

ROBERT JAY LIFTON

*HANS W. LOEWALD MEMORIAL AWARDEE

Hans W. Loewald Memorial Award & Address: "Doctors & Torture"

The talk will describe the recent involvement of American doctors in torture. Dr. Lifton will explore aspects of his own work on Chinese thought reform in connection with the sad evidence, recently revealed, that its methods have been directly embraced in American military practice. He will also consider his studies of Nazi doctors and of Vietnam veterans in relation to creating "atrocious-producing situations." Finally, he will suggest a source of hope in the capacity for individual and collective psychological change, as expressed in his studies of the "protean self."

*Robert Jay Lifton is a psychiatrist and author, known for his studies of the psychological causes and effects of war and political violence and his theories of thought reform (brainwashing). Lifton along with Erik Erikson founded the Wellfleet Psychohistory Group as well as the Center for the Study of Human Violence. He is the author of many influential books: *Death in Life: Survivors of Hiroshima*, *Home From the War: Vietnam Veterans- Neither Victims nor Executioners*, *The Nazi Doctors: Medical Killing and the Psychology of Genocide*, *The Protean Self: Human Resilience in the Age of Fragmentation*, and his most recent -- *Super Power Syndrome: America's Apocalyptic Confrontation with the World*.*