

Robert M Kaplan: Speaker Flyer

Robert M Kaplan is Clinical Associate Professor in Psychiatry at the Graduate School of Medicine, University of Wollongong and a writer, historian and forensic psychiatrist.

His book *Medical Murder: The Disturbing Phenomenon of Doctors Who Kill* was published by Allen & Unwin in June 2009 and was nominated for a Ned Kelly prize.

His latest book *Exceptional Brains and How They Changed History* is scheduled for publication by Allen & Unwin in September 2010.

He is a contributing writer to *Scope*, the Irish medical magazine, doing a column *Looking Up from Down Under*, and has written Op-Ed pieces for the *SMH* and *The Australian* on topics including medical genocide and Michael Jackson. In the past, he has written a column for the *South African Medical Journal*, published articles in international journals and wrote an editorial for the *British Medical Journal*. He has spoken at conferences in Australia and overseas on psychiatry, history, archaeology and forensic science.

He has a long-standing interest in public education on health, psychiatric and behavioural matters and has published articles in the media on a range of topics, including anxiety and depression, shoplifting and violence, sleep and pain disorders, and understanding serious crimes such as serial killing and denied pregnancy.

He was an invited speaker at the Crime Writers Festival in Melbourne in September 2009, the Sydney Jewish Writers Festival in 2010 and Limmud Oz in 2011.

A regular speaker, he has broadcast on the ABC *Health Report and Ockham's Razor* programmes, as well as *Mornings with Margaret Throsby*. Topics include history of medicine and psychiatry, prehistory and archaeology; crime, serial killing and genocide, psychiatry, law and neuroscience. Subjects include Sigmund Freud, Dr Radovan Karadzic, Dr Theodor Morell (Hitler's personal physician), James Joyce, Harold Shipman, Christian Barnard and Joseph Fritzl.

He is currently engaged on a work of fiction entitled *Seven Suicides* and nurses a long-delayed ambition to complete an autobiography entitled *Memoirs of a Marginal Medical Student*. The defamation laws ensure it is highly unlikely to appear in print.

Described as a compelling, humorous and dynamic speaker with the capacity to engage any group that he addresses, he prefers to remain modest about his skills and allow people to judge for themselves.

Topics

- *Murder by Medical Malice: Doctors Who Kill*
- *Serial Killing: A history*
- *The Shocking Mr Silver: The Story of Joe Silver, sex slaver, psychopath, serial killer and likely candidate for Jack the Ripper*
- *Jack the Ripper: A Profile*
- *Murder by Sleep: Crimes & Tragedies that occur during the night*
- *Freud, Jews & Judaism: A history of the Jews of Eastern Europe as exemplified by the life of Sigmund Freud*
- *Dr Harold Shipman: Sought-after GP and worst serial killer in UK history*
- *Electric Minds: An examination of the brains of Leonardo da Vinci, Vincent van Gogh and Feodor Dostoyevsky*
- *The Inhuman Human: the life and crimes of Adolf Hitler*
- *How to be Human: A Series of talks on human evolution and the features that make us unique*
- *Sleep & Pain: A voyage through two conditions that can dominate or change our lives*
- *Psychiatry for Beginners: An Introduction to psychiatric disorders and their management*
- *Syphilis, Sex and Psychiatry: A history of the disorder that changed society*
- *Discontent, a Beginners Guide: An introduction to depression, anxiety and anger.*
- *Josef Fritzl's Austria: Sex, cellars and Sado-masochism*
- *The Prehistory of Human Behaviour: shamanism, schizophrenia and rock art*
- *The first and second century of schizophrenia*
- *From Kraepelin to Karadzic: psychiatrists and genocide*
- *Moral panic and Munchausen's Syndrome by Proxy: the rise and fall of Roy Meadow*