Phila Inquirer

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Defense Psychologist In Sirhan Case Faces Suit for Plagiarism

NEW YORK, March 14 (UPI).—A publisher said Friday he may use Sirhan Bishara Sirhan's defense psychologist for using almost the exact wording of a popular book on crime psychiatry in his trial report on Sirhan's motivation in killing Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

The publisher, Bernard Geis, said he was not sure he would sue Dr. Martin M. Schorr of San Diego, Calif., for plagiarism but he was "considering" it very carefully."

Dr. James A. Brussel, author of the Geis-published "Casebook of a Crime Psychiatrist," told the New York Times from a vacation spot in the Caribbean that he hoped Geis would sue.

The similarity of passages in Schorr's report, which was read into the trial record Wednesday, to excerpts from Brussel's book were brought to the attention of the Times by a woman caller who asked that her name not be used. The excerpts all dealt with the solution of the murder of Mrs. Mary Nerich in New York's Queens Borough in 1957 with the aid of Brussel's psychiatric sleuthing.

One excerpt read: "The boy hated his father, yes—and more important, feared him. Therefore, he would never entertain the idea of doing away with the man . . . Then, somewhere along the line, the protecting mother may have 'failed' her boy."

A parallel passage by Schorr read: "He hated his father and feared him. He would never consciously entertain the idea of doing away with him. But somewhere along the line, the protecting mother fails her son."

Another Brussel excerpt read: "She whom he loved never kept her pledge and he began to feel that she really didn't love him. Pain had to be repaid with pain, and since the unconscious always demands the maximum, the pain had to be death."

Schorr's report read: "She, whom he loved, never kept her pledge, and now this pain had to be repaid with pain. Since the unconscious always demands maximum penalties, the pain had to be death."