



For Immediate Release:

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**Statement on report on the use of torture:
“Rethinking the Psychology of Torture: A Preliminary Report from Former
Interrogators and Research Psychologists”**

**by
Ruth Barrett-Rendler, Acting Executive Director**

“The finding that torture is unreliable and impedes gathering truthful information is what we and our colleagues in the field of torture rehabilitation have been saying for many years. The study is important because it brings clarity to the faulty premises used by the Administration to justify torture and cruelty in the effort to combat terrorism.

“Our clients are living testimony that torture is ineffective and used more often on the innocent than the guilty. Torture is a weapon of fear, used to destroy leaders and control societies. When we understand how torture is really used in the world today, it is clear that this kind of abuse undermines what Americans value most: adherence to the rule of law and our Constitution, and respect for human dignity.”

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The report cited was sponsored by Georgetown University Department of Psychology and Psychologists for Social Responsibility. The press release is available at <http://www.psysr.org/tortureseminar.htm>

The Center for Victims of Torture is a nonprofit (501(c)3) whose mission is to heal the wounds of torture on individuals, their families and their communities and to end torture worldwide. Founded in 1985, CVT was the first comprehensive torture treatment center in the U.S., only the third in the world.