

## **Keyword: Patrick Weichert**

## **10-60 Word Biographies**

#### 1. Patrick Weichert: PTSD General Information

Patrick Weichert is a clinical psychologist who specializes in treating people, particularly veterans, with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. PTSD is a potentially debilitating condition that impacts people who have witnessed or experienced traumatic situations, such as violent assaults, or other frightening, shocking events. While some people are able to naturally recover from these incidents, those individuals diagnosed with PTSD may suffer lifelong stresses and anxieties.

## 2. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Veterans

Patrick Weichert, a Vietnam veteran, psychologist, counselor, and veterans rights advocate, has dedicated his career to helping veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder readjust to their lives after their tour of duty is complete. While PTSD can affect about 8 out of every 100 people, that percentage increases with soldiers during wartime after they return home from service. Many service members see combat or are exposed to horrific, life-threatening situations which can result in PTSD.

## 3. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Sexual Assault in the Military

Many renowned psychologists who specialize in veterans' affairs, like Patrick Weichert, are aware of the connection between sexually assaultive actions and the development of PTSD in victims. Because of the nature of the military, victims of assault or harassment often suffer assaults at their place of work and must continue to be in close proximity with their perpetrators, who are often individuals in positions of superiority to the victims.





## 4. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Female Service Members

Patrick Weichert and other psychologists who specialize in counseling military veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder have helped many women veterans to develop coping mechanisms to help them regain control over their lives. For women in the military, exposure to terrifying and disturbing events increases substantially due to their involvement in combat itself; however, many female soldiers develop PTSD because of the sexual assault they suffer at the hands of fellow soldiers.

## 5. Patrick Weichert: Rescuing Border Collies

Patrick Weichert, a distinguished veterans' psychologist, and many other dog associations and owners have helped rescue numerous Border collies over the last decade. Border collies are very active and extremely intelligent dogs who were originally bred to herd sheep, but are mostly owned today as companion pets and competitive athletes. It is primarily because of their inherent personality traits that so many Border collies have been in need of rescue.

## 6. Patrick Weichert: Training Border Collies

Patrick Weichert, who owns, rescues, and trains Border collies, understands the importance of creating a strong bond between dog and owner. Border collie training is necessary for this type of dog, and the earlier in a puppy's life, the better. The intelligence of this breed means they learn quickly, and what they learn they retain throughout their lives. Border collies need proper mental and physical stimulation on a daily basis in order to be happy, healthy, and in the right mindset to listen to and bond with an owner.

## 7. Patrick Weichert: Rescuing Siberian Huskies

Many Siberian Husky owners and rescuers, such as Patrick Weichert, are aware of the working breed's particular characteristics: a friendly, convivial personality; a high energy drive; a need for occupation. Unfortunately, the Husky's personality can be overwhelming for an uneducated owner, leading many Huskies to end up in animal shelters or facing euthanasia. Huskies have the instinct to run and roam, and





are escape artists because of this drive. Huskies are strong, independent dogs, and they need frequent exercise and mental occupation.

## 8. Patrick Weichert: Training Siberian Huskies

Many Siberian Husky owners and rescuers, like Patrick Weichert, have taken the appropriate steps to train their Huskies in a way that benefits both the dog and the owner. As a highly intelligent and energetic breed, Siberian Huskies require careful, consistent training to become an effective member of an owner's household. Owners should take consistent steps to take a leadership role in their relationship with their Husky by using positive reinforcement, practicing trust and dominance exercises, and establishing good, consistent routines and rules.

## 9. Patrick Weichert: Pets, Vets, and PTSD

Patrick Weichert, a clinical psychologist and advocate for veterans' rights, along with other prominent doctors have found that pets can also help veterans who have returned from war overcome Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Many veterans' organizations are now dedicated to pairing returning veterans with companions and therapy animals. In particular, shelter dogs that are rehabilitated and trained can be matched to the soldier's personality and help provide the veteran with emotional support and care.

## 10. Patrick Weichert: Vietnam Veteran's Rights

While many psychologists focus on counseling military veterans, some, like Patrick Weichert, make that desire for better veterans' care and rights a lifelong passion. As a two-tour Vietnam veteran who was awarded two Purple Stars, Weichert has made veterans' rights and veterans' mental health issues the





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foundation of his counseling career. With veterans' rights at risk and increasing concern with veterans' mental health, doctors like Weichert are of great importance to veterans.

## 18-250 Word Blog Posts

#### 1. Patrick Weichert: General Information on PTSD

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is a potentially debilitating condition that impacts many people who have witnessed or experienced traumatic situations, such as violent assaults, serious accidents, natural disasters, deaths of loved ones, or other frightening, shocking events. While some people are able to naturally recover from these incidents, those individuals diagnosed with PTSD may suffer lifelong stresses and anxieties. PTSD can be a severe condition, which is why many psychologists, like Patrick Weichert, have dedicated their careers to assisting people who live with PTSD-generated fear every day.

Nearly 7.7 million Americans over the age of eighteen suffer from some form of PTSD. Some traumatized people develop acute, or short-term, PTSD, while other individuals develop chronic, or long-term, symptoms. Signs of PTSD can be found in re-experiencing situations, like dreams and flashbacks; cognition and mood symptoms, involving distorted, negative thoughts and loss of interest in fun activities; avoidance symptoms, such as becoming emotionally numb or avoiding people and places that may trigger reactions; and reactivity symptoms, like insomnia, feeling edgy and tense, and having irrational, angry outbursts.

Patrick Weichert and other renowned PTSD psychologists have also studied the difference in symptoms between adults and children. Very young children, under the age of six, may become unusually insecure and gravitate toward adults. Some young children may also reenact the terrifying event, be unable to talk, or wet the bed even after being potty-trained. Older children and teenagers who develop PTSD are more likely to have the same symptoms that adults have, in addition to feeling guilty, acting out in destructive manners, and have desires for vengeance.

Sources: http://www.adaa.org/understanding-anxiety/posttraumatic-stress-disorder-ptsd http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/post-traumatic-stress-disorder-ptsd/index.shtml

#### 2. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Veterans







While Post Traumatic Stress Disorder can affect about 8 out of every 100 people, that percentage increases when examining soldiers during wartime and those who return home from war. Many service members see combat or are exposed to horrific, life-threatening situations. Some soldiers witness the deaths of their fellow servicemen and women. Patrick Weichert, a Vietnam veteran, psychologist, counselor, and veterans rights advocate, has dedicated his career to helping veterans with PTSD readjust to their lives after their tour of duty is complete.

As a twice-wounded Vietnam veteran and eminent psychologist, Weichert is familiar with the trauma that many soldiers deal with during combat and when they return home to their families. Roughly 30% of Vietnam veterans have had PTSD, 12% of Desert Storm veterans, and between 11-20% of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Afghanistan veterans. These percentages are determined by soldier assignments, the politics of the time, the enemies fought against, the styles of combat, and the locations of war. Common PTSD symptoms for veterans are: having nightmares or flashbacks, becoming emotionally withdrawn, having trouble concentrating, being jumpy and unable to relax, using drugs or alcohol to suppress feelings, and having suicidal thoughts.

As Patrick Weichert and other psychologists who cater to veterans have found, the two most successful approaches to assisting veterans with PTSD are medication and counseling. Counselors and doctors, like Weichert, can help veterans learn specific techniques and coping mechanisms that can help them take back control over their lives. Doctors also recommend that veterans consider positive lifestyle changes such as exercising for stress relief, volunteering to reconnect with the community, and teaming up with other veterans to talk about PTSD and the feelings associated with this condition. Veterans should also be more open with their families about places or situations that they might not be comfortable with.

Sources: http://maketheconnection.net/conditions/ptsd

http://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/PTSD-overview/basics/how-common-is-ptsd.asp

https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1755&dat=19890927&id=h-obAAAAIBAJ&sjid=MnoEAAAAIBAJ&pg=4299,2286494&hl=en

3. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Sexual Assaults in the Military







Military sexual trauma includes both sexual assault and sexual harassment that occurs within military settings. Many renowned psychologists who specialize in veterans' affairs, like Patrick Weichert, are aware of the connection between assaultive actions and the development of PTSD in victims. Because of the nature of the military, victims of assault or harassment often suffer assaults at their place of work and must continue to be in close proximity with their perpetrators, who are often individuals in positions of superiority to the victims.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is a frequent outcome of sexual assault in the military, with rates of 65% in men and 45.9% in women. The assaults and harassment may range from inappropriate jokes to pressure for sexual encounters to rape. Many victims never officially report these incidents due to feelings of shame, guilt, and embarrassment, or for fear of the impact a report would have upon their military careers. The frequency of sexual assaults in the military is distressingly high, with 23% of women reporting assaults; additionally, 55% of women and 38% of men reported being subjected to sexual harassment.

Patrick Weichert and other psychologists who have made veteran and veterans' affairs the cornerstone of their practices are important factors in helping victims overcome PTSD associated with assault. Counseling is vitally important to help victims adopt coping strategies that can allow them to carry on with their daily lives. Other treatments many include in-depth exploration of cognitive reactions, a restructuring of those reactions, and exposure therapies. Despite the severe consequences of sexual assault and harassment, these therapies can reduce the symptoms of PTSD and improve the quality of the victim's life.

Sources: http://www.ptsd.va.gov/professional/trauma/war/military-sexual-trauma.asp

http://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/PTSD-overview/basics/how-common-is-ptsd.asp

http://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/PTSD-overview/women/women-trauma-and-ptsd.asp

## 4. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Women Soldiers

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder in women is not uncommon; five out of ten women experience some type of traumatic event in their lifetime, often associated with sexual assault, abuse, or violence. For women in the military, that exposure to terrifying and disturbing events increases substantially due to their involvement in combat itself, however, many female soldiers develop PTSD because of the sexual assault they suffer at the hands of fellow soldiers. Patrick Weichert and other psychologists who





specialize in military veterans with PTSD have helped many women veterans to develop coping mechanisms to help them regain control over their lives.

While men in the military are also subject to sexual assault and harassment, women who have suffered from these actions tend to have different experiences associated with this type of trauma. First, there is the likely exposure to sexual trauma before their careers in the military began. Then there is the sexual assault and harassment that many may encounter during their military service. Finally, women tend to receive more gender-specific treatment by military administrative groups and those who staff them.

As Patrick Weichert and other veterans' psychologists have found, female veterans are more likely to be divorced, single parents, or homeless than their male counterparts. These factors, combined with PTSD from regular service and/or sexual assault and harassment in the military, has led to a rise in suicide rates amongst female veterans. Civil rights groups estimate that 30 percent of women veterans who have used the Veterans' Affairs health care facilities have been abused, assaulted, or raped during their military service. Counseling is important so that these veterans are able to learn to cope with PTSD and being to rebuild their lives at home.

#### Sources:

http://www.washingtonmonthly.com/magazine/november\_december\_2013/features/women\_war\_and\_ptsd047354.php?page=all\_

https://www.recoveryranch.com/articles/trauma-and-ptsd-articles/the-woman-warrior-ptsd-and-female-soldiers/

http://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/PTSD-overview/women/women-trauma-and-ptsd.asp

## 5. Patrick Weichert: Vietnam Veterans

While many psychologists focus on counseling military veterans, some, like Patrick Weichert, make that desire for better veterans' care and rights a lifelong passion. As a two-tour Vietnam veteran who was awarded two Purple Stars, Weichert has made veterans' rights and veterans' mental health issues the foundation of his counseling career. With veterans' rights at risk and increasing concern with veterans' mental health, doctors like Weichert are of great importance to veterans.







Roughly 2.7 million American men and women served in Vietnam between 1959 – 1975. General benefits for Vietnam veterans range from pensions to education and training, and from health care to disability compensation. However, many licensed counselors and therapists who cater to veterans also recognize the need to assist them personally with issues ranging from completing necessary paperwork to coping with PTSD. As a former Marine, Weichert has not only counseled hundreds of veterans, but has also volunteered his time to assist Vietnam veterans in particular. Weichert has helped members of his own Delta 1/7 group to file their Veterans Affairs filings at no cost.

Patrick Weichert was one of the founding members of the Vietnam Veterans of America, and has devoted his career to counseling all veterans, but with a particular fondness for those who fought in the same war that he did. Weichert describes the Vietnam War as "a nasty, bizarre war." As a veteran himself, he recognized the need for more care and concern in regards to veterans' rights, and decided to become a licensed psychologist to help veterans deal with the consequences of their actions during war and assist them in their transition to post-war life.

Sources: https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1755&dat=19890927&id=h-obAAAAIBAJ&sjid=MnoEAAAAIBAJ&pg=4299,2286494&hl=en

http://www.benefits.va.gov/persona/veteran-vietnam.asp

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## 6. Patrick Weichert: Border Collies

Border collies are highly intelligent, alert, and energetic, with a strong, affectionate disposition towards friends, but wary of strangers. The Border collie's origins can be traced back to the border region between England and Scotland where there was a heavy concentration of sheep herding over very rugged terrain. Many people, like psychologist Patrick Weichert, have found the Border collie to be an engaging, independent dog worthy of its breeding purposes.

The Border collie was bred primarily to help herd sheep, and the breed is well known for its unique style of gathering and herding the stock with wide, fast sprints. Border collies also use an intense stare combined with a stalking motion to get recalcitrant sheep back into line. Border collies are smart and







keen, and they receive high marks for their trainability. A medium-sized dog, the Border collie is often between 25 – 65 pounds, has a coat that may be smooth, rough, or medium, and is most often black and white or black in tan in color.

Border collies not used as herding dogs can easily succeed at various canine sports. Highly motivated to work as teammates with their owners, border collies can excel at sports like agility, fly ball, Frisbee, obedience and tracking competitions, and even sledding teams. When trained correctly, border collies can also be excellent pet representatives at schools, hospitals, and nursing home facilities.

Many Border collie owners, like Patrick Weichert, have found this breed to be versatile, eager to learn, enthusiastic, and loyal. When properly trained, the Border collie can be a remarkable, caring four-legged companion.

Sources: http://www.akc.org/dog-breeds/border-collie/

 $\frac{\text{http://images.akc.org/pdf/breeds/standards/Border\_Collie.pdf?\_ga=1.199901166.1931458134.1465398}{789}$ 

http://www.bordercollie.org/basics/characteristics.html

http://www.bordercollie.org/basics/living.html

## 7. Patrick Weichert: Border Collies Rescue

Patrick Weichert, a distinguished veterans' psychologist, and many other dog associations and owners have helped rescue numerous Border collies over the last decade. Border collies are very active and extremely intelligent dogs who were originally bred to herd sheep, but are mostly owned today as companion pets and competitive athletes. It is primarily because of their personalities and characteristics that so many Border collies have been in need of rescue.

Border collie rescues were developed in the mid-1990s when the breed was formally recognized by the American Kennel Club, and began to be seen more regularly in pop culture, from kids' movies to agility and trick competitions on Animal Planet. Border collies need a great deal of space or an owner who is willing to engage in exercise with them at least three times a day, anywhere from 45 – 120 minutes.







With its increasing cultural popularity, the Border collie became the dog of choice for people living in apartments and small urban spaces, locations that work against the nature of the breed. The high energy and drive of a Border collie is often not compatible with a small home. Often described as neurotic and hyperactive, Border collies are amongst the most euthanized breeds.

Many Border collie advocates, like Patrick Weichert, have worked with formal rescues to ensure that Border collies are relocated to appropriate situations that will give them the best opportunity to live their lives in happiness and comfort. Many rescue organizations have large facilities, educational training programs for prospective fosters and owners, and around the clock care for the Border collies they rescue.

Sources: http://www.glenhighlandfarm.com/beyondbasic.htm

http://www.bordercollie.org/basics/living.html

## 8. Patrick Weichert: Border Collies Training

Dog ownership involves far more than just bringing a dog home and feeding it. Owning a dog means building a relationship through appropriate training methods. Many dog owners and trainers, like Patrick Weichert, who owns, rescues, and trains Border collies, understand the importance of creating a strong bond between dog and owner. An owner must be the dog's leader, and correctly training a dog can save the dog's life, and the lives of other people and animals as well.

Border collies are one of the breeds most likely to be relinquished to animal shelters or euthanized. These results often come from an owner's misunderstanding of the inherent nature of the breed. Border collies are spirited and highly intelligent working dogs. They need a natural and appropriate outlet for their excess energy. Because some new Border collie owners are not educated on the breed, they do not understand the dog's needs in regards to space, drive, and activity.

Border collie training is necessary for this breed, and the earlier in a puppy's life, the better. The intelligence of this breed means they learn early and fast, and what they learn they retain throughout their lives. Excellent, breed-specific training is a requirement for anyone who owns a Border collie. Border collies need proper mental and physical stimulation on a daily basis in order to be happy, healthy, and in the right mindset to listen to and bond with an owner.







Owners of border collies, such as Patrick Weichert, are familiar with the needs of this breed. Some important, key training points are to train in an area least likely to distract from the dog's focus, give positive reinforcement and acknowledge when the dog has done well, and be consistent by making the training process as clear and simple as possible.

Sources: http://www.lovelybordercollie.com/training/border-collie

http://www.bordercollie.org/training/basicobed.html

## 9. Patrick Weichert: Siberian Huskies General

The Siberian Husky is a gentle, friendly, energetic, and outgoing dog whose intelligence and affection mark an open and eager disposition. Huskies are keen and alert, but are not aggressive. Many Siberian Husky rescuerers and owners, like Patrick Weichert, have found the breed to be engaging in relationships and graceful in action.

Siberian Huskies are somewhat compact, with erect ears, and range from 35 – 65 pounds. A thousand years ago, the Chukchi, a Siberian Arctic tribe, first bred the Husky for carrying light loads via sled at moderate speed over long distances. This was necessary for the Chukchi's survival as they used the Huskies to bring back meat from hunting kills before Cossacks or other tribes attacked. Eventually, the Chukchi used the Huskies to pull sleds of family members and possession as they fled their villages in fear of the Cossacks. The Siberian Husky breed reflects the endurance, power, and speed that were necessary for its original purpose.

Huskies have thick fur coats, blue or multi-colored eyes, and prominent facial masks that give the breed its wolf-like appearance. Huskies are highly intelligent and athletic and require significant amounts of exercise. This breed is also independent and has excellent problem-solving skills; therefore, fenced yards are necessary to keep this breed from escaping and running through the neighborhood.

Patrick Weichert and other Siberian Husky owners have found that this breed makes excellent family pets, as they are very kid-friendly. Huskies make better playmates than they do guard dogs, and they bond easily and fiercely to their human families. Because of its high level of intelligence, the Siberian







Husky can get bored easily, and its owner must be both patient and inventive in providing a Husky with an environment fitting to the breed and its qualities.

Sources: http://www.canismajor.com/dog/siberian.html

http://dogtime.com/dog-breeds/siberian-husky#/slide/1

http://www.akc.org/dog-breeds/siberian-husky/

http://images.akc.org/pdf/breeds/standards/SiberianHusky.pdf?\_ga=1.27752572.1931458134.1465398 789

#### 10. Patrick Weichert: Siberian Huskies Rescue

Many Siberian Husky owners and rescuers, such as Patrick Weichert, are aware of the working breed's particular characteristics: a friendly, convivial personality; a high energy drive; a need for occupation. Unfortunately, the Husky's personality can be overwhelming for an uneducated owner, leading many Huskies to end up in animal shelters or facing euthanasia.

The Siberian Husky is a visually appealing breed with its blue eyes, fluffy coat, and engaging personality. However, Huskies have the instinct to run and roam, which means that, along with their tendency to dig, they are escape artists, even from fenced backyards. Huskies are strong, agile, independent, and stubborn dogs, and they need frequent exercise and mental occupation. Because these qualities can be difficult for a dog owner to handle, Huskies often find their way to shelters or worse fates. Some Siberian Husky owners decide to re-home their dog because of lifestyle changes or behavioral problems.

Many Siberian Husky organizations offer safe locations for a Husky to be relinquished. Some of these groups also offer education for the Husky owner to help the owner determine if giving up the Husky is the best choice available. Quite a few Siberian Husky rescue associations offer training suggestions for some of the most difficult Husky behaviors, like excessive energy, separation anxiety, destructive behaviors, nipping and mouthing, as well as escape and exercise solutions.





Patrick Weichert and other experienced Siberian Husky rescuers and owners are familiar with both the beauties and benefits of owning this breed of dog, but are also aware of the challenges as well. Many Siberian Husky rescue groups are available to assist owners in making the best decision for their Husky.

Sources: http://www.siberianhuskyrescue.org/work-through-the-issues/

http://www.siberianrescue.com/seneca.htm

http://www.northstarhuskyrescue.org/info/display?PageID=8412

#### 11. Patrick Weichert: Siberian Huskies Training

As a keen, highly intelligent, and energetic breed, Siberian Huskies require careful, consistent training to become an effective member of an owner's household. Many Husky owners and rescuers, like Patrick Weichert, have taken the appropriate steps to train their Siberian Huskies in a way that benefits both the dog and the owner.

Siberian Huskies and their owners can profit from attending obedience classes with a certified instructor and trainer. The Husky can develop confidence, proper socialization skills with other dogs and people, and strengthen communication skills with the owner. Crate train a Husky by relying upon a dog's natural denning instinct. Crate training can help especially when the dog cannot be supervised at all times. Owners should take simple, consistent steps to take a leadership role in their relationship with their Husky. Use positive reinforcement, practice trust and dominance exercises, and practice taking objects from the dog like toys and food, and then returning them to establish leadership. Owners need establish good, consistent routines and rules for eating, going outside, and going for walks.

Many Siberian huskies end up at shelters, given up by frustrated and overwhelmed owners who may not have been fully educated about the breed. Patrick Weichert, other Husky owners, and Husky rescue







organizations recognize the positives that come from owning a Siberian Husky, while also understanding the trials that this breed can bring. Being aware of the breed's personality and traits, as well as dedicating the time, effort, and care necessary for proper training, can result in a beautiful relationship between an owner and his Siberian Husky.

Sources: http://www.siberescue.com/breed/dog-house-training

http://www.husky-petlove.com/husky\_alpha\_training.html

http://www.sibrescue.com/crate-training.html

http://www.sibrescue.com/training1.html

## 12. Patrick Weichert: Miniature Sicilian Donkeys

Miniature donkeys are humorous, affectionate animals whose intelligence far outranks other farm animals. Miniature donkey owners and rescuers, like Patrick Weichert, are accustomed to the donkeys' playful, caring natures. Much like dogs or cats, miniature donkeys develop strong bonds with their human owners.

The miniature donkey can live to be 25 - 35 years old, can grow to a height of 36", and weigh between 225 - 350 pounds. They are hardy creatures that thrive in cold, rugged environments. Because of their high level of intelligence, miniature donkeys are easy to train to lead or pull carts. Some donkeys are trained for national competitive events and shows while others become registered therapy animals and visit nursing homes and hospitals to bring joy to the patients. Most commonly, miniature donkeys are beloved pets and members of the family.

There are many types of miniature donkeys, but the exotic type that Patrick Weichert owns and rescues is the Miniature Sicilian donkey. This is a highly demonstrative breed that is currently on the United States Department of Agriculture conservancy list as there are less than 10,000 left in the world. The Sicilian donkey comes in two color varieties: grey-dun and chocolate. All Sicilian donkeys have a grey dorsal stripe in the shape of a cross on their withers. While all miniature donkey breeds are friendly, the







Sicilian is noted as being born with an inherent affection for life. This breed bonds strongly with its owners and can often be found following its owners about like a large dog.

Sources: <a href="http://www.valleystables-exotics.com/donkeys.html">http://www.valleystables-exotics.com/donkeys.html</a>

http://www.quartermoonranch.com/carolynsarticlesandstories/facts.html

http://www.gotpetsonline.com/pictures/gallery/farm-animals/alphabetically/miniature-donkeys/miniature-donkey-0023/

## 13. Patrick Weichert: Pets, Veterans, and PTSD

Scientific studies have proven that pets can be a powerful source of mental, physical, and emotional support for the average person. Pet owners benefit from the relationship with their four-legged friend by being more physically fit, feeling more confident and having better self-esteem, feeling less lonely, and were more reliable in general. Patrick Weichert, a clinical psychologist and advocate for veterans' rights, along with other prominent doctors have found that pets can also help veterans who have returned from war overcome Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Many organizations have developed in the last decade to pair returning veterans with companions and therapy animals. In particular, shelter dogs that are rehabilitated and trained can be matched to the soldier's personality and help provide the veteran with emotional support and care. Not only does this approach help reduce veteran suicides each year, currently estimated at 22 per day, but many animals facing euthanasia in shelters are also given a second chance at life.

Clinical psychologists who cater to veterans, like Patrick Weichert, have seen the impact that dogs can have on veterans who suffer from PTSD. These animals help soldiers cope with symptoms of PTSD, like suicidal thoughts, nightmares, flashbacks, social anxiety, and emotional isolation. Many veterans' organizations pair up the soldier and his dog in a three-week program to help build an effective partnership between the two. Therapy dogs are trained to recognize the symptoms of depression, anxiety, and anger, to intervene with their veteran, to help him refocus and employ the appropriate coping mechanisms, and to bring composure to the situation.

Sources: http://www.thisableveteran.org





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http://www.petsforvets.com/about-the-program/

http://www.apa.org/news/press/releases/2011/07/cats-dogs.aspx

## 14. Patrick Weichert: Pets and Counseling

Many clinical psychologists, such as Patrick Weichert, have acknowledged the important role therapy pets can play in the process of counseling people. Scientific studies have proven that pets help increase a sense of well-being, purpose, and belonging for general pet owners. Therapy pets, however, can have a life-altering impact when used to assist people suffering from traumatic or difficult circumstances.

Using Animal Assisted Therapy, some psychologists, counselors, and therapists have turned to service dogs as psychotherapeutic co-therapists. Dogs are primarily used in these circumstances because of the social, emotional, and historical bond that exists between canines and humans. The use of dogs in therapy sessions has been proven to build empathy, reduce anxiety, and allow the subjects to be more attuned to their emotional feelings and reactions.

A therapy dog may be employed in one of two distinct ways during counseling sessions. The dog may be used as a specific focus during the session, encouraging interaction between the dog and subject. For example, an individual may be encouraged to pet or hold the dog while discussing highly emotional issues. A therapy dog may also be present in a non-directive fashion, wherein the dog is not the focus of attention but is instead simply present in the therapy room. Here, the dog's presence produces positive impacts on the immediate environment, encouraging rapport between doctor and client as well as bringing a sense of peace to the room.

Patrick Weichert and other prominent clinical psychologists have seen the positive impact that therapy pets can have on people who are struggling to deal with stressful or debilitating issues in their lives.

Sources: https://ccacounseling.com/a-counselors-best-friend-the-use-of-a-registered-therapy-dog-in-the-counseling-office/







http://www.apa.org/news/press/releases/2011/07/cats-dogs.aspx

http://freedomservicedogs.org/programs/professional-therapy-dogs/

## 15. Patrick Weichert: Portrayal of the Vietnam War in Movies and Television

As a Vietnam veteran, clinical psychologist, and veterans' rights activist, Patrick Weichert is unimpressed with the way the Vietnam war --- and most wars in general --- are portrayed in film and television. Weichert argues that Vietnam wasn't "all gore and sadness," and that Hollywood's version of war can at times be a far cry from reality.

The media version of war, particularly Vietnam, is one that Weichert and other veterans criticize. Television programs like *China Beach* and *Tour of Duty* are dismissed by Weichert as "horrendous --- unreal, theatrical, and overdone." The oddly unrealistic depictions of Vietnam may also be related to the films and television shows created during the height of the Vietnam era. Often these films and shows followed predictable propagandist storylines where the enemy Viet Cong was presented in the worst light possible and American soldiers were the liberators of the peasants suffering from a Communist regime. Even pro-war actor and star John Wayne, an ardent anti-Communist, felt his movie, *The Green Beret*, would, through a simplistic plot, show those Americans who opposed the war that they were in the wrong.

For Vietnam veterans like Patrick Weichert, the film industry's interpretation of the war is different in many ways from reality. Weichert notes "A lot of crazy stuff went on --- it was just wild, no control [...] Did Marines in Vietnam have fun? Sure they did. It was funny [...] It was misplanned, mismanaged, misexecuted, mis-everything." Weichert does point to John Lithgow's in *Distant Thunder*, as a Vietnam veteran reunited with his son as a representation of the war that he respected.

Sources: https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1755&dat=19890927&id=h-obAAAAIBAJ&sjid=MnoEAAAAIBAJ&pg=4299,2286494&hl=en

www.historytoday.com/michael-paris/american-film-industry-vietnam

## 16. Patrick Weichert: Counseling Children





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Aside from being a Vietnam veteran and veterans' rights activist, Patrick Weichert is also a licensed psychologist who specializes primarily in counseling veterans with PTSD. Additionally, Weichert spent a portion of his career as a counselor for children and families at the Englewood Counseling Center and the Palms of Charlotte counseling and guidance center.

Psychologists have to take certain approaches to break through the emotional defenses that troubled children and teenagers create as mechanisms against abuse, stress, and anxiety. Weichert has been successful in working with children by using a humorous approach to make his subjects comfortable and to get them to open up to him. Weichert says, "I don't try to talk to them as adults, I talk to them as kids. When they try to come to our level, it doesn't work. I try to equate experiences --- hey, I was a kid once, too."

By using humor in his sessions with young clients, Patrick Weichert, like other successful psychologists, has been able to infuse creativity and sensitivity into counseling sessions. Humor can allow children to develop social skills and create bonds. Weichert often worked with children who had been referred to him by their schools or their families. He would draw comical comparisons between his childhood and his clients' youth to generate a sense of trust. Weichert notes, "kids haven't changed, only the adults have [...] I mess with 'em, I joke with 'em. I look at it as a game. Kids are fun to work with. It's a lot of fun to try and play the game with them."

Sources: https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1755&dat=19890927&id=h-obAAAAIBAJ&sjid=MnoEAAAAIBAJ&pg=4299,2286494&hl=en

http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15401380903192705?journalCode=wcmh20

## 17. Patrick Weichert: Therapy Pets and Counseling Children

Clinical psychologists who have spent time working with children, like Patrick Weichert, have noted the impact that therapy dogs can have on troubled youth. Animal assisted therapy is used worldwide as a method of helping children and teenagers to cope with traumatic situations or circumstances in their lives.







Some counseling organizations combine the therapy dog with playtime for children in counseling sessions. Children feel naturally comfortable with animals and tend to have more positive emotions and feelings when in a dog's presence. They may be more willing to verbalize their issues to the dog whom they see as nonjudgmental and trustworthy. With a therapy dog nearby, children and teenagers are more likely to view their counselor positively, and may become more empowered by having the animal at their sides. Many therapy dogs were rescued themselves from terrible situations, and some children may relate more readily to a dog that they can directly identify with. Some therapy dogs are used in school settings, and can help children with social, academic, and emotional goals, as well as assist children in dealing with grieving in cases of emergency or disaster.

Patrick Weichert and other child clinical psychologists have recognized the importance of a therapy dog's role in counseling children and teenagers. Weichert points out that he often saw male clients as boys are more often conditioned by society to be aggressive. Therapy dogs can help tame anxiety,

stress, and high emotions. Animal therapy can be s=especially effective for children who have relationship or sexual behavior issues, and sensory and boundary complications.

Sources: http://animalassistedtherapyprograms.org/children-counseling.html

https://ccacounseling.com/a-counselors-best-friend-the-use-of-a-registered-therapy-dog-in-the-counseling-office/

https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1755&dat=19890927&id=h-obAAAAIBAJ&sjid=MnoEAAAAIBAJ&pg=4299,2286494&hl=en

## 18. Patrick Weichert: Examinations/NEXUS for Veterans

As a clinical psychologist and Vietnam veteran, Patrick Weichert has volunteered his time and services to advocate for veterans' rights. Of particular interest to Weichert and other veterans' activists are the processes veterans must go through to qualify for Nexus and a Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) disability compensation award.







A Veterans Benefits Administration claim must be based on indisputable proof of an injury or illness that occurred during military service. This often presents a difficulty for veterans whose illnesses or injuries began during service but worsened over the course of time. In these situations, a veteran must provide a clear connection between a documented service injury or illness and a current condition. It is necessary for an expert to express a professional opinion as to the link between both incidences. The documentation that the expert provides for this situation is what is called a Nexus letter.

As Patrick Weichert and other veterans' supporters have found, the situations presented in some Nexus letters are clearer than others. Conditions that are now accepted as serious concerns, like Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, can be more difficult to clarify in a Nexus letter, a scenario that a veteran who has developed cancer from being exposed to a particular agent may not have to deal with. Other concerns involve the doctors themselves being reluctant to write Nexus letters for fear of opening themselves up to litigious liability. Sometimes physicians are too busy to write the Nexus letter at all. These circumstances leave the veteran to seek out a doctor who specializes in independent medical examinations, and who will know the correct language to use in the letter, but whose services can ultimately be very expensive.

Sources: http://veteransinfo.tripod.com/nexus2.pdf

http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:uBu9SsVNfQgJ:www.deltacompanyvietnammarines.com/%3Fpage\_id%3D67+&cd=1&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us&client=safari

## 1-400 Word Wikipedia Profile

#### 1. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Veterans

Patrick Weichert is a clinical psychologist who specializes in counseling war veterans who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. He is also the President of Comprehensive Psychological Services and a founding member of the Vietnam Veterans Association. A Vietnam veteran himself, Weichert has been a







vocal advocate for veterans' rights, often volunteering his time and efforts to support veterans in need. His experiences in the war inspired him to become a psychologist in service to a courageous, worthy group that he feels has often been underserved. Weichert has dedicated a significant portion of his career to helping veterans with PTSD readjust to their lives after their tour of duty is complete.

Weichert describes the Vietnam War as "a nasty, bizarre war." As a veteran himself, he recognized the need for more care and concern in regards to veterans' rights, and decided to become a licensed psychologist to help veterans deal with the consequences of their actions during war and assist them in their transition to post-war life. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder can affect about 8 out of every 100 people, and that percentage increases when examining soldiers during wartime and those who return home from war. Many service members see combat or are exposed to horrific, life-threatening situations. Some soldiers witness the deaths of their fellow servicemen and women.

As a twice-wounded Vietnam veteran and eminent psychologist, Weichert is familiar with the trauma that many soldiers deal with during combat and when they return home to their families. Roughly 30% of Vietnam veterans have had PTSD, 12% of Desert Storm veterans, and between 11-20% of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Afghanistan veterans. These percentages are determined by soldier assignments, the politics of the time, the enemies fought against, the styles of combat, and the locations of war. Common PTSD symptoms for veterans are: having nightmares or flashbacks, becoming emotionally withdrawn, having trouble concentrating, being jumpy and unable to relax, using drugs or alcohol to suppress feelings, and having suicidal thoughts.

As Patrick Weichert and other psychologists who cater to veterans have found, the two most successful approaches to assisting veterans with PTSD are medication and counseling. Counselors and doctors, like Weichert, can help veterans learn specific techniques and coping mechanisms that can help them take back control over their lives. Doctors also recommend that veterans consider positive lifestyle changes such as exercising for stress relief, volunteering to reconnect with the community, and teaming up with other veterans to talk about PTSD and the feelings associated with this condition.

Sources: <a href="http://maketheconnection.net/conditions/ptsd">http://maketheconnection.net/conditions/ptsd</a>

http://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/PTSD-overview/basics/how-common-is-ptsd.asp







https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1755&dat=19890927&id=h-obAAAAIBAJ&sjid=MnoEAAAAIBAJ&pg=4299,2286494&hl=en

## 1-400 Word Article

## 1. Patrick Weichert: Veterans' Rights

While many psychologists focus on counseling military veterans, some, like Patrick Weichert, make that desire for better veterans' care and rights a lifelong passion. As a two-tour Vietnam veteran who was awarded two Purple Stars, Weichert has made veterans' rights and veterans' mental health issues the foundation of his counseling career. With veterans' rights at risk and increasing concern with veterans' mental health, doctors like Weichert are of great importance to veterans.

Patrick Weichert was one of the founding members of the Vietnam Veterans of America, and has devoted his career to counseling all veterans, but with a particular fondness for those who fought in the same war that he did. Weichert describes the Vietnam War as "a nasty, bizarre war." As a veteran himself, he recognized the need for more care and concern in regards to veterans' rights, and decided to become a licensed psychologist to help veterans deal with the consequences of their actions during war and assist them in their transition to post-war life.

Roughly 2.7 million American men and women served in Vietnam between 1959 – 1975. General benefits for Vietnam veterans range from pensions to education and training, and from health care to disability compensation. However, many licensed counselors and therapists who cater to veterans also recognize the need to assist them personally with issues ranging from completing necessary paperwork to coping with PTSD. As a former Marine, Weichert has not only counseled hundreds of veterans, but has also volunteered his time to assist Vietnam veterans in particular. Weichert has helped members of his own Delta 1/7 group to file their Veterans Affairs filings at no cost.

Of particular interest to Weichert and other veterans' activists are the processes veterans must go through to qualify for Nexus and a Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) disability compensation award. A Veterans Benefits Administration claim must be based on indisputable proof of an injury or







illness that occurred during military service. This often presents a difficulty for veterans whose illnesses or injuries began during service but worsened over the course of time. In these situations, a veteran must provide a clear connection between a documented service injury or illness and a current condition. It is necessary for an expert to express a professional opinion as to the link between both incidences. The documentation that the expert provides for this situation is what is called a Nexus letter.

As Patrick Weichert and other veterans' supporters have found, the situations presented in some Nexus letters are clearer than others. Conditions that are now accepted as serious concerns, like Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, can be more difficult to clarify in a Nexus letter, a scenario that a veteran who has developed cancer from being exposed to a particular agent may not have to deal with. This is where physicians like Weichert step in to advocate for the rights of those who have given the greatest service to their country.

Sources: : https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1755&dat=19890927&id=h-obAAAAIBAJ&sjid=MnoEAAAAIBAJ&pg=4299,2286494&hl=en

http://www.benefits.va.gov/persona/veteran-vietnam.asp

http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:uBu9SsVNfQgJ:www.deltacompanyvietnammarines.com/%3Fpage\_id%3D67+&cd=1&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us&client=safari

http://veteransinfo.tripod.com/nexus2.pdf

## 1-350 Word Press Release - Standard

#### 1. Title: Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Veterans

Patrick Weichert is a clinical psychologist who specializes in counseling war veterans who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. He is also the President of Comprehensive Psychological Services and a founding member of the Vietnam Veterans Association. A Vietnam veteran himself, Weichert has been a vocal advocate for veterans' rights, often volunteering his time and efforts to support veterans in need. His experiences in the war inspired him to become a psychologist in service to a courageous, worthy group that he feels has often been underserved. Weichert has dedicated a significant portion of his career to helping veterans with PTSD readjust to their lives after their tour of duty is complete.







Weichert describes the Vietnam War as "a nasty, bizarre war." As a veteran, he has recognized the need for more care and concern in regards to veterans' rights, and decided to become a licensed psychologist to help veterans deal with the consequences of their actions during war and assist them in their transition to post-war life. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder can affect about 8 out of every 100 people, and that percentage increases when examining soldiers during wartime and those who return home from war.

As a veteran and eminent psychologist, Weichert is familiar with the trauma that many soldiers deal with during combat and when they return home to their families. Roughly 30% of Vietnam veterans have had PTSD, 12% of Desert Storm veterans, and between 11-20% of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Afghanistan veterans. Common PTSD symptoms for veterans are: having nightmares or flashbacks, becoming emotionally withdrawn, having trouble concentrating, being jumpy and unable to relax, using drugs or alcohol to suppress feelings, and having suicidal thoughts.

As Patrick Weichert and other psychologists who serve veterans have found, the two most successful approaches to assisting veterans with PTSD are medication and counseling. Counselors and doctors, like Weichert, can help veterans learn specific techniques and coping mechanisms that can help them take back control over their lives. Doctors also recommend that veterans consider positive lifestyle changes such as exercising for stress relief, volunteering to reconnect with the community, and teaming up with other veterans to talk about PTSD and the feelings associated with this condition.

Summary: Patrick Weichert specializes in counseling war veterans who suffer from PTSD.

Location: Rutherfordton, North Carolina

About: Patrick Weichert is a clinical psychologist, Vietnam veteran, and advocate for veterans' rights.

Categories: Vietnam, veterans, PTSD, Patrick Weichert

PR Contact: N/A

## 2-50 Word SBA.gov

1. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Veterans





Patrick Weichert is a clinical psychologist who specializes in counseling war veterans who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. A Vietnam veteran, Weichert has been a vocal advocate for veterans' rights and has dedicated a significant portion of his career to helping veterans with PTSD readjust to their lives after their tour of duty is complete.

## 2. Patrick Weichert: Veterans' Rights

As a two-tour Vietnam veteran who was awarded two Purple Stars, Patrick Weichert has made veterans' rights and veterans' mental health issues the foundation of his counseling career. With veterans' rights at risk and increasing concern with veterans' mental health, doctors like Weichert are of great importance to veterans. As a former Marine, Weichert has volunteered his time to assist Vietnam veterans in particular. Weichert has helped members of his own Delta 1/7 group to file their Veterans Affairs filings at no cost.

## 1-75 Word Video Script

#### 1. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Veterans

Patrick Weichert is a clinical psychologist who specializes in counseling war veterans who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. A Vietnam veteran, Weichert has been a vocal advocate for veterans' rights and has dedicated a significant portion of his career to helping veterans with PTSD readjust to their lives after their tour of duty is complete. Common PTSD symptoms for veterans are: having nightmares or flashbacks, becoming emotionally withdrawn, having trouble concentrating, being jumpy and unable to relax, using drugs or alcohol to suppress feelings, and having suicidal thoughts.





## 5-75 Word Video Marketing

## 1. Patrick Weichert: Veterans' Rights

Patrick Weichert, a clinical psychologist, has made veterans' care and rights a lifelong passion. As a Vietnam veteran, Weichert has made veterans' rights and veterans' mental health issues the foundation of his counseling career. Patrick Weichert was one of the founding members of the Vietnam Veterans of America, and has devoted his career to counseling all veterans. He recognized the need for more care and concern in regards to veterans' rights, and this inspired Weichert to become a licensed psychologist.

## 2. Patrick Weichert: PTSD General Information

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder can be a severe condition, which is why many psychologists, like Patrick Weichert, have dedicated their careers to assisting people who live with PTSD-generated fear every day. PTSD is a potentially debilitating condition that impacts many people who have witnessed or experienced traumatic situations, such as violent assaults, serious accidents, natural disasters, deaths of loved ones, or other frightening, shocking events. While some people are able to naturally recover from these incidents, those individuals diagnosed with PTSD may suffer lifelong stresses and anxieties.

#### 3. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Veterans

Patrick Weichert, a Vietnam veteran, psychologist, counselor, and veterans rights advocate, has dedicated his career to helping veterans with PTSD readjust to their lives after their tour of duty is complete. Weichert is familiar with the trauma that many soldiers deal with during combat and when they return home to their families. Common PTSD symptoms for veterans are: having nightmares or flashbacks, becoming emotionally withdrawn, having trouble concentrating, being jumpy and unable to relax, using drugs or alcohol to suppress feelings, and having suicidal thoughts.

#### 4. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Female Soldiers





Patrick Weichert and other psychologists who specialize in military veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder have helped many female veterans to develop coping mechanisms to help them regain control over their lives. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder in women is not uncommon, but for women in the military, that exposure to terrifying and disturbing events increases substantially due to their involvement in combat itself. Many female soldiers also develop PTSD because of the sexual assault they suffer at the hands of fellow soldiers.

## 5. Patrick Weichert: Nexus Letters for Veterans

As a clinical psychologist and Vietnam veteran, Patrick Weichert has volunteered his time and services to advocate for veterans' rights. Weichert and other veterans' activists are concerned about the processes veterans must go through to qualify for Nexus and a Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) disability compensation award. A Veterans Benefits Administration claim must be based on indisputable proof of an injury or illness that occurred during military service. This often presents a difficulty for veterans whose illnesses or injuries began during service but worsened over the course of time.

## 5-30 Word Video Descriptions

## 1. Patrick Weichert: Veterans' Rights

Patrick Weichert, a clinical psychologist, has made veterans' care and rights a lifelong passion and the foundation of his counseling career. Weichert was one of the founding members of the Vietnam Veterans of America, and has devoted his career to counseling all veterans.

## 2. Patrick Weichert: PTSD General Information

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder can be a severe condition, and Patrick Weichert has dedicated his career to assisting people who live with PTSD-generated fear every day. This debilitating condition that impacts many people who have witnessed or experienced traumatic situations.





## 3. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Veterans

Patrick Weichert, a Vietnam veteran and psychologist, has dedicated his career to helping veterans with PTSD readjust to their lives back home. Weichert is familiar with the trauma that many soldiers deal with during combat and when they return home to their families.

## 4. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Female Service Members

Patrick Weichert, a clinical psychologist who specializes in counseling military veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, has helped many female veterans to develop coping mechanisms to help them regain control over their lives.

#### 5. Patrick Weichert: Nexus Letters for Veterans

As a clinical psychologist and Vietnam veteran, Patrick Weichert has advocated for veterans' rights. Weichert is concerned about the process veterans must go through to qualify for Nexus and a Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) disability compensation award.

## 5-60 Word Photo Sharing

## 1. Patrick Weichert: Veterans' Rights

Patrick Weichert, a clinical psychologist, has made veterans' care and rights a lifelong passion and the foundation of his counseling career. Patrick Weichert was one of the founding members of the Vietnam Veterans of America, and has devoted his career to counseling all veterans. He recognized the need for more care and concern in regards to veterans' rights, and this inspired Weichert to become a licensed psychologist.





## 2. Patrick Weichert: PTSD General Information

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder can be a severe condition, which is why many psychologists, like Patrick Weichert, have dedicated their careers to assisting people who live with PTSD-generated fear every day. PTSD is a potentially debilitating condition that impacts many people who have witnessed or experienced traumatic situations. While some people are able to naturally recover from these incidents, those individuals diagnosed with PTSD may suffer lifelong stresses and anxieties.

#### 3. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Veterans

Patrick Weichert, a Vietnam veteran and psychologist, has dedicated his career to helping veterans with PTSD readjust to their lives back home. Weichert is familiar with the trauma that many soldiers deal with during combat and when they return home to their families. Common PTSD symptoms for veterans are: having nightmares, becoming emotionally withdrawn, having trouble concentrating, using drugs or alcohol to suppress feelings, and having suicidal thoughts.

#### 4. Patrick Weichert: PTSD and Female Soldiers

Patrick Weichert, a clinical psychologist who specializes in counseling military veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, has helped many female veterans to develop coping mechanisms to help them regain control over their lives. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder in women is not uncommon, but for women in the military, that exposure to terrifying and disturbing events increases substantially due to their involvement in combat itself.

#### 5. Patrick Weichert: Nexus Letters for Veterans

As a clinical psychologist and Vietnam veteran, Patrick Weichert has volunteered his time and services to advocate for veterans' rights. Weichert and other veterans' activists are concerned about the processes veterans must go through to qualify for Nexus and a Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) disability







compensation award. This claim must be based on indisputable proof of an injury or illness that occurred during military service.

## 25-15 Word Image Descriptions

- 1. Patrick Weichert, a clinical psychologist and Vietnam veteran, is a vocal advocate for veterans' rights.
- **2.** Patrick Weichert, a Vietnam veteran, psychologist, counselor, and veterans rights advocate, has dedicated his career to helping veterans with PTSD readjust to their lives after their tour of duty is complete.
- **3.** Patrick Weichert, a clinical psychologist, has made veterans' care and rights a lifelong passion and the foundation of his counseling career.
- **4.** Post Traumatic Stress Disorder can be a severe condition, which is why many psychologists, like Patrick Weichert, have dedicated their careers to assisting people who live with PTSD-generated fear every day.
- **5.** Patrick Weichert was one of the founding members of the Vietnam Veterans of America, and has devoted his career to counseling all veterans.
- **6.** As Patrick Weichert and other psychologists who cater to veterans have found, the two most successful approaches to assisting veterans with PTSD are medication and counseling.
- **7.** As a veteran and eminent psychologist, Weichert is familiar with the trauma that many soldiers deal with during combat and when they return home to their families
- 8. For Vietnam veterans like Patrick Weichert, the film industry's interpretation of the war is differs significantly from reality.







- **9.** Patrick Weichert specializes in counseling military veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and has helped many female veterans cope with PTSD symptoms.
- **10.** Patrick Weichert specializes in veterans' affairs, and is aware of the connection between sexually assaultive actions and the development of PTSD in victims.
- 11. Many Siberian Husky rescuerers and owners, like Patrick Weichert, have found the breed to be engaging in relationships and graceful in action.
- **12.** As a Vietnam veteran, Patrick Weichert has made veterans' rights and veterans' mental health issues the foundation of his counseling career.
- 13. With veterans' rights at risk and increasing concern with veterans' mental health, doctors like Patrick Weichert are of great importance to veterans.
- **14.** Miniature donkey owners and rescuers, like Patrick Weichert, are accustomed to the donkeys' playful, caring natures.
- **15.** By using humor in his sessions with young clients, Patrick Weichert has infused creativity and sensitivity into counseling sessions.
- 16. Patrick Weichert and other clinical psychologists are important factors in helping victims overcome PTSD associated with assault.
- 17. Clinical psychologists who cater to veterans, like Patrick Weichert, have seen the positive impact that dogs can have on veterans who suffer from PTSD.
- **18.** Many Siberian Husky owners and rescuers, such as Patrick Weichert, are familiar with the breed's characteristics: a friendly, convivial personality; a high-energy drive; a need for occupation.







- **19.** Patrick Weichert and other Siberian Husky owners recognize the beauty of the breed while also understanding the challenges it brings.
- **20.** As a former Marine, Patrick Weichert has not only counseled hundreds of veterans, but has also volunteered his time to assist Vietnam veterans in particular.
- **21.** There are many types of miniature donkeys, but the exotic type that Patrick Weichert owns and rescues is the Miniature Sicilian donkey.
- **22.** Many Border collie owners, like Patrick Weichert, have found this breed to be versatile, eager to learn, enthusiastic, and loyal.
- **23.** Patrick Weichert is concerned about the process veterans must go through to qualify for a Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) disability compensation award.
- **24.** Many Border collie advocates, like Patrick Weichert, have worked with formal rescues to ensure that relinquished Border collies are relocated to appropriate situations.
- **25.** Many renowned psychologists, like Patrick Weichert, are aware of the connection between sexually assaultive actions and the development of PTSD in victims.