

# Cognitive Mechanisms Behind the Memory-Undermining Effect of Feigned Crime-Related Amnesia

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Propositions of the Dissertation

**Cognitive Mechanisms Behind the Memory-Undermining Effect of  
Feigned Crime-Related Amnesia**

1. It is not surprising that, in absence of an organic cause, the authenticity of crime-related amnesia is often questioned

*This thesis*

2. Simulating amnesia indirectly represented a way to rehearse the crime event so that it generates a significant rehearse-practice effect

*This thesis*

3. Simulators may preserve the memory for a crime despite feigning amnesia and seem to be capable to automatically recognize their own self-generated version of the crime from the original one

*This thesis*

4. Because some defendants retrieve their version of the crime in a way to minimize legal and perhaps emotional consequences of their deeds, the act of feigning amnesia might lead to strengthening of trivial crime-related details in memory and forgetting of more important facts due to an inhibition-based mechanism

*This thesis*

5. “My own experience, during a period of over 11 years in a forensic unit, failed to confirm even one case of psychogenic amnesia in the absence of a psychotic episode, brain damage, or acute brain syndrome”

*Centor A., 1982*

6. “Remembrance of things past is not necessarily the remembrance of things as they were”

*Proust M., 1871–1922*

7. “No matter how honest and well-intentioned we are [...] our brain is designed to be efficient, not accurate”

*Manson M., 2016*

8. “If you were foolish enough to sing all summer, you must dance supperless to bed in the winter”

*Aesop, mid-6th century BC*