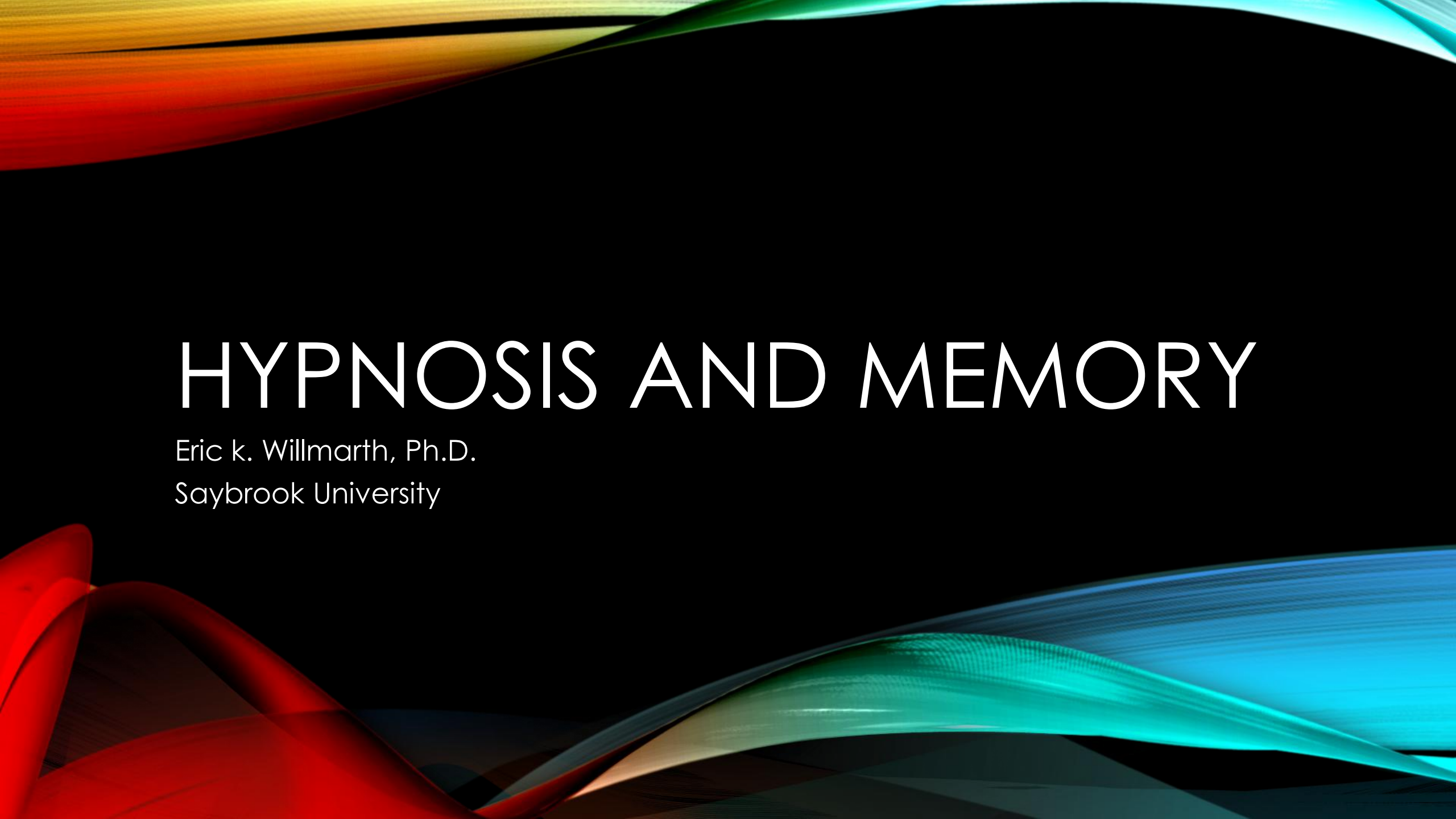
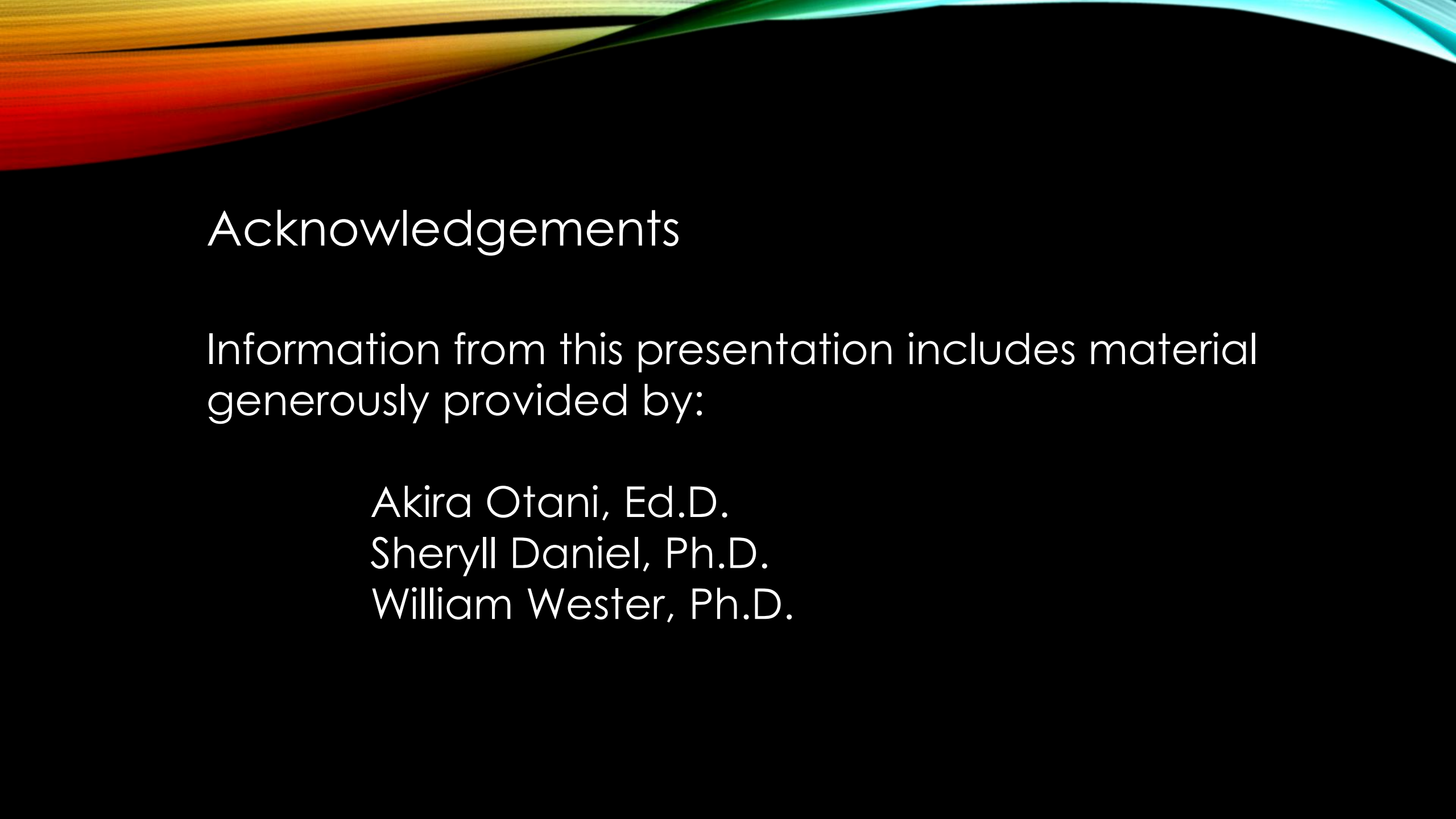




HYPNOSIS AND MEMORY

Eric k. Willmarth, Ph.D.

Saybrook University



Acknowledgements

Information from this presentation includes material generously provided by:

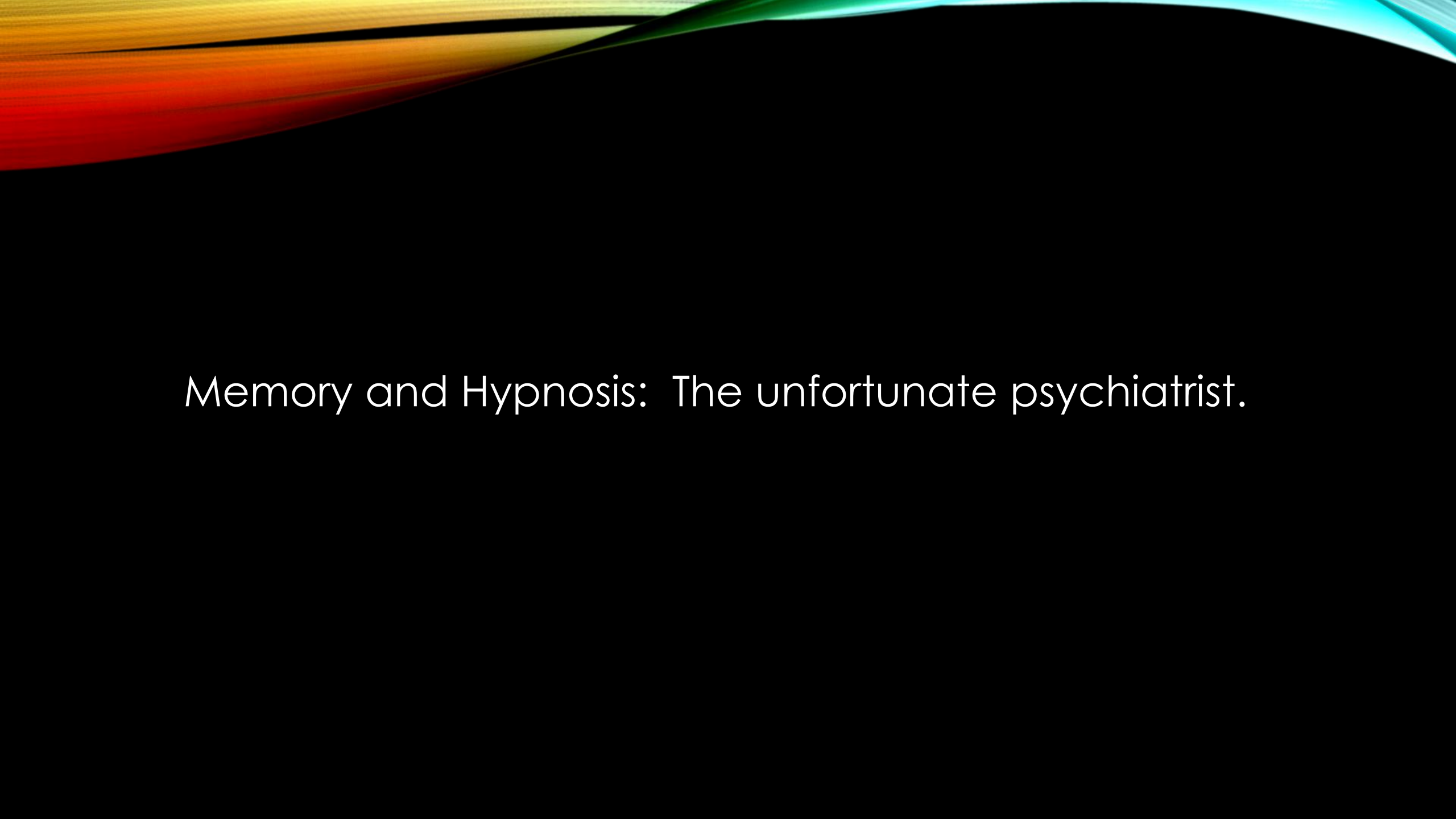
Akira Otani, Ed.D.

Sheryll Daniel, Ph.D.

William Wester, Ph.D.

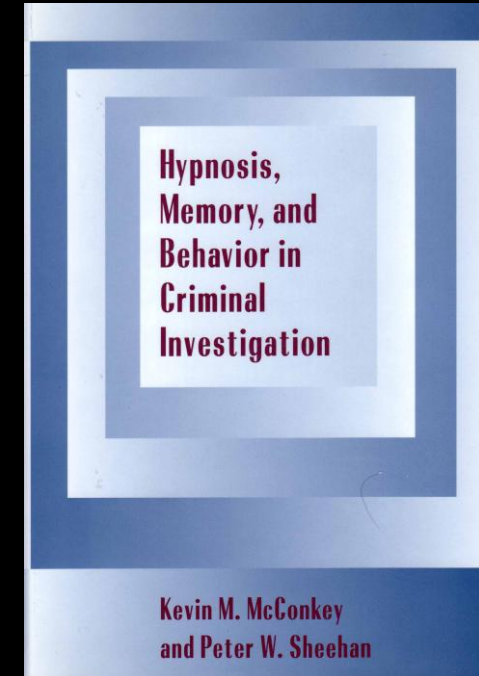
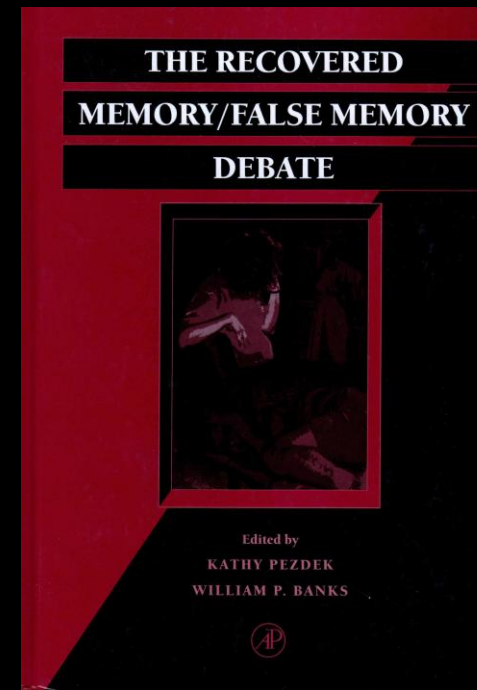
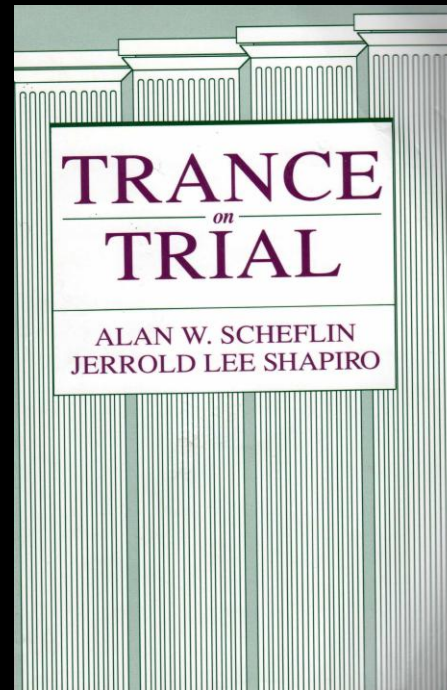
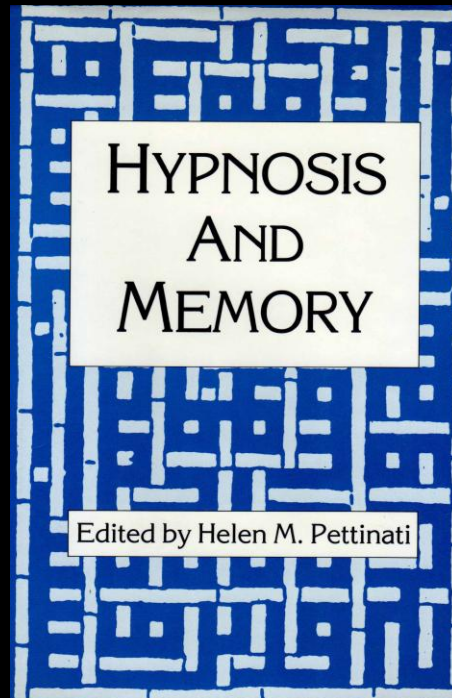
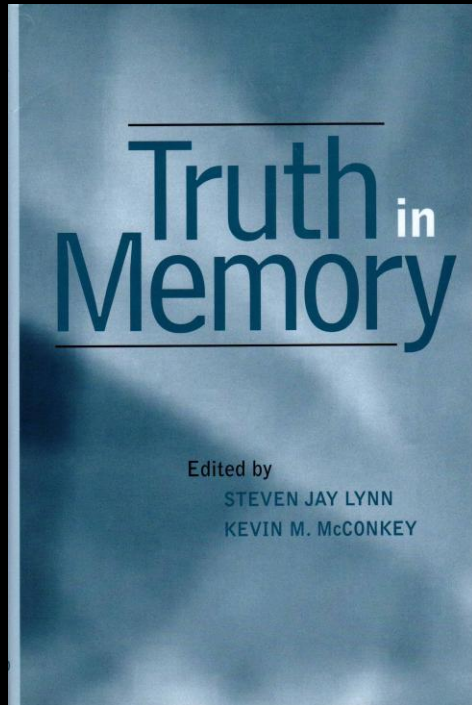
HYPNOSIS AND MEMORY RECALL

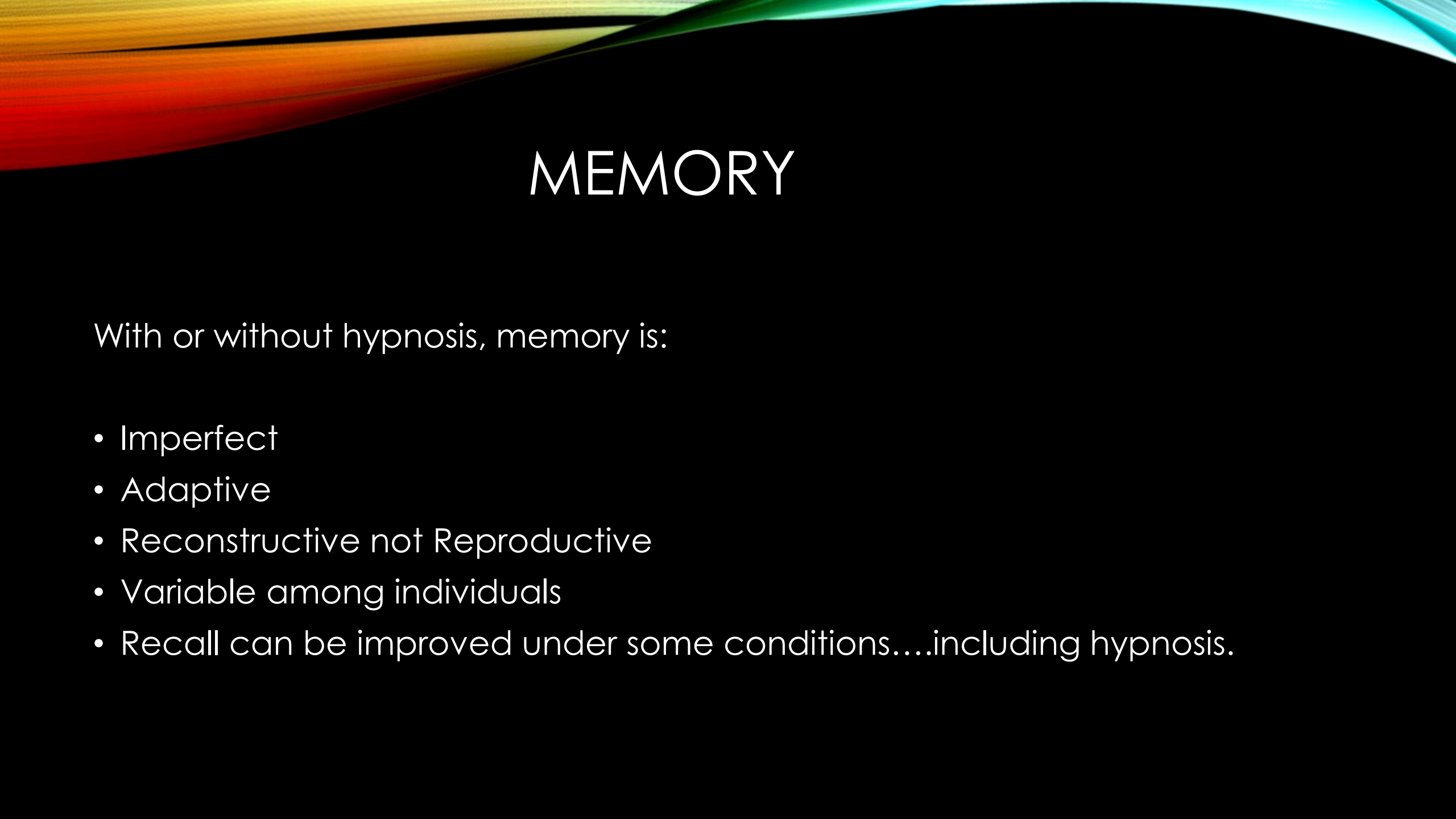




Memory and Hypnosis: The unfortunate psychiatrist.

HYPNOSIS AND MEMORY

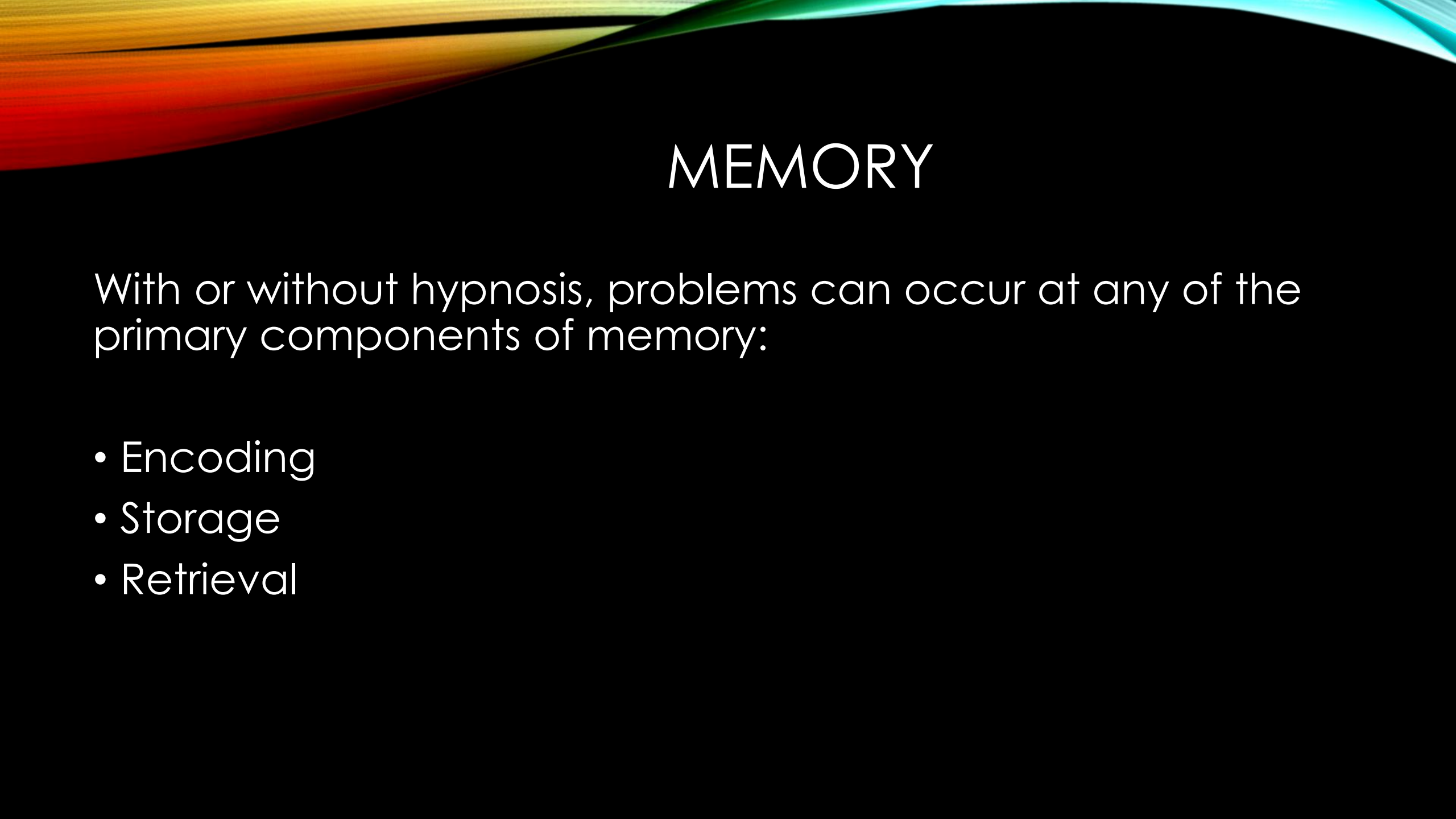




MEMORY

With or without hypnosis, memory is:

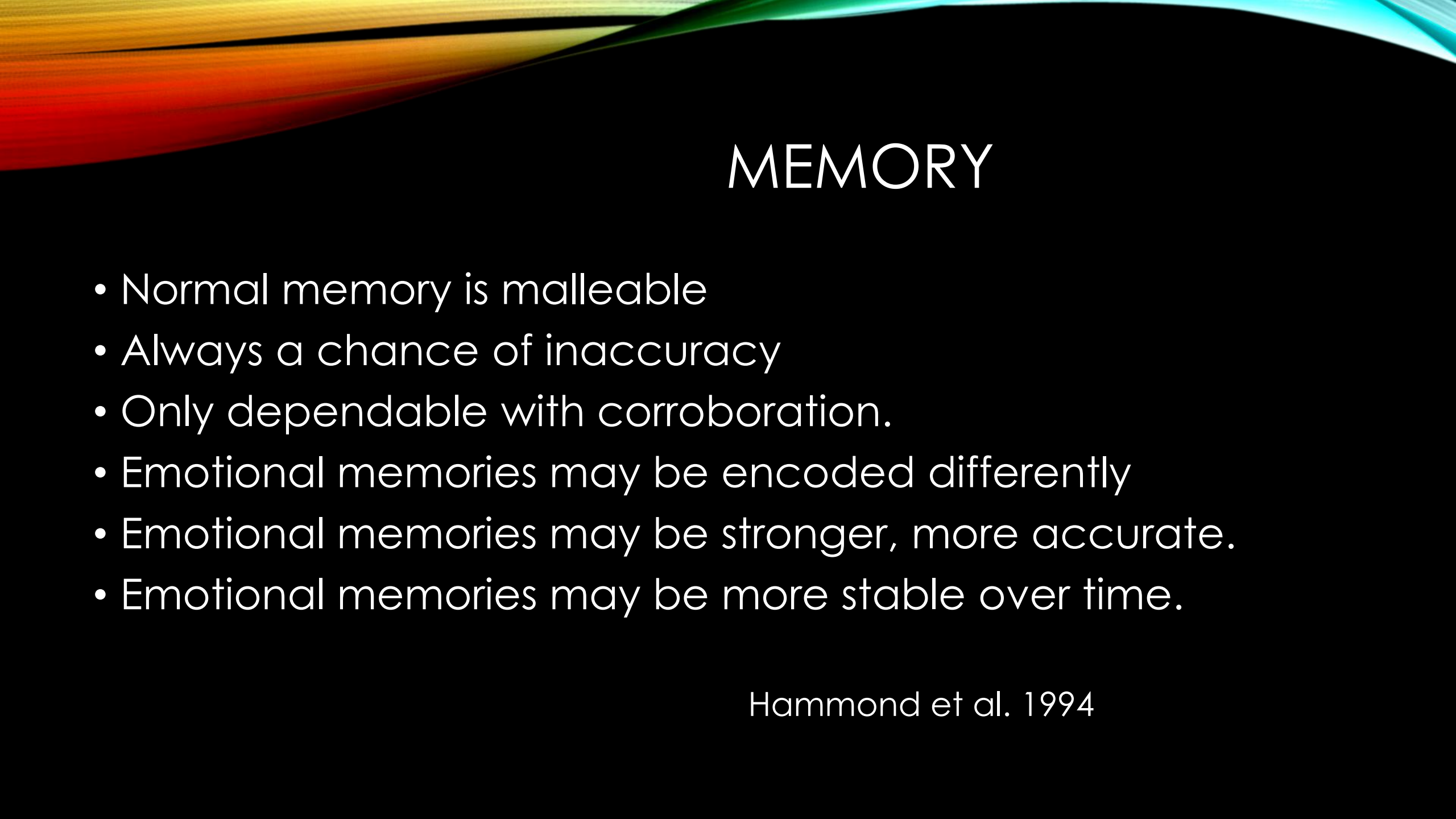
- Imperfect
- Adaptive
- Reconstructive not Reproductive
- Variable among individuals
- Recall can be improved under some conditions....including hypnosis.



MEMORY

With or without hypnosis, problems can occur at any of the primary components of memory:

- Encoding
- Storage
- Retrieval



MEMORY

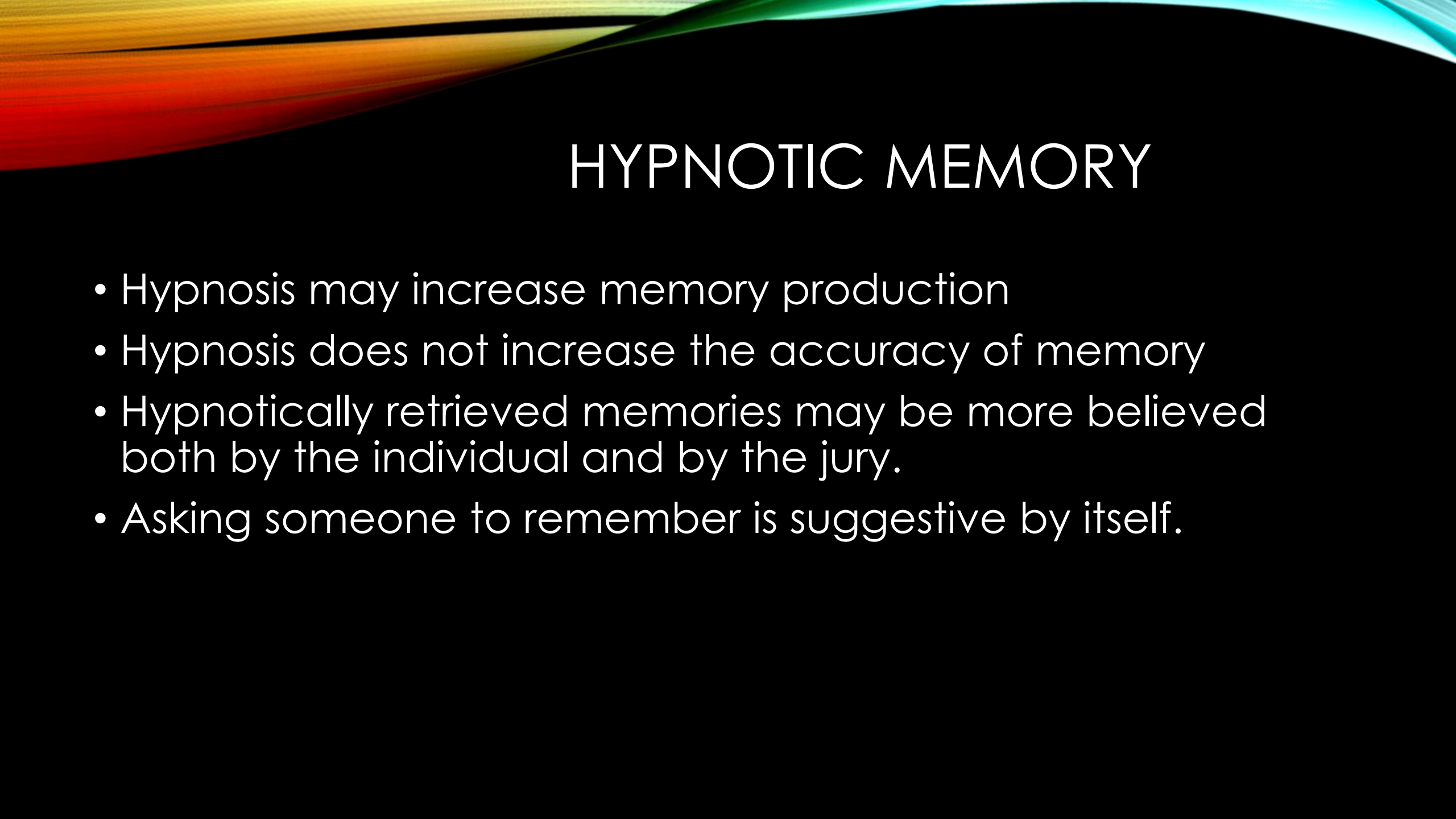
- Normal memory is malleable
- Always a chance of inaccuracy
- Only dependable with corroboration.
- Emotional memories may be encoded differently
- Emotional memories may be stronger, more accurate.
- Emotional memories may be more stable over time.

Hammond et al. 1994



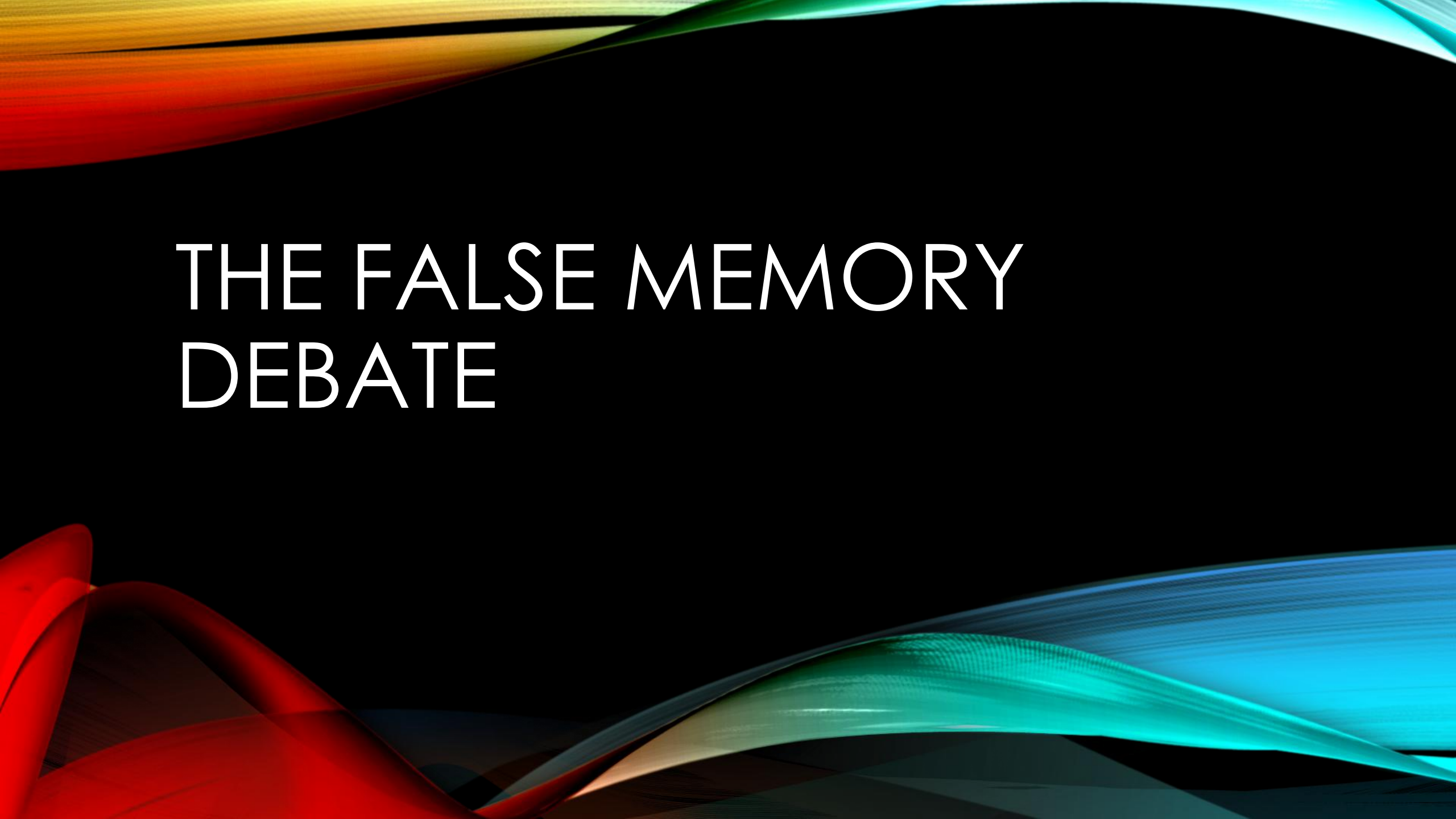
TRAUMA AND MEMORY

- Trauma may cause amnesia and robust repression.
- Traumatic memory may be encoded differently than memory for more ordinary events.



HYPNOTIC MEMORY

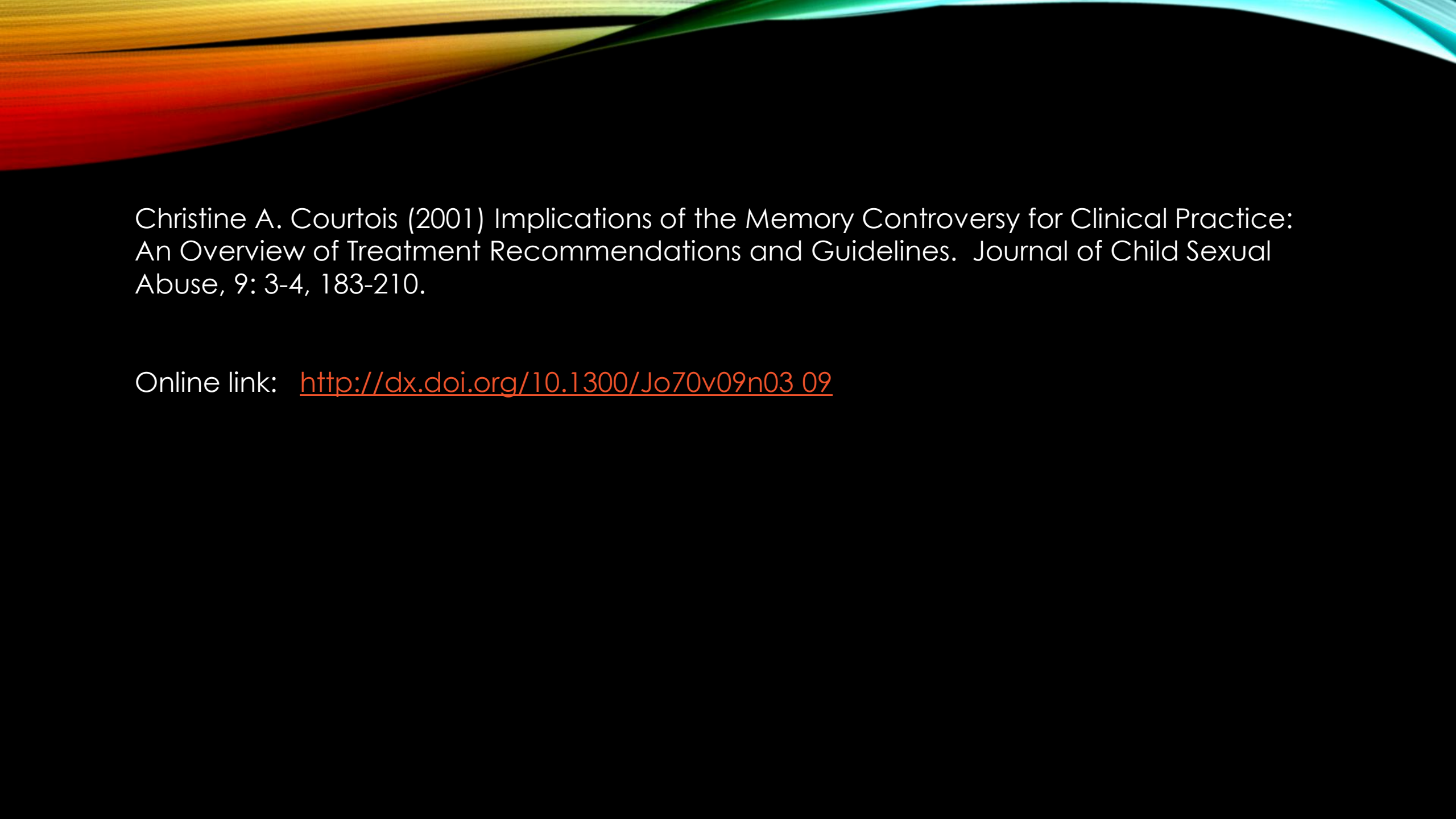
- Hypnosis may increase memory production
- Hypnosis does not increase the accuracy of memory
- Hypnotically retrieved memories may be more believed both by the individual and by the jury.
- Asking someone to remember is suggestive by itself.



THE FALSE MEMORY DEBATE

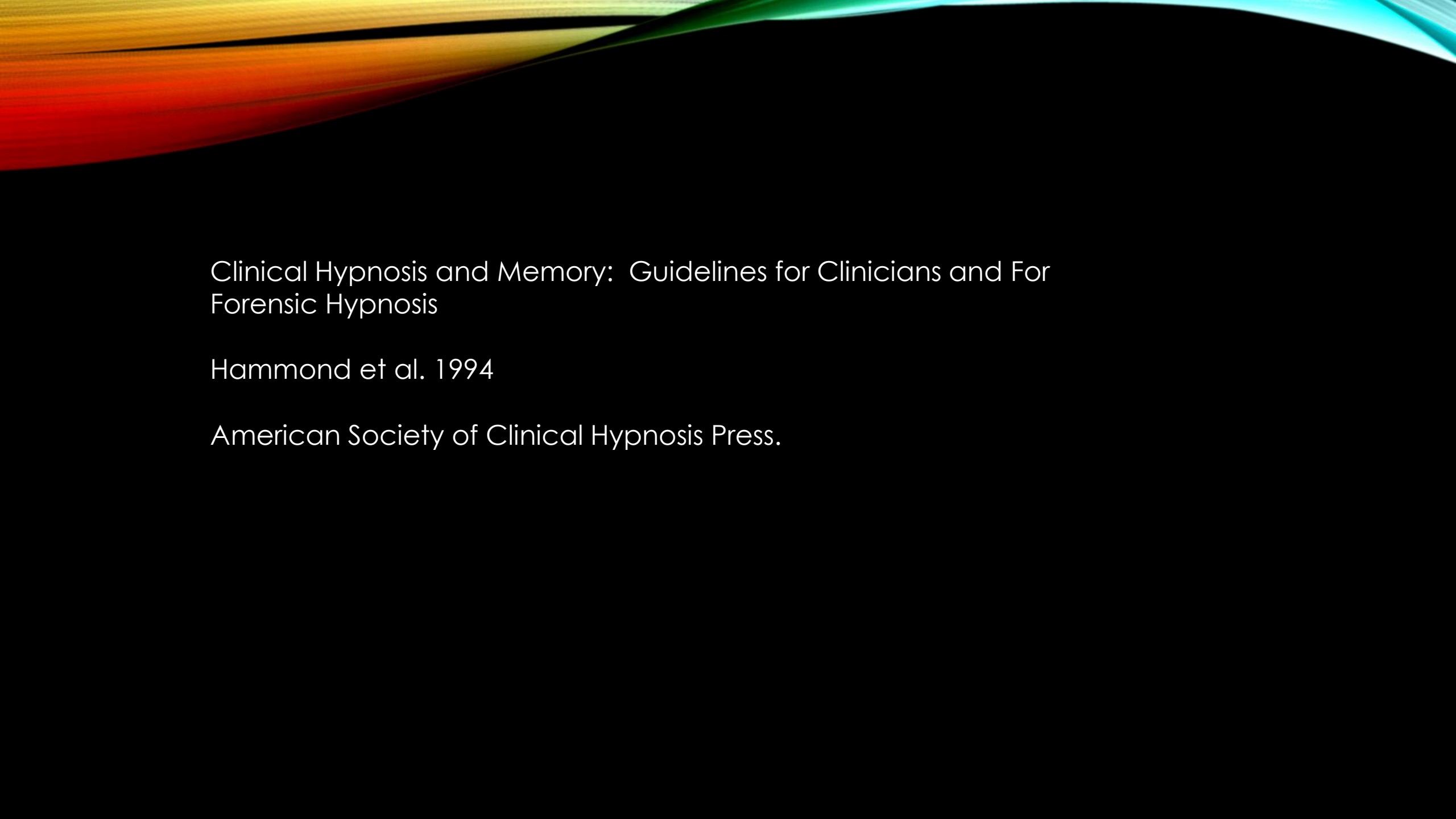
THE FALSE MEMORY DEBATE

- Hit a peak in the 1990's
- Primary issue related to the accuracy/existence of repressed childhood memories of incest or child abuse.
- Children and adult survivors of came under suspicion of fantasizing or lying about their abuse.
- Therapists began to be taken to court with civil lawsuits charging them with malpractice for suggesting or implanting false memories of past abuse.
- Hypnosis became the victim of the much larger issue of memory.



Christine A. Courtois (2001) Implications of the Memory Controversy for Clinical Practice: An Overview of Treatment Recommendations and Guidelines. *Journal of Child Sexual Abuse*, 9: 3-4, 183-210.

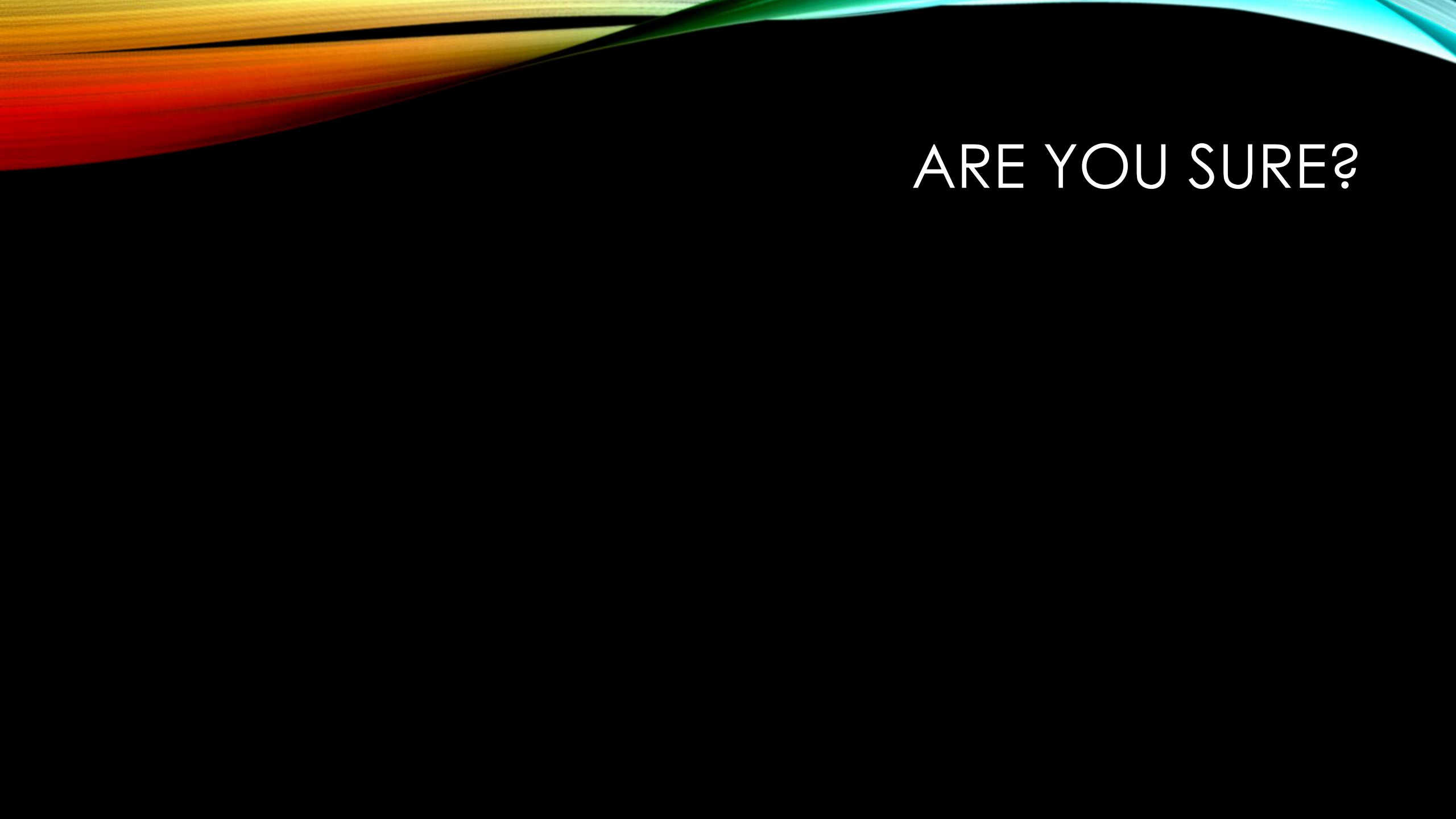
Online link: http://dx.doi.org/10.1300/J070v09n03_09



Clinical Hypnosis and Memory: Guidelines for Clinicians and For Forensic Hypnosis

Hammond et al. 1994

American Society of Clinical Hypnosis Press.

The image features a solid black background. At the top, there is a decorative, wavy border with a color gradient. From left to right, the colors transition from a warm orange-red to a bright yellow, then to a vibrant green, and finally to a light cyan/blue on the far right. The text "ARE YOU SURE?" is positioned in the upper right area of the black field.

ARE YOU SURE?

FORENSIC HYPNOSIS



Dr. William Wester



USEFUL WEBSITES

www.sceh.us

www.asch.net

<https://www.apadivisions.org/devision-30>

www.ishypnosis.org

www.hypnosiscentral.com

www.saybrook.edu





ERIC K. WILLMARTH, PH.D

- ewillmarth@saybrook.edu
- 616-540-3628
- www.hypnosiscentral.com