Mother of murdered child campaigns against the death penalty

get the marshall and brought in the FBI and deputy sheriff.

The FBI set up a trailer as beadquarters... Sheriff's deputies conducted a house-to-house search of every house within a 50-mile radius. Boy Scouts came in with machetes to comb through the thick underbrush. Search and rescue squads came in ... People who had planes voluntered... Farmers and ranchers went out to check the back reaches of their property. Millitary personnel came out with tracking dogs. Businesses released their employees for days to Join in the search was manning the FBI trailer for the night, told us he had received a call from his wiff. She had received a call from a man who said he had Suste and wanted to exchange her for a ransom. The man identified her by her "humpy fingernalis."

Susie was born with a deformity —

nails."

Susi was born with a deformity—
just on her index fingers. It could have
been described as humpy fingernails.

We had given a complete description
of Susie to the FBI. . but we had forgotten her lingernails. This man must
have seen her.

gotten her fingernails. This man must have seen her fingernails. This man must have seen her the seen her was a populated through the media and asked the kidnapper to call us again. But we received no calls. Finally, a day came that was extremely difficult for me. Every time I turned around, I saw one of my children crying, needing to give vent to the terrible feelings and fears mounting within them. It tore me apart to see my kids suffering, I couldn't bear to look at the anguish in my husband's eyes. That night, I was seething, filled with hatred and n desire for revenge. I said to my husband, "even if he were to bring her back alive and well this moment, I could kill him for what he has? Gone to my family." I no some control of the situation of the county out feel.

I knew God was calling me to surrender my feelings and be willing to take on his feelings of forgiveness and love. But! wasn't willing to give up control of the situation. Finally, by the grace that God always stands ready to give, I said, "I'm willing to forgive him and

something that threatened to tear me apart.

Ind always been taught that God was a loving father. What kind of a God is this? I questioned. The more I pondered it, the more I realized the only conclusion that would make sense to my rational mind was that there must not be a God. Maybe God's just a psychological crutch that some wise person dreamed up a long time ago to keep the human race in line.

Yet the more I thought about it, the more I realized I didn't want to believe that answer. I needed the hope that God gives for the world, for my life, for my life, for my life, for my life, the more I realized I didn't want to believe that answer. I needed the hope that God gives for the world, for my life, for my l

a church again.

I expressed my wish that I could someday speak to the kidnapper in person. The article was printed the day before the anniversary of Susie's abduc-

tion.
One night before the anniversary of

act accordingly." I felt peaceful and had the first good night's alcep since Sule was kidnapped.

It had have been a conversation. Three more like a horror movie that I was not back to Michigan. We bought a laper recorder with a phone attachment to record every conversation. Three months later, he called and spoke to my oldest son. He identified Sule and the wanted to exchange for a Sto,000 rankow way to accomplish this her humpy fingermalls again. He aid her humpy fingermalls again. It all had been on the phone of origin, the caller had departed.

The FII traced the call to a small town in Wyoming, But by the time they got to the place of origin, the caller had departed.

After Christmas, my kids went back to school and my husband returned to work. I realized I had to deal with something that threatened to tear me apart.

I had always been taught that God is this? I questioned. The more I pondered! I, the more I realized the only conclusion that would make sense to my rational mind was that there must not be a God. Maybe God's just a psechological crutch that some wise person dreamed up a long time ago to keep the human race in line.

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Yet the more I realized the only the human for the human race in line.

Yet the more I realized the only the human for the human race in line.

Yet the more I realized the only the human for the human race in line.

Yet the more I realized the hope that God gives for the world, for my little, for my little gift. I understand now that it was not a my rational mind was that there must not be a God. Maybe God's just a psechological crutch that some wise person dreamed up a long time ago to keep the human race in line.

Yet the more I realized the only the human server is the human re

Mostly, he was very smug and taunting.

As I was listening to him talk, I was filled with genuine feelings of concern, compassion, understanding and forgiveness. He was taken abock. This wasn't what he expected. He began to drop his guard a little. He talked about things he had done and places he had gone with Susic. He sald he loved her as his little girl and she loved him as her.

The FBI also discovered that David The FBI also discovered that David had been in a little town in Wyoming on the same day my son had received the call. Elight months after Susle's disappearance, an 18-year-old girl disappeared from the town near the campground. Her remains were later found

on an abandoned ranch. David had been a (snubbed) suitor and was a suspect in

on an abandoned ranch. David had been a (snubbed) suitor and was a suspect in that case too.

With all of this circumstantial evidence, the FBI went to David and said he was being considered a prime suspect in Susie's disappearance. He insisted he was innocent. And, on the disted he was innocent. And, on the disted he was innocent. And, on the disted he was innocent. And, on the distered he was innocent. He was recorded in a conversation between himself and an FBI agant identically matched the kidnapper's voice print as recorded in a conversation with me. THE FBI asked me if I would go to Montana and speak to David in person. They thought he may admit what happened to Suist. They feared. . David may attempt suicide.

If cit I had been given this opportunity by God to tell David I forgave him and hat God wanted him to be. But, in the three encounters I had with David, he was very guarded.

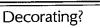
David called me again — a week after I returned from Montana. This time, he was calling collect from Sait Lake City, Ulah. He tited to convince me that this was the real kidnapper — not David. But I recognized his voice and began to call him David. It confused him and threw him into a panic. Finally, he totally incriminated himself and said, "you'll never see your little girl again." Then, he slammed down the fread of the morning — after preparing a warrant.

The FBI told me that from the time a connection had been made between Susie, the 18-year-old girl and David, they had gone back to the abandonct ranch where the teenage girl are made they had gone back to the abandonct ranch where the teenage girl are place, and they had gone they had the seminate of the control of a young fernale child was concrete proof of what I had already come to know in my heart. Susies life had been taken from her several hours after she had been taken from me. David was arrested, but insisted he was insocent. Agents found irrefutable proof when they searched his home. They told him that if he confessed, they wouldn't give him the death penally. He would receive life imprisonment with a chance for psychiatric help. David accepted the offer, confessing to taking the life of Susie, the 18-year-old girl and two young boys. There was ample evidence David had taken lives of many other children, but those deaths occurred in counties where prosecutors were holding out for the death penalty from committing the marriers. That swy, proxity, Sp. David refused to confess to the other murders.

The death penalty didn't deter David from committing the marriers. In all years of the other murders. The county of the other murders are the properties with my Christian principles.

The dath penalty minerial his plaid cell.

I had to accept David's death as well as Susle's and trust that God would somehow make sense out of all this horror. God had been faithfulled with hared and a desire for revenge.



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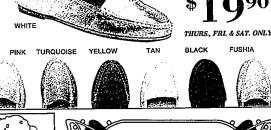
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