

Recent reports reveal the American Psychological Association's (APA) involvement in establishing the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA) torture policy. According to the [New York Times](#), the recently released [Hoffman report](#), "concludes that some of the association's top officials, including its ethics director, sought to curry favor with Pentagon officials by seeking to keep the association's ethics policies in line with the Defense Department's interrogation policies, while several prominent outside psychologists took actions that aided the C.I.A.'s interrogation program and helped protect it from growing dissent inside the agency." APA has since issued [an apology](#).

The [University Counseling Center at the University of Utah](#) wishes to respond publically that the APA's assistance in developing the CIA's torture policy greatly disturbs our mental health care staff. The actions by the leadership of APA in facilitating torture, as well as covering up their involvement, are inconsistent with the ethics we uphold. We are trained to be empathic, ethical, open, affirming of human rights, and to strive to never do harm to our clients. We aspire to a multicultural and social justice orientation in our work.