLY MILLIGAN, multiple personality: I know now what right and wrong is, and I do care about what is right and wrong.

CHASE [voice-over]: We interviewed Billy Milligan three times over the course of a year. He was still in custody when he told us that his problems began when he was very young.

Mr. MILLIGAN: I was— I was raped, I was beat around, I got tied up and different things.

CHASE [voice-over]: On this central Ohio farm, says Billy Milligan, his stepfather Chalmer Milligan repeatedly beat him and raped him. Chalmer denies raping his stepson, but refused to talk to us. Thirteen years later, at age 22, Billy Milligan, having already served time for robbery, was under arrest again, now facing three charges of rape. The prosecutor had an open and shut case.

BERNARD YAVITCH, county prosecutor: I had eyewitness identification. I had fingerprints. I had property of the victim found in Mr. Milligan's possession.

CHASE [voice-over]: But Milligan insisted that he had no memory of the rapes. In these psychiatric tapes made after Miligan's arrest, he claimed he had always had blank spots in his life, a symptom reported by all multiple personalities.

Mr. MILLIGAN [psychiatric tape]: I do things and I don't remember them 'cause I'm asleep. And people tell me I do things. Bad things.

CHASE [voice-over]: The experts who examined Billy say they found 24 separate personalities. By the time we interviewed him, he was no longer changing from one personality to another, but we are able to show you psychiatric tapes made while he was in two different institutions. There was an alternate personality named Tommy. 16 years old, an escape artist.

"TOMMY" [psychiatric tape]: It still bugs me when they call me Billy. But I don't say much. I don't say anything, really . . . But I'm not Billy.

CHASE [voice-over]: And Arthur, born in London, who spoke with an English accent and supervised the various personalities.

"ARTHUR" [psychiatric tape]: I think the earliest part was when the first one came. The first one here was Christine.

CHASE [voice-over]: Then there was Danny, who's 14, and very nervous.

"DANNY" [psychiatric tape]: I usually don't notice it until somebody points it out to me, that one of my legs is bouncing or something.

CHASE [voice-over]: And Ragen, a 23-year-old Yugoslav with a heavy accent, supposedly with superhuman strength.

"RAGEN" [psychiatric tape]: None of them are violent. I am only violent one. But only for a reason.

CHASE [voice-over]: After meeting several of these personalities, Billy's attorneys used his disorder as a legal defense.

GARY SCHWEIKERT, public defender: Billy didn't do this. Billy wasn't here: Billy was someplace else at the time. The person being tried did not commit any crime, he was not there.

CHASE [voice-over]: Milligan says his personalities were fused, or combined, by treatment, which restored his memory. He claims he now knows that when the rapes were committed, one of his 24 personalities was in charge of his body. This is Milligan's painting

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