

MEDICAL WHISTLEBLOWER

Abuse and Neglect in U.S.A. Residential Treatment Centers

A Systemic Problem

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*Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human
Rights (1948) states:*

*"All human beings are born free and equal in
dignity and rights..."*

This is a preliminary report on the abuse and neglect of persons in residential treatment for "substance abuse" in the U.S.A. There have been violations of human rights, lack of investigation, prosecution and punishment of the offenders. This prevailing permissive environment has given de jure or de facto amnesty to those who violate human rights. Starting in the 1970's there were residential treatment facilities for teens that were found to be abusive. The SEED, Straight Inc. and its derivatives, Roloff Homes, WWASPS and, more recently, Teen Challenge were adjudicated "guilty" of human rights abuses. This report explores the ways these perpetrators of abuse have used the political system to protect themselves and exploit loopholes in the law to expand their network of abusive residential treatment facilities for youth.

Abuse and Neglect in U.S.A. Residential Treatment Centers

"I wish to acknowledge the courage, perseverance and resilience of those who were closest to this national tragedy and thank Angela Smith, Wesley Fager, Richard "Ray" Bradbury, Kelly Mathews, Marcus Chatfield, Todd Eckelberger, Alex Layne, Christine Flannery, William Earnshaw, Sr. and all the others who shared with me their stories and I also wish to express my appreciation to Judith I. Grant, MSN, RN, CS, who graciously proofread and edited portions of this report."

Dr. Janet Parker DVM

"We believe that the United States of America must be an example of moral leadership and integrity for the world community. We cannot, as a nation, be that example if we fail to protect our own children or those for whom we accept responsibility. Incidents in many of these teen residential treatment facilities have gravely compromised America's moral authority. We ask that the United States of America, its legislative bodies, its courts, and its executive branch, not only articulate the moral and ethical values that made the U.S.A. a world leader in human rights, but act decisively and proactively to protect human rights standards. We ask that our nation's leaders create and enforce more effective legal policies for protection of the vulnerable. We must, as a nation, take proper action so as to 1) prevent the use of cruel and degrading treatment and torture, 2) embrace and advance standards of international human rights law, and 3) honor the dignity of all human persons. We also request public acknowledgement of the terrible wrongs done to these innocent victims of abuse. We ask that a viable legal pathway be established for reparation and redress. We respectfully request U.S. President Barack Obama to provide leadership for our nation that honors the ethical and moral values embodied in our Bill of Rights, the U.S. Constitution and its Amendments. These principles respect and honor the human rights of all."

Dr. Janet Parker DVM

Medical Whistleblower Advocacy Network

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"The Special Rapporteur wishes to recall that, from a human rights perspective, drug dependence should be treated like any other health care condition. Consequently, he would like to reiterate that denial of medical treatment and/or absence of access to medical care in custodial situations may constitute cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and is therefore prohibited under international human rights law. Equally, subjecting persons to treatment or testing without their consent may constitute a violation of the right to physical integrity. He would also like to stress that, in this regard, States have a positive obligation to ensure the same access to prevention and treatment in places of detention as outside."
— Manfred Nowak

Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

(Geneva, January 14, 2009)

Introduction:

US Congressional investigations don't stop abusive rehab centers

A recent report by the US Congress revealed that there are significant problems in the "teen rehabilitation" industry, including a general lack of oversight and accountability. In 2009 there were Capitol Hill briefings related to abuse of teens in facilities run by WWASPS and other programs.¹ The US House, led by Congressman George Miller, conducted investigations by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) during the 110th Congress (2008). These uncovered thousands of cases alleging child abuse and neglect since the early 1990's at teen residential programs. Further, the investigation revealed that currently these programs are governed only by a weak patchwork of state and federal standards. A separate [GAO report](#),² conducted at the committee's request, found major gaps in the licensing and oversight of residential programs, including some programs not covered by any state licensing standards. GAO concluded that, without adequate oversight, "the well-being and civil rights of youth in some facilities will remain at risk." State-reported data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System in 2005 found that 34 states in the United States of America (USA) reported 1503 incidents of youth maltreatment by residential facility staff. Of the states surveyed by GAO, 28 reported at least one youth fatality in a residential facility in 2006. GAO concluded that both of these statistics understate the incidents of maltreatment and death. They emphasized that many facilities are outside the scope of this limited study and many still remain unregulated and uninspected.^{3 4 5 6 7}

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In 1971, the US Senate Judiciary Committee convened a sub-committee on constitutional rights under Senator Sam Ervin to investigate government's role in behavior modification. Senator Ervin's 650-page report was published in November 1974 under the title "[Individual Rights and the Federal Role in Behavior Modification](#)." ⁸

The US Congress previously examined problems in The SEED ^{9 10 11} and then in later residential treatment programs. These later substance abuse treatment programs were modeled on the Synanon program, ^{12 13 14 15 16 17} the SEED and Straight Inc. Each time, the offending substance abuse treatment program was shut down. However, new programs rapidly emerged with new legal identities to start the same kind of operation. There are now even more programs reported to be abusive, despite numerous local, state and federal investigations. Those who have been victimized in one of these facilities are frustrated and dismayed to realize that not even several US Congressional investigations can prevent the recurrence of the same kind of abuse. Although Straight Inc. programs were closed, the governing principles remain a model for drug rehabilitation. It is a national disgrace that the abuse of children in residential centers has not stopped. Rather, governmental sanction hides its true nature from law enforcement and regulators. ¹⁸ Abusive teen rehabilitation centers are now more numerous and the industry remains unregulated by state or federal law. The list includes:

Synanon	The SEED	Straight Inc. derivatives
WWASPS	Rebekah /Roloff Homes	Straight Inc. program at Morgan Yacht
KIDS	Sea Org Refuge	CEDU Brown Schools and derivatives
Aspen Education Group	Elan School	Ridge Creek School/Hidden Lake
Wilderness Programs	Weight Loss Programs	Mission Mountain School
Public Sector Gulags	SAFE	Vision Quest
Daytop Village	Lighthouse of Northwest Florida	Growing Together/L.I.F.E.
Kids Helping Kids	Straight Inc.	Hyde Schools

There are no adequate means to monitor these facilities for human rights abuses. They have used political influence and power to prevent effective regulation and inspection of their facilities. They deny Child Protective Services (CPS) access to investigate child abuse complaints. ¹⁹

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To understand the background, it is useful to trace development of public policy related to these residential treatment programs in order to recognize how they managed to evade public scrutiny and government control.

On October 10-11, 2007, the U.S. House Committee on Education and Labor heard testimony about cases of child neglect and abuse. Among cases investigated were the Catherine Freer Wilderness Therapy Programs, a private residential treatment facility in the Pacific Northwest.^{20 21}

This problem is not limited to the United States of America. These abusive methods have been exported to many countries in the world. The Bergen KIDS program has been transplanted to Alberta, Canada as The Alberta Adolescent Recovery Centre (AARC).²² The Alberta Adolescent Recovery Centre²³ is a drug abuse rehabilitation clinic for teenagers and adolescents in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. AARC has been the subject of controversy in Canada over allegations of physical, emotional, and sexual abuse made by former patients. This has led to widespread protests against AARC, and calls for a government inquiry by Alberta's provincial New Democratic Party.²⁴

US citizens had been transported over international boundaries and taken to facilities in Mexico such as Abundant Life.²⁵ The children were found to be abused there. Mexican immigration officials of the Instituto Nacional de Migracion (INM) raided the facilities and deported the children back to the U.S.A. Mexican authorities cited immigration violations for the clients, and also immigration violations related to the staff of these facilities. There was lack of proper municipal licensure of these facilities. They had not obtained the requisite approval of health and education authorities in Mexico. In addition, the teen "clients" of these facilities described habitual mistreatment during their illegal detention. They were denied access to communication with persons outside the facilities. In 2004, the Mexican government rounded up 590 US teenagers, who had been placed in institutions throughout Mexico, without proper immigration paperwork. These children were considered "troubled teens" by their American parents. They were sent to these locked facilities in a foreign country for treatment of problems with behavior and parental authority.

The Assemblies of God church operates Teen Challenge as an outreach program within its own centers in numerous countries. Teen Challenge operates two organizations with international scope: Teen Challenge USA International and Teen Challenge Global. Teen Challenge Global operates in 87 countries with over 1,100 centers. Its headquarters are in Columbus, GA.²⁶

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Teen Challenge USA International is headquartered in Springfield, Missouri. It has grown to include 231 locations in the United States,²⁷ including residential programs and evangelical outreach centers.

Teen Challenge, run by the Assemblies of God church, operates its own credit union located in Missouri.²⁸ The Assemblies of God Credit Union has 13,883 members as of 2011 and reports assets of \$93.3 million.²⁹ It opened in 1951, has 32 full time and 9 part-time employees. This is a state-chartered “natural person” credit union, state charter number 62897, with attendant benefits. The Assemblies of God Credit Union (AGCU) field of membership is open to the following persons:

The General Council of the Assemblies of God, and any church or other entity affiliated with the General Council of the Assemblies of God or with a District Council of the Assemblies of God; and any employee or officer of any said entities

- Faculty, staff and students of Assemblies of God institutions of higher learning
- Certified, licensed or ordained ministers of the Assemblies of God
- Retired employees of the General Council of the Assemblies of God
- Attendees of Assemblies of God churches in Greene County, Missouri, and the adjacent counties of Christian, Dade, Dallas, Lawrence, Polk and Webster
- Assemblies of God World and U.S. Missions workers with twelve (12) months or more assignment
- Relatives of current members in the above categories including spouses, children, siblings, parents, grandparents, grandchildren and legal guardians (includes step-in-law and legally adoptive relationships)
- Organizations of members may be included subject to Board approval

[Teen Challenge Global](#) runs programs in the following countries:

American Samoa, Angola (3 facilities), Argentina (2), Aruba, Australia (9), Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus (2), Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil (14), Cambodia, Canada (24), China (3), Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic (3), Denmark, Dominican Republic (2), Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France (2), Germany (20), Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, West Africa, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland (6), India (7), Ireland (2), Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan (16), Kenya, Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Central Asia, Latvia, Lithuania (5), Macedonia, Mexico (5), Moldova, Nepal, Netherlands (2), New Zealand, Norway (2), Pakistan (3), Paraguay, Poland (4), Portugal (8), Romania, Russia (14), Serbia (3), Singapore (4), Slovakia (3), South Africa (11), Spain, Swaziland (8), Sweden, Switzerland (3), Trinidad-Tobago,

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West Indies, Uganda, Ukraine (7), UK, Wales (8), UK, England (8), UK, Scotland (4), Uruguay (2), Venezuela.

Although Teen Challenge is directly connected with Assemblies of God church through both management and financial connections, they attempt to hide this association when recruiting clients for their centers.

Jerry Nance is President and C.E.O. of Teen Challenge Global, which is divided into seven regions with a director or representative for each region.

This is the self reported information regarding Teen Challenges outreach centers overseas: ³⁰

Latin America and Caribbean - Duane Henders; 1,250 beds in 102 centers in 17 countries.

Europe - Tom Bremer; 892 beds in 58 centers in 28 countries.

Africa - Doug Wever, 1,034 beds in 14 centers in 9 countries.

Asia Pacific - James Lowans; 357 beds in 51 centers in 9 countries.

Northern Asia - 30 beds in three centers.

Eurasia - Kevin Tyler; 11,600 beds in 370 centers in 14 countries.

North America - Jack Smart, 7,536 beds in 223 centers in 2 countries.

Hon. George Miller, Chair of the Committee on Education and Labor in the U.S. House of Representatives initiated the legislation, Stop Child Abuse in Residential Programs for Teens Act of 2009 H.R. 911 (formerly H.R. 6358, H.R. 5876). U.S. Representative Miller had received a shocking report from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) regarding abusive and neglectful treatment of children in residential programs.³¹ The report also contained information about fraudulent practices of these institutions. Subsequent investigations and GAO reports indicate that there is a widespread problem of abuse in the residential treatment industry which has flourished due to a lack of government regulation, inspection and accountability.^{32 33 34 35}

There was very disturbing testimony provided to the US Congress about the pervasiveness of the abuse and the failure to curb it by Health and Human Services or the Department of Justice.³⁶ Video tapes of those testimonies can be seen [here](#).³⁷ After much discussion and deliberation [The House of Representatives approved legislation to Stop Child Abuse in Teen Residential Programs](#). The bill was intended to ensure that parents have information they need to keep their children safe.^{38 39 40 41 42}

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The U.S. Senate has not moved to act on the bill or to draft suitable legislation to stop further abusive practices in the teen residential treatment industry.

Human Rights Defenders and Mandated Reporters of abuse have no protection and no plausible legal recourse.

Abuse of children and teens within residential treatment facilities, located in both the US and in other countries that are run by non-profit organizations legally based in the U.S.A., has occurred for more than four decades. In spite of numerous reports from human rights defenders and mandated reporters, there have been no significant changes to stop the practice. There are no protections for witnesses/victims/survivors or for their human rights defenders. Mandated reporters of such human rights violations are more likely to lose their employment or be demoted, suffer personal and professional retaliation.

There is an entrenched unwillingness within the US government to expose the root cause of the political tolerance for the deregulation, lack of inspection, lack of financial transparency and accountability, lack of law enforcement action to investigate these crimes, lack of appropriate prosecution of perpetrators, and lack of any punishment for the offenses. The moral, ethical, and legal obligations to uphold human rights by US legislators, US Department of Justice officials, and even judges have not been fulfilled. When they have permitted this course of conduct to continue for four decades, they are culpable for the egregious human rights violations that have occurred.

Victims/Survivors are left with no access to redress or reparations. This systemic failure to protect children and young adults is a "crime against humanity" about which the US government has been fully informed, yet refused to prevent. Criminal acts that have occurred in these treatment facilities include:

- Murder (homicide) ^{43 44 45 46 47}
- Enslavement ⁴⁸
- Deportation or forcible transfer ⁴⁹
- Imprisonment or severe deprivation of physical liberty in violation of fundamental rules of international law ⁵⁰
- Torture ⁵¹
- Rape, forced pregnancy, forced abortions ^{52 53}
- Persecution against persons not of Christian faith, especially those of Jewish faith

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- Persecution of persons who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered⁵⁴
- Enforced disappearance of persons^{55 56 57}
- Other inhumane acts that intentionally cause great suffering, or serious injury to body, to mental or physical health^{58 59 60 61 62}
- Psychological, emotional, and sexual trauma leading to suicide.^{63 64 65}

These acts are crimes of serious concern to the international community as a whole.

The number of suicides secondary to psychological and emotional trauma as well as sexual abuse of young teens trapped in these rehabilitation centers came to the attention of public health officials who monitor suicide rates.⁶⁶ The original Straight Inc. centers were located in the Tampa Bay area of Florida, within Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties. According to 1987 statistics from the National Center for Health Statistics, the Tampa Bay area had the highest suicide rate in the country. This rise in the suicide rate was not related to the large number of retirees there. The juvenile suicide rate in Pinellas County rose 130% between 1980 and 1986. A 1992 study found that 1 out of 4 girls in neighboring Pasco County attempted suicide in 1991 (national average was 10%). In neighboring Hillsborough County the juvenile suicide rate tripled, from 3 in 1980 to 9 by 1987. Nineteen (19) youths committed suicide in Pinellas and Hillsborough counties in 1989 (up to nine of these were gay).

Straight Inc. operated its founding center, Straight-St Pete, in St Petersburg, Florida in Pinellas County from 1976 to 1993. In 1986, a related program called Outreach was opened in Cape Coral, Florida. In 1987, a community task force was organized to study why 19 youths aged 14 - 17 years had attempted suicide.

In 1988 the national Center for Disease Control (CDC) launched a study on juvenile suicides in Cobb County, Georgia because its suicide rate of 14.7 per 100,000 persons was three higher than the state average, and twice as high as the national average. Straight-Atlanta, operated in Marietta (Cobb County), GA was implicated.

Dr. Richard Schwartz, medical research director for Straight-Springfield, noted in an article for its newsletter, EPIDEMIC, vol. 6, that suicide was fifth-ranked as cause of death for American teenagers in 1964, third-ranked in 1978 and had risen to second-highest in 1983. Straight Inc. launched operations in late 1976 and had centers in Cincinnati, Springfield, Virginia, St Petersburg and Sarasota by 1983.

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Licensed medical professionals, psychologists, therapists, child protective services personnel, and other mandated reporters were obligated to report this sudden rise in suicide which was linked to a particular type of residential substance abuse treatment program.

Licensed medical professionals are morally and ethically obligated by their Hippocratic Oath to protect their patients' safety. Under US law and international standards of proper professional conduct, they are also *Mandated Reporters* of torture and abuse. Licensed medical professionals are *Defenders of Human Rights*, the watchdogs for vulnerable patients in need of care. The reality in Straight Inc. facilities and in many other residential treatment centers is that "the fox is in charge of the hen house."

Long term effects on survivors/victims of abuse

Torture is the calculated physical and psychological assault on the individual, a practice used to instill fear, punish or degrade, to dehumanize, or to obliterate the self. It is often said that anyone who has been tortured remains tortured, long after the physical wounds have healed. Torture is the deliberate infliction of severe pain by one human being against another. It leaves particular kinds of mental and psychological scars. This trauma is different from other traumas because torture is a violation committed in secret and in spite of official denial.

Many believe that torture only occurs in the most repressive regimes. In reality, torture is widespread in all parts of the world. Although it is often perpetrated by police or security forces, it can also be carried out by armed forces, detention authorities such as immigration officials, hospital staff, or prison wardens. Torture can be physical or psychological. New methods of torture are, unfortunately, invented every year. Many are most familiar with physical torture such as severe beatings, extraction of nails or teeth, burns, electric shocks, suspension, suffocation, excessive light, heat, cold or noise, sexual aggression (rape and other sexual violence), forced nudity, isolation and sensory deprivation, mock executions or simulated drowning.

However, psychological torture can be as traumatic and inflicts egregious harm. The psychological wounds of both physical and psychological torture last a lifetime. The coercive methods of Straight Inc. and other abusive residential treatment centers were designed to obliterate the sense of self so as to instill fear and force obedience to authority in young teens.

Abusive methods of Straight Inc. included sleep deprivation, beatings, sexual humiliation, sexual assault, prolonged sitting or standing in forced positions, isolation and detention for prolonged and indefinite periods of time, forcing one teen to abuse another, and prolonged denial of rest, sleep, food, water, adequate hygiene. These same forms of abuse are utilized in many other residential treatment centers.

Many victims continue to suffer in silence. Torture victims commonly report feelings of fear, guilt, shame, anger, disillusionment, insecurity and humiliation. For victims of torture, finding the courage to come forward and speak about what happened to them is very difficult. This is true for the many thousands of US children who were physically and psychologically abused and sometimes sexually abused in the program called Straight Inc. What happened behind the closed doors of Straight Inc., Roloff Homes,

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WWASPS, Teen Challenge and other programs is deeply personal and highly traumatizing. Speaking about it can evoke for survivors a range of emotions because the memories are triggers for retraumatization. Survivors are reluctant to speak publicly and may not have fully revealed their experiences to families and/or friends. In some instances, they may not have come to terms with it themselves.

Survivors of torture find it very challenging to heal and try to move forward with their lives. Many victims from Straight Inc. and other abusive teen centers express frustration that, despite the fact that their torture occurred and was verified, it has not been publicly acknowledged. Survivors come away with different expectations of what constitutes justice. Some speak of the importance of criminal prosecutions, while others speak about civil compensation, rehabilitation or prevention of recurrence. All of them realize that there is a need to restore the sense of dignity and control that was taken from them when they were tortured.

Voices of the Survivors/Victims

The Survivors/Victims of institutionalized abuse have responded with courage and resiliency and have launched a variety of legal challenges to these practices and also actions of activism and advocacy as well as a web of survivor support networks. The Web sites Fornits.com, TheStraights.com, Heal-online.org, and others have collected many of the survivors' stories.⁶⁷ H.E.A.L. and International Survivors Action Committee (ISAC) both previously provided reports about this abuse.

Forced Abduction, Anti-Gay (WWASPS - Cross Creek) Xandir,⁶⁸ A survivor's story of the time she spent at a teen facility in Utah. 65,000 people have read Xandir's story, and it's been reposted all over the internet.

"On May 10th of 2007 at around 2:30 in the morning two strangers barged into my bedroom. I started screaming and crying, as in my mind I was sure that these two strangers had broken into my house and were going to abduct me, rape me, kill me, or in some way harm me. They immediately told me that if I did not shut up that they would handcuff me. I was not being in any way violent or threatening. I was reacting in fear for my life by being vocal and hoping that someone would come to help. I had no idea what was going on. I stopped screaming, still in fear for my life. They started going through my closet digging out clothes as I was only in a night gown. They still had not explained what was going on. I asked, frightened, what they wanted from me, trying to see if I could in some way appease them and get them to leave. They then explained that they were going to take me to a school. It took me a second to understand what they meant by this, as this was an extremely bizarre way to introduce a child to a new school. It then occurred to me that this was what my mother had arranged for my brother several years ago when she had him shipped away to Cross Creek. The two strangers were from Teen Escort Service, a for-profit company that transports teenagers, usually by force, to WWASP (World Wide Association of Specialty Programs) facilities."

Degrading, Humiliating Treatment (AARC) Rachel O'Neill, Alberta Adolescent Recovery Center, Canada. CBC News, February 13, 2009
*"Alberta drug rehab centre abused us, former teen patients allege."*⁶⁹

"Former patient Rachel O'Neill alleged she was sexually assaulted by two people in a supply closet at the centre, though because it was dark, she doesn't know who her attackers were. In another incident, O'Neill alleged an oldcomer wiped her rectum and then put her fingers in O'Neill's mouth. O'Neill alleged she fled the centre (AARC in Canada) in late December 2002 in her bare feet."

Forced Abortion, Degrading Humiliating Treatment (Straight Inc. Sarasota Florida) Samantha Monroe, Sarasota Florida, Straight Inc. From the Fox News Story by Radley Balko Thursday, May 23, 2002 "Drug War Casualties"

"Samantha Monroe was 12 years old in 1981 when her parents enrolled her in the Sarasota, Fla., branch of Straight Inc., an aggressive drug rehab center for teens. Barely a teen, Samantha also had no history of drug abuse. But she spent the next two years of her life surviving Straight Inc.. She was beaten, starved and denied toilet privileges for days on end. She describes her "humble pants," a punishment that forced her to wear the same pants for six weeks at a time. Because she was allowed just one shower a week, the pants often filled with feces, urine and menstrual blood. Often she was confined to her closet for days. She gnawed through her jaw during those "timeout" sessions, hoping she'd bleed to death. She says that after she was raped by a male counselor, "the wonderful state of Florida paid for and forced me to have an abortion."

Abuse and Neglect in U.S.A. Residential Treatment Centers

Teens Forced to Abuse Other Teens James, a former student at Straight-Atlanta turned staff member. (This was excerpted from the writings of Wesley Fager, a dedicated activist against the Straight Inc. abuses).⁷⁰

"Staff members directed me to physically batter and verbally assault other clients. They gave me this direction when I was a client and when I was a Staff Trainee. I carried them out. So did hundreds if not tens of thousands of other kids. . . As hard as it has been to live with the reality of being clinically abused for nearly two years, it cannot compare with the complete nightmare of living with the fact that I abused other people repeatedly in the name of a thought control cult. It cannot compare with the nightmare of knowing that some of the people I abused have ended up in jail, or dead, and that I contributed to the destruction of their lives."

Forced labor, Slavery (Straight Inc. Florida) Brian Dodd, in his lawsuit against Drug Free America Foundation, Inc., also known as Straight, Incorporated and Straight Foundation, Incorporated, Saint Petersburg, Florida. Case: Case No.: 8:10-CV-1092-T23 TGW Middle District of Florida, Tampa Division.

"The slaves in Straight lived in substandard warehouses that were filthy, causing skin and intestinal diseases, falling far below lawful health conditions for children, and the slaves were trafficked and transported nightly to strangers' homes. In these homes, children were locked inside rooms many times with nothing but a floor to sleep on. The windows of these rooms were nailed shut. Slaves of Straight were made to transport others and themselves by means of assault and battery and use of third party vehicles and vans.... had been deprived of all human rights from the moment of first being incarcerated at Straight as a child to their release. The most common causes of death and suicide from Straight were psychological disorders caused by torture and crimes against humanity and degradation at Straight. Many reports to the Department of Children and Families show that most of the children reported bruises from beatings done to them... Reports of malnutrition, psychotic breaks, chicken pox, and other diseases were commonly made to local police offices and the Department of Children and Families.... Defendants knowingly, intentionally and systematically benefited from the use of enslaved laborers."

Lack of Safety Precautions for Clients, Convicted Felons as Staff

(Sanford Florida Teen Challenge) Joseph V. Agrifolio Statement given to HEAL⁷¹ Executed on January 14, 2009, client of Sanford, Florida Teen Challenge

"Teen Challenge professes to be a Christian Program that helps with life controlling issues such as drugs and alcohol addiction. The program is allegedly a not for profit agency affiliated with the Assemblies of God Churches. In actuality, this program is a work camp that forces clients to work 8 – 10 hour days in ways that are not helpful to them and not always legal. Residents are frequently outsourced for jobs with local companies to earn money for the organization. They are often reduced, in exchange for 1 – 2 hours of Bible study, 1 hour of unprofessional counseling per week and room and board, to beggars taking up collections on street corners for profit, or setting up carwashes in department store parking lots for profit. Clients without driver's licenses drive vans full of other workers to and from these money-making ventures. In Sanford in 2004, two workers were killed on the interstate in an auto accident. The van had two faulty tires, no brake lights and an unlicensed driver. Teen Challenge was sued by the families of the victims and the case was settled out of court. I myself, a convicted drug abuser, was assigned a job as Medical Coordinator in Sanford, dispensing medications to other residents. Not only was that illegal, it was dangerous to both me and the other clients. Any competent and respectable rehabilitation organization should have more appropriate policies and procedures in place and practice. Also in Sanford, convicted felons working at outsourced jobs were directed to get clients' credit card numbers over the phone. When it came to light, the customers became very angry that convicted felons had access to their credit card numbers and got the courts involved. In reality, people trying to get their lives together should not be spending their time performing illegal activities for Teen Challenge or its clients. Teen Challenge workers were as much victims as the customers. The director of the program was re-assigned out of state when the Sanford Teen Challenge came under legal and financial scrutiny. Despite legal, moral, ethical and financial issues, Teen Challenge quickly ushered in a new Director where it continued business-as-usual. At best, Teen Challenge is a human-trafficking operation that takes advantage of people's problems, holds clients captive and uses them as commodities for its own gain. It forces them to work long hours only for the monetary benefit of the program and its administrators. At its worst, it is a brainwashing cult. It complicates problems and turns out robots that have problems making educated informed decisions for themselves. Despite the statistics it spouts out, Teen Challenge has no success rate. Prison or county jails are better alternatives than places like Teen Challenge."

Forced Labor, Mistreatment, and Forced Religious Conversion (Teen Challenge New England) Rebecca Holden, Warwick, RI, Teen Challenge New England, Providence Rhode Island ⁷²

"I was in Teen Challenge on Elmwood Ave. (Providence, RI). Being there was the worst experience I have ever been through; I am a Catholic and they made me convert - saying I would have to be kicked out if I didn't - and I had no place to go but the street. I was there for 5 months living like a slave scrubbing garbage cans and weeding with tweezers, defrosting fridges with butter knives - things I had never done before in my life, being forced to pray every night and every day 3 times a day. But the worst part was standing on a street corner asking strangers for money...and let me tell you even when I was at my lowest homeless I never asked people for money. The first time I ever did it, it was 98 degrees out and they didn't give me any sun screen; I was out there for 11 hours. I woke up the next morning with sun poisoning and my face swelled to the point I couldn't see; they wouldn't bring me to the doctor because the rule was you had to be in T.C for 2 months before you get any medical treatment...tell me, is there any sense in that? I finally couldn't take it anymore; I was tired of being a slave and I requested to leave. They locked me in the chapel then proceeded to contact all the managers to try and talk me out of leaving. They finally gave up trying and took everything for me and they made me wait outside in the freezing November cold with no jacket just a tee shirt...now let me ask you, is that something Jesus would do? My experience there was terrible, and I would not recommend that place for the life of me. To this day, I am still clean and sober; after I left I went to outpatient treatment and I think that did a better job then TC ever did for me."

Abduction across an international border, Psychological abuse

(CEDU ASCENT) HEAL survivor testimonial #5,⁷³ Alex, Declaration under penalty of perjury, Pursuant to 28 USCA 1746 (June 30 to August 20, 1999)

"I guess the most common way for kids to end up at Ascent was by "escorts". Escorts were people that surprised you in your sleep with handcuffs and told you that you were going to the middle of nowhere. But, since "escorting" is illegal in Canada, and I am Canadian, I ended up getting escorted from Miami, on my way back from Jamaica. From my friends' perspectives, I went on vacation and never returned.

I guess it should have immediately occurred to my parents from the escorting that this place was not normal, but I guess they were in such a panic about what to do that it is hard to think rationally. I would urge other parents to try to think rationally.

The only contact that I had, as other people will tell you, is through writing letters. Of course, the letters were read by the staff and they were not sent if they disapproved of anything written in the letter. The only letter that they don't "edit" is the first one, but unfortunately, in my first letter, I spent more time trying to convince my parents that I was ok and trying hard to get better, and less time telling them about how messed up the place was. Honestly, I read the website and they make it seem like camp. They boast this "climbing tower" that the kids "conquer" and in doing so build trust and confidence in themselves. What a load of crap. I climbed that tower one time in two months. The rest of the time I spent getting emotionally beaten.

Some of the things we did included "log hauls" which involved collecting trees from the woods, cutting the logs into perfectly sized pieces of firewood, and stacking the wood perfectly. If there was even one log out of line, then the entire pile would be knocked over, and we would do it again, which would take hours."

Imprisonment, severe deprivation of physical liberty, Psychological trauma (Kids Helping Kids) Pathway Family Center, Ohio. "Kids Helping Kids and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder - Is There a Connection?" The Cincinnati Beacon, March 2006, Christine Flannery. ⁷⁴

"Suppressing real emotions was practically a necessity in Straight, Inc. If a child dared express fear, homesickness, that he/she felt confused about being in Straight, Inc., or simply voiced any unhappiness with the program, the client would be harshly confronted by a group of angry teenagers. In therapy, I learned that suppression was my technique to survive Straight, Inc.'s extremely cruel and unbearable environment. Since I had never used drugs prior to Straight, Inc., it was extremely difficult to even understand why I was essentially being punished for something I never did. I remember thinking things like, This can't be real, this can't be happening to me. I prayed over and over again that Straight was just a bad nightmare and that I would wake up and Straight would be gone. On a certain level, I simply could not accept Straight as my reality. After a few short weeks of unanswered prayers, the rest of my time in Straight transformed into, for lack of a better expression, something of an out-of-body experience. In psychological terms, this phenomenon is known as dissociation. At the same time that I was struggling understand the reasons for being in an essentially private jail, Straight, Inc.'s so-called positive peer pressure traumatized me tremendously. I was utterly terrified by Straight's brutal peer confrontation therapy. The untrained teenage staff and teenage clients repeatedly confronted me for lying whenever I insisted that I never used drugs. Confrontation in Straight, Inc. was downright inhumane: teenagers repeatedly inflicted brutal verbal attacks, accusations, insults, name calling, yelling and screaming upon anyone deemed not being honest. As a result, every moment I was in the Straight warehouse, I constantly felt extreme fear that I would be confronted. That extreme fear of confrontation never left me: ever since leaving Straight, Inc., I have experienced numerous problems with anxiety and panic attacks in everyday life when this fear arises. As I relived Straight, I also relived the nightmare of witnessing other children being violently abused for the smallest infractions. For example, many untrained teenage clients would viciously restrain a misbehavior who simply refused to motivate. Before Straight Inc., I had never been exposed to violence and abuse. No words can convey how terrified I was, 24 hours a day, every day."

Forced Religious Conversion, Forced Labor (South Dakota Teen Challenge) Eric M. "Godless Saint" posted this account on Teen Challenge Exposed.⁷⁵

"I went through the South Dakota program in the late 1990's and have since been a staunch atheist for all of the current millennium..... Every word spoken out of my mouth the whole time I was there was taken completely out of context and used against me. Every word any of them ever read out of the Bible was taken out of context and used as a weapon. This was just the beginning. While I was in the program, I thought then that I saw the logic of learning about the Bible as best I can to help me. This in itself became a crime. All of the 99% and 100% scores I was receiving on the tests (all of them) were a "mockery" of the program, as I "must" have been doing it to prove myself smarter than the staff. Same with the memorization of large amounts of scripture, and everything else that everyone else was getting punished for not doing enough of!!!! And yes, the work. 20 hours a week of labor at a door factory for 16 months, which no one saw a penny of. Forced classroom work, which I was punished for doing well... Dave Caire...was by far the most verbally abusive man I had ever met or heard of,..... A person would walk out of his office shaking like a leaf after committing such crimes as talking anything bad about any of the staff, saying anything that could be twisted around into a bad thing (pretty much anything a person could say), or even going to the bathroom without permission, or needing to go in church, or after a 2 hour van ride. All of the "students" were also forced spies on all the other students, by threat of punishment for not telling on others for saying any little thing that could be twisted around to sound evil. Needless to say, I was hundreds of times worse off after this program than before, suffering years of depression, homelessness, and of course, drug and alcohol use. I am now off the streets, back in school learning, and mostly drug and alcohol free. And an atheist."

Imprisonment, Communication with outside world curtailed (CEDU Foundation) Survivor Testimonial given to HEAL. ⁷⁶

" I was Placed at CEDU Foundation In or about march 1973, when I arrived I had no idea, what so ever that the Dept. of Social Service was "dropping me off" I was told I was just going to go for the day to see if I would like to stay there. Within 1 hour, I found myself standing in a room with Mr. & Mrs. Wasserman, and Michael Allgood. I was told that Michael would be my "family head" and if I had any questions or problems he would be in charge of it all. I then, was taken into a room, and was told to sit in a chair while they cut my hair. They cut my hair to where it was just a few inches short. They took my clothes and only left me with a few pair of pants and tops and sent the rest back with my social worker. The reason I told for this was to "break your Image". I was then taken into a room and a Nurse? examined me , and then I was told to shower. I had never been in any place like this before, so I was already afraid. I was told I couldn't write or see any family members for at least 3-6 months depending on if I followed the rules.....The worst things I can remember is the verbal abuse, the sex acts, and if you even mentioned it was something that you didn't want to be involved in you were told you would get sent to Juvenile Hall, some faced prison sentences, or they would threaten you with somewhere much worse. The Wassermans would eat in the living quarters at the time overlooked San Bernardino, I remember how they would order steak dinners and we would have to serve them, while we ate food which was donated, from the places we were out begging for money from....I know of one kid who lived in Las Vegas that actually took his life when we went home, because they said he couldn't deal with life anymore after CEDU. "

Straight Inc. Survivors Request for Public Apology

To: Nancy Reagan, President George Bush, Sr., Former Straight, Inc. Executives, Other Responsible Parties

Survivors of Straight Inc. gathered for a memorial service on November 11, 2006, which was held simultaneously in St. Petersburg, Florida and Springfield, Virginia. We assembled together to collectively remember those former clients of Straight, Inc. who have passed away. Some took their own lives shortly after enduring severe mistreatment and abuse while in Straight, Inc. Others committed suicide for unknown reasons or passed away due to various causes. Feeling connected to one another by our common traumatic experience in Straight, Inc., Survivors also joined together to acknowledge our personal loss and the pain and suffering stemming from that horrifying ordeal. Many of us lost our integrity, our innocence, our sense of self worth, our youth, our ability to trust others, our family relationships, etc. In addition, many of us still suffer from diagnosed psychological disorders such as posttraumatic stress disorder, severe depression, social phobias, panic disorders, etc. caused by our imprisonment in Straight, Inc. Many Survivors still endure vivid Straight, Inc. nightmares, can still hear the screams of children as they were abused, and cannot forget the abuse we personally endured or witnessed as vulnerable children.

We, the undersigned, Survivor's of Straight, Inc., respectfully request public acknowledgement from you that Straight, Inc. unjustly committed various crimes, abused children, and utilized extremely unethical practices against innocent young clients, which included, but were not limited to the following:

- 1) Brainwashing (aka coercive thought reform);
- 2) Physical abuse;
- 3) Usage of illegal and or unethical restraints – children routinely restrained children at the direction of staff for minor infractions (i.e. not motivating, not paying attention, etc.);
- 4) Unethical forms of extreme humiliation, including but not limited to; beltlooping, no privacy/watched while urinating, defecating, or bathing, motivating;
- 5) Food deprivation (ie. peanut butter diets, inadequate portions of food);
- 6) Sleep deprivation – caused by unwarranted, prolonged daily group hours (12), other time spent in the building (up to at least 3 additional pre and/or post group hours), lengthy commuting time, and in many cases, due to intentionally withholding sleep as punishment for not “cooperating” to coerce compliance;
- 7) Verbal abuse – unduly harsh confrontational tactics that included swearing, screaming, yelling, spitting, belittling, humiliating, etc., a child in front of a large group of child clients;
- 8) Sexual abuse;
- 9) Psychological abuse;
- 10) Coerced confessions;
- 11) Unjustifiable and lengthy isolation in intake and/or time out rooms;
- 12) Denial of necessary medical care;
- 13) Kidnapping;
- 14) False Imprisonment;
- 15) Accepting clients with little/no drug history (the so-called “dry druggie” theory);
- 16) Employing uneducated, unprofessional teenage staff.

Abuse and Neglect in U.S.A. Residential Treatment Centers

Straight Inc. Survivors Request for Public Apology (continued)

In addition to acknowledgment that the above-mentioned abuses, crimes, and unethical practices occurred, we respectfully request your formal apology for the following; allowing the abuse, unethical practices and crimes to continue for years, lending your name to, sponsoring, recommending, and/or endorsing Straight Inc., for sending children to Straight Inc., or for failing to properly and/or adequately oversee and monitor Straight, Inc.

We, the Survivors of Straight, Inc. are the walking wounded, but we walk with our heads held high as a community, determined to overcome the injustice we were forced to endure as children while held in Straight, Inc. We are all fighters who feel empowered by the strength we draw from each other. Many Straight, Inc. Survivors are also determined to be healthy, prosperous and productive adults and are resolved to heal and move on.

The community of Straight, Inc. survivors has taken many steps toward healing. Each of us has taken a different approach: some have sought therapy, many regularly communicate and lean on each other for support, and some participate in activities geared toward educating the public about harmful "treatment" methods, etc. On November 11, 2006, we took another step by holding a memorial service to remember all who were lost. Yet closure is elusive. Receiving acknowledgement and the apology we are owed from those who once had the power to help us, but for whatever reason failed to protect us, would be a significant step toward resolving the flagrant injustice of Straight, Inc. and would facilitate our healing process.

Sincerely,

Straight, Inc. Survivors `

Request for apology written by Kris Flannery.

***the request for apology does NOT apply to former group/peer staff, it applies to former executive level staff¹*

Abuse and Neglect in U.S.A. Residential Treatment Centers

Since the Straight Inc. survivors' petition was written in late 2006, one apology from a former Straight, Inc. Executive staff member has been received. Survivors/Victims wholeheartedly thank Richard Mullinax and have found it very healing to have acknowledgement of the abuse they suffered by one who was involved. We grant much appreciation to Richard Mullinax for having the courage to come forward and publicly apologize.

"For 19 years, I gave very little thought to my actions as a staff member of Straight. Then, in the Spring and Summer of 2008, I began to interact with Straight Survivors and listened to their experiences. As the weeks and months progressed, I became increasingly aware of the damage I caused to Straight Survivors as a staff member. After much reflection on the events of the 1980's I have become very much aware that many Straight Survivors lost their integrity, innocence, sense of self worth, youth, ability to trust others, family relationships and more as a result of my actions as a staff member, and I deeply regret that I am responsible for this as a Staff Member.

I realize now that many Survivors still suffer from diagnosed psychological disorders such as post traumatic stress disorder, severe depression, social phobias, panic disorders, etc. caused by imprisonment in Straight, Inc, and that many Survivors still endure vivid Straight, Inc. nightmares, can still hear the screams of children as they were abused, and cannot forget the abuse they personally endured or witnessed as vulnerable children. I am deeply ashamed of my role in this, including not putting a stop to it."

Abduction, Detention, and Changing Corporate Identities to Evade Investigation (*Straight Inc. Plymouth MI, Pathway Family Center*) Heather was inside a Straight Inc. facility when it suddenly changed its legal identity in order to avoid legal responsibility for abuse. The treatment policies and protocols remained the same.

"My name is Heather Zschoche... My parents shipped me from Seattle, WA to Straight Incorporated Plymouth, MI sometime late 1991... I can't remember my exact intake date. I do know my "graduation" was falsified in 1993 and at that time Straight Inc had simply changed corporation names to Pathway Family Center. I remember the move from the old building to the new one... and that was the only change between what I guess what had been renamed Pathway Family Center. As a client, and prisoner of Straight Incorporated, it wasn't until about 8 months ago or so when I started asking my parents about Straight, was when I found out that they had changed names... I was in the program with the gal who's mom took over management. Teri Neesley. Pathway Family Center IS Straight Incorporated. All they did was change the name.... the same abuse, the same "treatment policies", everything was the same. We sang the same "Straight is It" songs up until the day I went on an airplane back home. We still motivated out asses off just to get humiliated and verbally abused, sometimes restrained."

~ Heather Zschoche

World Wide Association of Specialty Programs & Schools

The World Wide Association of Specialty Programs and Schools (WWASPS or WWASP) is an organization based in Utah, in the United States. WWASPS was founded by Robert Lichfield and was incorporated in 1998. WWASPS claims to have treated 10,000 children. WWASPS states that it is an umbrella organization of independent institutions for education and treatment of troubled teenagers, all operating in accordance with WWASP guidelines.⁷⁷ Many outside observers believe, however, that the WWASPS-affiliated institutions are actually owned by WWASPS, its principal officials or their close relatives (through limited partnerships, many of which have used the same street address).^{78 79} WWASPS has faced widespread allegations of physical and psychological abuse of the teenagers sent into its programs,⁸⁰ resulting in a lawsuit filed against the organization in 2006.⁸¹

Many of the facilities under the WWASPS umbrella report that they are accredited by the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools.⁸² This association confers credits that do not always transfer to schools that a student would seek to attend for post-secondary education.

WWASPS facilities refused to be regulated and refused to require staff to report child-abuse cases. In 1996, officials in Cancun, Mexico were informed about allegations of child abuse at a WWASPS facility called Sunrise Beach. The authorities received reports of teens held in "punishment rooms" for up to four days at a time. They staged an early morning raid on the WWASPS facility and, after investigation, ordered the facility closed. The managers, Glenda and Steve Roach, were ordered to report to immigration authorities. Instead, the couple fled with 41 teen girls to a nearby airport, to board a plane to Los Angeles. The group was detained by Mexican police, who worked with authorities to return the juveniles home and charge the couple with immigration violations. The Roaches spent about two months in jail before bail was posted and they could return to the USA.⁸³

The WWASPS Sunrise Beach facility in Mexico was associated with SkyWest founder, J. Ralph Atkin. An Atkin-owned treatment facility in the Czech Republic, Morava Academy, had to be closed six months after it opened because of abuse allegations.⁸⁴ U.S. State Department investigators were called in to investigate other WWASPS facilities overseas that were accused of child abuse, including Paradise Cove in Samoa. According to federal documents, investigators reported that alleged abuses in Samoa included "solitary confinement of youths, withholding of rations, etc." They also noted that "many of the locally-hired counselors and employees at Paradise Cove

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are not certified or qualified to do the jobs they are doing." In 1998, Paradise Cove in Samoa was closed.

Tranquility Bay⁸⁵ in Jamaica was one of the earliest facilities within WWASPS' overseas operations. It was finally closed in 2009 after investigations confirmed abuse. In Mexico⁸⁶ and the Czech Republic, WWASPS facilities were closed under pressure from those respective nations' government.

In Costa Rica the WWASPS program closed after a staged revolt by students. Yet, WWASPS programs continue to operate overseas, including the Pillars of Hope in Costa Rica (opened at the site of the closed school, Academy at Dundee Ranch). There is also another facility in Mexico, called Sunset Bay Academy.

In the USA new programs are constantly opened to replace closed facilities. There are many WWASPS-related programs in operation, in Utah,^{87 88 89 90} Nevada,⁹¹ Montana, New York, California, Iowa,⁹² Louisiana,⁹³ Mississippi,⁹⁴ and South Carolina, according to public records.

The economic influence of these well-funded facilities in third world countries must not be underestimated. The WWASPS facility at Tranquility Bay was located in St. Elizabeth, a poor parish on Jamaica's southern coast.⁹⁵ The facility employed more than 150 Jamaicans with an annual payroll estimated at \$1 million, and it earned gross annual revenues approaching \$10 million. Gullible parents paid \$33,000 a year to place their defiant children in the facility. Children reported that their parents do not realize what happens behind those closed doors and that governmental officials did not adequately respond to allegations of abuse.^{96 97} Many "clients" described suffering emotional and psychological trauma under constant fear while inside the facility walls. The 300 children enrolled at Tranquility Bay were 12-19 years old. Escapees described an imprisonment situation where they spent 13 hours a day, for weeks or months, lying prone in an isolation room, with their arms repeatedly twisted to the breaking point. Clinical psychologist Roderick Hall reported that the Tranquility Bay students he spoke to "have post-traumatic stress disorder and there's no question about it." He added, "I have one kid who e-mails me who is in college and still has nightmares." Tranquility Bay staff members were accused of assault and of selling drugs by parents and governmental officials. The facility finally closed in 2009.

Brightway Adolescent Hospital^{98 99 100} in Utah funneled teens into WWASPS' facilities run by Ralph Atkins.¹⁰¹ The Utah Department of Health, under Licensing Director Debra Wynkoop-Green, discovered Brightway staff diagnosed patients to have behavioral problems that required treatment at another of the corporation's facilities. The investigation revealed that 94%

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of teens admitted to Brightway were transferred to WWASPS facilities either in Jamaica or Samoa. One patient had been sent to Samoa without parental knowledge. The Samoan facility cost up to \$3,000 a month and these charges were not always approved by insurance companies.

To deceive parents using false promises was a common WWASPS promotional ploy. At Carolina Springs Academy the students were offered an opportunity to become involved in a wildlife and agricultural management program. In this WWASPS-related program, students worked with various wildlife and farm animals. It was alleged that students would be exposed in a positive way to various aspects and responsibilities of farming and animal husbandry. The South Carolina Department of Social Services reported that Carolina Springs Academy's license was revoked in April 2009 for non-compliance with licensing regulations. Officials from the Greenwood Humane Society investigated the site and discovered the animals had been left behind to die of starvation. More than 70 animals were already dead and dozens of starving animals were also found, many of them near death.¹⁰²

WWASPS – allegations of abuse closed many overseas facilities

There were facilities that were forced to close secondary to the volume of complaints about their abusive practices:

- Academy at Dundee Ranch, Costa Rica (raided by authorities on May 22, 2003 after an investigation into child abuse)^{103 104}
- Casa by the Sea, Ensenada, Mexico (investigated and closed by Mexican authorities after allegations of abuse; raided on Sept. 10, 2004)¹⁰⁵
- High Impact, Tecate, Mexico (investigated and shut down by the Mexican government after allegations of abuse)¹⁰⁶
- Mentor School, Costa Rica (closed March 18, 2011. Facility was housed in the former Hotel Carara near Tárcoles and directed by Robert W. Lichfield; about 20 USA teens enrolled at time of closure by Costa Rican child welfare authorities, due to complaints of abuse reported by parents and reports that program not licensed by Costa Rican authorities. Officials who visited the facility said that "physical, psychological and verbal mistreatment" were "apparent."¹⁰⁷
- Morava Academy, Brno, Czech Republic (opened 1998; closed later that year when Czech police arrested its managers, Glenda and Steven Roach, former police officers from Utah who were then charged with child torture.^{108 109}

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- Paradise Cove, Samoa (shutdown by Samoan authorities because an investigation determined credible allegations of abuse)¹¹⁰
- Sunrise Beach, Cancún, Mexico (raided and closed by Mexican authorities in 1996 over abuse)¹¹¹
- Tranquility Bay, Jamaica (subject of several documentaries detailing severe abuse; closed in Jan. 2009)^{112 113}

WWASPS - numerous allegations of abuse closed many USA facilities

There were facilities that were forced to close secondary to the volume of complaints about their abusive practices:

- Academy at Ivy Ridge¹¹⁴ in Ogdensburg, New York (closed in early 2009; property has been sold)^{115 116}
- Bell Academy in California¹¹⁷ (shut down in 2003 after issues with state Social Services)^{118 119 120 121}
- Bethel Girls Academy in Mississippi (shut down in Feb. 2005 after state officials investigate reports of abuse)^{122 123}
- Brightway Hospital in St. George, Utah (closed in 1998 by authorities for providing inadequate care, and for abuse)
- Carolina Springs Academy (license revoked, name illegally changed to Magnolia Hills Christian Academy, website changed) in South Carolina. Campus abandoned as of September 2010^{124 125}
- Darrington Academy in Georgia. Closed in March 2009; 90 students were enrolled at time of closure. School director Richard Darrington was arrested in May 2009 and charged with battery of two students at the school.^{126 127}
- Royal Gorge Academy in Canon City, Colorado, closed in October 2008. Youth sent to Red River Academy.^{128 129 130}
- Sky View Christian Academy, for boys, in Hawthorne, Nevada. Enrolled about 120 students and employed about 63 staff and teachers, with a total annual payroll of \$1.57 million. Closed abruptly in 2007 after a hazing incident.¹³¹
- Spring Creek Lodge Academy, Sanders County, Montana; operated from the late 1970s until January 9, 2009.¹³²

WWASPS programs are still in operation

Currently, WWASPS operates the following programs: Cross Creek Programs in Utah; Gulf Coast Academy in Lucedale, Mississippi (formerly Bethel Girls' Academy, Bethel Boys' Academy, and Eagle Point Christian Academy); Old West Academy (formerly Majestic Ranch Academy) in Utah; Midwest Academy in Keokuk, Iowa; Horizon Academy in Amargosa Valley, Nevada; Red River Academy in Lecompte, Louisiana; Woodland Hills Maternity Home in Utah; Pillars of Hope (previously the site of closed school Academy at Dundee Ranch) in Costa Rica; and Mentor School, located in the former Hotel Carara near Tárcoles in Costa Rica.

Why should we be concerned?

- Research has uncovered, and families have reported, that these teen residential treatment centers have continued to have problems of abuse.
- There are laws within the US that specifically exempt Faith-based facilities from governmental regulation and oversight while funding them with tax payer dollars.
- There are no laws to protect children and young persons in facilities outside the U.S.A., and the number of abusive residential facilities worldwide is growing at an alarming rate.
- Children and young persons have been abused physically, emotionally, psychologically and sexually. There is little recourse to have accused abusers investigated, prosecuted or punished.
- Many facilities are not licensed and there is no oversight.
- Children often lose their most basic human rights.
- Many do not have privacy to use the restroom or shower.
- Contact with the outside world is curtailed, censored and monitored – often only phone calls with parents allowed. But even contact with family is only permitted 3-6 months after the child was admitted, and only if certain conditions are met.

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- Many young people have spent months in isolation.
- Forced conversion to a religious ideology and belief system often occurs.
- There have been instances of torture and mistreatment that would meet the international standard set by the United Nations Convention on Torture.
- The abuse inflicts lifelong psychological scars on the victims. Proper mental health care and therapy is difficult or impossible to obtain given the governmental authority which facilitates and protects these private residential treatment centers.
- There has been neglect of young persons' medical care, sometimes leading to death.
- When abuse has led to death, such deaths are not always investigated as homicides and sometimes are not investigated at all. This results in a lack of access for these crime victims to the criminal justice system.
- Victims/Survivors and their families are denied recourse through the court system by forcing them to sign legal documents prior to admission that remove their basic right to due process in the civil court system.
- Peer pressure within a closed religious network forces family and friends to hide abuse.

Human rights abuses were reported

United Nations - Cruel, Degrading Treatment & Torture

On January 7, 2003 the International Survivors Action Committee (ISAC) ¹³³ filed a formal complaint with the United Nations against Melvin Sembler, director of the Straight, Inc. Board of Directors, charging "crimes against humanity." From 1976-1985 the company, operated as Straight, Inc., had acquired a reputation for abusing kids within its drug rehabilitation program. In 1985 its name was changed to Straight Foundation, Inc. so as to protect its assets and its principals from civil suits. "My best guess is that at least half of the kids were abused," estimated Dr. Arnold Trebach, a professor emeritus at American University. He created the Drug Policy Foundation to find alternatives to harsh laws and wrote about Straight, Inc. in his book, "The Great Drug War". ¹³⁴

In 1995, Straight Foundation, Inc. was renamed the [Drug Free America Foundation](#). ¹³⁵ The Drug Free America Foundation (DFAF) is identified as a national and international drug policy think tank and provider of services for drug-free work places. See [Piercing the Corporate Veil](#). ¹³⁶

International Survivors Action Committee (ISAC) was an industry watchdog organization dedicated to expose abuse, civil rights violations, and fraud perpetrated through privately-owned facilities serving juveniles. The reply from the Secretary of the Human Rights Committee, Markus Schmidt, to ISAC's formal complaint was a form [letter](#) dated February 6, 2003. ¹³⁷ The complaint posed a legal problem because the United States had never agreed to let its citizens be investigated or arrested by international law enforcement (provision under Article 22). This limited the United Nation's Human Rights Committee's competence to receive and consider petitions, and to investigate related matters. The U.S.A. asserted to the international community that it would be inappropriate to permit American citizens to be so interrogated.

Thus, the original case of the thousands of victims of child abuse, torture, and sexual abuse in Straight Inc. facilities did not get the United Nations' investigation the survivors/victims had hoped for. This was despite overwhelming evidence of abusive treatment of possibly over 50,000 children and adolescents. Straight Inc. also, under its various identities, committed insurance and Medicaid fraud. ^{138 139 140 141 142 143}

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Even though the Straight Inc. victims later won victories in US courts and were awarded damages by the courts, the money from Straight Inc. seemed to vanish into thin air. Thousands of Straight Inc. victims have not received any restorative justice for their victimization.

Under international Law and Treaty obligations signed by the U.S.A., the three branches of government (i.e., Executive, Legislative, and Judicial) are required to uphold the provisions of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights Documents (i.e., documents signed and ratified). The US also has federal statutes that address torture, cruel and degrading treatment. See US Criminal Code: [Title 18 Chapter 113 C Torture](#)¹⁴⁴

Federal investigations were mandatory when torture and child abuse are alleged, especially when children are held in facilities across state lines from their original home. Through a complex scheme for money laundering, the Straight Inc. board officers and staff were able to move assets out of the country, out of reach and sight of federal law enforcement investigators. This essentially denied the victims of human rights violations the reparations that had been ordered by U.S.A. courts. More than 200 victims were Canadian citizens, also denied access to satisfaction of monetary damages in their cases. FBI investigations failed to identify where Straight Inc.'s assets went. Political power and influence helped shut down FBI investigations into the shell companies and off-shore accounts of these non-profit organizations. Former US Ambassador to Italy, Melvin Sembler, was a real estate broker by trade as well as the director of the Straight Inc. Board. These positions afforded Sembler the means and opportunity to hide the tremendous profits obtained from this abusive teen rehabilitation network.¹⁴⁵

When the lucrative Straight Inc. centers were finally closed due lawsuits related to human rights abuses, the substance abuse counselors employed to work with the centers lost their source of income. Sembler was involved with many committees nationally that influenced federal drug policy. He also served on the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health as well as his position with the Drug Free America Foundation. Former ASAM president, George Douglas Talbott, MD enjoyed personal and political connections to Melvin Sembler.

The New Freedom Commission on Mental Health and TMAP

The controversial New Freedom Commission on Mental Health was established by the 43rd U.S.A. president, George W. Bush, in April, 2002.¹⁴⁶ The Commission was established to conduct a comprehensive study of the

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U.S.A. mental health service delivery system and make recommendations based on its findings.¹⁴⁷ According to the Center for Public Integrity the pharmaceutical and health products industry has spent more than \$800 million in federal lobbying and campaign donations at both federal and state levels in the past seven years. Its lobbying operation, on which it reports spending more than \$675 million, is the biggest in the nation. Only the insurance industry has spent more money to sway public policy.

In 2003, the pharmaceutical industry spent nearly \$116 million to lobby the government. That year the Congress passed, and President George W. Bush signed, the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003, which created a taxpayer-funded prescription drug benefit for senior citizens.

The New Freedom Commission on Mental Health recommended increased use of pharmaceutical interventions despite the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) response, with regulatory steps, to reports of increased rates of suicide, especially during the first months of drug use. Allan Jones was the former investigator in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of Inspector General (OIG), Bureau of Special Investigations. As a human rights defender and medical whistleblower, Alan Jones,¹⁴⁸

investigated for the Office of Inspector General of FDA. He delivered a scathing report on the fraudulent behavior of the pharmaceutical industry and its political control over both legislation and regulatory functions. Civil liberties groups also became vocal opponents of the Texas Medication Algorithm Project (TMAP). The TMAP was described as a thinly veiled proxy for the pharmaceutical industry, which pursued profits by recommending more psychotropic medication interventions.^{149 150 151} TMAP had been created in 1995 while President Bush was governor of Texas. It formed as an alliance of individuals from the University of Texas, the pharmaceutical industry, the mental health and the corrections systems of Texas.

Through TMAP, critics contend, the drug industry has methodically influenced decision-making of elected and appointed public officials. The

More than a third of pharmaceutical companies' resources go into promotion and marketing.

Reports estimate that the industry spent between \$30 billion to \$60 billion on marketing in 2004.

The trade group PhRMA estimates its members spent \$39 billion on R&D that year.

strategy increased access to citizens in prisons and state psychiatric hospitals.

Some opponents of TMAP believe its objectives are to foster chemical-mediated behavior control of American citizens. The Commission used TMAP as a blueprint and began to recommend screening of American adults for untreated mental illnesses and children for emotional disturbances.¹⁵² This targeted more vulnerable populations who could be coerced to use the newer psychotropic medications. Some of these drugs were still in clinical trials or were to be prescribed as extra-label use (i.e., not specifically authorized but tolerated). As a U.S.A. regulatory agency, however, the FDA initiated regulatory actions to address reports of increased suicide rates. One of these actions was to require a "black box" warning label for the new anti-depressants that warned of increased risk for violent tendencies, including suicide, caused by these medications.^{153 154 155 156 157}

Teen Screen

Teen Screen was developed by Dr. David Shaffer, known for his connections to the pharmaceutical industry¹⁵⁸ and Columbia University. Many watchdog groups opposed the use of mental health screening programs and viewed them as marketing opportunities for drug manufacturers.^{159 160 161} It was proven that these mental health screenings were conducted on minors without parental consent. In 2005, Teen Screen became the subject of a lawsuit in Indiana filed by parents who objected to the "passive consent" procedure.^{162 163} The Rutherford Institute, a non-profit civil liberties organization, criticized the use of "passive consent," by which parents who do not want their children screened needed to sign a form and send it in to the school. If the school does not receive a form, it is assumed that the parents do not object. In June 2006, after the lawsuit, Teen Screen changed their consent procedures to require active parental consent, but offered incentives such as movie tickets and gift vouchers to students to encourage participation. In situations where neither parent is accessible (i.e., in teen shelters or the juvenile justice system), passive consent (parental consent assumed if not explicitly denied) would suffice. Teen Screen led to massive drug use with children in the foster care and juvenile justice system where there was scant oversight or protections for human rights.

The Fourth Amendment to our Constitution guarantees our citizens the right to protection from unreasonable searches and seizures, a right that extends to all citizens regardless of their age. There were several important Supreme Court Decisions regarding whether children could be tested for drugs by schools: 1) *Vernonia School District v. Wayne Acton*¹⁶⁴ 2) *Board of*

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Educ. of Independent School District No. 92 of Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma Petitioner v EARLS.¹⁶⁵

In 1995 by a 6-3 decision in *Vernonia School District v. Wayne Acton* the U. S. Supreme Court decided that because public school athletics are susceptible to injuries, their right to Fourth Amendment protection could be waived in order to protect them from the added dangers of illegal drug use. The court gave schools the right to require suspicionless drug testing. Before making it to the Supreme Court the issue made it to the Federal Appeals Court. At the appeals court *Veronia* had submitted as their expert witness Dr. Robert L. DuPont, Jr. Dr. DuPont is the founding director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the second White House Drug Czar. It was Dr. DuPont's NIDA that administered a \$ 1 million grant to The Seed - Straight's predecessor program. Later Dr. DuPont became a paid Straight consultant and was an expert witness for Straight in several civil trials. DuPont became chairman of the scientific advisory board for Psychomedics - the world's premier hair testing drug program. The Drug Free America Foundation (DFAF) is a leader in establishing national and international drug policy and lobbying successfully for its own interests.

Board of Educ. of Independent School District No. 92 of Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma Petitioner v EARLS by a decision of 5-4, the U.S. Supreme Court extended suspicionless drug testing beyond the scope of the *Veronia* decision to include suspicionless drug testing of any student involved in any extracurricular activity in a school. The court decided that 'schools' interest in ridding their campuses of drugs outweighs an individual's right to privacy. The justices were aided in their decision process by an Amicus Curie (friends of the court) brief that had been filed with the court and signed by a large number of individuals prominent in American drug policy, many of whom had relationships with DFAF.¹⁶⁶

The Drug Free America Foundation has positioned itself as a leader in establishing national and international drug policy. Straight Foundation, under its new name, DFAF co-sponsors The Drug and Alcohol Testing Industry Association (DATIA) workshops.

Straight Inc. Human rights abuses

"They run very close to really performing psychic murder."

Marge Robertson, Executive Director of the
Cincinnati Chapter of the ACLU,
speaking about Straight, Inc., (Cincinnati Post)

In December, 1974, the U.S.A. Senate released a [report](#) that accused The SEED, a juvenile drug rehabilitation program, of using communist North Korean mind control techniques on American teenagers.¹⁶⁷ The National Institute on Drug Abuse, under U.S.A. Senate mandate, notified the program that it would need signed consent forms from clients and their parents that acknowledged The SEED clients were informed participants in human experimentation (i.e., mind control techniques). Under the weight of allegations of abuse and the Senate report, The SEED closed its expansion programs. Melvin Sembler hired some of the program's graduates and formed his own "Seed" which he called Straight Inc.

Melvin Sembler was born, and raised, in St. Joseph, Missouri. He left in 1948 to attend Northwestern University where he met Betty. For 17 years, Sembler and his wife, Betty, operated one of the most destructive juvenile rehabilitation programs that ever existed. Melvin and Betty, along with several friends, established Straight Inc. in 1976. Straight Inc. was incorporated on April 22, 1976 but did not start operations until September 1, 1976. On September 26, exactly twenty-five days after it had started operation, executive vice president Art Bauknight quit and stated concerns in his letter of resignation that the board was "is not operating as required by Florida statutes, its charter and bylaws." "There are voids in your insurance coverage," Bauknight wrote. "Money is being handled by non-bonded employees and officers." He stated in his letter that no "basic safety rules" had been developed by the corporation "to protect others from unreasonable risk of bodily harm, loss or damage." Art Bauknight was an insurance agent by profession.

Straight made nearly \$100 million and Mel Sembler became a US ambassador, not once, but twice, based, on part, on his *humanitarian* work at Straight. Melvin Gross¹⁶⁸ and Joseph Zappala^{169 170 171 172} were both involved promoting Straight Inc.

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Melvin Gross, Straight board member and insurance man was reported as saying, "I feel that I am running the best agency in the country, we should be a model."

Straight Inc. sought Caucasian children almost exclusively, especially those from middle class and upper class families with good medical insurance that covered substance abuse treatment. Straight Inc. accused the child of drug problems and then separated them from their family. Parents fearing for their child's well-being and concerned that their child really had a drug problem, were easy targets for this fraudulent scheme. All Straight had to do was to get a child's parents into the door and separate them from their child and then convince the parents that their kid really did have a drug problem and would probably die without Straight. Parents were deceived, manipulated and coerced into paying for expensive "treatment" at Straight Inc.

In 1985, fearing civil suits by abuse victims and possible criminal prosecution, the Semblers changed the mission of Straight, Inc. from "treatment" to "education" and its name from "Straight, Inc." to "Straight Foundation, Inc." The foundation kept the money and property and was free from any future law suits for criminal child abuse. Mel Sembler went with the foundation. The foundation was a shell corporation to protect Mel Sembler from lawsuits and jail time and to protect Straight's assets. In 1988, Walter Loebenberg, good friend of Mel Sembler, was a senior vice president of Straight Foundation, Inc. By 1989 Mr. Loebenberg had become the president and chairman of the board of Straight Foundation, Inc. Walter Loebenberg founded the Tampa Bay Holocaust Museum (now called the Florida Holocaust Museum) on whose Board of Trustees sits or has sat Mel and Betty Sembler and Straight, Inc. board member-at-large Bruce Epstein. Loebenberg brought Bernadine Braithwaite on board as executive director of Straight, Inc. in September 1987. That whole story of fraud and deception is [here](#).

In 1995, Betty Sembler changed the name of the educational foundation again, to "Drug Free America Foundation" (DFAF).¹⁷³ Straight Inc. has morphed into an organization helping small businesses set up drug-free workplaces, and promotion of national/ international drug policy. See the Sembler Report compiled by the International Survivors Action Committee.
¹⁷⁴

Straight Inc. denied citizens their civil rights and human dignities. Teen clients were deprived of food and sleep, beaten without cause, made to soil their pants, spat on, even denied private access to toilets for a bowel movement.

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The enormity of the Human Rights abuses can be seen in these links:

[Straight court cases](#)

[Straight Inc.](#)

[Flow Chart of the Straights](#)

Straight Inc. was identified for egregious violations of human rights and civil liberties. There are accounts of injurious deprivation, bullying, and staged marathon sessions where teenagers would be yelled at by many other kids for long periods of time. Children were forbidden to read any material, including religious books. Conditions were so deplorable that kids were watched constantly for suicide precautions, even as they wiped themselves on the toilet (reminiscent of Nazi concentration camps where Jews were made to defecate publicly like cats and dogs). Under such humiliating conditions many kids resorted to carving on their bodies with a fingernail, piece of broken chair, or whatever else they could find, just as a caged animal gnarls at an open sore.

After a visit to Straight-Springfield, Professor Barry L. Beyerstein, in "Thought Reform Tactics: The Road to Hell is Paved with Good Intentions" wrote this: ". . . *All such practices begin with a concerted assault upon the individual's personal identity, i.e., an attempt to destroy his or her sense of self and its relation to the pre-existing social matrix. By systematically undermining their sense of individual autonomy, target persons can be driven to a state of child-like vulnerability to outside influences, dramatic alterations in beliefs, and in extreme cases, psychotic-like behavior and suicidal tendencies.*"

Straight Inc. used cajole and intimidation to force teenagers to reveal their deepest, darkest secrets or fantasies (frequently sexual). Later, Straight Inc. staff further humiliated the child by sharing the forced confessions with the larger group of kids. In violation of U.S.A. civil rights laws, Straight Inc. accepted federal money, and used it in a discriminatory fashion to run a racially-exclusive treatment program, under the assumption that white families were in a better economic position to pay the high fees. Straight Inc. kept kids on suicide precautions while they were paying clients, but demonstrated no commitment to keep these kids safe from suicide once they left the programs (suffering from program-induced PTSD, depression, and humiliation about their sex lives). There have been over 40 post-discharge suicides (including second-generation Straights).

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"I have also interviewed children who made suicide attempts following their running from the SEED. Overwhelming feelings of worthlessness, hopelessness, and despair were in evidence."

Jeffery J. Elenewski, Ph.D., clinical psychologist,
The Children's Psychiatric Center, Dade County, Florida commenting
on students he has met who had fled The SEED, Straight's predecessor.

"Straight" programs strip a child of all self-respect and then try to build him up into a desirable image, without driving him over the edge along the way. Animal trainers and contemporary psychologists call this *behavior modification*. Cult awareness specialists and military intelligence officers call it *Chinese thought reform*. Communist Chinese call it *re-education*. Straight Inc. calls it *re-acculturation*. Psychiatrist Robert J. Lifton Jr. in his book, *Thought Reform and the Psychology of Totalism: A Study of "Brainwashing" in China*,¹⁷⁵ warns of the dangers of driving a person to suicide by severely depriving and depressing him.

There is debate over whether the term cult is an appropriate label to use concerning high-demand, manipulative, and frequently harmful groups whose members focus on religious or other political, pseudotherapeutic, pseudomedical, ideologies. It should be noted that recent books in the field of sociology, the discipline in which much of the debate takes place, do use the word cult in their titles.^{176 177 178} There are numerous accounts by persons who left these groups who often call them cults.

There was high level political power behind Melvin Sembler and Straight Inc. programs. While in the Oval Office as 41st U.S.A. president, the former CIA director, George H. W. Bush, was featured in a television commercial for Straight Inc. As President, Bush also appointed Straight Inc. founders, Melvin Sembler and Joseph Zappala (another Straight Inc. board member) to be ambassadors to Australia and Spain, respectively. Later, the 43rd U.S.A. president, George W. Bush, appointed Sembler to be Ambassador to Italy. Former Florida governor Jeb Bush is on the Advisory Board for Straight Inc., under its current name, Drug Free America Foundation (DFAF), as well as his wife Columba and Florida Lt. Governor Antoinette "Toni" Jennings. The latter was nominated to the office by then-Governor Jeb Bush in February, 2003 and served in that capacity until 2007. Drug Free America Foundation receives federal funds. Former Drug Czar Robert DuPont of Bensinger & DuPont is another Straight Inc. board member. (See a tally sheet of [Semblers family donations](#))¹⁷⁹

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Despite increasing evidence of human rights abuses, Straight Inc.'s founders, Melvin and Betty Sembler,¹⁸⁰ have enormous influence over U.S.A. drug policy. They and their colleagues serve on the boards governing major domestic anti-drug programs. Their official biographies are posted [here](#) and [here](#).^{181 182 183 184} As the U.S.A. struggles with a growing illegal drug problem, the rate of incarceration for minor drug offenses has increased the trend toward "boot camp" rehab programs and the potential for this kind of abuse.

Straight Inc. confronted the victims of its abuse in the courts, and slowly victims/survivors were winning awards.¹⁸⁵ A college student won \$ 721,000 in 1990 and another won \$200,000 in 1983. This prompted Straight Inc. to get more coercive with doctors to prevent them from testifying as expert witnesses against the Straight Inc. facilities. As program chapters closed all over the country, new facilities opened under different names but the same philosophy, such as "KIDS," "Growing Together," and "SAFE".

A Straight Inc. spin-off, called "Kids of North Jersey," settled a [\\$4.5 million](#)¹⁸⁶ abuse claim in 2000. When Straight Inc.'s name changed in 1995 to [Drug Free America Foundation](#),¹⁸⁷ it enjoyed new opportunities to thrive under federal subsidies, including \$400,000 in fiscal 2000 and \$320,000 from the Small Business Administration.

History of substance abuse treatment

Synanon therapeutic model

Charles E. "Chuck" Dederich, Sr., a reformed alcoholic and a member of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.), created his own program, Synanon, to treat persons with addictions. Professionals, even those without drug addictions, were invited to join Synanon. The Synanon program became the model for substance abuse treatment.^{188 189} The New York Psychiatrist, Daniel Casriel M.D., founder of AREBA¹⁹⁰ (today the oldest surviving private addiction treatment centre in the United States) and cofounder of Daytop Village¹⁹¹ wrote a book about his experiences at Synanon.¹⁹² In the Synanon therapeutic model, control was exerted over members by in group sessions having members humiliate one another and encouraging clients to expose one-another's innermost weaknesses.^{193 194 195} These group session confrontations were called "the Game".¹⁹⁶ This kind of group peer pressure sessions, using confrontational therapy methods, had been used before by the military and other groups.^{197 198 199}

In 1974, the legal authorities began to question Synanon's promises and practices. Many persons, who turn to substance abuse, do so because they are attempting to escape some trauma in their personal life. Clients may be dealing with physically, emotionally or sexually abusive situations, dealing with tragedy or loss or even have been a victim of crime. These methods of coercive psychological control can lead to physical abuse and even human rights violations. Thus the use of degrading and humiliating techniques of mind control utilized by Synanon and CEDU/Brown Schools constituted psychologically abusive treatment.

The concept of "lifetime rehabilitation" did not agree with therapeutic norms, and it was alleged that the Synanon group was running an unauthorized medical clinic. To avoid regulation and investigation Chuck Dederich declared that Synanon was a tax exempt religious organization, the "Church of Synanon." Children who had been placed in Synanon began running away and an "underground railroad" established to help return them to their parents. There was physical abuse of clients and in 1978 a state Grand Jury in Marin County issued a scathing report about child abuse at Synanon and the lack of oversight by governmental authorities. The child abuse at Synanon was widely covered by San Francisco area newspapers and broadcasters but they were largely silenced by lawsuits from Synanon lawyers, who made libel claims.²⁰⁰ These lawsuits ultimately turned out to be a large part of Synanon's undoing, by giving journalists access to Synanon's own internal documents. The small Point Reyes Light newspaper,

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a weekly in Marin County, received the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service in 1979 in recognition of its coverage of Synanon when other news agencies avoided reporting on it.

In spite of mounting evidence that the Synanon therapeutic model of confrontation therapy was ineffective and abusive, it was copied by others, including Mel Wasserman who founded CEDU Education. CEDU Education was a chain of parent-choice private-pay residential programs.²⁰¹ The CEDU model of therapy influenced a growing number of facilities in the therapeutic boarding school industry.²⁰² A Synanon center was even established in Germany.²⁰³ Dederich was arrested while drunk on December 2, 1978. The two Synanon residents pleaded "no contest" to charges of assault, and also conspiracy to commit murder. While his associates went to jail, Dederich himself avoided imprisonment by formally stepping down as the chairman of Synanon. The Internal Revenue Service revoked Synanon's Federal tax exemption, and all of its properties were confiscated and sold. By the mid-1990s, Synanon was no longer in operation but confrontational therapy had become the norm in residential substance abuse treatment.

Matrix House

Matrix House was a self-help therapeutic community which was established in the Clinical Research Center in the National Center for Mental Health in Lexington, Kentucky. Matrix House was an official aftercare agency under the Narcotic Addict Rehabilitation Act (NARA) of 1966. Participants were under civil commitment.²⁰⁴ The Matrix House was the first unit of the center which was completely operated and administrated by ex-addicts. In group sessions Matrix participants used "the Game" of confrontation which was patterned after Synanon.

Ruth Fox, founder of the American Society for Addiction Medicine

Ruth Fox²⁰⁵ was the founder of ASAM, the American Society for Addiction Medicine, that promotes Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) and the 12-Step treatment approach for alcoholism. ASAM's mission statement is "to establish addiction medicine as a specialty recognized by professional organizations, governments, physicians, purchasers and consumers of health care services, and the general public." ASAM's strategic plan boldly declares that "ASAM will define the basic and clinical science of Addiction Medicine as well as the scope of its practice". Dr. Ruth Fox was the guru of

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mind-control techniques that use coercive control and experimental LSD drug therapy and disulfiram.

Dr. Ruth Fox, medical director for the U.S. Council on Alcoholism, had used LSD in alcoholic rehabilitation. She endorsed the therapeutic use of LSD for making experimental subjects develop a new feeling of compassion and tenderness for others. Dr. Fox also felt that LSD was very helpful in changing alcoholics' thinking and behavior: "LSD does seem to make the patient more willing to undertake the total program necessary for his recovery. After LSD, most of the patients who formerly refused to cooperate were willing to take disulfiram, attend group therapy and to affiliate with A.A." ²⁰⁶ Dr. Fox reported in her book, *Alcoholism: Behavioral Research, Therapeutic Approaches*.

Dr. Fox gave her patients disulfiram and then alcohol, to deliberately make them very sick and attempt to build up an aversion to alcohol. Although she discovered that the aversion therapy was not effective, and after one patient almost died from a near-fatal reaction to a single ounce of alcohol given with disulfiram, Dr. Fox insisted that each patient be given at least one session of induced illness from the disulfiram/alcohol combination, before discharge. (See: *Disulfiram (Antabuse) as an Adjunct in the Treatment of Alcoholism*, Dr. Ruth Fox, in *Alcoholism: Behavioral Research, Therapeutic Approaches*, edited by Ruth Fox, M.D., foreword by 'Mrs.' Marty Mann, Springer Publishing Company, Inc., New York, 1967.)

Medical doctors are necessary to manipulate public policy and advance the financial interests of a criminal enterprise such as Straight Inc. and its progeny. Corrupted interests use vulnerable patients for profit while ignoring a patient's real needs, which fosters a system of abusive human rights violations. Well-appointed medical doctors were used to provide legitimacy to Straight Inc. interests, such as drug czars Robert DuPont, MD (a former paid Straight consultant) and Donald Ian MacDonald, MD (Straight's former national medical research director). ²⁰⁷ Both are members of the International Scientific and Medical Forum on Drug Abuse (a DFAF subsidiary). Richard Schwartz, MD, former medical research director for Straight-Springfield, was another forum member.

The predecessor of Straight Inc., The SEED, began in June, 1970, in Florida as a substance abuse treatment center for adolescents and children. A federal grant for \$1 million dollars from NIDA (National Institute on Drug Abuse), a subsidiary of the sprawling NIMH (National Institute of Mental Health), established the program. Melvin Sembler's son was enrolled in The SEED and Sembler, a personal friend to George H. W. Bush, became the

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board president of Straight Inc. NIDA Director, psychiatrist Dr. Robert L. DuPont, Jr., had approved the start-up grant.

Techniques to force compliance in addiction patients became the hallmark of the newly-minted A.A. and ASAM programs. ASAM wrote its own book based, in part, on Ruth Fox's pioneering treatment of alcoholics with LSD and mind control techniques.

The Federation of State Physicians Health Programs (derived from ASAM) which is Dr. Ruth Fox's legacy continues to be awarded private contracts with government agencies. ASAM still collects financial donations to the Ruth Fox Endowment Fund. The money is used to pay for medical continuing education (courses about ASAM philosophy and to fund scholarships for doctors-in-training as ASAM Fellows [FASAM]).

Human subjects abuse

The mind control project MK-ULTRA, was a CIA mind-control program that garnered public attention in 1975 through U.S.A. Congressional investigations by the [Church Committee](#)²⁰⁸, and by a presidential commission known as the Rockefeller Commission.²⁰⁹ George H. W. Bush was CIA director from January 30, 1976 – January 20, 1977. Over thirty U.S. universities and institutions were involved in an [extensive testing and experimentation program](#)²¹⁰ which included covert drug tests on uninformed citizens at variant social levels, and Native Americans.^{211 212} Several of these tests involved administration of LSD to “unwitting subjects in social situations.” This was sanctioned governmental human rights abuse committed by these LSD researchers that sometimes resulted in permanent disability or even death. The CIA itself acknowledged that these tests made little scientific sense and monitoring was not performed by qualified scientific observers. Outcome reports neglect to mention the patients who became permanently psychotic or committed suicide under her LSD treatment. No accounting is made for violations of civil rights, privacy or human rights.

Abuse of human subjects by substance abuse treatment doctors was well documented in the Congressional Church Committee report and by the Rockefeller Commission. (Final Report of the Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities, United States Senate, 94th Congress, 2nd Session, April 26 (legislative day, April 14), 1976.) The published evidence indicated that Project MK-ULTRA involved the surreptitious use of many types of drugs, as well as other methods, to manipulate individual mental states and to alter brain function

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in U.S.A. and Canadian citizens. Over thirty universities and institutions were involved in an "extensive testing and experimentation" program which included covert drug tests on uninformed citizens "at all social levels, high and low, Native Americans and foreign." LSD was given to "unwitting subjects in social situations." Researchers utilized a variety of drugs on alcoholics, homeless persons, enlisted military personnel and unsuspecting citizens as part of CIA research into mind control. LSD and other drugs were usually administered without the subject's knowledge or informed consent, a violation of the Nuremberg Code that the U.S.A. agreed to follow after World War II. The congressional committee investigating the CIA research, chaired by Senator Frank Church, concluded that "prior consent was obviously not obtained from any of the subjects." Using recommendations of the Church Committee, President Gerald Ford issued the first Executive Order on Intelligence Activities in 1976, which prohibited "experimentation with drugs on human subjects, except with the informed consent, in writing and witnessed by a disinterested party, of each such human subject" and in accordance with the guidelines issued by the National Commission. Subsequent orders by Presidents Carter and Reagan expanded the directive to apply to any human experimentation. These rulings laid the foundation for closure of the abusive programs, but only until new forms were created.

These mind control experiments were strongly condemned by the U.S.A. Congress but the financial association of substance abuse treatment centers with private funding from undisclosed sources continued unabated in the private sector.

A.A. philosophy of addiction treatment

Alcoholics Anonymous was founded in 1935 by Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob Smith. William Griffith Wilson (November 26, 1895 – January 24, 1971) also known as Bill Wilson,^{213 214 215 216 217} co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) was a former New York stockbroker, had been a severe alcoholic with a high school education. Wilson sought guidance from the evangelical Christian Oxford Group to attain sobriety.²¹⁸ Wilson experimented with other possible cures for alcoholism including LSD.²¹⁹ When Bill took LSD, use of the drug was legal and he took LSD as a participant in medically supervised experiments with in California in the 1950s and then also at the Roosevelt Hospital in NY.²²⁰ The purpose of the research study was to determine whether LSD might produce insights that would serve to remove psychic blocks that were preventing people from feeling more spiritually alive.²²¹

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Bill Wilson's "spiritual experience" that was credited in his attainment of sobriety, occurred December 13 or 14, 1934. This spiritual awakening happened after two or three days of detoxing and getting the "belladonna cure".^{222 223 224 225 226 227 228} Bill Wilson's spiritual experience, or "hot flash," as he would call it, occurred during the second or third night (depending on the source) of the treatment. Considering his alcohol and chloral hydrate²²⁹ use upon entering Charlie Towns' hospital in New York City and considering also the hypnotic drugs he received during the first few days of his stay, there is the possibility that his "hot flash," may have been delusions or hallucinations.²³⁰

Based on this experience, Wilson came to believe that alcoholism was a spiritual disease and that for recovery the alcoholic must admit that he or she was powerless and that submission to a "higher power" was necessary to recover from addiction.^{231 232 233 234} In 1938, a group of alcoholics decided to promote their own program of recovery through the publication of a book, for which Wilson was chosen as primary author.²³⁵ The book was given the title *Alcoholics Anonymous*²³⁶ and included the list of suggested activities for spiritual growth known as the Twelve Steps.²³⁷ The 12-step program has many critics that contend that it is not effective and is often abusive.²³⁸ In the mid- 1940's, Dr. Harry Tiebout,²³⁹ a Connecticut psychiatrist specializing in the treatment of alcoholics and leader of National Council on Alcoholism had supported Alcoholics Anonymous and published a series of perceptive analyses of alcoholism and of the therapeutic dynamic inherent in the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. Many others noted that Bill Wilson's spiritual conversion did not stop his actions as a known womanizer and he needed to be watched by others in the founders committee for his behavior during meetings.^{240 241 242}

Robert Holbrook Smith MD^{243 244} was a co-founder of A.A. Dr. "Bob" Smith was a deeply religious doctor who had been a severe alcoholic for 30 years. Dr. Smith received medical training at the University of Michigan and at Rush Medical College. Plagued with alcoholism since his college days, he prayed for recovery with a small group of Christians in Akron. In the late 1920s, he decided that he wanted to be a surgeon, perhaps because he felt he would be able to control his schedule more easily in this specialty than he could as a general practitioner. The patients wouldn't be calling him for help all hours of the day or night, so they wouldn't catch him when he was drinking. He received specialist training as a proctologist and practiced medicine in Akron, Ohio. But because other doctors knew he was a chronic alcoholic, the referrals were scarce and his practice small. Dr. Smith met Bill Wilson in 1935 at Oxford Group. Thus their attitude toward how to recover from alcoholism was based on study of the Bible and an evangelical Christian movement known as the Oxford Group.²⁴⁵ According to the official A.A.

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website, "The origins of Alcoholics Anonymous can be traced to the Oxford Group,²⁴⁶ a religious movement popular in the United States and Europe in the early 20th Century. Members of the Oxford Group practiced a formula of self-improvement by performing self-inventory, admitting wrongs, making amends, using prayer and meditation, and carrying the message to others." Ebby Thacher (Bill Wilson's drinking buddy), Rowland Hazard III,²⁴⁷ Bill Wilson and Bob Smith were all members of Oxford Group and also involved in the formation of A.A.

Dr. Bob Smith claimed that when he met Bill Wilson he finally found the kind of help he needed - one alcoholic talking to another. This was the start of the peer mentoring concept of one alcoholic helping another reach sobriety that is the hallmark of the A.A. program.²⁴⁸ But the A.A. concept of powerlessness is different from the Oxford Group. In A.A. the bondage of an addictive disease cannot be cured only controlled and is a departure from the Oxford Group belief, which stressed a spiritual conversion, would bring complete victory over sin.²⁴⁹

These pioneers of the A.A. program (1935 to 1938) based their work on Christian principles of the "Good Book" and stated that they had been cured of alcoholism's destructive curse by the power of God.²⁵⁰ The Oxford Group's influence can easily be found in Alcoholics Anonymous. A.A. required conversions, stressed Bible reading and a required reliance on God. The Oxford Group believed in five elements of recovery which were discussed at prayer meetings and devotionals. They felt that prayer could help alcoholics get straightened out and live successful spiritually correct lives.

The Oxford Group was criticized by religious leaders including those from the Catholic Church and the Church of England.^{251 252} Frank Buchman, founder of the Oxford Group, was known to associate with Adolf Hitler.^{253 254} Frank Buchman was quoted in an interview to the New York World-Telegram, as saying, "I thank Heaven for a man like Adolf Hitler, who built a front line of defense against the anti-Christ of Communism." The anti-Semitic and authoritarian tendencies of the Oxford Group were noted by numerous critics and US President Harry S. Truman distanced himself from the group.^{255 256}

The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army started in 1865, and came to the United States in 1880. Salvation Army's founder, William Booth promoted the disease idea of alcoholism. The Salvation Army strategy was originally to bring salvation to

alcoholics, by providing food and shelter, stability through temporary employment; and finally transferring him to a rural environment where the alcoholic was expected to learn the values of sobriety and responsibility. This vision was that Christian salvation and moral education in a wholesome environment would save the body and soul of the alcoholic. Salvation Army workers began street outreach with alcoholics as early as 1891. Although the Salvation Army offered no specialized treatment services, alcoholics made up a large portion of the clientele. By 1900 there was more than 700 corps of the Salvation Army scattered across America's cities.²⁵⁷ The Salvation Army remains today an important service provider to persons with histories of addiction.

Substance abuse treatment professionals

Collaborative officials at all levels of government

Donald Ian Macdonald, M.D. was Straight Inc.'s former national research director and became the White House Drug Chief under President Ronald Reagan. Robert DuPont²⁵⁸ was the first Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse-NIDA (1973-1978) and was the second White House Drug Chief (1973-1978). NIDA director Robert DuPont left his post at NIDA in 1978 and became a paid Straight Inc. consultant. In 1978, Dr. DuPont also became the founding president of the Institute for Behavior and Health, Inc.²⁵⁹ In 1982, with his longtime colleague and former head of the DEA, Peter Bensinger, Robert DuPont founded Bensinger DuPont & Associates. Dr. Robert DuPont is on Drug Free America Foundation's advisory board.²⁶⁰ Dr. DuPont is a Life Fellow in the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) and also a Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association (APA). Dr. DuPont was chairman of the Drug Dependence Section of the World Psychiatric Association (WPA) from 1974 to 1979.

Drug Watch International (DWI) or its International Drug Strategy Institute division includes or has included the following: Robert L. DuPont and Peter Bensinger, Straight's former national research director Donald Ian Macdonald, Straight's former national clinical director Miller Newton and Straight-Springfield's former research director Dr. Richard Schwartz, MD. Straight's former national executive director Bill Oliver is an Honorary Advisor for DWI (he also became director of parent training for P.R.I.D.E.). Joyce Tobias, formerly acting secretary for DWI, used to be a very active Straight parent. Alex Romero, a DWI board member, and Nancy Starr are associated with DWI. And, of course, the Drug and Alcohol Testing Industry Association (DATIA) was also closely aligned with the Drug Free America Foundation.

The Drug Free America Foundation claims that it provides education to the public about the dangers of drugs of abuse and efforts to legalize drugs. Calvina Fay is the Executive Director of Drug Free America Foundation and Save Our Society From Drugs (S.O.S.). Save Our Society From Drugs (S.O.S.) is a Betty Semblor foundation. Calvina Fay is the director of the International Scientific and Medical Forum on Drug Abuse.²⁶¹ Calvina Fay was also president of Drug Watch International,²⁶² a network engaged in combating the drug legalization movement globally. Professor Fay had served as an advisor to the White House Office of National Drug Control

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Policy as well as several political leaders, including President Bush, on drug policy issues. The Legal Foundation Against Illicit Drugs is another organization founded by Calvina Fay. She is also the former Executive Director of the Drug Free Business Alliance (DBA), a Houston-based nonprofit coalition of member businesses involved in attacking the drug problem in the workplaces of the Texas Gulf Coast area.

The Institute on Global Drug Policy, is a division of the Drug Free America Foundation (DFAF). The director of DFAF's Institute on Global Drug Policy is Eric Voth, MD of Topeka, KS.²⁶³ The Journal on Drug Policy and Practice is edited by Eric A. Voth, MD, FACP and David A. Gross, MD, DFAPA and published by Institute on Global Drug Policy and the International Scientific and Medical Forum on Drug Abuse. Ambassador Levitsky (former career Minister in the US Foreign Service and Ambassador to Brazil 1994-1998) was a member of the Board of Directors of the Drug Free America Foundation, and the Institute on Global Drug Policy. Ambassador Melvyn Levitsky²⁶⁴ has co-authored an article on drug policy with Dr. Eric Voth.

Dr. Otto Hauswirth, M D, is from the International Scientific and Medical Forum on Drug Abuse.^{265 266} The International Scientific and Medical Forum on Drug Abuse sought to change public policy on how the U.S.A. handled the drug problem.

Drug Watch International (DWI) or its International Drug Strategy Institute division includes or has included the following: Robert L. DuPont and Peter Bensinger, Straight's former national research director Donald Ian Macdonald, Straight's former national clinical director Miller Newton and Straight-Springfield's former research director Dr. Richard Schwartz, MD. Straight's former national executive director Bill Oliver is an Honorary Advisor for DWI (he also became director of parent training for P.R.I.D.E.). Joyce Tobias, formerly acting secretary for DWI, used to be a very active Straight parent. Alex Romero, a DWI board member, and Nancy Starr are associated with DWI. The Drug and Alcohol Testing Industry Association (DATIA) was also closely aligned with the Drug Free America Foundation and DATIA's mission is to provide education, resources, and advocacy to those involved in and interested in drug and alcohol testing.

Fellows of ASAM – FASAM certification

Members of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) can be recognized by the letters "FASAM" as part of their professional credential, with the "F" designating "Fellow of." ASAM supports research that furthers

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their financial goals and expands use of the ASAM principles of addiction treatment. The ASAM wanted to create a new "Board" specialty in order to control federal grant funds and other public financing. American Society of Addiction Medicine certification (FASAM) is not equivalent to medical board certification. On their website the ASAM admits that its "examination is not a Board examination. ASAM is not a member of the Board of American Board of Medical Specialties, and ASAM Certification does not confer board Certification." ²⁶⁷

The American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) is has never been recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) as a board specialty. There are professional organizations which provide "Board Specialty" training in medicine and psychiatry. These organizations have clear and stringent guidelines as to who earns the honor and professional status as a "boarded" expert. Credentialing in these specialties as an MD is a challenging process that weeds out those without adequate clinical or academic skills. These ABMS recognized medical specialties include: pediatrics, geriatrics, surgery, psychiatry, neurology, internal medicine, urology, cardiology, anesthesiology, gastroenterology, emergency medicine, radiology, respiratory medicine, endocrinology and many others.

The field of psychology also defines strict guidelines for board certification. The American Board of Professional Psychology was incorporated in 1947 with the support of the American Psychological Association. The ABPP is a unitary governing body of separately incorporated specialty examining boards which assures the establishment, implementation, and maintenance of specialty standards and examinations by its member boards. Through its Central Office, a wide range of administrative support services are provided to ABPP Boards, Board-certified specialists, and the public. Specialization in a defined area within the practice of psychology connotes competency acquired through an organized sequence of formal education, training, and experience. In order to qualify as a specialty affiliated with the ABPP, a specialty must be represented by an examining board which is stable, national in scope, and reflects the current development of the specialty. A specialty board is accepted for affiliation following an intensive self-study and a favorable review by the ABPP affirming that the standards for affiliation have been met. These standards include a thorough description of the area of practice and the pattern of competencies required therein as well as requirements for education, training, and experience, the research basis of the specialty, practice guidelines, and a demonstrated capacity to examine candidates for the specialty on a national level.

In contrast to these accepted board credentials, ASAM certification ²⁶⁸ requires only a medical degree, a valid license to practice medicine,

completion of a residency training program in ANY specialty, and one year's full time involvement plus 50 additional hours of medical education in the field of alcoholism and other drug dependencies. ASAM does not require any specific formal training or experience in the diagnosis and treatment of physical or mental illness. But regardless of the lack of training in these fields, the state physician health programs have extended their outreach into areas in which they have no professional qualifications. In most of today's state physician health programs, "Regardless of setting or duration, essentially all treatment provided to these physicians (95%) was 12-step oriented."²⁶⁹ In these programs, ASAM practitioners routinely impose their spiritually-based 12-step abstinence recovery program. This system is imposed on medical professionals through threats to remove medical licenses or curtail practice or hospital privileges.

Creating a new "Board" Specialty

The *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)* is published by the American Psychiatric Association (APA) and provides diagnostic criteria for mental disorders. The ASAM refuses to acknowledge the DSM-IV-TR criteria for various addictive disorders. Instead, the ASAM has its own criteria which were defined by its own doctors with addiction histories. Dr. George Talbott was a primary contributor to the ASAM manual on addiction. This book is used by ASAM doctors to diagnosis people with "addiction". The vast majority of ASAM fellows also still believe that the only effective treatment for addiction must be based in the 12-steps of recovery expounded by the A.A. program.

Based on the new diagnostic manual defined by the ASAM members, the organization started their own credentialing program, called the graduates trained in their revised diagnostic approach "Fellows," and designated them as experts. The ASAM now seeks to "grandfather" their "FASAM" members as equivalent to boarded experts in behavioral medicine without the required strenuous "residency" training currently necessary to obtain a doctor certification as a "boarded" expert. With stains caused by addictive behavior permanently erased from the doctor's record without unbiased evaluation, he or she can move easily into a position of national political influence and privilege. Such placements can permit a grateful recipient to return favors to sponsors.

It must be remembered that funding for the state PHP is provided in part by medical malpractice insurance companies. The state PHP is not designed to help targeted doctors recover and go back to practice, nor are they designed

to protect vulnerable populations from abuse, neglect and medical fraud. The state PHP is designed to make money for its constituents, to protect large hospital and medical corporations from medical malpractice lawsuits. The state PHP will readily sacrifice an "uncooperative" or whistleblower's career for corporate profits. "Disruptive" professionals threaten cash flow.

The Federation of State Medical Boards

In May 1993, Federation of State Medical Boards ²⁷⁰ (FSMB) President Hormoz Rassekh, MD, established a special Ad Hoc committee on "physician impairment" in order to develop medical board strategies for identifying, evaluating, regulating, and managing "impaired" licensees. In 1995 the FSMB stated this policy, "After discussion of several forms of physician impairment, the committee elected to focus primarily on chemical dependency, because of its prevalence." ²⁷¹

ASAM has with political support managed to establish forty-six physician health programs in the U.S.A., with 42 of them being members of the FSPHP. ²⁷² ASAM continues to promote the A.A. 12-step model of substance abuse treatment and maintain that impaired physicians be cured by religious belief. Although originally started as simply chemical dependency treatment programs, these programs now extend into areas of medicine and psychology for which the ASAM doctors are not professionally trained or qualified. According to the ASAM, the "impaired physician" is suffering from an illness which only a spiritual experience will conquer. ASAM believes that these "impairments" need lifelong monitoring and are to be treated by surrendering one's "will and life over to the care of God" and completely immersing the individual in some variation of A.A.'s spiritually-based 12-step program.

Establishment of state Physicians Health Program (PHP)

Medical professionals can have emotional, psychological and physical illnesses and can become a patient in need of compassionate care. The needs of the doctor as a patient must be balanced with the need to protect the public from an "impaired" doctor in practice.

The Federation of State Physicians Health Programs has a state "Physicians Health Program" in almost every state. This program is a non-governmental organization (NGO) with tax-exempt status and incorporated to limit legal

liability for their board of directors. The state Physicians Health Program (PHP) has become the primary investigator of any medical professional suspected of impairment or labeled a “disruptive doctor.” The state Physicians Health Programs contract with medical associations, in each state, to provide “monitoring” services of licensed professionals reported to be “impaired.” The cost is paid from both the state health department funding and federal funds, as well as financial support from professional medical associations, malpractice insurance companies and large medical corporations. The state PHP, a non- government entity (NGO) over which the state health department has very limited supervisory oversight, has been given almost police-like prerogative to revoke the license of any medical professional they choose to target. In addition, the PHP has been granted, by most of the state legislatures, a quasi-governmental immunity from legal liability for damages suffered by injured persons. Medical professionals unwittingly sign a contract for this NGO to “monitor” them if deemed necessary when they apply for professional licensure now. The FSPHP is the umbrella organization of all the state PHPs.

The Federation of State Physicians Health Programs

The Federation of State Physicians Health Programs (FSPHP) ²⁷³ arose from state chapters of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM). ²⁷⁴ For example, Washington Physicians Health Program is the former Washington state chapter of the American Society of Addiction Medicine. The FSPHP was originally established in order to monitor physicians with addictive problems in diversion programs. But over the years the FSPHP expanded its outreach to include any “impairment” or “suspected impairment.” In 2008 ASAM President Dr. Louis E. Baxter, Sr. MD (addiction psychiatrist FSPHP president 2009-2011) proclaimed that Physicians Health Programs (PHP) now includes, “To provide a means to identify, evaluate, and treat physicians who have *diseases of impairment*.” ²⁷⁵ The use of the wording *diseases of impairment* is not coincidental as it is the language used in the legislation that provides governmental authority for the PHP’s existence and also it’s funding through the state departments of health. This expanded mission now includes not only drug addiction and alcoholism, but also smoking, eating disorders, mental health issues such as disruptive behavior, psychiatric disorders, psychosexual disorders and even physical diseases and metabolic disorders. In this mission creep volunteers and paid “agents” of the PHP now feel they are authorized by the state medical board to address as diverse problems as grief, sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse, divorce, child custody, bulimia, asthma, diabetes and hypertension. But these volunteers and “agents” may not have any professional qualifications to handle these issues

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and they are supervised by the PHP director who is only qualified in "addiction medicine". The PHPs are run by supervisory committees made up of addiction specialists and people "in recovery" who are not physicians at all. Staffs of the PHPs are often recovered addicts who have Chemical Dependency Counselor (CDC) credentials or some other similar training which was gained while they were "recovering" from their own addiction. True to the vision of Bill Wilson, co-founder of the A.A. or 12-step program, the ASAM and the FSPHP is run by addiction peers who supervise the "peer mentoring".

Under the Health Care Quality Improvement Act (HCQIA) there has emerged a covert ability to impact or revoke a medical professional's license without requirement of standard, valid legal evidence or court procedures. Thus, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, chiropractors, dentists, and even veterinarians are now subject to control by this organization FSPHP, the grandchild of ASAM. Persons placing complaints against a doctors license are allowed to do it anonymously under the federal Health Care Quality Improvement Act (HCQIA) and do not even have to legally state what they allege is even true. There is no standard for admission of evidence. Fabricated and false statements can be placed in the doctor's professional record without any transparency, no legal standard for evidence and no due process. This HCQIA legislation, originally intended to provide an avenue for patients to provide complaint information about doctors to state medical boards and federal agencies, has now had unintended consequences and instead protects hospital administrations from malpractice liability. This immunity granted to "Good Samaritans" who come forward with complaints under HCQIA regarding medical care has been subverted by those wishing to hide malpractice and medical fraud.

Doctors who lost their medical licenses for participation in drug diversion, medical fraud, insurance fraud, and patient abuse sought a way to be reinstated and gainfully employed as ASAM substance abuse treatment professionals. Working as an addiction peer mentors to "impaired" physicians was lucrative work. These captive patients had good insurance coverage and could be forced to pay extensive long-term monitoring and care. There was little ethical concern for human rights, patient rights or proper informed consent. Pharmaceutical and behavioral researchers along with ASAM fellows found that there was less governmental oversight and scrutiny of the treatment of addicts in private residential treatment centers, outpatient clinics, hospitals, and prisons. These target populations of "human subjects" were controllable and could be given drugs in clinical trials while in lock down in facilities such as prisons, mental hospitals or drug treatment centers.

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In return for facilitating the pharmaceutical industry's corporate goals, there would be political influence exerted to soften certain legislative language to permit ASAM doctors to regain their medical license and to erase the records of their own addictive behaviors and/or criminal activity. The ASAM leaders strategically analyzed how to circumvent the medical quality control system that prevented them from expunging the history of their addictive behavior from their records. The ASAM addicted doctors established a system for "monitoring" professionals accused or suspected of substance abuse or other addictive behaviors (i.e., sex, gambling). Through the Federation of State Physicians Health Programs they attempted to gain a controlling access to professionals in every state. Through contracts made with the state departments of health, they established themselves as the only capable competitor for state funds related to medical licensing fees that were designated to ensure quality professional performance.

ASAM doctors through the state PHP's were able to effectively obtain non-competitive bids for state governmental contracts to do investigations and monitoring functions. Thus, doctors who had been so impaired that their medical privileges were revoked or curtailed were now permitted to monitor every licensed medical professional within the state. An aggressive and expensive advertising campaign through medical and nursing association journals presented the newly established Physicians Health Programs (PHP) as advocates for "impaired professionals." Everyone in the medical field was encouraged to report other doctors, nurses, dentists, chiropractors, pharmacists and other related professionals who might need to be "monitored" by the PHP. Strategic marketing to allied professionals such as non-medically trained assistants, office managers, and paraprofessional staff to report "suspects" allowed the ASAM to target selected doctors and other healthcare professionals and force their participation in an unregulated monitoring system.

There were no protections against gossip, rumor or fabrications against licensed medical professionals. Private investigators could be hired to probe the personal lives and background of professionals. Anyone with criminal interests could make a complaint against a doctor or other professional and expect to have the PHP take action. This could neutralize or eliminate a competitor or whistleblower and halt investigation into criminal behavior.

The ASAM embraced staff and volunteers who not only had substance abuse problems (i.e., alcoholics and drug addicts) but also "sex addicts" and compulsive gamblers as members of their growing non-profit organization. Expunged histories provide no warning to patients about a past sexual-compulsive history. The ASAM and the Federation of State Physicians Health Programs politically worked to change legislative law in each state to

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facilitate their control over the investigation into any quality control issues related to doctors or other licensed medical professionals. These legislative changes were achieved with no media attention, and few professionals knew these changes occurred. Thus, legislation was passed to strengthen the authority of ASAM doctors while limiting legal liability by grant of quasi-governmental status and resultant governmental immunity.

Presenting themselves as experts on the treatment of addictions, the ASAM doctors offered educational programs to train others to view “problem” doctors through the lens of ASAM principles, based on the Dr. Ruth Fox tradition of abusive and coercive control. They could protect their own addicted or criminally involved members and remove the medical license from anyone who could report their criminal behavior.

The ASAM started another organization which prevents licensed medical professionals from ability to access their own medical credentialing verification documents. The PHP requires that individual state licensing boards refuse to accept records that document professional credentials without applicants sending requests for credential verification to an independent incorporated centralized agency that the ASAM corruptly controls. This prevents whistleblowers from seeking a professional license in any state in the U.S.A. and eliminates a doctor’s ability to go abroad with a clean record and obtain a license to practice. It ends a professional career.

ASAM and FSPHP control over professional licensing is not vulnerable to law enforcement scrutiny and is not under the control of any government body. This is unrecognized covert power is exerted with no government supervision or accountability. The state PHP is incorporated as an NGO to limit liability but operate as a non-profit to reap advantage of US tax laws. The state boards of medicine do not control what transpires behind the closed doors of this ingenious monopoly.

The U.S. Congress cannot pierce the covert halls of this power. Even the FBI is stymied by the provisions of HIPPA regulations that were enacted to protect patients’ confidentiality, and which require a high burden of proof to obtain a legal subpoena. ASAM doctors have created a system they control and in which they can hide whatever criminal activity is necessary to further financial goals. Money laundering is possible with much less risk within the medical community collaborating with corrupted interests within the FSPHP and associated interests. It is possible to threaten or professionally destroy any whistleblower naïve enough to report their criminal activity. The FSPHP has the power and ability to force residential or outpatient “treatment” on whistleblower opponents under the auspices of the substance abuse treatment legislation and the mental health legislation at the state and local

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level. Fewer medical professionals, psychologists and therapists are courageous enough to risk loss of their professional licenses if they report as “mandated reporters.” Yet, they are required to do so by law. Unfortunately, many do not learn about this treachery until they report and are then brutally attacked from unanticipated directions.

If law enforcement wants to prevent medical fraud, the ASAM and FSPHP corrupted system of power and control must be dismantled. It is necessary to ensure quality in our healthcare delivery systems. That responsibility must be returned to properly elected and/or appointed officials collaborating with medical professionals in systems that are sufficiently transparent to assure that professionals with integrity and consumers are protected.

We need to provide an ethical professional alternative to the ASAM/PHP. It would be beneficial to take control of the official systems so that they can be developed to protect patient safety and medical integrity. Medical professionals with addiction problems must be treated as human beings and patients not as commodities to extort insurance money and means to obtain federal and state funding.

Because reports of abusive practices by the State physician health programs have leaked out, media attention, state legislative actions, court decisions and voiced concerns of Congress have lead to the removal of PHP programs from many states including: CA, MN, NV, TX, WI, and OR.

The Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness

The American Board of Addiction Medicine was created by Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness (ABHW). The new American Board of Addiction Medicine (ABAM) “specialty” criteria were written by the ABHW. The goal of the AMBHA [formerly the American Managed Behavioral Healthcare Association (AMBHA)] was to make money on substance abuse treatment and mental health services. Their CEO, Pamela Greenberg, became chairman of the newly formed ABHW board. Ms. Greenberg is also the senior vice president in the Stephens Inc. company of Dallas, TX, which supplies financial services to health insurance companies. The goal of this alliance is to make money for the financial investors (Stephens Group LLC). Those making management decisions are not trained in medicine or psychology; they are trained in financial assessment, risk management, cost-benefit insurance statistical analysis, economics, public policy, survey research and other related fields. They are not medical professionals.

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The [Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness](#) (ABHW)²⁷⁶ is organized and run by Pamela Greenberg to protect certain financial interests, such as medical malpractice and health insurance companies (Aetna, Value Options, Cenpatico, Magellan Health Services, Optum Health Services, Shaller Anderson Behavioral Health, MHN); it also promotes the financial interests of major pharmaceutical companies (Eli Lilly, AstraZeneca International, Bristol Myers, Reckitt Beckiser). ([ABHW mission statement](#))²⁷⁷

ASAM states their goal is to establish addiction medicine as a specialty recognized by professional organizations, governments, physicians, purchasers and consumers of health care services, and the general public. The American Managed Behavioral Healthcare Association (AMBHA) and the ASAM collaborated to promote the alternate "board specialty" under the American Board of Addiction Medicine and admission of those with the FASAM credentials to expert status without the need for the usual residency training. These alternately boarded "experts" in behavioral medicine would then be able to compete for federal funds on par with traditionally prepared professionals. Enhanced opportunities to commit medical fraud, patient abuse and human rights violations are facilitated.

American Board of Addiction Medicine

ASAM is currently attempting to receive medical specialty recognition for promoting A.A.'s spiritually based 12-step recovery model to the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)²⁷⁸ ABMS certifies all of the traditionally recognized medical specialties and subspecialties (Internal Medicine, General Surgery, Psychiatry, Emergency Medicine, Anesthesiology, Pediatrics, Radiology, etc.). The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), a not-for-profit organization, assists 24 approved medical specialty boards in the development and use of standards in the ongoing evaluation and certification of physicians. ABMS, recognized as the "gold standard" in physician certification, believes higher standards for physicians means better care for patients. As an integral part of their comprehensive strategy for employment of former "recovered" addicts and to enhance their attainment of positions of power and authority within the medical community, ASAM wanted to obtain specialty recognition by ABMS. However, the requirement of residency training at a recognized institution of higher learning was preventing their "recovered" doctors from getting board certification. Many of them had irregular work histories marred with periods of addictive behavior. Thus when their professional records were reviewed, they did not stand up well to that scrutiny, in addition the requirement for medical residency training meant that they would need to maintain sobriety for that

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period of time while attending professional medical instruction, this proved too difficult for many in the ASAM program. Thus doctors such as Dr. George Douglas Talbott MD, who had many years of difficulty as an alcoholic, wished to have themselves grandfathered into ABMS board certification through some agreement settlement rather than completing residency training at a medical school. So ASAM sought to establish a new board that would then seek admission as an ABMS board certifying institution. In 2006 ASAM established the American Board of Addiction Medicine (ABAM). According to the official ASAM/ABAM website:

"Grandfathering is the pathway to acquire ABMS certification in a new specialty or subspecialty, without having to complete all of the training requirements that will eventually be established, such as completion of an ACGME-accredited residency program...For ASAM and ABAM certified physicians who are not already Diplomats of an ABMS member board, ABAM will facilitate and advocate for the establishment of non-onerous pathways for eligibility for an ABMS-recognized Addiction Medicine examination."²⁷⁹

But grandfathering alone would not erase the criminal records of DUI, domestic violence, drug related criminal activity, gambling infractions, drug diversion, sexual crimes etc. that were part of the history of these "recovered" medical professionals. Thus a pathway also to expunge their criminal records had to also be established in order for ASAM doctors to rise in positions of power, authority and influence. This they planned to accomplish through their political contacts in the Drug Free America Foundation, the New Freedom Commission on Mental Health and various governmental boards and committees formed to determine national drug policy.

The Federation of State Physicians Health Programs (FSPHP) established a committee to monitor the addicted or corrupted ASAM members who wanted their medical license back. This FSPHP monitoring committee was made up primarily of "recovered" addicts. When it became politically expedient, the monitoring committee decided that those who had been previously monitored no longer needed oversight and the committee was discontinued. This, coupled with legislative actions at the state level in several states, became a model that could be used to hide from public view the past criminal infractions and inappropriate behavior of ASAM members.

Lack of adherence to accepted standards regarding DSM-IV-TR diagnostic criteria

Many state Physicians Health Program “agents” do not have any qualifications other than those to do substance abuse treatment “peer mentoring” through A.A. or 12-step programs. PHP or ASAM medical professionals may have limited licensure, may be monitored themselves by state medical boards, and may not have access to a DEA controlled drug box because of previous drug infractions. Their scope of practice may have been curtailed by the state medical board to only include working with persons with addiction problems or doing workplace or workmen’s compensation evaluations, so as to limit their contact with patients.

Because of their limited training and education and the limits set by the state medical boards that monitor their own scope of practice, ASAM fellows tend to view all physical and mental health problems as “co-occurring” and secondary in importance to addiction problems. With disregard to professional standards of practice, “dual diagnosis” of psychiatric labels are freely applied to patients in spite of the fact that most ASAM fellows are not formally trained in the diagnosis and treatment of “mental disorders.”²⁸⁰ ASAM does not acknowledge that many psychiatric diagnoses are subjective, imprecise, and subject to change over time.²⁸¹ They apply their limited knowledge of the DSM-IV-TR without supervision or accountability to professional standards. All patients are assumed to have a diagnosis of the disease of addiction – even when no evidence of addiction is present. According to the A.A. or 12-step model, the patient is in that case just in denial. The client is always guilty of addiction and in need of expensive monitoring and treatment or he/she will lose their medical license. This was true in the case of Dr. Leon Masters MD when he was threatened professionally and then falsely diagnosed as having an addiction problem, falsely imprisoned at Talbott Marsh Recovery Center in Atlanta GA and had his professional reputation as a doctor destroyed by then ASAM president George Douglas Talbott MD.

George Douglas Talbott MD wrote his own criteria of what constitutes addiction, based on the A.A. and 12-step model.²⁸² When examining this diagnostic protocol, it becomes evident that the symptoms described actually represent symptoms consistent with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. ASAM Fellows of the FSPHP base their diagnostic criteria for addiction on symptoms that the valid application of the criteria in the DSM-IV-TR might instead attribute to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (Acute and Complex).

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The ASAM and the FSPHP never confer a diagnosis that does not include addiction as a co-occurring and predominant diagnosis. Charting two co-occurring diagnosis increases revenue with little increase time spent.

PTSD can be related to a child's experience in a Straight-like copycat program. Maia Szalavitz reported that psychiatrist Dr. Jay Kurdis recently provided expert testimony in the 2003 civil trial against Miller Newton (former Straight, Inc. National Director), which revealed that:

"Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) can occur when someone is confronted by an overwhelmingly scary, actual real threat to life and limb, *or to something as important as that*, and in the face of that threat, [finds himself] helpless to do anything about it. The diagnosis was first introduced in relation to Vietnam veterans, some of whom had had terrifying combat or prisoner-of-war experiences that left them anxious, depressed, paranoid, over reactive to loud noises, and susceptible to vivid nightmares and flashbacks of the traumatic situation. *Research shows that the longer that people feel helpless in frightening situations, and the less control they feel they have, the more likely they are to develop PTSD.*" ²⁸³

One of the hallmarks of all the Straights and Straight, Inc. descendant programs, such as Kids Helping Kids, KIDS of New Jersey (KIDS), etc. was that the whole program was deliberately designed to make participants feel powerless.

PTSD is a diagnosis that has been historically best treated with psychotherapy. Acute PTSD can be treated with Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and the patient can recover to full function without further need for monitoring or further psychiatric treatment. PTSD also has been proven to respond best to psychotherapy not medication, although some medications have shown to have limited application. It is important to recognize the difference between PTSD, which is a psychiatric injury, and other clinical conditions of mental illness. This is a legal as well as a medical concept with enormous implications. For example, a sole diagnosis of PTSD would permit a sexual assault victim or domestic violence victim to testify in a court of law as a credible witness.

Altering the diagnostic criteria of the DSM-V

The American Psychiatric Association publishes an authoritative manual regarding diagnosis of mental disorders. This manual called the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) is periodically updated to reflect the most recent findings in the field. A newly revised first draft of the

DSM-V or the fifth edition of the American Psychiatric Association's ²⁸⁴ (APA) DSM is due for publication in May 2013. In this new DSM-V draft it is suggested that "Eliminating the separate categories of Substance Abuse and Substance Dependence and replacing them with a single unified category of Substance Use Disorder" and instead labeling the overall section 'The Addiction and Related Disorders'. This was a change in wording which the ASAM/ABAM heavily lobbied for as it would change the diagnosis of Substance Abuse (in the DSM-IV) to instead Substance Use Disorder under the section heading of addictive disorder.²⁸⁵ This simple change would have the result of further legitimizing ASAM and their new ABAM specialty and expanding their scope of practice.²⁸⁶ ASAM fellows support A.A. and 12-step program principles and maintain that addiction is a *lifelong* brain disorder requiring *lifelong* treatment. This treatment bolstered with a DSM diagnosis is often mandated by court orders and censure by professional licensing boards. The financial benefits to the newly established ABAM would be enormous.

Mind-Control and 12 Steps philosophy

The techniques learned by Dr. Ruth Fox in mind control experiments using alcoholics as clinical subjects were easily adapted to silence whistleblowers. Program participants are required to abandon their strong sense of self and embrace the judgment and directives of the group philosophy and mentors. The concept translates to a "client" becoming obedient to those above him/her in the hierarchy of the 12 Step program. Forced submission and subservience are hallmarks of the 12 Step program. This can conflict with a human rights perspective which asserts that all human beings deserve recognition of their inherent dignity and are equal, having inalienable rights. Abusive rehabilitative treatment programs violate human rights when they force detrimental obedience and subservience to the "Higher Power" and to those in authority within the program, regardless of related circumstances.

The rigid dogma demeans and damages the person who is an innocent crime victim or victim of trauma. For persons suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), one of the most important healing elements is the concept of empowerment and personal control. To force whistleblowers, victims of sexual assault, crime victims or combat trauma victims to admit moral lapse due to defects of character is contrary to what is necessary for recovery from the injuries that inflicted vulnerability. Thus, programs that espouse the rigid approach of 12 Step philosophies are contraindicated for populations under consideration as target markets by certain industries and affiliated groups.

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There have been several U.S.A. Congressional investigations into abusive treatment programs and numerous state investigations, but they multiply and thrive despite exposure of their abusive methods. These aberrant systems have usurped authority over the quality control system within the medical community and are entrenched as the “monitors” of professional behavior. They are well-positioned to permit financial exploitation of the systems all citizens need for safety and health. Their ability to harm professionals acting with integrity when they report the illegal or unethical activities of these harmful enterprises is a clear threat to our nation’s security. At this time no agency exists to assist a medical professional targeted by the corrupted interests, and this must change.

George Talbott’s abuse of Dr. Leon Masters

Currently, at the Talbott Recovery Center in Atlanta, GA, Dr. George Douglas Talbott, an admitted “recovered” alcoholic, runs a rehab clinic that specifically targets other doctors and medical professionals who have been forced into his treatment program by a state review board or professional society. His practices bear uncanny resemblance to the operational ways of Straight Inc. and The SEED rehabilitation centers. The same web of patient abuse behind closed doors has now has official sanction as a governing agency watchdog with coercive control over medical professionals’ licenses through “monitoring” and investigation. History reveals that his program makes doctors and nurses commit suicide.

*“At least 20 doctors, nurses and other health professionals who have gone through the Ridgeview Institute’s nationally acclaimed treatment program over the past 12 years have killed themselves since leaving the hospital.”
— Atlanta Journal Constitution*

In May, 1999, George Talbott stepped down as president of ASAM as a jury awarded Dr. Leonard Masters, of Jacksonville, Florida, a judgment of \$1.3 million against Talbott, his daughter-in-law, and several associates.

The judgment addressed malpractice, fraud, and false imprisonment that occurred during Dr. Masters’ stay at Talbott’s treatment facility in 1994.

A judge co-owned the Talbott-Marsh Recovery Center with the former ASAM president. Judge Marsh court-ordered “impaired” persons to “treatment” in the Talbott-Marsh Recovery Center. She also ordered records sealed that reported past addictive behaviors of those deemed “cured” by Dr. George

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Talbott. Talbott-Marsh Recovery Center is now Talbott Recovery Center (or sometimes called Talbott Recovery Campus) because Judge Marsh dropped out of TMRC because of the abuse allegations, and thus her name was dropped from the official name of the facility.

Dr. Talbott was known for severe abusive behavior which was implicated in the suicide deaths of many medical professionals under his "monitoring" program.

The ASAM president was found guilty of human rights abuse against medical professionals entrusted to his care in rehabilitation or substance abuse treatment facilities. Dr. Talbott was found to have targeted medical whistleblowers for brutal psychological violence at the treatment center. The abuse of Dr. Masters was chilling in 1994.^{287 288 289} Testifying against Talbott at the Masters' trial was Anne Geller, a past president of the ASAM before Talbott.²⁹⁰ The degree to which Talbott was able to intimidate witnesses was evident at the Masters' trial. For their own protection, witnesses were not identified in the court record by name and the court record was afterward sealed to prevent leaks to the media and public.

Masters' attorney, Eric S. Block of Jacksonville, said, "No one ever accused him of having a problem with alcohol. Not his friends, not his wife, not his seven children, not his fellow doctors, not his employees, not his employers, No one." Dr. Roger Goetz, then-director of the Physicians Recovery Network (PRN), a branch of Florida's Department of Professional Regulation, accused Dr. Masters in 1992 of excessive narcotics prescriptions for his chronic pain patients. Goetz told Masters that he could surrender his medical license until allegations were disproved or submit to an extensive evaluation at Anchor in Atlanta, GA. Goetz was a recovering alcoholic who had been treated at the Atlanta facility and who sent many other physicians there. Masters went to the facility. Instead of merely being evaluated, he was "immediately immersed into treatment," was diagnosed as "alcohol dependent" and was enrolled in the Talbott recovery program. He was released four months later, in May 1992, and forced to sign a five-year "continuing care" contract. His professional reputation and career were tarnished. While he was enrolled in treatment, Dr. Masters' employer, the Family Care Partnership, fired him. Dr. Masters was forced to stay in the Talbott recovery program because "if any doctor dared to dispute the team's diagnosis, if they wanted to leave and go home, or even consent to get treatment in their home state," Talbott recovery personnel "would threaten to report that doctor to his or her state board of medicine ... as being an impaired physician, leaving necessary treatment against medical advice."

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During Masters' treatment at Talbott Recovery Center (TRC) there was a lack of medical supervision. Medical charts were signed off by TRC doctors that the patients never met. None of the other patients dared to interfere to stop the abuse because of possible punishments such as extensions of stay, loss of privileges, or increased cost of additional laboratory or clinical studies billed to the patient. Talbott himself, as a witness, was not believed by the jury and his testimony helped Masters' case. An agent of the state's medical group, PRN (Physicians' Recovery Network) had originally sent Masters to TRC because he was alleged to have written too many narcotic prescriptions, not because of drinking. When TRC could not find a problem with his prescribing narcotics for his patients nor with taking them himself, they finally coerced him to admit to drinking each evening and said he could not leave until he completed treatment for substance abuse.

At TRC (Talbott Recovery Center or Campus), all new patients joined right in with mandatory A.A. meetings and there was indoctrination into A.A. with insistence that the patient loudly confess to being an alcoholic. This submission to the "power of the group" began on admission, before the four day evaluation was completed. In other words, it was a foregone conclusion that you were going to stay or lose your license because you started right out with treatment. The TRC program allowed no visitors unless you sign up for the family program (which the client pays additional money for). No weekends away from TRC unless the group approved and then only 2 or 3 weekends in four months. There was no permitted reading of recovery material that was not A.A. /12-step, no reading of medical journals allowed. If a client was suspected of making of close friends while in the program, this would immediately result in forced separation. Failure to participate in A.A. meant expulsion from TRC and the anticipated result would be loss of one's medical license.²⁹¹

George Douglas Talbott faced no professional repercussions for being found guilty of human rights abuse against Dr. Masters and many other "clients." No changes in treatment protocols were made to prevent further human rights abuse. There emerged instead discussion as to how to legally and legislatively protect the ASAM organization from another lawsuit in the future. Talbott continues to present himself and ASAM as the most qualified medical advocates for treatment of "impaired" medical professionals.

Department of Justice and judicial accountability

The entrenched system of abusive coercion against licensed medical professionals is facilitated by corrupted partners in strategic positions. This is why there are not effective actions against the known abusive and criminal treatment center network that still operates today.

Judicial accountability issues arose and Pinellas County (Florida) prosecutorial discretion decisions were questioned when The SEED was in operation. James T. Russell (Pinellas County state Attorney) did not investigate abuse at SEED in spite of numerous reports of abuse. One of his chief Assistant State Attorney's was on Straight's board of directors and another chief assistant who was frequently assigned to investigate HRS-related complaints later became chairman of the Pinellas County Republican Party at a time when Mel Sembler was treasurer for the state Republican Party. Former Pinellas County state Attorney James T. Russell and Pinellas County Sheriff Don Gedung visited the SEED program and recommended opening a SEED expansion facility in Pinellas County. Sixth Circuit (Pinellas/Pasco County) Judge Jack Dadswell had two kids in The SEED in Fort Lauderdale. He had been on the Executive Committee which had brought The SEED to St. Petersburg in Pinellas County. Sixth Circuit Justices William L. Walker and James B. Sanderlin had served on The SEED's Advisory Board along with Russell, Gedung and Dr. Charles J. Crist, vice chairman of the Pinellas County school board and father of Charlie Crist (Florida's Attorney General). Sixth Circuit Judge Jack Page sent kids to The SEED.

Judges can cooperate in the abusive treatment schemes and court-order a defendant to "treatment" in a center that provides them financial incentives. Judge Juanita Marsh court ordered both adult and juvenile defendants into the Atlanta facility, which she co-owned. Judge Marsh also founded Anchor Hospital, which opened in early 1986, based on her experience with a son who is permanently disabled due to addiction.²⁹² Anchor draws its referrals from metro Atlanta, but Talbott-Marsh's patients came from throughout the U.S.A. and abroad (many referred through ASAM contacts and the FSPHP). Benjamin Underwood and Dr. Talbott, who now run Anchor Hospital, also ran its sister facility, the Talbott-Marsh Recovery Center.

Dr. Stanton Peel wrote a revealing article called *"In the Belly of the Beast,"* which describes the abusive treatment suffered by clients in the Atlanta center run by George Talbott. The Talbott-Marsh Recovery Center was co-owned by Judge Juanita Marsh. Dr. Leon Masters successfully sued Talbott for false imprisonment and misdiagnosis. Dr. Masters testified that he and

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other professionals were harmed by the abusive methods used. There were numerous suicides.

In Luzerne County in Pennsylvania, county Judges Mark Ciavarella and Michael Conahan were accused of using juvenile delinquents as pawns in a plot to get rich.²⁹³ From 2003-2008 the two judges court-ordered as many as 4,000 children, most of who were charged with low-level misdemeanor offenses, into abusive facilities and programs. These young juveniles had appeared before the court without an attorney, were subsequently convicted and sentenced through the Luzerne County juvenile court process. The judges were alleged to accept kickbacks from the developer and former owner of two private juvenile facilities when referrals were court-ordered. The case illuminated an organized system for using vulnerable populations for profit.

In the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the Juvenile Law Center filed an application for extraordinary relief, seeking to vacate and expunge the records on behalf of all Luzerne County youth adjudicated delinquent and sanctioned without legal representation.²⁹⁴ The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled that Judge Ciavarella sentenced young offenders without regard to their constitutional rights and decided to dismiss 4,000 juvenile convictions issued by Judge Ciavarella. Judge Cleland said, "Our concern is also the inaction of others - inaction by judges, prosecutors, public defenders, the defense bar, public officials and private citizens, those who knew but failed to speak, those who saw but failed to act," Judge Cleland said.^{295 296 297} Dr. Frank Vita, Judge Conahan's brother-in-law, did (questionable) court-ordered psychological evaluations of juvenile defendants. Judge Ciavarella was found guilty on 12 of 39 federal charges. Federal prosecutors presented compelling testimony that Judge Ciavarella and Judge Conahan had taken nearly \$2.9 million in bribes from the real estate developer of the Pennsylvania Child Care and Western Pennsylvania Child Care Detention Centers.²⁹⁸ The "kids for cash" scheme was exposed and Ciavarella was convicted of racketeering although acquitted on extortion.^{299 300} Children as young as 10 years old had been locked up. The accused delinquents were shackled, handcuffed and dragged away from court to the facilities. One defendant, Edward Kenzakowski,³⁰¹ a 17-year-old with no prior record, was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia. He stated that he was traumatized by the time he was forced to spend in the detention centers and a wilderness camp. Read more: [Ex-judge in Pa. guilty of racketeering in kickback case - The Denver Post](#).³⁰² Also, see the survivors/victims stories in a 2009 episode of ABC's "20/20."

Straight Inc. & Melvin Sembler

The abusive rehab program called Straight Inc.

As reported, for seventeen years Melvin and Betty Sembler operated a large and destructive chain of juvenile rehab programs, called Straight Inc. These techniques involved actual torture: degrading and humiliating treatment, sexual abuse, physical beatings, lack of proper food or sanitation, sexual humiliation, sleep deprivation, and lack of medical care. The inhumane conditions have been likened to Korean prisoner of war camps. After multiple lawsuits which alleged severe child abuse, Straight Inc. was finally shut down.

Many children perished from suicide secondary to the psychological trauma of being tortured in Straight Inc. facilities. During his research, Wes Fager documented forty suicides following known Straight Inc. abuse.³⁰³

It is estimated that five percent of children and adults who attended Straight Inc. did so under court order, this court ordering children into Straight even continued after child abuse allegations had already been filed against the corporation.

An important lesson can be learned from study of Straight Inc.'s success. Any revulsion those in authority may have toward cruelty and mistreatment of teens can be assuaged by the transformative influence of political contributions. Melvin Sembler was a very successful political fundraiser. People at the highest levels of the U.S.A. government have endorsed and facilitated Straight Inc. and its spin off programs, including Nancy Reagan, George Bush Sr., Jeb Bush, and George Bush Jr. These endorsements were made despite the reports of increased suicide in Florida counties where Straight Inc. had opened and operated its centers, as already reported.³⁰⁴

After extensive federal and state investigations into the abuse, the Straight Inc. program just changed its legal name and continued business as usual. This gave rise to a myriad of programs under various names but all with the same abusive treatment of children. Torture, which is prohibited under U.S.A. law and under international law, had been used by Straight Inc. as a means to perpetrate insurance fraud as well as fraud against the U.S.A. taxpayer. As Straight Inc. branched out, it was adept at getting government grants to fuel its growth.

Mind-Control experiments funded by federal taxes

In 1971, the U.S.A. Senate Judiciary Committee convened a subcommittee on constitutional rights, led by Senator Sam Ervin, to investigate the U.S.A. government's role in behavior modification. Ervin's 650-page report was published in November, 1974: "[Individual Rights and the Federal Role in Behavior Modification](#)." ³⁰⁵

In the report it was noted that The SEED, Straight Inc.'s predecessor, used techniques similar to the "brainwashing" methods used by North Koreans against American servicemen during the Korean War. The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) had funded The SEED under NIH grant programs. At that time NIDA was directed by Dr. Robert L. DuPont, Jr.

Senator Ervin directed Dr. DuPont and NIDA to require The SEED to issue NIDA human consent forms to participants and their parents which acknowledged that they were informed participants in human experimentation as required by NIDA's regulations.

The NIDA was not the only federal agency to fund The SEED. The Law Enforcement Assistance Agency (LEAA) had also awarded it grants. Under pressure by Senator Ervin, LEAA Administrator Santarelli announced the cancellation of all LEAA funding for medical research, psycho-surgery, and behavior modification because, in his words, there "are no technical skills on the staff to screen, evaluate, or monitor such projects."

LEAA was approached by Straight Inc. for start-up funds to avoid the more stringent consent requirements under NIDA funding rules that had become problematic for its predecessor, The SEED. LEAA had not been setup to fund programs involved in human experimentation and it had no policy for human consent forms. After Senator Ervin retired and pressure waned, LEAA staff quickly forgot the prior guidance of their own administrator. Straight Inc. managed to get two startup grants from the LEAA in 1976 and again in 1977 for \$50,000 each. ³⁰⁶ Around 1978, NIDA director Robert DuPont left his post and became a paid Straight Inc. consultant. ³⁰⁷ Straight Inc. then went national and became the largest juvenile drug rehabilitation program in the world, creating a most destructive legacy.

In 1982 Donald Ian Macdonald, MD was appointed Director of Medical Research for Straight-national; in 1986, Richard H. Schwartz, MD was Director of Research for Straight-Springfield. The 1991 report by author Richard Lawrence Miller, titled "[Teens and marijuana: Ethics of research](#)" ³⁰⁸ accuses Straight's Dr. Schwartz of performing medical experiments on Straight Inc. clients without their informed consent.

Wesley Fager – TheStraights.com

[Wesley Fager](#)³⁰⁹ had documented the abuses of Straight Inc. for years. Wesley Fager was a computer scientist, mathematician, engineer, author, web page designer, teacher, lecturer and investigative reporter. He decided to research and report on fraud and abuse in the teen health care industry. Fager gained personal experience with the abusive teen program when he enrolled his own son in a Springfield, VA chapter of Straight Inc., on the advice of a high school guidance counselor. Separated and not permitted to communicate with his son, Fager did not see his son again until three months later after he'd escaped from the program. Fager decided to provide a clearing website that would be a place to post the accumulating evidence of rampant child abuse.³¹⁰ He collected stories of [suicides](#)³¹¹ and [attempted suicides](#)³¹², rapes, [forced abortions](#)³¹³, molestations, [physical abuse](#)³¹⁴, lawsuits, court testimonies and extensive documentation of profound psychological abuse at Straight Inc. chapters all over the country. In 2000 Fager published his findings in an on-line book called [A Clockwork Straight](#).³¹⁵ He was named in *Marquis Who's Who in America 2002* for that work on teen residential treatment abuse. He also received the [Richard Bradbury Award for Heroism](#)³¹⁶ in St Petersburg, Florida. He was the editor of an on-line newspaper and had an article published in the *Journal for the Leo J. Ryan Foundation*. [FOX News](#)³¹⁷ on-line reported on his work May 26, 2002. In 2002 *Carta* (an Italian magazine) used information from his web site to write an article on then-Ambassador to Italy, Melvin Sembler.

Richard Bradbury – “Straight” Survivor and Activist

Richard “Ray” Bradbury, “Straight” survivor and activist, invoked his First Amendment right to speak out against the abuse. Former clients from the St Petersburg, Florida Straight Inc. program had convinced Bradbury to get their records from the program. They were too afraid to make the effort since they had been abused there. They also knew Straight Inc. had kidnapped clients and had been found guilty in a Virginia federal court for the false imprisonment of Fred Collins. Straight Inc. had a pending court case in Pinellas County Circuit Court for the false imprisonment of Karen Norton, for which they were found guilty.

The state attorney, James T. Russell, the St. Petersburg Police Department and the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department did not act to protect Straight Inc. survivors/victims. These citizens, as former clients in St. Petersburg, signed a paper authorizing 23-yr-old Richard “Ray” Bradbury to obtain their medical records for them. The victims hoped that these documents might

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prove to state health regulators that Straight Inc. abused juveniles. Bradbury agreed to petition Straight Inc. for the documents, but his request was denied. On or about the night of January 26, 1988, Bradbury and an accomplice allegedly broke into Straight Inc. to get the documents to turn over to state health officials. Police arrived and the alleged accomplice was arrested, but Bradbury allegedly fled. The alleged accomplice was given probation. Seven months later, Bradbury learned that a warrant had been issued for his arrest, and he voluntarily surrendered.

The judge found Richard Bradbury guilty. Judge Crockett Farnell ordered *adjudication withheld*, which means that, while he accepted an agreement to resolve the charge, there has been no final adjudication, pending completion of imposed requirements:

1. 1250 hours of community service
2. five years probation
3. banned from Pinellas County for five years

Bradbury was essentially banned from approaching Straight Inc. and Sembler to protest again for at least 5 years. However, he used the 1250 hours of community service to create an organization in 1988 to cleanup Tampa Bay, which he called Community Improvement, Inc. Its objectives were to disrupt, expose and close abusive facilities within Straight Inc. Although banned from Pinellas County, Bradbury worked effectively through the newly organized Community Improvement Inc. to close all 12 Straight Inc. treatment camps in Pinellas County following state criminal and/or health investigations. Straight Inc. would often, for appearance sake, cite economic reasons for the closures. Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services (HRS) IG report in 1993 (the Clary Report)³¹⁸ revealed that state health officials sought to close the flagship facility in St. Petersburg in 1989, but concluded that Melvin Sembler and unnamed state senators had likely intervened to stop the officials from closing it.³¹⁹

Straight Inc. avoids payment of damages to survivors/victims

In 1983, a former patient won a \$220,000 jury award for unlawful imprisonment that involved regular beatings at the Straight Inc., facility in St. Petersburg, Florida. Another Florida client, Karen Norton, won a \$721,000 jury award in 1990 for abuses she endured at the facility, the majority for punitive damages, for abuse and false imprisonment. One of her complaints was that Miller Newton had thrown her against a wall. Dozens, if not hundreds, of other lawsuits were settled out of court. Straight

Inc. claimed in court that they did not have adequate assets. They filed documents that Straight Inc. owned only five properties. Straight Inc. Board member, Joseph Garcia, represented himself as an expert in real estate law and claimed that the held property was worth only half the appraised value, or about \$315,000. A sixth property was never included in filings on assets but, on April 1, 1992, they sold that property for \$200,000. Two years after the Norton trial, Straight Inc. sold the five presented properties for \$895,000, not the \$315,000 that Garcia had implied they were worth.³²⁰

Drug Free America Foundation

In 1985 the Semblers feared civil suits by abuse victims and possible criminal prosecution. They changed the mission of Straight, Inc. from “treatment” to “education” and its name from “Straight, Inc.” to “Straight Foundation, Inc.” Although it may have appeared to close in 1993, the Straight Inc. program continued instead under the guise of the Pathway Family Center and also gave rise to many other derivative residential treatment programs. In 1995, Betty Sembler changed the name of the educational foundation again to the Drug Free America Foundation (DFAF). They changed the corporate mission to be a guide for companies to set up drug-free workplace environments, and they obtained a federal grant. The name was changed to Drug Free America Foundation and another mission was added: to establish national and international drug policy.

Today, Straight Inc. has morphed into an organization called the Drug Free America Foundation (DFAF), specialized to help small businesses set up drug-free workplaces, and to promote national and international drug policy. Working with such federal programs as Ready4Work,³²¹ DFAF still dominates the drug rehabilitation and re-entry social welfare programs. Through the DFAF and other think tanks such as the American Enterprise Institute,³²² Melvin Sembler continues to influence drug policy in this country by promoting public policy that allows coercive and abusive treatment methods.

Straight Inc. evasion of investigation and prosecution

Melvin Sembler, real estate magnate and strip-mall developer, earned his fortune as chairman of the Sembler Company, a Florida-based real estate company. Melvin and Betty Sembler enrolled their son in The SEED. When the program was officially closed, the Semblers and some other SEED parents formed a similar program in 1976, which they called Straight, Inc.

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The new enterprise was quickly accused of criminal child abuse by Florida's licensing and investigating agency, the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services (HRS). Bob Marshall, principal investigator for HRS, was fired and further investigation halted. There is sound evidence that the HRS report was covered up. One of the Straight Inc. victims, Jerry Vancil, who had testified, later disappeared and has never been located.

Reverend Doctor Miller Newton – KIDS of Bergen County (NJ)

Melvin Sembler responded to allegations of child abuse by replacing Straight Inc.'s clinical director Jim Hartz with Rev. Dr. Miller Newton. Introduction of Miller Newton to the drug rehabilitation business had been orchestrated to include endorsement of the KIDS program by local, state and even federal authorities.³²³ Public forums held on the drug abuse issue were attended by notable officials: Carol Loscalzo of the Bergen County Department of Family Guidance; New Jersey state Senator Frank X. Graves Jr., D-35th District; Assemblyman John Girgenti, D-Hawthorne, Richard Russo, head of the New Jersey Division of Alcohol, Narcotics, and Drug Abuse and U.S. Rep. Robert Torricelli, Hackensack Democrat. These endorsements gave the appearance of political support to the KIDS program.^{324 325}

The KIDS program was not licensed through the state health department.

No standards defined staff's professional qualifications or the quality control criteria of services provided to clients.³²⁶ KIDS program was not a licensed program regulated by the state health department in part because it did not dispense medication and was considered "nonresidential".³²⁷ State law did not require a license for outpatient programs. Teens were taken from their own families and placed in the homes of other clients more advanced in the program.^{328 329 330 331 332 333} In order to obtain state licensing, programs must comply with certain building code regulations, open their books to officials, and show how they treat clients. Licensed facilities must also agree to four unannounced inspections yearly.³³⁴ *"No one can regulate compassion into a program that at times chooses to cross the boundaries of common decency, but licensing and regular inspections would provide a needed measure of scrutiny."* ...wrote one reader in a letter to the editor of the Bergen Record.³³⁵

All licensed programs in New Jersey are required to abide by a client bill of rights, a practice not necessarily followed by private programs. All public programs are licensed by the state. Licenses are also required of all residential-programs, public or private. Private, nonresidential programs that

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do not dispense medicine do not have to be licensed. Many experts advise consumers to steer clear of programs that do not guarantee patients certain privileges, such as the right to terminate treatment, to air grievances, or to speak to an attorney. At the core of a counseling program's effectiveness is the quality of its staff. At the minimum, therapists should have state certification as alcoholism or substance abuse counselors, experts agree. But certification was not required by law and these programs skirted around licensing and regulation requirements.

Virgil Miller Newton III had been clinical director of Straight Inc. Although he called himself a doctor, he had no medical license and had questionable credentials in psychology. He had obtained his degree in psychology from an alternative school in Boston, MA, one that did not require class attendance. He had a degree in anthropology. His credentials to act as clinical director of a network of residential treatment centers did not include scientific study of clinical research in substance abuse treatment.^{336 337}

Miller Newton was forced to resign his position as clinical director of Straight Inc. in 1983 amid allegations of abuse and insurance fraud.^{338 339 340 341 342}

^{343 344 345 346 347 348} Under his watch, David Levin, former assistant state prosecutor for Sarasota County, Florida, led the criminal investigation of Straight-Sarasota in 1983 resulting in the closing of that treatment camp. The prosecutor's office in Sarasota was publicly stating that the counselors doing the abuse at Straight- Sarasota had admitted under oath that they had been taught to do their abuse at Straight-Saint Petersburg. Statements from fellow prosecutors and Congressional inquiries about abuse at Straight forced James T. Russell to investigate Straight on numerous occasions, but he never found any wrong doing. The following 1983 civil suits/criminal investigations immediately preceded Newton's resignation: Michael Daniels sued Straight-St Pete for psychological abuse; Newton and Straight-St Pete settled separate suits with Arletha Schauteet and Hope Hyrons. Martin Brashears, an adult, sued Straight-Atlanta for false imprisonment. Larry Williams sued Straight-Sarasota. Benson Williams sued Straight-Sarasota for beatings, pulling him by hair, hanging him by his underpants to a bedpost, and for torture.³⁴⁹

Miller Newton left Florida and started his own second-generation Straight-related program in New Jersey, KIDS of Bergen County. KIDS operated in the 1980's and advertised itself as a drug rehabilitation facility for juveniles aged 12 to 24.³⁵⁰ Publicly promoted as the answer to the "War on Drugs", it claimed to provide family therapy.^{351 352 353} Miller Newton used a marketing firm to determine best location for his KIDS program. He chose a white, upper middle-class area that lacked a program to treat drug and alcohol dependency for adolescents and one with lax licensing requirements. In

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addition to addiction treatment, KIDS of Bergen County also claimed to treat behavioral problems and eating disorders, such as anorexia nervosa and bulimia.³⁵⁴ Area families were open to a family therapy approach and had good insurance coverage for the fees.

In affluent Bergen County, Miller Newton acquired an empty warehouse in Hackensack, NJ. He dubbed this new program KIDS of Bergen County. The facility was not fancy and staffing costs were controlled by hiring untrained former graduates of Straight Inc., Life and The SEED. The only qualification required for staff was to be a graduate of one of these unlicensed programs. These peer counselors often did not have high school diplomas and were not trained in counseling. SEED peer mentors used public humiliation and bullying.

The Bergen County prosecutor, Larry J. McClure started to investigate allegations of physical abuse and unlawful restraint of teenagers at KIDS of Bergen County (River Edge). Reports of abuse included teenagers struck by other teens or by peer counselors, isolated in small windowless rooms for hours or days at a time, or pinned to the floor beneath other teenagers. Todd LeBlanc, who escaped from KIDS, told the prosecutor's office that he was confined to a 10-by-12-foot room in three episodes for "acting out." The Bergen Record reported that *"The first time, Todd said, he was isolated in the room for 12 consecutive days and let out at night by two teenagers guarding the door. The second time, he said, he was confined to the room for 30 days; the third confinement lasted 58 days. Each time, he spent at least 14 hours a day in the room, he said."*

The teens stated that they were coerced into the program, were then falsely imprisoned and not permitted to leave. There were instances of physical injuries, including bruises, fractured noses, back and neck injuries.³⁵⁵

Newton Miller, president and clinical director, appointed his wife, Ruth Ann Newton, as assistant director.³⁵⁶ Using the "Tough Love" parents support group to spread the word, he recruited clients for his new KIDS program. Children considered to have "behavior problems" were admitted to the program even if they did *not* have a drug problem. Former marketing director for KIDS, Brian Connelly, described KIDS as a *"minimum security correctional institution."*³⁵⁷ For the first year, clients in the program are watched constantly and led around by more advanced teenagers, who keep a hand on their shoulder or a finger in their belt loop. Official documents included a 30-page "treatment agreement" for minors with 140 rules listed that parents were required to sign. Families could not discuss any aspect of the program or treatment with anyone outside the program. Parents were

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not informed about where their children would sleep during the first phase of treatment, when clients were sent to "host homes" at night.³⁵⁸

The contract also required that, when the client stayed at the host family's house, a more advanced client must sleep in front of the bedroom door, apparently to impede escape. Under the contract, parents sign that they relinquish "*all claims for false imprisonment, assault, harassment, and threats of any kind.*" Such rigidity prompted certified substance abuse professionals to warn that the program bordered on institutionalism.

Here is a description of the program: "*The teens spent seven days a week at the building, up to 18 or more hours a day. There were five 'phases' of the program and kids on 1st and 2nd phase were not allowed to go to school. They were not even allowed to read. They sat in the blue chairs facing forward, back straight, with their hands on their knees.*

*On 1st phase, children did not live at home. They stayed with other clients on higher phases of the program and were only allowed to talk to their families twice a week for five minutes at a time. They were called "newcomers" but sometimes 1st phase lasted for over a year. On 2nd phase, the kids lived at home but still spent all day at the building. At this point they were called "oldcomers" and took 1st phases home with them and children were fully responsible for other children. A lot of abuse occurred in the "host homes". On 3rd phase, the clients returned to school or were allowed to get a job but still had to spend time at the building every day. They were not allowed to have any contact with people not in the program. On 4th phase, days off were allowed. They still took 1st phases home with them but they were able to start to develop friendships with other clients of the same sex. Clients were also allowed to watch T.V. on 4th phase. On 5th phase, clients were allowed to talk to other 5th phase clients of the opposite sex and day off excursions could be co-ed as long as the ratio of boys to girls was uneven. After graduation there was six months of aftercare and no dating was allowed for five months. Abuse ranged from verbal to physical with clients being restrained for hours at a time on the hard floor by up to five other teens. The staff members were just children themselves and completely unqualified to be responsible for such a large group of kids."*³⁵⁹

Not content with only managing KIDS of Bergen County, Miller Newton expanded his program by taking 19 clients to Texas in 1986 and opening KIDS of El Paso. He further expanded his program shortly thereafter. He opened KIDS of Southern California in Yorba Linda in March, 1988 and he opened KIDS of Greater Salt Lake in Utah in 1989.

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Reports started to pour in from California, Utah³⁶⁰ and Texas that there was psychic abuse of children; use of psychologically damaging tactics and that children were falsely imprisoned in KIDS programs.³⁶¹ Zoning issues surfaced regarding the use of the Hackensack property for a business without a business license.³⁶²

The Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (TCADA) moved to close KIDS of El Paso. The TCADA indicated from a commission report that the KIDS of El Paso staff had hit, pushed, and assaulted patients in 1987 and 1988. Patients were reported to have been routinely deprived of sleep, billeted in overcrowded rooms, and denied permission to use the bathroom, causing them to soil themselves. The TCADA revoked KIDS of El Paso's license, charging that teens in the program had been mistreated and poorly supervised. The program appealed, and had its license conditionally reinstated for a year. Then, the KIDS program declared bankruptcy.

The California Department of Social Services reported that KIDS of Southern California was operating without a required license. In 1989 California health authorities closed down the KIDS program in that state for reasons of criminal child abuse. Straight Inc. moved into the facility and assumed Miller Newton's clients. Just a year later, state authorities closed the California Straight Inc. program also, citing: *"Documentation on file indicates that there have been incidents where children have been subjected to unusual punishment, infliction of pain, humiliation, intimidation, ridicule, coercion, threat, mental abuse or other actions of a punitive nature, including:... interference with daily living functions such as eating, sleeping or toileting, or withholding of medication."*³⁶³

As legal battles and lawsuits mounted, Miller Newton retreated, closing the Salt Lake facility and bringing children to New Jersey where the program had remained open. News media became aware of the problem. There were numerous articles in the Bergen Journal and a TV airing of "West 57th St."³⁶⁴ Finally, Bergen County prosecutors obtained legal authority to remove teens. Miller Newton farmed out the remaining clients to satellite homes, shut down the Hackensack facility and reopened in Secaucus, New Jersey. He legally changed his name from KIDS of Bergen County to KIDS of North Jersey. Despite abuse allegations against the KIDS program, Miller Newton secured a special certificate from the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to operate his program in the Secaucus location. This area was populated mainly by minorities with less high incomes, so the KIDS program was unable to rely on private insurance. The program secured the right to bill Medicaid for services. The KIDS program was accused of insurance fraud and many major insurance companies refused to pay claims coming from KIDS. New Jersey launched a Medicaid fraud investigation in 1999. After

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the raid by Bergen County prosecutors, Miller Newton moved operations to neighboring Hudson County and set up shop in Secaucus. One former client of KIDS, Rebecca Erlich, sued Miller Newton and his team of psychologists for \$4.5 million and won that lawsuit in 2001. Her attorney, Phil Elberg, filed another lawsuit against Miller Newton in 2003, settling for a \$6.5 million award for another former KIDS client, Lulu Corter. Miller Newton also settled with former client Antonio Carrera for \$3 million. Before that trial commenced, Dr. Zisalo Wancier, the program's psychiatrist, agreed to a \$750,000 settlement. Miller Newton settled before Carrera was to testify but Judge Maurice Gallipoli still let him testify about his five year incarceration.

Miller Newton moved to Madeira Beach, FL. He faith-converted, was ordained a priest by the Antiochian Orthodox Church and renamed Fr Cassian Newton. When he tried to counsel children in his new location, Florida refused to grant him a needed license because of the public outcry launched by the survivors/victims of KIDS. Miller Newton was briefly employed at St. Petersburg Junior College, but was released when his background was revealed. To avoid paying taxes and the growing number of damage claims against him, Miller Newton and his wife filed bankruptcy.³⁶⁵

Bergen KIDS Program now AARC in Canada

"Straight officials have generously allowed me to witness some of their group sessions firsthand . . . I believe that Straight's treatment can be fairly compared with 'brainwashing' in prisoner-of-war camps as documented by Brown (1963, chap. 2). Thus, procedures that would be reprehensible in any context outside of a prisoner-of-war camp are considered acceptable 'treatment' in the case of drug addiction."

Dr. Bruce K. Alexander of Simon Fraser University³⁶⁶

This child abuse in residential treatment is not limited to the U.S.A. Former staff of the KIDS program established an abusive teen rehabilitation center in Canada called the Alberta Adolescent Recovery Center (AARC).^{367 368}

AARC is a "treatment" program that uses the Straight, Inc., Synanon, and The SEED models. It has been reported to be abusive by investigative reporters at CBC News. This 12-step program in Canada abuses minors and uses methods that are similar to KIDS of Bergen County. In 1988, KIDS of Bergen County had 40 Canadian clients and the Canadian government paid \$25/day each or \$1,000/day. When Canadian authorities learned that they

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had not been paying for psychiatric or physician services, they refused to continue payments to KIDS, although they had already paid \$250,000.³⁶⁹

On November 1, 1988, Straight, Inc. added a "sales" office at 104th Street, Suite 114, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada to its insurance coverage. On January 13, 1989, Straight Inc. added "Straight Association of Edmonton" to its insurance coverage. Concurrently, Miller Newton recruited many Canadian teens from Calgary, Alberta (173 miles from Edmonton) into his New Jersey program. He opened KIDS of the Canadian West, a support center to guide teens completing his New Jersey program to integrate back into society. Miller Newton hoped to make KIDS of the Canadian West his Canadian franchise treatment program. Dean Vause, a counselor at North Battleford High School, had referred Calgary kids to Miller Newton. Vause took a job at KIDS with the intention of directing KIDS of the Canadian West or KCW. The Drug Free America Foundation (DFAF) helped sponsor the Canadian Drug Conference in May, 2002 in Vancouver, where AARC seeks to expand its \$50,000/yr per person program. Using the KIDS model, AARC boards clients out in host homes, which they call "recovery" homes. AARC's web page speaks of "peer" staff. These employees, as in the KIDS programs, are other teens further along in the treatment program that tends to "newcomers." This is how confrontation-type therapeutic communities operate to keep overhead costs low and profits high. The costs of the AARC program are reportedly covered by a combination of user fees, private and corporate donations, government grants, service group donations, third party fundraisers, as well as AARC's own fundraisers. AARC is a tax-exempt charity and received a \$1 million gift from the Rotary Club. Although a medical doctor is paid by the program to provide clinical services for sick children, there are no medical doctors on the actual drug rehabilitation staff. Some members of the peer staff are unpaid and former program graduates are paid low salaries, so overhead costs are low. Yet, AARC charges \$50,000/yr for treatment. Reports of abuse have surfaced at AARC, yet it still continues to thrive and grow. A group of advocates are exposing the abuses of AARC.³⁷⁰ The "Fifth Estate" is CBC's current affairs and investigative program that did an investigation of abuse allegations and produced several YouTube videos.

Sembler hides Straight Inc. assets from U.S.A. Courts

*"Straight, like many religious cults, has maintained its right to conceal its aims from potential inductees. . . By any objective standard, the activities of Straight Inc. and its imitators run afoul of these criteria [Susan Andersen's Four Criteria for inferring cult-like deceptive practices]. While Straight may be among the worst offenders, it is far from alone."*³⁷¹

Professor Barry L. Beyerstein,

A leading Canadian researcher on opiates and brain functioning

Melvin Sembler, co-founder and CEO of Straight Inc., denies that Straight Inc. has any financial assets. It seems that the financial profits disappeared after the victims of Straight Inc. abuse started to win their court cases.

Sembler obtained diplomatic immunity when appointed ambassador to Italy by President George W. Bush. It appears that the money from Straight Inc. vanished into a myriad of complicated real estate transactions. Competent and dedicated FBI agents following the money trail were told not to pursue their cases. Family court judges, believing that justice had finally been served by court award of damages to victims, learned that redress and restitution were denied because the court awards were never paid by Sembler and his business associates. Private attorneys, who spent endless hours compiling the needed documentary evidence, were thwarted in their pursuit of justice for the Straight Inc. survivors. One attorney tried to assemble a civil RICO case involving thousands of victims' cases. When the FBI could not assure the payment of money to those who had already won their court cases, further legal pursuit of reparation for victims seemed pointless.

Did Straight Inc. actually shut down?

The Straight Inc. branch in Atlanta closed in 1993 but new facilities under different names quickly opened elsewhere.³⁷² There were nearly 90 lawsuits brought against Straight Inc. and its many offshoot organizations from 1977 to 2003. In 1981, Straight-Midwest incorporated in Kentucky as a drug treatment program that used the Straight Inc. treatment model. Later that year, it changed its corporate name to Tri-State Drug Rehabilitation and

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Counseling (TSDRCP) and did business under the name of Kids Helping Kids. In the early 1990's (approx 1993), Kids Helping Kids moved into the old Cincinnati Straight, Inc. building which is in Milford, Ohio (Cincinnati suburb). From 2003 until 2009, the International Survivors Action Committee (ISAC) filed several formal complaints with various state and child protective agencies against Pathway Family Center and Kids Helping Kids. ISAC also filed complaints against the Arizona based Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF)³⁷³ for its blatant lack of accountability and action concerning the systematic abuse and torture of program clients. In 2006, Pathway Family Center in Ohio acquired Kids Helping Kids from Straight, Inc. and renamed it - Kids Helping Kids, A Pathway Family Center.^{374 375 376 377 378} Protesters picketed regularly outside the center in Milford, Ohio to bring attention to the abuse.^{379 380} Terri Nissley, who was a parent of a child in Straight Inc. in Plymouth, Michigan, when it closed in 1993, became the CEO of Pathway Family Center. The Straight Inc. program which was shut down, then miraculously reopened in the same building 3 weeks later as the Pathway Family Center.³⁸¹ The Pathway Family Center was run as a nonprofit organization and charged clients based on a sliding scale of fees, charging from \$30,000 to \$60,000 for a year in the program.³⁸² "We were horrified to hear Pathway is perpetuating its terror tactics on teens in Valparaiso," Maia Szalavitz said, when she heard about the momentum for a Valparaiso Pathway Family Center in Indianapolis. Finally after many allegations of abuse, the Cincinnati, Ohio Pathway Family Center was finally shut down in 2008.³⁸³ Pathway Family Center was being still run by Terri Nissley in Indianapolis up until January 30, 2009. The two Pathway Family Centers in Indiana (Indianapolis^{384 385} and Chesterton³⁸⁶) both closed in 2009.

What is a cult?

One example of a cult was Charles Manson's community in California.^{387 388} Another was in Guyana where the followers of Jim Jones committed mass suicide at their cult community in 1978. It can be argued that the Branch Davidians,³⁸⁹ led by David Koresh, who perished in the 1993 FBI siege in Waco, Texas, were considered a cult. In a cult there is insistence on secrecy as regards beliefs and membership; intensive resocialization into the new, deviant beliefs and behaviors; intense punishment and shaming regimes; restrictions on exogenous social contacts; heavy financial commitments that can become onerous; practices or requirements that isolate members from loved ones; an obsession with a particular leader who may be charismatic and authoritarian; and possible systematic physical or sexual abuse. The end result is an emotional and spiritual dependency that is harmful to a person's well-being.^{390 391 392 393 394 395}

Many believe that Straight Inc. presented all the hallmarks of a cult. Straight, Inc. operated in secrecy, just like a cult. No outsiders were permitted to know what really occurred behind its closed doors. The rules and clients' fears of harsh punishment prevented teens from talking to outsiders or from reporting abuses.³⁹⁶ Straight, Inc. was a residential treatment facility for teens that used coercive thought reform; public humiliation; sleep & food deprivation; extremely harsh confrontational tactics; kidnapping; isolation; emotional, mental, psychological, verbal and physical abuse to forcibly break down self-esteem of its "clients" and then remold them in the Straight, Inc. image.

In many of the abusive residential treatment centers there was medical neglect, which even sometimes resulted in death. Sympathetic or unsuspecting doctors often reported fatalities at facilities as deaths from natural causes. This avoided assignments of neglect or responsibility and kept the death hidden from the public or regulatory agencies and out of the media. Children do have an equal right as adults to receive adequate and appropriate medical attention. As the U.S. Supreme Court eloquently stated:

*"The right to practice religion freely does not include the liberty to expose the community or child to communicable disease, or the latter to ill health or death. ... Parents may be free to become martyrs themselves. But it does not follow [that] they are free, in identical circumstances, to make martyrs of their children before the age of full and legal discretion."*³⁹⁷

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Abusive groups attempt to either eliminate or destroy emotional bonds between parents and children that might compete for loyalty with the emotional attachments that members feel for leaders and their solidarity to the group. Cults do not permit individuality or independently functioning families, so individual and family boundaries break down. In these high-control situations, parents' authority over their children is undermined and the group leader usurps the rights and obligations that usually are considered to be parental roles.³⁹⁸ Leaders impose various regressive techniques on their members that interfere with their ability to critically assess their situations. Clients sometimes suffer from chronic exhaustion due to long hours of exhausting activities which often are a part of systematic thought-reform programs.³⁹⁹ Debilitation of the body weakens the mind and spirit, sapping energy that people otherwise might use to think critically, argue (fight), or leave (flight). These weakened persons remain in survival mode at the lowest rung of Maslow's hierarchy of needs.⁴⁰⁰

The moral structures of harmful cults are replete with contradictions and unsubstantiated ideological assertions (often involving racism, sexism, homophobia, and/or xenophobia). Many cult leaders are believed to meet the clinical criteria of several mental disorders identified in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*⁴⁰¹ (American Psychiatric Association, 1994), and their disorders shape the practices of their respective groups.^{402 403} There are theological and ideological beliefs propagated, including patriarchalism and the eroticization of children, which can contribute to sexual harassment, sexual exploitation,^{404 405} and child victimization.⁴⁰⁶ There are also many aspects of cults that facilitate child abuse, including how these groups isolate their members from society at large, and their own policies and practices. Child abusers can even use mainstream religious texts to sanction their behavior.^{407 408 409}

Persons, who leave the abusive groups, may require many years to recover from the chronic neglect and/or physical, psychological, and medical abuse that they sustained during their years in the cult.^{410 411 412 413} In 1995, the "[Barden Letter](#)" requested that the Judiciary Committee of the US House of Representatives address legislatively mental health treatment abuse.⁴¹⁴ Although lawsuits can be highly empowering, they can also take an emotional toll on clients by reactivating symptoms and preventing them from putting their cult experiences behind them. Although some former members have won court cases or out-of-court settlements, many have lost.

Cult researcher, Dr. Robert J. Lifton, believed that there were eight criteria involved in achieving thought reform.⁴¹⁵

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1. **Milieu Control.** This involves the control of information and communication both within the environment and, ultimately, within the individual, resulting in a significant degree of isolation from society at large.
2. **Mystical Manipulation.** There is manipulation of experiences that appear spontaneous but, in fact, were planned and orchestrated by the group or its leaders in order to demonstrate divine authority or spiritual advancement or some special gift or talent that will then allow the leader to reinterpret events, scripture, and experiences as he or she wishes.
3. **Demand for Purity.** The world is viewed as black and white and the members are constantly exhorted to conform to the ideology of the group and strive for perfection. The induction of guilt and/or shame is a powerful control device used here.
4. **Confession.** Sins, as defined by the group, are to be confessed either to a personal monitor or publicly to the group. There is no confidentiality; members' "sins," "attitudes," and "faults" are discussed and exploited by the leaders.
5. **Sacred Science.** The group's doctrine or ideology is considered to be the ultimate Truth, beyond all questioning or dispute. Truth is not to be found outside the group. The leader, as the spokesperson for God or for all humanity, is likewise above criticism.
6. **Loading the Language.** The group interprets or uses words and phrases in new ways so that often the outside world does not understand. This jargon consists of thought-terminating clicks, which serve to alter members' thought processes to conform to the group's way of thinking.
7. **Doctrine over person.** Members' personal experiences are subordinated to the sacred science and any contrary experiences must be denied or reinterpreted to fit the ideology of the group.
8. **Dispensing of existence.** The group has the prerogative to decide who has the right to exist and who does not. This is usually not literal but means that those in the outside world are not saved, are unenlightened, unconscious and they must be converted to the group's ideology. If they do not join the group or are critical of the group, then they must be rejected by the members. Thus, the outside world loses all credibility. In conjunction, should any member leave the group, he or she must be rejected also. (Lifton, 1989)

International Cultic Studies Association (ICSA)

Founded in 1979, the International Cultic Studies Association (ICSA) is a global network of people concerned about psychological manipulation and abuse in cultic groups, alternative movements, and other environments.

ICSA's mission is to apply research and professional perspectives to the problems encountered by family members and former group members adversely affected by a cultic involvement, and to forewarn those who might become involved in potentially harmful group situations.

Political protection of Faith-based residential treatment abuse

Sembler as Finance Chairman of the Republican National Committee

From 1997 to 2000, Sembler served as finance chairman for the Republican National Committee. From 1994 to 2000 he had served as Florida's national committeeman to the Republican National Committee. He then lent his fund-raising skills to the presidential campaign of George W. Bush.⁴¹⁶ After his election, Bush Jr. named Sembler to be ambassador to Italy.

Sembler had already served as U.S. Ambassador to Australia and Nauru during the presidency of George H.W. Bush.⁴¹⁷ Sembler was an adviser to candidate Mitt Romney during the race for the 2008 Republican Party presidential nomination. According to Opensecrets.org, during the period 1989-2009, Sembler donated nearly \$500,000 to political races and conservative political action committees.

These incumbent congressmen received political campaign contributions from Sembler: Connie Mack (R-FL), Marco Rubio (R-FL), Rob Portman (R-OH), Mark Kirk (R-IL), Daniel Coats (R-IN), and C W Bill Young (R-FL). Bill Young is the U.S. Representative for Florida's 10th congressional district, serving since 1971. He is currently the longest-serving Republican member of Congress. He was Chairman of Appropriations from 1999 to 2005 and still retains a seat on that committee. In addition these former Congressmen received campaign funds from Sembler: Rick Santorum (R-PA), Dan DeBicella (R-CT), Sue Lowden (R-NV), and Michael Bilirakis (R-FL).

Rick Santorum is a former Senator from Pennsylvania. Santorum was the chairman of the Senate Republican Conference. Dan DeBicella is a former state senator who represented the 21st district in the Connecticut State Senate. He was also the 2010 Republican candidate for Connecticut's Fourth Congressional District. Sue Lowden is the former chairwoman of the Nevada Republican Party and a former state senator in Nevada. Daniel Coats is the junior senator from Indiana. He was in the U.S. Senate from 1989 to 1999. He retired, and then returned in 2011. Michael Bilirakis served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1983 to 2007, representing the 9th District of Florida. Jane Norton also received campaign contributions from Sembler. She was the 46th Lieutenant Governor for Colorado. She made an

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unsuccessful bid for the U.S. Senate seat in 2010 challenging Senator Michael Bennet.⁴¹⁸ (OpenSecrets.org)

Sembler also supported members of the Bush administration. Sembler chaired the Lewis Libby Legal Defense Fund, which raised money for the ultimately unsuccessful defense of "Scooter" Libby, Dick Cheney's former chief of staff accused of perjury and other charges related to the leaking of CIA agent Valerie Plame's name.

His cohort, Joseph Zappala,⁴¹⁹ co-founder of Straight Inc., was sent to Spain (1989-1992) armed for diplomacy as a U.S.A. Ambassador with only a high school education.⁴²⁰ Joseph Zappala served as cochairman for the State of Florida on the George Bush for President National Steering Committee and National Finance Committee. Ambassador Zappala played an active role on behalf of the George Bush for President Campaign and served as National Co-Chairman of Finance for the American Bicentennial Presidential Inaugural.

Florida Governor Jeb Bush designated August 8, 2000, "Betty Sembler Day" for her "work protecting children from the dangers of drugs." DFAF, founded by the Semblers, receives hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants from the Small Business Association (SBA) to advance workplace drug testing in businesses. For example, in 2000, they received \$314,000. Betty Sembler is president and Melvin has served as chairman of the foundation.

The Clary Report

Melvin Sembler and "unnamed state senators" probably pressured HRS to grant Straight-Saint Petersburg a license in 1989. But as numerous complaints of abuse and multiple law suits against Straight Inc. surfaced the Florida State Department of Health and Human Services finally opened an investigation into the abuse and issued a report. This report was called the Clary Report after Lowell Clary who was Acting Inspector General for Florida's Department of Health and Human Services (HRS) which is now called the Office of Children and Family. Mr. Clary had begun his investigation because of damaging documents about Straight's operations which he had received from Richard Bradbury, a Straight Inc. survivor. Mr. Clary released his findings on May 19, 1993 a month after Straight, Inc. had closed. His report, which is presented below in its entirety, insinuates that the HRS team was preparing to deny the license to Straight Inc. According to the report Harry Moffitt, an HRS senior program specialist, said that deputy assistant secretary Linda Lewis questioned why Florida would

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continue to let Straight operate in spite of allegations of withholding medication and food from clients, depriving them of sleep and using excessive force against them. It was rumored that when Ms. Lewis brought this up to Ivor Groves, an assistant secretary to HRS, she had been told that she would be fired on the spot if she did not do as told. Groves later denied the conversation and Lewis then later "did not recall it." The report revealed a definite pattern of abuse or excessive force used against clients at Straight facilities, abuse that could no longer be tolerated or ignored. After the Clary Report was issued, Straight's Dr. Donald Sullivan, MD ⁴²¹ was placed in the position to oversee Florida's Office of Children and Families (formerly HHS). Donald C. Sullivan, MD was a respected orthopedic surgeon in Saint Petersburg, Florida. In 1992 he was successfully elected to the Florida state Senate as a Republican. Dr. Sullivan's wife Irene Sullivan became a Sixth Circuit judge. James T. Russell (state Attorney for Pinellas County) retired on December 31, 1992. His assistant and the man he endorsed to be his successor, Bernie McCabe, was elected state attorney for Pinellas County in November 1992. So Bernie McCabe was the prosecutor who knew of the Clary Report and possible criminal activity of Mel Sembler, but, like his predecessor, McCabe did not prosecute. Florida State Senator Donald Sullivan, MD and his wife Judge Irene Sullivan Straight finally closed Straight's flagship program in Saint Petersburg on April 13, 1993 one month before the findings of the Clary report were released by Acting Inspector General for Florida's Department of HRS, Lowell Clary.

See the five page Clary report here:

- [Clary report page 1](#)
- [Clary report page 2](#)
- [Clary report page 3](#)
- [Clary report page 4](#)
- [Clary report page 5](#)

Corporations are not human persons

Citizens United vs. FEC

Corporations are not human persons.

"The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret ballot or by equivalent free voting procedures."

[The Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#), Article 21⁴²²

One of the most critical ways that individuals can influence governmental decision-making is through voting. Voting is a formal expression of preference for a candidate for office or for a proposed resolution of an issue. Elections must be conducted fairly and freely on a periodic basis within a framework of laws guaranteeing the effective exercise of voting rights. Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his/her country, directly or through freely chosen representatives. Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his country. The human right to vote includes accurate voter education be available to all voting persons so that they can make informed decisions during the pre-election preparations and campaign period. Protection of free speech is critical to a fair election process and biased campaign advertisements paid for by undisclosed sources compromises that human right to make an informed voting choice. Secret funds for campaign advertisements which hide donor's intentions and financial and political connections do not fairly inform the voting public. The right to vote is widely recognized as a fundamental human right, this right is not fully enforced for millions of individuals around the world. Consistently disenfranchised groups include non-citizens, young people, and minorities, those who commit crimes, the homeless, disabled persons, and many others who lack access to the vote for a variety of reasons including poverty, illiteracy, intimidation, or unfair election processes. Withholding the source of campaign advertising funding only further disenfranchises these groups and impacts their ability to protect their human rights interests on Election Day. The role that periodic, free elections play in ensuring respect for political rights is enshrined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights, the Charter of the Organization of American States, the African (Banjul)

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Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and many other international human rights documents.

Corporations are not people, they do not vote, and they should not be able to unfairly influence election outcomes, but because of a Supreme Court Decision, the Constitutional rights of natural persons are now at risk. The historic decision by the U.S. Supreme Court on Jan. 21, 2010, made possible a flood of corporate money into our political system by announcing, contrary to long-standing precedents, that corporations have a constitutional right to spend unlimited amounts of money to promote or defeat candidates. The decision in this historic case - Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission - overturns a century of campaign finance law. The court overruled two existing Supreme Court decisions - Austin v. Michigan Chamber of Commerce and McConnell v. FEC and thus unleashed unlimited corporate and union spending in candidate campaigns.

In January, 2010, five justices of the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission ⁴²³ ⁴²⁴ that corporations have a First Amendment right to spend unlimited funds in promotion of or attack on candidates in local, state and federal elections. ⁴²⁵ This opened the way for their unlimited campaign spending and ability to influence elections. Corporations such as Sembler's Florida real estate enterprise were already spending considerable amounts of money to influence elections. Citizens United v. FEC allows CEOs to spend as much as they want and hide their campaign contributions from the public. Corporate front groups can sponsor campaign advertisements to support the candidates of their choice and the public will never know who funds the ads. ⁴²⁶

Sembler, as an anonymous corporate donor, can now influence the elections of federal judges and members of the U.S.A. Congress without public awareness about which political candidate is beholden to him for campaign contributions through American Crossroads ⁴²⁷ or American Future Fund. ⁴²⁸ ⁴²⁹ Sembler, who is still very active in campaign financing, has publically campaigned to get donations to these political funding groups. Karl Rove, a senior Republican fund-raiser, said that American Crossroads and Crossroads GPS, which are focusing on 11 Senate races, and were planning on raising as much as \$70 million before the midterm elections in November 2010. ⁴³⁰

On March 27, 2008, a complaint was filed against American Future Fund, citing violations of Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 as amended. American Future Fund failed to register and report as a political committee with the Federal Election Commission and to comply with the obligations that apply to such committees. ⁴³¹ American Future Fund in 2008 received \$7.5 million in donations and spent approximately \$6.3 million in the 2010

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election. Sandra Greiner, director and president of American Future Fund, was previously an Iowa state senator and is currently an Iowa state Representative. American Crossroads and its affiliate, Crossroads GPS, reportedly planned to raise \$52 million. Published reports indicate American Future Fund was formed Aug. 7, 2007, and participated in the 2008 election cycle by investing in congressional races in several states. The Topeka Capital-Journal, a Kansas newspaper, reported that the American Future Fund invested more than \$7 million on behalf of GOP candidates in this midterm election cycle. In the state of Kansas the American Future Fund spent an estimated \$900,000 to defeat an incumbent attorney general, Steve Six, in the November, 2010 election.^{432 433 434} Steve Six lost that election to Derek Schmidt. Steve Six was then nominated to be on the federal bench, receiving significant bipartisan support for his appointment, only to be facing opposition from Republican U.S. Senator Pat Roberts (R-Kansas). Anti-abortion groups have opposed Six to become a federal judge.⁴³⁵

AG Steve Six served as the highest-ranked Department of Justice official in the state of Kansas. He was responsible for all investigation and prosecution decisions made for any administrative, civil or criminal case in the state. AG Steve Six was noted for aggressive investigation and prosecution of medical fraud. He also was an effective prosecutor against those who abuse children, prosecuting perpetrators of human trafficking and pornography. Steve Six also supported the new health care reform bill⁴³⁶ signed into law by President Barack Obama.

The group, American Future Fund ⁴³⁷ (AFF), based in Iowa, has spent millions to oppose selected incumbents across the country. ⁴³⁸ AFF has not shared with the U.S.A. public the real reasons why they target particular elected officials and judges in multiple states. Neither have they volunteered to provide the names of their contributors to the Federal Election Commission.

Prior to the November 2010 election, the grassroots non-government organization, Public Citizen, had filed a complaint to the Federal Election Commission (FEC) against both the Crossroads GPS and American Future Fund. Public Citizen alleged violations of federal election campaign laws and requested that the FEC take immediate steps to enforce the law and expose these groups' secret financing of campaigns. The effort failed and the Supreme Court ruling has now opened the doors to criminal facilitation of election fraud.

Currently, Sembler and cohorts can donate unlimited money anonymously to these non-profit groups like American Future Fund and Crossroads GPS.

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They have the ability to control who will be the highest department of justice official in any state as the state attorney general, as well as which sitting judges will continue to serve the bench. This non-transparent political power allows the system of covert government influence to continue the acquiescence of governmental officials to child abuse, and to allow those corporations who violate human rights to flourish and prosper in the United States. Constitutional civil rights and human rights have little chance of success when millions of dollars are spent to unfairly bias the election of judges or the state attorney general.

Lester Roloff – Roloff Homes

Lester Roloff – start of a career in teen rehabilitation

To understand the rise to political power of the fundamental evangelical churches, it is cogent to examine the history of several of their religious leaders, including Lester Roloff.⁴³⁹ Roloff preached stridently against Communism, television, alcohol, tobacco, pork, and psychology. His strong stands led to separation from most of his Southern Baptist brethren. Roloff returned to pastoral ministry establishing the Alameda Street Baptist Church in Corpus Christi in 1954. The known list of homes founded by Roloff included:

- City of Refuge (for men)
- Jubilee For Women (for women)
- The Lighthouse for Boys (for younger men)
- Rebekah Girls Home (for teenage girls)
- Anchor Home For Boys (for teenage boys)
- Bethesda Girls Home (for teenage girls)
- Peaceful Valley Home (for retired Christians).

Roloff hosted a popular radio show and reached out to a group that formerly were often unregistered as voters. Lester Leo Roloff was an American fundamental independent Baptist preacher. He attended Baylor University and later Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Separated from mainline Southern Baptists because of his standards, Roloff actively ministered to alcoholic and homeless men. Roloff preached at small country churches in southern Texas before taking on pastoral duties at churches in Houston and Corpus Christi. In 1944, in Corpus Christi, Roloff launched his radio show, The Family Altar. In April, 1951, he resigned as pastor of Second Baptist Church to pursue evangelism. He founded the Roloff Evangelistic Enterprises, a non-profit religious organization.⁴⁴⁰ In August, 1954, with convictions about being independent of the Southern Baptist Convention or any other denominational influence, he founded a church in Corpus Christi called the Alameda Baptist Church. Roloff gave speeches at Baylor University and over his own radio show.

His first mission house was established in Corpus Christi in 1954. Roloff Homes became established for troubled youth and were privately run as Faith-based residential facilities in Texas. Additional children's homes were eventually added throughout Texas, Oklahoma, and Georgia. The first Roloff home for females, The Rebekah Home for Girls, was established in 1968. It was touted as a place where girls in trouble could get worship as they got

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straightened out. Punitive "Bible discipline" was the method used to chasten girls who had fallen from grace.

Only the King James Bible was provided to clients of Roloff Homes. Daily church attendance was mandatory. Contact with the outside world was denied and phone calls were monitored, even those with family members. Windows were locked and alarm systems were used to prevent escape. Accusations of mistreatment included use of corporal punishment, lock-up, being forced to hold stress positions for hours, being required to quote from the Bible one hour per day, sermons played during sleep, using mind control techniques, verbal and emotional abuse. No communication was allowed with the children's parents for 30 days, and there was no unmonitored communication in or out by mail or phone. Sometimes clients permitted were visits home of 2 days length at six months and one year. Unauthorized communication was edited with permanent ink before letters were mailed; if the child said something unpermitted on the phone, the phone call was abruptly ended. Letters from parents were often withheld so that staff could convince girls that their families did not care about them.

Complaints of child abuse surface

In the Oklahoma Roloff Home there were complaints that child labor laws were violated. Children as young as 12 years were reportedly forced to pick cotton in the surrounding fields from 5:00am until sundown without even using work gloves. Reports surfaced about torture, violent beatings and starvation at Roloff Homes in Texas, which prompted the Texas attorney general to investigate.^{441 442}

The Texas AG's office began to investigate reports of violent beatings, starvation, and torture at the Roloff Homes in 1971. Two years later the state welfare department filed to require licensure for the Rebekah Home. State and local child protection authorities investigated possible abuse at the Rebekah Home in 1973, when parents visiting their daughter reported seeing a girl being whipped. Rebekah girls reported that they had been whipped with leather straps, beaten with paddles, handcuffed to drainpipes, and locked in isolation cells, at times for minor infractions such as failing to memorize a Bible passage or forgetting to make a bed. When girls who had not yet "been saved" tried to run away, they were confined to the lockup, a dorm room devoid of furniture or natural light where girls spent days, or weeks, alone. Despite repeated warnings by state child welfare agencies, there were continued accounts of beatings, forced restraints and use of isolation on the teens which led the Texas attorney general to recommend

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that the facilities be regulated and licensed or be closed. (See the [Case of Deanne Dawsey](#))^{443 444 445 446 447}

A legal confrontation erupted between Roloff Homes and the Texas AG over the issue of the separation between church and state. If licensed, the home would be required to hire a home supervisor who holds a degree in social work and who is approved by the welfare department. That supervisor would be required to complete an additional fifteen hours of college-level social studies every two years. Roloff Holmes would be required to file financial reports regularly with the Texas Welfare Department. The home would also have to hire one state-approved worker for every eight girls.

On August 3, 1973, an injunction was signed, under which Roloff was enjoined from operating a child care institution without a license for children less than sixteen years of age. On October 5, 1973, a district judge heard the case and fined Roloff \$580 in court costs for contempt of court when he refused to follow welfare guidelines. Roloff refused to have the home licensed and the welfare department filed charges against the home, based on the girls' testimony. By that time over 1,500 girls had spent time at Rebekah Home. Some homes were temporarily closed in 1973, but were reopened the following year after Roloff successfully appealed to the Texas Supreme Court.⁴⁴⁸

The "Christian Alamo"

In his very successful radio show, the late evangelist, Lester Roloff, praised the use of punitive "Bible discipline" as a method to chasten girls who had fallen from grace. Roloff claimed that the Rebekah Home took in fallen girls from "jail houses, broken homes, hippie hives, and dope dives" who were "walking through the wilderness of sin."

Roloff asserted that he remade broken girls into scripture-quoting, gospel-singing believers. As a result, followers showered Roloff Evangelistic Enterprises with checks, jewelry and other valuables. He made millions. Texas state welfare workers received reports of physical abuse, and Attorney General John Hill finally filed a suit against Roloff's operations. After court battles were lost and facing forced closure of the Rebekah Girls Home, hundreds of fundamental evangelical supporters intervened to form a human barricade to prevent the state officials from closing in. The Rebekah girls were pawns in the political struggle between Roloff and the Texas attorney general. Roloff demonstrated his political power and the hidden support network of thousands of fundamentalists who embraced similar beliefs and

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listened to his radio show. The Roloff Homes became the center of an epic, twelve-year battle between church and state, culminating in a standoff that Roloff called the "Christian Alamo." He was the maverick preacher and his successors fought to avoid regulation by the state of Texas. (See a more personal account of abuse at [Roloff Homes](#))⁴⁴⁹

The political message was clear. There was a huge following of fervent religious people not only in Texas but throughout the U.S.A. These were American citizens who had previously not embraced the political arena. Many had never registered to vote and had lived their lives apart from the general society, often in a parallel economy advanced by those with their religious persuasion. These economic activities go unreported, unmonitored, untaxed and unmeasured. They are largely hidden from view, especially the eyes of government regulators. They claim the right to religious freedom and do what they wish within their religious facilities. This parallel economy was not recognized for its true potential, especially its political potential.

Followers claimed Lester Roloff as one of their own and he embodied their right to separation of church and state. The Texas attorney general and the social service agencies who wished to shut the facility down represented the right of the state of Texas to assure that human rights abuses and child abuse did not happen to any minor child, regardless of the religious beliefs of the parents.⁴⁵⁰

Hundreds of Roloff's supporters amassed around the Rebekah Home, on Roloff's 557-acre compound south of Corpus Christi. They linked arms and formed a human barricade to block state officials. There was a three-day standoff between the state of Texas and the "religious right." Although Roloff agreed to close his youth homes and send his Rebekah girls to homes out of the state, the victory was brief for the welfare agencies trying to protect the children from abuse. The homes later reopened under the auspices of the People's Baptist Church rather than under Roloff Evangelistic Enterprises.

This "Christian Alamo" public rally became the place where George W. Bush, then-governor of Texas, stepped up, promising to push state legislation that exempted many Faith-based social programs from state interference. The posture gained Governor Bush political support from the religious right. The potential of support from thousands of unregistered voters passionate about this issue swayed the political decision-making of the Texas governor. The religious right embraced him for his support of the separation of church and state as a central issue. He pledged to exempt religious facilities from state regulation and inspection.

Evading prosecution through shuffled ownership

Roloff transferred ownership of the homes from Roloff Evangelistic Enterprises to his church, the People's Baptist Church. This forced the state to sue the "new" owners, and kept the homes running. On January 31, 1974, the case went to court again in Corpus Christi. Roloff was found guilty, fined \$5,400, and sentenced to serve five days in the county jail on contempt of court charges. The court also ordered him to remove all the girls from the home.

Questioning the constitutionality of state licensure

On February 4th, Roloff was permitted to present his argument on the constitutionality of state licensing for a church-operated home before the Provisions Committee of the Texas state senate. The high court finally ruled that children aged sixteen years or over could be cared for by Roloff, and it overturned the contempt of court charges May 20, 1974. The attorney general refiled the case, forcing an injunction that sought to shut the ministry down. In 1975, the state of Texas passed laws that required licensing of youth homes. Roloff was arrested twice for refusing to comply with this law. In March, 1975, the Texas welfare department filed against Roloff again for contempt and for violation of their rules and regulations. By January 1, 1976, the new guidelines by the welfare department became law, making it illegal for unlicensed homes to admit children under age 18.

Political power from the pulpit

Roloff had vocal support from his followers, including many evangelical preachers. On his radio show, the evangelist promoted "Bible discipline." His homes were models. (See personal account of [Roloff Homes](#))^{451 452}

Roloff vowed to legally fight for separation of church and state, and to prevent government interference in the way Roloff Homes disciplined children. Legal battles with the state continued as the homes were closed and re-opened. The Texas homes were finally closed again in 2001 after Lester Roloff's death. The struggle that had sustained them for so long had significantly changed the political landscape for all Faith-based organizations.

The religious right demanded their religious freedom and the right to do what they wished within their religious facilities. The Christian Evangelicals were 30 million strong. They did not embrace the state's concept of human rights and child abuse that might conflict with the religious beliefs of the parents. ([The Evangelical Vote](#))^{453 454}

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George W. Bush was asked in a political debate which philosopher had most influenced his life. Bush responded, "*Christ, because he changed my heart.*" As a presidential candidate, George W. Bush revealed himself to the public as a man who wrestled with the legacy of his famous father (former president George H.W. Bush). He also admitted to both professional failures and a drinking habit. Bush, Jr. said that evangelist Billy Graham greatly affected his spiritual faith.

As Texas governor, George W. Bush used the political support from the fundamentalist churches to secure votes needed to win the presidency. Bush made a wise choice when he hired campaign strategist Ralph Reed, formerly of the Christian Coalition. Reed had extensive knowledge of evangelicals and what would politically appeal to them as voters. Bush knew he needed to continue support for legislation that allowed church-run, child-care institutions to opt out of state licensure. This legislative policy choice allowed Bush to tap into the support of the huge fundamentalist evangelical unregistered voters to vote for him, support his candidates and his policies.

George W. Bush had overcome problems with alcohol abuse in 1986, and supported Faith-based addiction treatment. Bush was later to say that he had experienced a profound spiritual awakening and knew the role that faith could play in recovery. The belief in Faith-based redemption to cure addiction was at the heart of Bush's political campaign strategy. His father, George H. W. Bush, 41st U.S.A. president, and Melvin Sembler (Straight Inc.), influenced George W. Bush, 43rd president and Jeb Bush, Florida governor, in their personal drug addiction rehabilitations. Both Bush sons were active in the Drug Free America Foundation work. The DFAF was an offshoot of Straight Inc. G.W. Bush, as Texas governor and a presidential candidate, was willing to tell the public, "I am a sinner, just like you."

Seen as a humble man willing to admit faults and difficulties, those who shared his Evangelical Christian faith responded with voter and financial support.

In 1995 the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse tried to shut down Teen Challenge in San Antonio for deficiencies in staff training. Supporters of the evangelical ministry gathered at the Christian Alamo and Governor G.W. Bush sided with Teen Challenge against his own state agency. From that day forward, G.W. Bush pushed efforts to enhance Faith-based social outreach. As governor and later as president, he passed laws that protected Faith-based groups from state interference with their religious approach. He supported forbidding lawsuits against personnel who worked in those facilities and pushed a voucher program to enhance federal funding of private religious schools.

"Government can do certain things very well, but it cannot put hope in our hearts or a sense of purpose in our lives," Bush said.

Death of Lester Roloff - Rebirth of Roloff Homes in Missouri

On the morning of November 2, 1982, Lester Roloff boarded his Cessna 210 on his way to a preaching engagement at the Calvary Baptist Church of Kansas City, Missouri. His plane crashed, killing all 5 on board.⁴⁵⁵

After Roloff's death, Wiley Cameron Sr. assumed control of the Roloff Homes. The U.S.A. Supreme Court ruled that Roloff Homes must accept state licensing and regulation. Roloff Homes had political support and had become a symbolic cause for the religious right. On the eve before the court-ordered shut down of Roloff Homes in Texas, Cameron and other church members took about 100 teens in a convoy of buses to the state of Missouri where there were no requirements for state licensure and inspection. Roloff Homes moved to Missouri and ran facilities there for 14 years in exile rather than accept state oversight in Texas.

While in Missouri, Cameron operated the Rebekah Home and Anchor Home. Cameron continued to lobby the governor of Texas, George W. Bush, to permit alternative accreditation to religious child-care facilities. In 1984, the Supreme Court of Texas sided with the state, holding that the licensing of church-run, child-care facilities violated no First Amendment religious freedoms. Thus, Roloff Homes was required to submit to licensing regulations and inspection as defined by the state. Roloff Homes continued to operate in exile in Missouri.

In 1987, investigative reporters for the Kansas City Times published an article alleging physical abuse at the homes in Missouri. Two days after the article ran, Cameron shut the homes down and returned to Texas. By then, he had politically maneuvered a way to escape state licensing and inspection in Texas.

In 1995, during George W. Bush's first year as governor of Texas, Teen Challenge was threatened with closure by a state regulatory agency, the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (TCADA). Although Teen Challenge did not receive any government funds, it did offer treatment to drug users and was subject to the state's regulatory powers. Closure was planned for April, 1996.

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Roloff Homes was a program supported by George W. Bush and it was in violation of basic health and safety regulations. Both Teen Challenge and Roloff Homes were cited by the state of Texas for dangerous treatment practices but were still publicly defended by religious right leaders. Governor Bush publicly defended these programs and worked to change state law to protect them, even at the expense of quality care and public safety.

The state's concerns were not insignificant. According to TCADA, Teen Challenge violated Texas state policies, procedures and licensure standards. There were problems with hiring practices, not meeting training requirements for counselors, client grievance procedures, release of confidential records. Teen Challenge was also charged with disregarding state standards for the screening, orientation, treatment and discharge of follow-up of clients.⁴⁵⁶

In June 1995, TCADA suspended Teen Challenge's license, based on violations that posed a potential danger to the residents. Bush intervened publicly on behalf of the Faith-based program stating that, while TCADA was following procedure, he strongly supported the Faith-based programs.⁴⁵⁷ With Bush's urging and other outside pressures, TCADA postponed judgment of the organization, dropped licensure demands, and agreed to wait until the legislature considered bills that could change the rules for Faith-based organizations. According to the Houston Chronicle, the uproar about Teen Challenge made the organization a "cause célèbre" among the religious right, placing Teen Challenge at the forefront of the Faith-based movement. Support came not only from Christian leader Pat Robertson, who featured the group on his 700 Club television show, but also from the conservative policy crowd.⁴⁵⁸

On May 2, 1996 Governor Bush assembled an Advisory Task Force composed of 16 clergy and volunteer leaders and charged with two objectives: (1) survey Texas legal and regulatory landscape to identify obstacles to Faith-based groups and (2) recommend ways that Texas can create an environment in which these groups can thrive, free of regulations that dilute the faith factor.

On August 22, 1996 the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act was signed into law (PL 104-193). Section 104 of this federal welfare reform legislation allowed what are called "charitable choice" provisions. These provisions allow states to contract with Faith-based and community-based organizations to provide welfare services. Charitable Choice has been interpreted to apply to Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Social Security Income (SSI), Medicaid programs, food

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stamp programs, Welfare-to-Work, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) block grants, and Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds.

Alternative accreditation of Faith-based facilities

Wiley Cameron, the new director of Roloff Homes, had strategically and politically lobbied for the alternative accreditation law. He succeeded with the 75th Texas Legislature's House Bill 2482, which allows child-care facilities that meet or exceed state standards to be accredited by private sector entities instead of being licensed and regulated by the state. These child-care providers would still, in theory, be subject to the appropriate background checks. Florida-based attorneys for the Roloff Homes were imported to assist and they were the only witnesses to testify in favor of this legislation.

In 1997, the Texas Legislature passed two bills, House Bill 2482 (75R) and House Bill 2481 (75R) that set the stage for deregulation of Faith-based facilities in Texas. The alternative accreditation system allowed Faith-based residential facilities and child care facilities to be certified by a Faith-based entity rather than licensure and regulation under the state. In addition, legislation was passed that permitted Faith-based chemical dependency treatment programs to be exempted from state licensing and regulation. The Texas legislature set up a system to procure and administer government funds for Faith-based organizations. The Texas Department of Human Services and the Texas Workforce Commission were vested to create effective partnerships with Faith-based organizations.

After more than two decades and a long legal battle that featured one minister even chaining himself to the Texas Supreme Court doors in protest, the forces promoting a privatized and unregulated system had succeeded.

The Roloff Homes as a care provider was invited back to Texas by Governor Bush and permitted to seek licensure under this newly created alternative accreditation agency - the Texas Association of Christian Child Care Agencies (TACCCA).

They were the first facility to apply for and receive accreditation from TACCCA. According to the Washington Post, TACCCA is supposed to inspect the facilities annually and assure that they meet minimum requirements (Washington Post, April 11, 2000). However, on April 10, 2000 Texas authorities arrested men connected to Roloff Homes for allegations of severe

abuse of juveniles in their care. But surprisingly, two weeks later, the TACCCA re-approved the Roloff Homes' license. On April 15th, Wiley Cameron, director of Roloff Homes, resigned his position on the accreditation committee of TACCCA.

Effects of loss of regulatory control

In Texas, the new permissive regulatory climate allowed Faith-based drug treatment centers to register their religious status with the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (TCADA) and to be exempt from the health, safety and quality of care regulations required of state-licensed treatment facilities. These facilities were exempt from medical treatment guidelines, employee training and licensing requirements, abuse and neglect prevention training, client rights protections, and requirements for reporting abuse, neglect, emergencies and medication errors.^{459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467}

The only non-government entity approved by Texas to be an alternative accreditation agency was the Texas Association of Christian Child-Care Agencies. The TACCCA had a six-person board of directors which included Wiley Cameron. The agency was led by Pastor David Blaser, a longtime admirer of Lester Roloff. When the TACCCA initially applied for state approval, state accreditation officials hesitated, citing the new law's requirement that only "recognized" accreditation agencies be approved.

Don Willett, of Governor Bush's office, asserted that the law was not intended to rule out new agencies. The state relented after determining that all six board members had experience running child-care facilities. Three pastors who ran facilities were on the board of the TACCCA, so that they inspected and regulated themselves. These were the Roloff Children's Home, Channelview Christian Daycare and Miller Road Baptist Daycare. TACCCA accredited only eight facilities in the four years the alternative accreditation program was in place. In theory, TACCCA was required to enforce the same standards, and conduct the same inspections at facilities it regulated, as were enforced at state-licensed facilities, but it did not do so.

Concerns regarding this alternative licensing were voiced by the Texas Freedom Network report: *The Texas Faith-Based Initiative at Five Years: Warning Signs as President Bush Expands Texas-style Program at National Level:*

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- TACCCA was cited by the state for failure to conduct any unannounced inspections of its facilities, as required at least annually by state law.
- The rate of confirmed abuse and neglect at alternatively-accredited facilities was 25 times higher than that of state-licensed facilities. Alternatively-accredited facilities had a 25% rate of confirmed abuse and neglect, compared to a rate of less than 1% at state-licensed facilities.
- The complaint rate at alternatively-accredited facilities was 75%, compared to a 5.4% complaint rate at state-licensed facilities.
- The state could not conduct site visits or address complaints at alternatively-accredited facilities unless TACCCA filed formal allegations of abuse against a facility it accredits.
- Alternative accreditation buffered Faith-based organizations from state oversight, but left the children in their care vulnerable.

The Texas Freedom Network reported that “TCADA has no authority to investigate complaints, remedy unsafe conditions or ensure quality treatment practices at Faith-based treatment centers that are exempt from state regulations. As such, clients of exempt treatment centers have no recourse through the state if they have a grievance with a facility they attended.”

[The Texas Faith-Based Initiative at Five Years: Warning Signs as President Bush Expands Texas-Style Program to National Level](#) - The Texas Freedom Network released a report in 2002 that documented the lack of accountability and other failures under the system that had been implemented by then-Governor Bush.

Abuse at Roloff Homes continues

Wiley Cameron moved the Roloff Homes enterprise back to Texas and was able to open 5 facilities accredited by the TACCCA. The Roloff Homes were the first of eight Faith-based child-care facilities accredited by TACCCA. In July, 2001, a staff member at one facility was found guilty of two counts of unlawful restraint, stemming from an incident in which he tied two residents together at the wrist and forced them into a 15-foot-deep pit. Two residents at the facility (which was individually called the Lighthouse but part of the Roloff Homes network), claimed that staff used extreme discipline, including beatings and forced exercise. The two young men, Aaron Cavallin and Justin Simons, claimed that they were tied together, made to run through brush and forced into a dirt pit after they were caught trying to flee the facility. Testifying in court, the staff member said that the two clients expressed regret after they were caught running away. The staff

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member claimed that he wanted to test their sincerity by putting them into the pit. A structural engineer who testified during the trial said the pit, which had been dug the day before as a drainage ditch, was not safe and could have collapsed.

Weakened control of Faith-based social services

Under the Bush plan, Faith-based homes for juveniles were overseen by independent religious associations instead of the government. The idea was that the religious homes would keep tabs on one another through periodic inspections, but critics charged that the plan would foster lax oversight of the institutions. Ironically, few religious groups saw the need for the alternative system. Over the same period, more than 2,000 child-care facilities chose to continue operating under a state license and 900 chemical dependency programs, Faith-based and non-faith-based, maintained their state licensing. Only eight homes, Roloff Homes among them, signed up for the alternative accreditation status. Roloff Homes' administrators were finally criminally convicted in 2001.

The "Right Step Program" is registered with the TCADA Commission as a Faith-based chemical dependency treatment program, exempt from facility licensure and is still doing business as Williamson Baptist Association. It continues to operate legally in Texas without licensed counselors, without adherence to state health and safety standards, and with no accountability for client rights.

The establishment of a two tier system of accreditation for Faith-based programs has proven to be dangerous to vulnerable children and chemically-dependent people. The elimination of basic health and safety standards has endangered these populations. Parents and clients are often unaware that the facility is unlicensed by the state and does not have to meet state health and safety standards. Medical care is often not provided to those clients who need it. There is no effective accountability or transparency to prevent co-mingling of taxpayer funds with Faith-based funds meant for exclusively religious activities. The blurring of the line between church and state leads to potential First Amendment rights violations.

Political motives affect public policy

The majority of Faith-based child-care facilities in Texas chose to remain

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under state oversight; only 8 of 2,015 religious institutions elected to use the alternative accreditation system. After the Christian Alamo at the Rebekah Home for girls, George W. Bush politically backed Teen Challenge and other residential facilities run by religious groups. The posture aligned him with a political group of unrealized potential, especially among the fundamentalist evangelicals and also the Catholic vote.

Mr. Carl Esbeck was the author of the "Charitable Choice" legislation, written at the request of Senator John Ashcroft. Senator Ashcroft had presidential aspirations at the time and enlisted Esbeck, from the University of Missouri, to write the legislation, which was added to the new federal welfare reform program. Senator Ashcroft vowed to attach "Charitable Choice" to every applicable piece of social legislation coming out of Congress, starting with the TANF program.

Ashcroft was the 79th U.S.A. Attorney General under President George W. Bush from 2001- 2005. Ashcroft had been the 50th governor of Missouri (1985-1993) and a U.S.A. senator from Missouri (1995-2001). His father was a minister, serving an Assemblies of God congregation. The elder Ashcroft served as president of Evangel University from 1958-1974, and jointly as president of Central Bible College from 1958-1963. He later served as president of Valley Forge Christian College. His son, John, went to school in Springfield, Missouri, where Teen Challenge U.S.A. headquarters is located.

Don Stewart Ministries and charity fraud

In May of 2009, The Arizona Republic reported on its yearlong investigation of activities between the Don Stewart Association (DSA),⁴⁶⁸ a Phoenix-based televangelism ministry, and its affiliated secular charities including the Southwest Indian Foundation.^{469 470} Twenty-two charities, including the Southwest Indian Foundation, had ties to the DSA and were accused of questionable transactions with supplies that helped inflate their finances.⁴⁷¹ With such lapses in financial accountability, it was difficult if not impossible to tell if the charity actually raised its own funds or even how much of the money was theirs.⁴⁷² Charities in the network had spent up to 76 percent of donated cash on salaries and other administrative expenses, and often gave cash to other charities within the same network.^{473 474}

In non-profit organizations there are many connections between charitable organizations including shared board members and shared staff, personal ties and family connections. The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is the world's largest workplace charity campaign which allows federal employees and military personnel to donate a portion of their paychecks to charities of their choice. The 22 charities reported \$154 million in total revenue over three years. About four-fifths of that was in the form of gifts-in-kind. The charities transferred ownership of goods to other related groups, including \$80 million of goods that the charities never physically handled.⁴⁷⁵

Southwest Indian Foundation and Don Stewart Association

The Southwest Indian Foundation⁴⁷⁶ (a New Mexico-based Franciscan-affiliated charity) was a part of the Don Stewart Association's affiliated charities. The Southwest Indian Foundation had received federal grants from the Veterans Administration "to assist community-based agencies [to] acquire, renovate, or build transitional housing facilities, provide supportive services for homeless veterans and purchase vans for outreach to or transportation of homeless veterans." But there were concerns in how that federal money was spent. In April, 2005, Southwest Indian Foundation was given a rating of "F" as a non-profit charity by the American Institute of Philanthropy because the foundation did not directly benefit target recipients adequately. It was reported that too much money was used for fundraising and overhead, with too little for actual charity work.⁴⁷⁷

History of the Don Stewart Association

Don Stewart called evangelical preacher A.A. Allen his spiritual father. The ministry run by Don Stewart was originally called the Don Stewart Evangelistic Association, but later it became the Don Stewart Association. It started originally in Phoenix, Arizona, by evangelist Brother A.A. Allen, who wanted to build a Bible college on land known as Miracle Valley.

Rev. Don Stewart took over the ministry after Allen's death in 1970. He died from complications of alcoholism at age 59. Stewart tried to conceal his mentor's alcoholic binge in a San Francisco hotel before the police arrived. Stewart took over Allen's organization, including his Miracle Valley property. Stewart renamed Allen's Miracle Life Fellowship International to be the Don Stewart Evangelistic Association (and later the Don Stewart Association).

After Allen's death, Stewart was accused of embezzlement by Allen's brother-in-law, but he denied the claims and wrongdoing was never proven. In 1995, the Latin District Council of Assemblies of God's administration building, built on the Miracle Valley property, burned to the ground. The Assemblies wanted the insurance money from the fire to rebuild the building, but Stewart wanted to keep the insurance money without rebuilding. Finally, Stewart sold the property to the Assemblies conditionally: maintain a school there for 20 years or the property reverted to Stewart. For 20 years the Assemblies of God owned and operated Southern Arizona Bible College (SABC) at Miracle Valley, Arizona, closing in May, 1995. In 1997, the IRS accused Stewart of using his church for personal benefit and revoked the ministry's tax-exempt status.

The Don Stewart Association operated from a nondescript warehouse, but Stewart lived in a \$2.5 million Paradise Valley home owned by his church. Stewart had expanded his ministries in the 1980s during an international crusade to 86 countries, where he drew audiences of half a million or more in the Philippines, Central America and South America. He found a loyal following among African-American audiences. The charitable arm of Stewart's ministry, Feed My People Children's Charities, owned two of the largest food banks in Arizona: Northern Arizona Food Bank in Flagstaff and Borderland Food Bank in Nogales. Stewart founded Northern Arizona Food Bank in 1987 to serve Native American communities. Besides the food banks in Arizona, Feed My People Children's Charities distributed food to facilities on the Mexican border and also in the Philippines.

Teen Challenge

Teen Challenge – high level political protection

George W. Bush was the 43rd President of the United States (2001-2009) and the 46th Governor of Texas (1995-2000). As president, Bush appointed attorney Scott Bloch to be Deputy Director of the OFBCI, then Chief Counsel for the OSC. Bloch was able to facilitate award of federal grants, under Charitable Choice programs, to certain religious organizations that supported Bush's political campaigns. John Ellis "Jeb" Bush served as the 43rd Governor of Florida from 1999 to 2007. During these years of Bush leadership influence in powerful states and nationally, there was no meaningful protection for persons committed to lock-up facilities owned and operated by Teen Challenge and its affiliates. Numerous allegations about child abuse surfaced but investigations were shut down without proper explanation. Governor Jeb Bush of Florida and then-Governor G.W. Bush of Texas had altered state law to exempt Teen Challenge from state investigations. The facilities were permitted to be licensed by an alternate accreditation agency that did no supervision and did not report to any federal government authority.

Teen Challenge-New England director, Rodney Hart, lobbied earlier Teen Challenge ally from Texas, Bob Woodson, of Washington, DC- based National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise. Hart also approached Jim Towe, head of the White House Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives under Bush (2002-2006), who worked with attorney Scott Bloch while he was with the OFBCI. Jim Towe became president of Florida's Ave Maria University.⁴⁷⁸

Growing concerns over evidence of criminal activity in the Teen Challenge enterprise (fraud and money laundering) and allegations of child abuse made it critical for the organization's success that federal investigations and whistleblower complaints against Teen Challenge be closed without investigation or prosecution.

Teen Challenge was central to George W. Bush's war against drugs and to his political popularity with the religious right. As an exempt organization, there were no federal investigations into Teen Challenge-related enterprises by the FBI, Health and Human Services, US Department of Labor, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Food and Drug Administration, National Institute on Drug Abuse, SAMSHA or any other federal agency. President George W. Bush appointed Scott Bloch as Chief Counsel for the Office of Special Counsel

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(OSC). The Office of Special Counsel (OSC), under Bloch's influence, could stop any federal employee whistleblower complaints or prevent an appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board and cause the complaint dismissal. Realize that for CIA, DEA, ICE and FBI agents (others who have classified or national security clearances) the only place to appeal a whistleblower complaint is the Merit Systems Protection Board. FBI agents were involved with many of the cases involving insurance fraud, human trafficking, interstate crime and transport of children across state and interstate boundaries.

The political forces that propelled George W. Bush into the Presidency also provided an opening for Charles Colson's evangelical Christian InnerChange prison program, the expansion of Teen Challenge in a prison chaplain program, and expansion of related ministries of the Assembly of God church. Having been pardoned by Florida Governor Jeb Bush, Chuck Colson was moving once again in Republican campaign circles, no longer impeded by a criminal past.

Teen Challenge follows the Straight Inc. example

Teen Challenge is a ministry of the Assemblies of God.⁴⁷⁹ Teen Challenge is a national Faith-based residential treatment program operating in many states including: AL, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, ID, IL, IA, KS, KY, LA, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA. The programs have no medical basis. Instead, the treatment modalities center around prayer, Bible study, and religious conversion.

Teen Challenge states its purpose is, "To evangelize and disciple those with life-controlling problems." Their guide, "The Teen Challenge Therapeutic Model" states, "traditional residential substance abuse rehabilitative structures clearly do not provide an analogy for the Teen Challenge model... Teen Challenge is, in all issues of therapy, direct and indirect, a purposeful comprehensive focus on the whole life of the student relative to that student's functionality as a Christian disciple [after s/he is evangelized]."

Teen Challenge currently operates five drug abuse treatment centers in Texas, none of which have a state license. Two of the centers have formally registered their status as a Faith-based facility exempt from state licensing. As exempt, Faith-based drug treatment centers, Teen Challenge facilities are not required to have licensed chemical dependency counselors, conduct staff training or criminal background checks, protect client confidentiality rights, adhere to state health and safety standards, or report abuse, neglect,

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emergencies and medication errors. Prior to its exemption from state licensing, a 1995 state inspection revealed that Teen Challenge was not compliant with numerous state health, safety and quality of care standards.

These Teen Challenge centers have close ties to Melvin Sembler, the Drug Free America Foundation, Straight Inc. and the New Freedom Commission on Mental Health.

John Castellani was executive director of Teen Challenge, a "Faith-based" rehab program owned by the [Assemblies of God](#) denomination that was believed to exaggerate its success rate statistics.⁴⁸⁰ He is quoted as saying *"I'm hoping that Teen Challenge will not have to go through the licensing procedures that clinical organizations have to go through."* (John Castellani during the Assemblies of God "Mission America" meeting in 2000).

Teen Challenge U.S.A. has been reported to hire staff members who are registered child sex-offenders. Teen Challenge in Winthrop, Maine hired two registered sex-offenders on staff and there is direct recruitment of ex-convicts as ministers and staff. Teen Challenge-New England boasts that 90-98% of their staff is recruited from former "graduates" of the program. Teen Challenge-New England was directly recruiting from within the prisons, including an in-house program at Dartmouth House of Correction. The court system still court-orders persons into Teen Challenge in lieu of jail time.

Medical vs. Faith-based model for rehabilitation

Counselors at Teen Challenge of South Texas refused to trade in their faith-based approach for a "medical model" that saw alcoholism as a disease, rather than a manifestation of sin. Teen Challenge facilities in Texas and in Florida were unlicensed and unregulated, although investigators and child protective services tried to establish regulatory control over the teen rehab industry in light of continuing complaints. Teen Challenge opted for the alternative accreditation program that did no inspections as it wanted no regulation.

Are Teen Challenge programs effective?

There is little reliable research to support effectiveness claims of religious programs like Teen Challenge. Instead, there is ample evidence that abuse has occurred in such facilities and that leads to long-term emotional

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problems for clients. Social scientists pointed out that the 86 percent success rate of Teen Challenge is misleading.⁴⁸¹ It does not count those who dropped out during the program. Like many religious and private charities, Teen Challenge hand picks its clients.⁴⁸²

Rev. John Castellani, president of Teen Challenge International U.S.A. reported that before acceptance, most addicts have completed detoxification. During the program's first 4-month phase, Castellani said, there was 25-30 percent dropout rate. In the next eight months, he estimated 10 percent more leave. This raised questions for David Reingold, a researcher at the Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs. A study that Reingold recently completed of social services in Indiana found that religious programs are more likely than their secular counterparts to serve limited clientele. Reingold concluded, *"It's an extreme exaggeration to say that religious organizations are more effective."*⁴⁸³

Teen Challenge boasts unbelievably high success rates and uses this to promote their Faith-based treatment program. However, the last statistically significant evaluation of Teen Challenge was done in 1975 on a sample of Pennsylvania Teen Challenge graduates from 1968 (39 years ago). It could be asked why there is no other outcome study of Teen Challenge's program, which boasts over 200 residential treatment centers in the U.S.A.

The one study was by the National Opinion Research Center of the University of Chicago. They developed the survey instrument, located survey participants, conducted the personal interviews, and obtained a urine sample to test for drugs. The National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) funded the first year of the study. 186 persons, divided into 3 groups, were interviewed:

- P1=70 people (students that entered Brooklyn Teen Challenge, but dropped out and never attended the Rehrersburg program.)
- P2=52 people (students that completed the Brooklyn program who later dropped out of the Rehrersburg program.)
- P3=64 people (graduates of the Rehrersburg Training Center program.)

Results claim that 67% of graduates (P3) are drug-free, indicated by urine test, although 86% stated they were drug-free on the questionnaire. That would mean that 67% of the P3 group, or 43 people remained marijuana and heroin-free seven (7) years after graduating from Teen Challenge.

The other 21 graduates and 143 people who left the program are ignored. Also, the test results do not indicate whether the graduates tested positive for other drugs such as alcohol, other narcotics, or nicotine.

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This study suggested that Teen Challenge had a success rate of 86%. But Bill McColl, executive director of the National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors, dismisses both the statistic and the study. He states that the study was done too long ago and conducted with an extraordinarily small sample group. This leads us to believe that *this study has almost no statistical validity*. (Thanks to "Karly" from Teen Challenge Cult Blog for this research)

Teen Challenge might not have survived without the help of then-Governor George Bush. Because Teen Challenge claimed it did "treatment," it would be required by state regulations to employ persons qualified by academic degrees and clinical expertise. Teen Challenge did not hire counselors based on those criteria because Teen Challenge promoted the view that addiction is a "sin"- behavior prompted by a lack of religious commitment. Claiming spectacular outcome results – which turned out to false - the organization demanded that the laws change.

The result, called "*Faith in Action: A New Vision for Church-State Cooperation*," was announced by Governor Bush at a ministry in San Antonio. This report had concrete policy recommendations to exempt Teen Challenge from state licensure and oversight. In 1997, the Teen Challenge Bill changed the role of the TCADA to one which simply registered the names of programs in a one-page document (name, address, and what they do). Counselors no longer were required to get 270 hours of clinical training and significant levels of supervision as their acquired skills were evaluated for licensure. The need to conduct staff training or criminal background checks, protect client confidentiality rights, adhere to state health and safety standards, or report abuse, neglect, emergencies and medication errors were eliminated.

There was therefore no requirement to meet strict guidelines to qualify for federal funding in the form of grants awarded according to usual NIDA prescriptive.

Teen Challenge converts clients to Christianity

Teen Challenge programs describe themselves in these terms:

"Being a Christian discipleship program, it endeavors to minister to the whole person, helping them to become mentally sound, emotionally balanced, socially adjusted, physically well, and spiritually alive through a relationship with Jesus Christ." This applies to clients of any other faith.

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According to Teen Challenge, "Addiction is a [sin](#),⁴⁸⁴ not a disease." Consequently, the program does not allow the use of medication.⁴⁸⁵ Many Teen Challenge clients are court-ordered into the program and, if they do not comply with program demands, they go back to jail. Often, there is no other alternative program for the defendant to request by default.

Teen Challenge has close ties to the prison management ranks, and pastors often perform "double duty" in a paid position at Assemblies of God and as a volunteer prison chaplain.⁴⁸⁶ Clients court-coerced into the Teen Challenge program often do not know that it is run by the Assemblies of God. These court-ordered admissions into Teen Challenge usually run from 1-2 years.

Teen Challenge counselors and peers deliberately humiliate and "attempt to down" people with addictions, using techniques that are known to do more harm than good.⁴⁸⁷ Reports say [food deprivation](#)⁴⁸⁸ has been used to force recalcitrant youth to obey those in control of the Teen Challenge center.⁴⁸⁹ This excerpt is from the St. Louis Teen Challenge documents: *"The work experience program at Teen Challenge of St. Louis is directed to bring about a change in lifestyle and work habits. Work detail tests your maturity as a Christian and puts into practice what has been learned from the Bible. During work detail, a resident learns patience, tolerance, industry, faithfulness, perseverance, honesty, responsibility, and punctuality. The Bible emphasizes the importance of work in the verse that states, 'He that will not work shall not eat' (2 Thessalonians 3:10)."*

Teen Challenge centers spread anti-Semitic sentiments as well.⁴⁹⁰ Teen Challenge admitted in Congressional testimony in 2001 that it does this--and that it had successfully converted some Jews who entered the program, using the term ["completed Jews"](#) for such converts. The [application form](#) for Minnesota Teen Challenge is very explicit about the Christian, Faith-based nature of the program. On the National Assemblies of God website, Teen Challenge is listed as one of their ministries.⁴⁹¹ Questions have arisen about whether Teen Challenge violates federal policy in using tax dollars while engaged in overt religious bias both in hiring and in provision of services. In May 2001, during a congressional hearing [Rep. Mark Souder \(R-Ind.\) asked Teen Challenge Executive Director John Castellani](#) if the organization hired non-Christians. Castellani said no. When asked if Teen Challenge serves non-Christian clients, Castellani said they did. He reported that some Jews who complete Teen Challenge programs become "completed Jews."

Teen Challenge Minnesota had applied for \$500,000 of federal funds for its program even in light of the Tom Petters Ponzi fraud scam which was linked to Frank Vennes who served on the Teen Challenge MN board and handled their financial affairs.⁴⁹²

The federal agency USDA and CPS seek to close Teen Challenge

In Dallas, Texas, two boys reported in 1998 that they had been sexually molested by a staff member who was a convicted drug trafficker. After many reports of child abuse at centers nationwide, Teen Challenge-San Antonio was informed by TCADA that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) had determined that residents of Teen Challenge centers in Texas were no longer eligible to receive food stamps because the centers were not state-licensed or inspected.⁴⁹³

The San Antonio center's director admitted that the facility depended on the food stamps for nearly half its annual food budget. Teen Challenge claimed that federal food stamp regulations hindered men and women working to overcome addictions at Teen Challenge treatment centers in 4 states. Reports had surfaced that the food purchased with the food stamps was sold on the black market while children in the Teen Challenge centers were fed water, white bread and peanut butter.

The Rhode Island Teen Challenge women's program was managed by a registered sex offender, Shondi Barbato, but she was not the only sex offender on staff at Teen Challenge. State regulators in several states wanted to stop the direct access to children by registered sex offenders and violent criminal offenders in the Teen Challenge programs.

In most Teen Challenge centers, food stamp money provides a majority of their funding. Those in child protective services (CPS) were hopeful that this denial of food stamps would force compliance with regulatory protections. In several states, including Massachusetts and Vermont, officials halted benefits to Teen Challenge clients because the programs were not formally recognized by state officials, and because clients turned over their food stamps to administrators of the treatment program.⁴⁹⁴ The coupons were pooled together to buy groceries for those who live in dormitory-style housing for 18 months during their treatment. Through the USDA actions, federal authorities hoped to protect the human rights and body integrity of children in the care of Teen Challenge facilities. There had been food stamp fraud in Honolulu HI.⁴⁹⁵

The cutoff of food stamps impacted Teen Challenge centers in Oregon, Florida, and Massachusetts. The Boston field office for USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) stopped food stamps to Teen Challenge-New England.⁴⁹⁶ In 2005, food stamps paid about \$150/month per client in the Brockton, MA center. This totaled nearly \$200,000 a year. The USDA informed Teen Challenge that *"The basis for your denial was that your*

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program is not licensed by the state of Massachusetts."

There was strong protest from Teen Challenge-New England's director, Rodney Hart, the supervisor of Shondi Barbato, a registered sex offender. Hart, himself a 1976 graduate of Teen Challenge, advocated politically for the government to create a separate category for Faith-based groups at the federal level, citing it was the key to solve "a serious glitch that needs to be fixed at a higher level." Teen Challenge-New England's lawyer, Brad Martin filed a complaint against the government in 2005 on behalf of Teen Challenge-New England, which has centers in Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island. Teen Challenge New England Director Hart stated, "The government does not have a lens to interpret Faith-based recovery centers. *It only recognizes the disease model, which is totally irrelevant to us.*" Hart refused to obtain a state license, equating it to "obtaining an identity that doesn't correspond to who we are... *It would be like getting a deer-hunting license to hunt crocodiles.*" [*Stamped Out*](#) World Magazine, August 27, 2005, Vol. 20, No. 33 ⁴⁹⁷

"Texas Freedom Network, a 23,000-member non-partisan grassroots watchdog group based in Austin conducted a five-year study of the policy and found, *"As exempt Faith-based drug treatment centers, [such] facilities are not required to have licensed chemical dependency counselors, conduct staff training or criminal background checks, protect client confidentiality rights, adhere to state health and safety standards, or report abuse, neglect, emergencies and medication errors."* ⁴⁹⁸

With the influence of President George W. Bush, the federal government cleared the way for Teen Challenge clients in recovery programs to resume receipt of food stamps under Charitable Choice. ⁴⁹⁹

"In a joint opinion issued by the Secretaries of the U.S. Departments of Agriculture (USDA), and Health and Human Services (HHS), it has now been determined that residents of such treatment programs are eligible for Food Stamps, so long as the programs are operating in compliance with provisions of the Public Health Services Act. Under the opinion, state agencies which administer Food Stamps must recognize such programs as "operating to further the purposes of Part B of Title XIX" of the act – however, it also specifies that such programs are not required to be licensed by states in order to be eligible." ⁵⁰⁰

Rodney Hart's thesis reported that in 2007, Teen Challenge-New England had 589 beds and revenue of about \$7 million. The centers' staff was 95% graduates of the program and there were 125 salaried staff. To learn more

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about the beliefs of Hart, as director of Teen Challenge-New England, see his [Doctoral thesis](#).⁵⁰¹

Establishment of alternative accreditation to evade inspections

In Florida and Texas, Teen Challenge centers were accredited by the Texas Association of Christian Child Care Agencies (TACCCA)⁵⁰² and the Florida Association of Christian Child Care Agencies (FACCCA).^{503 504} In Florida, the heads of the Department of Children and Families and Department of Human Services were both former Straight, Inc. leaders.

West Florida Teen Challenge Boys' Ranch in Bonifay, FL is a rigid program. The contract parents must sign states that the FACCCA intends to "insure the physical and spiritual health, safety, and wellbeing" of children and that the boys' ranch must meet FACCCA's "minimum standards." In the contract parents must agree to hold the ranch and its employees harmless from "any and all liability" for injury to the child, "even injury resulting in death." Parents must agree "that God desires that they resolve their dispute with one another within the church and that they be reconciled in their relationships in accordance with the principles stated in I Corinthians 6:1-8, Matthew 5:23-24, and Matthew 18:15-20." If they cannot resolve their disagreement privately within the church, parents must accept resolution through "biblically-based mediation" by rules of the Association of Christian Conciliation Services.⁵⁰⁵ There is no refund of tuition or deposits if the boy leaves the ranch before 15 months, even if the ranch has expelled him. Many residential treatment centers were run with no insurance liability policies and these legal waivers were used to prevent liability lawsuits. Parents were told that, because they signed the waiver, they had no legal rights even if their child was injured.

Further protections through official State Liaison positions

To further insulate Teen Challenge from government regulation and oversight, Governor George W. Bush's advisory board made recommendations that legislated creation of official state liaison positions in several key government entities. Texas was also the first state to create a formal Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives (OFBCI). These acts were part of larger cultural and structural shifts that redefined the

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boundaries between church and state in Texas. An adviser was appointed by Governor Bush to change key agencies to alter their regulatory procedures and protocols to make them more receptive to Faith-based programs. Appointees chosen were receptive to the new policies and assumed positions of power and authority on state governing boards.

In Texas, Governor Bush was closely allied with leaders of the evangelical community, such as Joe Loconte, Marvin Olasky, Stanley Carlson-Thies, and Carl Esbeck. The Bush administration created far-reaching changes in state government policy. The state-level implementation of "Charitable Choice" did not create new funding for Faith-based organizations, but consisted of a symbolic alteration in the relationship between church and state that was manifest in laws, policies and procedural practices.

Bush's policy team in Texas worked with Carlson-Thies and Esbeck, the chief architects of Charitable Choice as it passed through the U.S.A. Congress. Both men went to Texas to help state agency heads understand the new law and to garner support for it there. These changes in policy were then presented to the executive directors of the state agencies (TWC-Texas Workforce Commission, DHHS-Department of Health and Human Services, TEA—the Texas Education Agency) and to certain key board members of those agencies. These pushed principles that Congress enacted in August 1996 as part of federal welfare reform. Texas added a "nondiscrimination" section in 1997 but did not label it as a Charitable Choice provision. The early political goal was to change the government culture from within, but without use of confrontation of state legislators to embrace legislative changes. Only ten states enacted 41 laws between 1996 and 2000 related to Faith-based initiatives. Since then, there has been an increased legislation specifically focused on the initiatives.

In July, 1999, presidential-candidate Bush delivered his first major policy address in Indianapolis. There he unveiled his new pro-faith agenda and painted himself as a "new kind of Republican" politically and fiscally conservative, but supportive of Faith-based nonprofit organizations to deliver help to those in need.

After the 2000 election of President Bush, 230 additional laws on Faith-based initiatives were enacted, and now 31 states have enacted some legislation. Several states of note are New Jersey, Oklahoma and Florida. In each of these states, G.W. Bush had close ties. NJ Governor Christie Todd-Whitman was a close friend, as was OK Governor Francis Anthony "Frank" Keating. Bush's brother, Jeb Bush, was FL governor. Jeb Bush sought increased legislation including Faith-based prison wings supported by a new government office. An OFBCI was established in Florida in 2004.

Establishment of funding to Faith-based programs

In January, 2001, President Bush created the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives by Executive Order. Later Executive Orders created centers for the Office within the Departments of Justice, Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), Housing and Urban Development, Education, and Agriculture, as well as at the Agency for International Development. Shortly thereafter, the Compassion Capital Fund (CCF) was established in 2001 through HHS and distributed almost \$200 million dollars to various faith- and community-based organizations. Through a series of executive orders and the creation of separate Faith-based centers in 11 agencies and departments within the federal government, President Bush expanded Faith-based initiatives significantly from a political standpoint. Some executive orders permitted religious organizations to discriminate in their hiring practices by making it possible for them to hire only those who share specific religious beliefs, despite the receipt of federal money.

President Bush actually promised \$8 billion, during the campaign trail, but the Compassion Capital Fund fell dramatically short of that goal, leaving many that supported the Charitable Choice with added social responsibilities and no federal funding stream to cover expectations. These Faith-based initiatives first obtained their support mainly from the evangelical churches, but later support came from various black churches and the Catholic Church.

Many in religious circles saw "Charitable Choice" as a means to allow the churches greater religious freedom while performing social services. Critics maintain that vast funding amounts were funneled to political allies and Christian organizations that had supported candidate Bush, such as Operation Blessing, a charity run by television evangelist Pat Robertson. Political bias in the granting of federal funds appeared in the support given the InnerChange prison program. Governor G.W. Bush supported Chuck Colson's prison ministry, which became a contract service provider to the Texas prison system.⁵⁰⁶ Colson had years before been sent to prison for his involvement in the Watergate scandal.^{507 508} Colson was also believed to be a member of the "Family" (also known as the Fellowship) and was a signer of the Manhattan Declaration.^{509 510}

For many who politically supported the Faith-based initiatives these were just empty promises which did not increase funding for beleaguered and legitimate Faith-based social service programs. This was especially true for the smaller religious organizations, as they were still in competition with the larger, established, church-based providers, as well as community-based NGOs. There was a smaller pot of federal funds actually available due to

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welfare budget cuts. Charitable Choice federal funding did not fix problems of poverty. Instead, it seemed to benefit the chosen “politically correct” few. The shift of money in Faith-based programs moved from government-run welfare programs for the poor, serving minority, immigrant, migrant or disabled persons, to focus on upper- middle-class Christians with substance-abuse problems in unregulated private treatment centers.

The White House OFBCI sent letters to all state governors in 2002, 2004, and 2006, encouraging them to create their own OFBCIs. There were no guidelines on how to establish the offices, or how to fund them, such that an unorganized program implementation resulted. There are three primary means by which states have implemented the Faith-based initiatives:

- 1) Creation of liaison positions and/or offices,
- 2) Passage of legislation and administrative policies
- 3) Sponsorship of conferences

Three states have added Charitable Choice provisions to legislation. These are: Arizona (1999), California (1999), and Mississippi (2004). Since 1996, legislative appropriations processes in 16 states have offered some type of funding to Faith-based organizations (FBOs) or OFBCIs, leading to 42 separate appropriation bills which have allocated approximately \$70 million. In 2007, a total of 10 appropriation laws were passed in 10 states, increasing overall funding for the initiatives. Florida passed appropriations bills directed to Faith-based and community groups for teenage pregnancy prevention programs, granting them \$1,500,000 of non-recurring maternal block-grant trust funds. New Jersey has allocated approximately \$3 million a year since 1998. Public money has been allocated to Faith-based groups, but the lack of standardized oversight once the funds are distributed is a concern, as is whether or not there is political bias in selection of recipients.

The vast majority of OFBCIs and related positions have been created administratively, and some states have given these positions greater permanence by enacting them with legislation. Kentucky (2005), Iowa (2004), Missouri (2007), Virginia (2002), Louisiana (2004), North Dakota (2005), Ohio (2005), Alaska (2007), and Maryland (2008) have created Faith-based legislative positions or OFBCIs by statute.

Mounting evidence of criminal activities

Affinity fraud

Affinity fraud refers to investment scams that prey upon members of identifiable groups, such as religious or ethnic communities, the elderly or professional groups. The criminal fraudsters are frequently members of the group, or pretend that they are, so that they gain access to the group through extension of trust.

The technique enlists respected community or religious leaders from within the group to spread the word about the scheme, and to convince group members that a fraudulent investment is legitimate and worthwhile. These group leaders ultimately may become unwitting victims of the fraudster's ruse. These fraud schemes are a betrayal of trust; they exploit the trust and friendship that exist in groups of people who have something in common. Because of the tight-knit structure of the group, it is often difficult for regulators or law enforcement officials to detect an affinity scam. Victims often fail to notify authorities or pursue their legal remedies; instead, they try to work things out within the group. This is particularly true in cases where perpetrators have used respected community or religious leaders to convince others to join the investment.

Recent affinity scams, such as the Tom Petters Ponzi scheme, are pyramid schemes in which the new investors' money is used to make payments to earlier investors to give the false illusion that the investment is successful. In the Thomas J. Petter's Ponzi ploy, new investors were tricked to invest church monies in the scheme while their funds injection was used to deceive existing investors to believe their investments were safe and secure. Later, the supply of new investors runs out and the inevitable occurs; the whole scheme collapses and investors discover that most or all of their money is gone. When these affinity frauds are revealed for what they truly are, it is clear that the fraudster has stolen the investor money for personal use.

Ex-convicts as fundamental Evangelical pastors

The Assemblies of God, unlike most mainstream Christian churches, do not have liturgical requirements. Pastors are not required to have any seminary training. What qualifies a person to be a pastor for the Assemblies of God church is to be vetted by an existing pastor, two years spent as a deacon or

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"lay missionary," and taking a multiple choice quiz. Prison converts quickly become pastors and start their own ministries. Other groups that make it easy to become an ordained minister are the Universal Life Church, which operates over the Internet, the Calvary Chapel, and Vineyard. Calvary Chapel and Vineyard are seen as ordination document mills that require only signage of a "statement of faith" and payment of an annual "membership fee." Universal Life Church's online ordination is not valid in all 50 states.

How criminal felons, many with drug convictions, become pastors for the Assemblies of God church is illustrated by the rise of evangelical revivalist preacher Steve Hill, convicted as a drug dealer. Hill often embellishes his criminal record to more dramatically affect his audiences from the pulpit. What has been revealed is that, in 1976, Judge John David Snodgrass was a circuit court judge in Madison County when Hill appeared before him. Hill was accused of two counts of possession/sale of LSD and two counts of possession/sale of Dilaudid. The judge dismissed three counts and convicted Hill on one. While Hill was in prison, Jim Summers, from Outreach Ministries of Alabama Inc., met him and lobbied the judge to release Hill on probation to his ministries. Because the county had been looking for alternate ways to provide for offenders, the judge reluctantly agreed. Snodgrass sentenced Hill to two years in the state penitentiary, but changed it to two years of probation on the condition that Hill completes a Christian-based treatment program called Teen Challenge. Hill spent 3 months with Jim Summers in his prison ministry in Huntsville. He was then sent to Cape Girardeau, MO., for eight months of Bible study in Teen Challenge. When he completed the Teen Challenge program, Hill entered a one-year program at Twin Oaks Academy in Lindale, Texas, headed by David Wilkerson, founder of Teen Challenge. Hill was hired by Summers' ministry and worked for 4 years with prisoners in Huntsville. Hill also did missionary work in South America.⁵¹¹

The Brownsville Assembly of God church held a revival in Pensacola, Florida. Assembly of God Pastor John Kilpatrick said that over 1.6 million people walked through the doors of the church since this revival on Father's Day, 1995. Pat Robertson's August-September 1996 Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) News Report lauded the revival, stating "thousands of pastors have visited the church and report that their own churches are being affected by the Pensacola outpouring." Kilpatrick's mother died five weeks before the "revival" broke out, so he had asked evangelist Steve Hill to speak at Brownsville on Father's Day. Hill agreed and opened up the altar for prayer that morning. Over 1000 people came forward to pray that morning, and Kilpatrick stood on the platform praying with Hill. There was a large number of what were described by those attending as unsaved, rebellious youth at the service who would fall to the floor, shaking under the "power of the Holy Ghost." Many people in the audience who experienced

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supernatural spiritual manifestations were not even Christians. This led to criticism that Pastor Kilpatrick did not protect his flock from *apostasy*.⁵¹² Questions arose from within and without the congregation about where the money from the very popular revivals really went. Associate Pastor Carey Robertson urged attendees to give a suggested donation of \$100.

Evangelist Steve Hill says he has poured money into a multitude of foreign missions and charities. His lavish lifestyle has been questioned. Inspection of the church's finances shows only 2% go to missions. The orphanage in San Nicolas, Argentina, where the money supposedly went, had not heard from Hill for 10 years.⁵¹³ It appears that money was funneled back into the Teen Challenge program in order to build more Teen Challenge centers worldwide.⁵¹⁴ Hill's ministry, Together in the Harvest Ministries, gave \$93,202 to Teen Challenge between August 1996 and August 1997, according to a financial statement provided through Hill's attorney, Walter Chandler. Donations included \$5,000 to the new Pensacola Teen Challenge center, \$3,260 to Teen Challenge-Florida, and \$10,000 to West Florida Teen Challenge. None of these donations were reported on Hill's ministry's IRS form. Brownsville Assembly of God also gave money to Teen Challenge, according to the church's financial statement for 1996. It lists \$3,100 to Teen Challenge, and \$11,059 to Teen Challenge International (Teen Challenge-I).

Of the church's \$6.6 million budget, 15% or \$1,019,406 pays salaries and benefits for 107 church employees according to a financial statement the Brownsville Assembly of God released to the News Journal.⁵¹⁵

According to the Pensacola News Journal article by Amie K. Streater:

"What is most clear about the Brownsville Revival money picture is that the leaders have found many ways to keep the money coming in. For example:

- The church videotapes the four-nights-a-week revival services and sells tapes by the thousands, at \$15 and \$10.
- Each of the four major revival leaders started his own individual ministry corporation to sell revival-generated materials and memorabilia.
- The revival leaders have published autobiographies and other books sold through the individual ministry's corporation.
- The four top revival leaders have created an unofficial joint venture, Awake America, along with the Brownsville church. Using it as the umbrella organization, they go to big cities around the country to hold stadium revivals and share the proceeds. A recent two-night revival at The Pyramid, a large arena in Memphis, grossed \$123,500.

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- During the revival, sinners are coaxed to get rid of “articles of affection” --rings, bracelets, watches and other jewelry they received in adulterous affairs. Church leaders will not give specifics about how many such items show up in the offerings.
- The revival has given birth to a Bible college that in one year has brought in about \$604,500. The church rents classroom space in a defunct Bible school on U.S. 98 in West Pensacola and charges its 507 students an instructional fee of \$975 a semester. This includes books, but not room and board, for the 120 students who live on campus.”

Further details of the Brownville Revival and Teen Challenge are available at [Rick Ross's website](#).⁵¹⁶

Assemblies of God & sex-offending pastors

In Dallas, Texas an 18-year-old man and his parents sued Assemblies of God and the church's ranch for troubled youths, claiming the youth was molested by a counselor at the center. The alleged victim was 16 when he went to [Dallas Teen Challenge Boys Ranch](#)⁵¹⁷ in January, 1996. It was alleged that the church Executive Director Paul Ecker employed men with known criminal histories. The alleged victim was, according to his lawsuit, sexually assaulted and molested on six different occasions by a counselor at the ranch who was a convicted drug trafficker. State regulations prohibited the hire of convicted offenders but director Ecker continued to disregard regulations. Many clients of the Teen Challenge - Assemblies of God facility were court-ordered into the Assemblies of God care as a condition of probation, and already had psychological or substance abuse problems. During the day, they performed chores, including care of livestock, and took part in religious education. At night, they were “locked down” and monitored by alarm systems to prevent unauthorized departures. Employees and volunteers who participated in an adult substance abuse treatment program called “Life Change” were admitted to the Teen Challenge facility as part of their probation. This was improper according to state regulations.⁵¹⁸

Mike and Sharla Hintz from Clive, Iowa campaigned for George W. Bush. Rev. [Mike Hintz, youth pastor at the First Assembly of God Church](#)⁵¹⁹ was later charged with the sexual exploitation of a child. Hintz was the youth pastor at the church for three years. Police said he started an affair with a 17-year-old in the church youth group. The Des Moines, IA area pastor was accused of and charged with sexual exploitation by another counselor and then turned himself in to police. Hintz was fired from the First Assembly of

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God Church in 2004.⁵²⁰

Ted Arthur Haggard was founder and former pastor of the New Life Church in Colorado Springs, a founder of the Association of Life-Giving Churches, and was leader of the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) from 2003 until November 2006.^{521 522} In November 2006, escort and masseur Mike Jones alleged that Haggard paid Jones to engage in sex with him for three years, and had purchased/ used crystal methamphetamine.^{523 524 525} A few days later, Haggard resigned from all of his leadership positions.⁵²⁶ After the scandal was publicized, Haggard got three weeks of intensive counseling, overseen by four other ministers. In February 2007, one of those ministers, Tim Ralph, said that Haggard "is completely heterosexual."⁵²⁷ Rev. Ralph later said that the therapy "gave Ted the tools to help to embrace his heterosexual side." This contradicted statements by the church on November 4, 2006 that stated, "Our investigation and Pastor Haggard's public statements have proven without a doubt that he has committed sexually immoral conduct." His removal as pastor was deemed permanent. But, in an effort to again be able to preach, in spite of the public scandal, Haggard was treated by three weeks of intensive counseling overseen by four ministers who proclaimed him "completely heterosexual" in Feb. 2007.⁵²⁸

Haggard and his wife signed up for classes at the University of Phoenix, which offered online degrees in counseling and psychology. To be "restored" as a minister, Haggard moved Phoenix, Arizona in April, 2007, and attended Phoenix First Assembly of God, under Pastor Tommy Barnett. Barnett was on Haggard's counseling team.⁵²⁹ He next planned to move into the Dream Center, a Phoenix-based halfway house that ministers to recovering convicts, drug addicts, and prostitutes.⁵³⁰ Haggard pursued a degree in counseling while his wife, Gayle, studied psychology. In 2006, Haggard had received \$115,000 income and an \$85,000 anniversary bonus, shortly before the scandal broke in November. Haggard reached an agreement with New Life Church for a severance package of \$138,000 and would be paid through 2007; one of the conditions was that he had to leave the Colorado Springs area. The Haggards have a home in Colorado Springs, CO that is valued at more than \$700,000. In August 2007, Haggard asked for monetary donations that could be sent to the Families with a Mission, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization to help support him and his family.⁵³¹ Haggard still receives royalties from books he has authored.

On June 1, 2010 Haggard announced that he intended to start a new church in Colorado Springs. In February 2011, Haggard revealed he was "bisexual."

There are other "ministers" in related church positions that violated youth.

Reverend L. G. Gilstrap, 54, an Assemblies of God minister, was convicted by a jury on 3 counts of child molestation and sentenced to 33 years in prison for a string of fondling incidents in 1988 involving brothers aged 10 and 13. The older boy said Gilstrap once tried to have sex with him in the shower. Eight men testified during the trial that they, too, were molested by the minister when they were boys. Three said they were also abused by the Sunday school teacher, who was not tried. Gilstrap denied the charges against him but corroborated the mens' accusations against the teacher. The prosecutor called Gilstrap the "*Pied Piper of pedophilia*." Gilstrap, defrocked, started a new church, New Hope Ministries. Married, he was a former clerk for the Georgia House of Representatives.⁵³²

Three of the eight men who testified against Gilstrap said the minister occasionally took them to Atlanta to serve as House pages. After spending the day working at the Capitol, they said, the minister would take them to an Atlanta hotel and molest them. (Atlanta Constitution, 9/22/89 [Ex-Minister Gets 33-Year Sentence In Child Sex Case: Gilstrap Guilty of 3 Molestation Counts](#))⁵³³

Labor fraud schemes - lack of Workmen's Compensation Insurance

*According to documents from St. Louis Teen Challenge: "A regular part of the Teen Challenge Farm program is work therapy. You will be assigned a job to do at work detail, which you are responsible to carry out thoroughly. You may be on the same job for a period of days or even weeks. We are here to teach you not only the spiritual aspects of living, but responsibility, dependability and accountability, which are important in living an effective and satisfying Christian life. This means you must learn good work ethic (habits). Your job will normally consist of either kitchen, maintenance, working on one of our work contracts, or one of the shops on the property. These include vehicle donation department, livestock, wood shop, lawn maintenance, or just plain cleanup. You will not be paid for any work you do while in the Teen Challenge program. The tasks you complete during work detail help you to grow and develop Christian character. These are also ways of making an offering back to the Lord for what He has done for you while in the Teen Challenge program."*⁵³⁴

There are reliable reports that Teen Challenge has clients fill out paperwork for social welfare payments for the disabled (SSDI, SSI, etc.), then forces inmates to turn over the payments to Teen Challenge. Admission to one Teen Challenge facility explicitly requests that clients sign up for welfare and then the funds are turned over to Teen Challenge.⁵³⁵

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In 2008, Wayne Gray, Director of Sanford Florida Teen Challenge, did a telemarketing fraud scam. This criminal scheme utilized Teen Challenge teen clients in an abusive environment to man the phone bank, paying the teens only 33 cents a day for a 40 hour work week. This time-share vacation scam funneled customer's credit card information over to men convicted of financial crimes. Gray resigned in disgrace after a telemarketing scam he oversaw was exposed on WFTV. Gray fled when Action 9 news reporter Todd Ullrich showed up with a camera crew to do a follow-up.⁵³⁶ He was not fired, however, for the violations of child labor laws and telemarketing fraud. Wayne Gray moved from Sanford, Florida and was re-employed by Teen Challenge in Oklahoma City as Executive Director. Sanford Teen Challenge supervisor, Danny McCrimon, was arrested March 8, 2009 for DUI. McCrimon, who was Operations Director at the Sanford location, was arrested and booked into the John Polk Correctional facility on a \$2000 bond.^{537 538}

Alan Pauler, of Wichita, Kansas, was accepted into Teen Challenge of the Midlands (Teen Challenge) program on September 23, 2003. This is a Faith-based organization located on an 80-acre complex in Colfax, Iowa, with a smaller "re-entry" facility in Omaha, Nebraska, and a non-residential facility in Des Moines, IA. Teen Challenge is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

At the time of admission, Pauler did not have health insurance. Teen Challenge does not provide health insurance to its participants, called students. Several staff members are members of Reverend Hunsberger's family. There are no certified substance abuse counselors at the Colfax site. Rev. Hunsberger distinguishes the *"discipleship" program from drug treatment, saying that discipleship is "based on scriptural model," "eating meals together, hanging out together, and living together in a community."* Pauler was assigned to perform construction work on campus duplexes used by Teen Challenge staff members. He was also selected to work on several construction projects at off-campus locations for which he was not paid, but from which the organization benefited financially. Pauler sustained a fractured patella, which required surgery, and a laceration to his head, which required sutures. He has suffered ongoing pain and restricted movement. Teen Challenge carried Workers' Compensation Insurance for its staff, but not for participants. Coverage was denied. [The court decided](#)⁵³⁹ that there is no workers' compensation liability in analogous situations involving individuals seeking spiritual development from organizations that provide room, board, and a work requirement.

Tom Petters Ponzi scheme linked to Teen Challenge

On September 29, 2008, businessman Tom Petters was arrested for operating a Ponzi scheme that allegedly fleeced investors out of \$3.5 billion.^{540 541 542 543} Petters was held in county jail for over a year while his attorneys and government attorneys made trial preparations. *U.S. vs. Thomas J. Petters* finally got underway October 28, 2009 at the Federal Courthouse in Saint Paul, MN. Federal Judge Richard H. Kyle presided. The second day of the trial began with Assistant U.S. Attorney John Marti questioning witnesses who became involved in Petters' complex web of financial dealings. Witnesses testified how the scheme almost unraveled in 2000 when phony purchase orders were used to borrow large amounts of money. On the third day of the trial, Gregg Colburn of the Interlachen hedge fund told how Interlachen lost \$60 million when Petters was arrested in 2008.

Specifically, Petters was found guilty on the following charges:

- 10 counts of wire fraud
- 3 counts of mail fraud
- 1 count of conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud
- 1 count of conspiracy to commit money laundering
- 5 five counts of money laundering.

Following a federal investigation by Julio La Rosa, Acting Special Agent in Charge (St. Paul IRS field office), Petters was convicted by a jury of masterminding a scheme that cost investors more than \$3.5 billion. Frank Vennes, who was on the board of Teen Challenge Minnesota, was a broker for investors in Petters' companies.⁵⁴⁴ Petters functioned as a venture capitalist and attracted investment from hedge funds⁵⁴⁵ and individuals.⁵⁴⁶ Pretending they were selling real items such as electronic equipment, Petters and his colleagues took investors' money for their own gain. In 2009, Petters was found guilty on all 20 counts of wire fraud, mail fraud, conspiracy and money laundering.⁵⁴⁷

Petters had major holdings in Sun Country Airlines,⁵⁴⁸ Polaroid and other companies. As the criminal case developed, several of Petters' companies were put into receivership and then filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.^{549 550}

Frank Vennes Jr., financial fraud and Teen Challenge

In Minnesota, Teen Challenge had recruited ex-convict, Frank Vennes Jr, to handle their finances. Vennes was a participant in the Charis Prison Ministries. He was invited to serve on the boards of Northwestern Bible College and Minnesota Teen Challenge. Vennes claimed to be rehabilitated after finding God. He received spiritual guidance from an evangelical Christian ministry while in prison. Upon leaving prison he got support from the Assemblies of God to operate the residential treatment facility Teen Challenge MN. Frank Vennes Jr., "born-again" ex-convict, who served on the board of Teen Challenge MN, was a fraudster and money launderer.⁵⁵¹

⁵⁵² According to a federal search warrant, Vennes convinced five investors to put \$1.2 billion into the Petters' companies, which won Vennes more than \$28 million in commissions. Previously, Vennes had spent five years in prison for illegal firearm sales, using a phone to distribute cocaine, and money laundering. Teen Challenge directors knew about Vennes' previous convictions for money laundering, drug dealing and gun sales, but they still placed him in charge of financial affairs for the center and for fund-raising activities for Teen Challenge Minnesota. U.S. Representative Bachmann,⁵⁵³ Governor Tim Pawlenty, former Senator Norm Coleman, Texas attorney Jack Ladd and former Minnesota GOP Chairman Ron Ebensteiner had all supported a [Presidential pardon](#) from President Bush in order to wipe away the taint of the crimes that had first landed Vennes in prison.^{554 555}

In his capacity handling Teen Challenge finances, Vennes defrauded numerous Christian donors in an elaborate affinity fraud and was a co-conspirator of the Thomas J. Petters Ponzi scheme. Frank Vennes sat on the board of Teen Challenge MN with former Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty's wife, Mary.

Vennes gave large campaign contributions to rising political aspirants. Vennes had given several thousand dollars in political contributions in 2002 to the former Governor, Tim Pawlenty.⁵⁵⁶

Frank Vennes Jr. was also a major financial contributor to MN Representative Michele Bachmann's 2006 congressional campaign, giving thousands of dollars. In a letter to the Office of Pardon Attorney dated December 10, 2007, a year after she was elected, Congresswoman Bachmann requested a presidential pardon for Frank Vennes Jr. She stated in that letter to then-President Bush that Fidelis Foundation was "backed" by Vennes, and a Presidential pardon of Vennes would be "good for society."

"As a U.S. Representative, I am confident of Mr. Vennes' successful rehabilitation and that a pardon will be good for the neediest of society,"

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Bachmann wrote. "Mr. Vennes is seeking a pardon so that he may be further used to help others. As I know from personal experience, Mr. Vennes has used his business position and success to fund hundreds of nonprofit organizations dedicated to helping the neediest in our society. The Fidelis Foundation, backed by Mr. Vennes, has directed over \$10.7 million in total gifts in the last three years, and the Fidelis Foundation has ranked #6, #9 and #7 as the largest grant-making foundation in Minnesota over the past three years." And she added... "Despite his success, Mr. Vennes still encounters the barriers of his past and especially in the area of finance loan documents." (Michele Bachmann)

The appearance of Vennes' success was a mask for a tangled financial web of lies.⁵⁵⁷ Charities were targeted for this massive affinity fraud.⁵⁵⁸ As a member of the Teen Challenge board as well as the financial committee, Vennes reviewed the investment proposal with Petters' business.

It is now evident that Vennes was criminally involved in the Petters Ponzi fraud involving Sun Valley Airlines. Vennes is CEO of four companies: Metro Gem, Inc. (corporate finance), Metro Gold, Inc. (precious metals, rare coin firm), Metro Capital, LLC (commercial real estate) and Resort Ventures, LLC (residential real estate). Vennes also backed the Fidelis Foundation, which has directed millions of dollars of gifts and is one of the largest grant-making foundations in Minnesota; what influence he may have had over their grant giving choices has not yet been revealed. Now more than 100 pastors, ministers and nonprofit organizations have joined together in a federal racketeering lawsuit filed in Minneapolis against Petters and some of his associates. Carolyn Glass Anderson is the attorney with the Minneapolis law firm Zimmerman Reed that filed the case.

According to a federal search warrant affidavit used to search Vennes' home, Vennes earned more than \$28 million in commissions for his alleged role in luring five investors to invest \$1.2 billion in Petters' alleged Ponzi scheme. Vennes had a known criminal history before he joined Minnesota Teen Challenge. He had been arrested in 1986 for alleged money laundering. He later admitted that he and his co-defendants received \$370,000 from the undercover agent and transferred it, minus their commissions, to the Bahamas, the Isle of Man, and Switzerland without compliance with federal currency transaction reporting laws. In the last transaction, Vennes personally delivered \$100,000 to Switzerland, where his associates lost or stole it.

Teen Challenge MN asserted the money invested in Petters Co. was given through a single contributor, the Fidelis Foundation. Fidelis Foundation is a

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public charity that acts as an investment agent on behalf of other public charities and nonprofits, including Teen Challenge. The Fidelis Foundation claims it faces losses in the bankruptcy case of up to \$27.6 million in Petters Co. notes. Fidelis Foundation, a Minnesota religious charity, had \$27.6 million invested in eight promissory notes from Petters Co., backed by fictitious purchase orders.⁵⁵⁹ The Fidelis Foundation investment funds originally came from loans from the Harvest Foundation. Harvest Foundation was the entity that initially loaned Vennes \$10,500,000 in 2001 and 2002.

When the ponzi fraud was discovered, Congresswoman Bachmann quickly distanced herself and withdrew the letter of support for a presidential pardon she had written for Vennes, citing that she may have too hastily accepted his claims of redemption. She was not the only politician to receive money from Vennes. Minnesota politicians, who were scrambling to jettison campaign cash donated by those involved in the fraud scheme, included Norm Coleman, Amy Klobuchar, Tim Pawlenty, Jim Oberstar, and Elwyn Tinkenberg.^{560 561}

Prison Ministries Network – InnerChange Freedom Initiative

Political ally Chuck Colson financially supported by Charitable Choice

Charles “Chuck” Wendell Colson is a Christian leader, cultural commentator, and former Special Counsel for President Richard Nixon from 1969 to 1973. Colson was one of the “Watergate Seven,” and pled guilty to obstruction of justice for attempts to defame Pentagon Papers defendant, Daniel Ellsberg. Chuck Colson was known as a man valuable to President Nixon because he would be ruthless to get things done, according to David Plotz in a March 10, 2000 Slate article, called “[Charles Colson - How a Watergate crook became America's greatest Christian conservative](#)”. In November, 2009, Colson signed an ecumenical statement known as the Manhattan Declaration,⁵⁶² which called on evangelicals, Catholics and Orthodox not to comply with rules and laws that permit abortion, same-sex marriage and other matters that go against their religious consciences.⁵⁶³

On March 1, 1974, former aides to President Nixon, known as the “Watergate Seven,” were indicted for conspiring to hinder the Watergate investigation. Haldeman, Ehrlichman, Mitchell, Charles Colson, Gordon C. Strachan, Robert Mardian and Kenneth Parkinson were criminally charged. The grand jury also secretly named Nixon as an unindicted co-conspirator. John Dean, Jeb Stuart Magruder, and other figures had already pled guilty. On April 5, 1974, former Nixon appointments secretary Dwight Chapin was convicted of lying to the grand jury. Two days later, the Watergate grand jury indicted Ed Reinecke, Republican lieutenant governor of California, on three charges of perjury before the Senate committee.

Former President Nixon's position had become increasingly precarious. The House of Representatives members began formal investigations into possible impeachment of the President Richard Nixon. The House Judiciary Committee voted 27 to 11 on July 27, 1974 to recommend the first article of impeachment against the president: obstruction of justice. The second (abuse of power) and third (contempt of Congress) articles were passed on July 29, 1974 and July 30, 1974, respectively.

Chuck Colson was known as the man in the Nixon administration who was willing to resort to domestic terrorism and who had discussed possible firebombing the Brookings Institution. In 1974, attorney Colson entered a plea of guilty to Watergate-related charges. Colson was the first member of

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the Nixon administration to be incarcerated for Watergate-related charges after he pled guilty to obstruction of justice in the Daniel Ellsberg case. Although given a 1-3 year sentence, Colson only served seven months at Alabama's Maxwell Prison. Colson was a convicted felon with no right to vote but he received a pardon from Florida Governor Jeb Bush. He regained the right to vote, to once again practice law and serve on a jury. Colson was converted to a "born-again" Christian while in prison. President George W. Bush supported his "Faith-based" prison fellowship ministries program and promoted it in the Texas penal system.

Colson advanced a "Jails for Jesus" solution, touted as an inexpensive fundamentalist Christian alternative to clinical programs for prisoners. Colson began working with a non-profit organization devoted to prison ministry which was called the Prison Fellowship. Through a radio broadcast called BreakPoint, Colson promoted this prison program. Upon release from prison, Colson's InnerChange model worked with the new Faith-based and Community Initiatives program.⁵⁶⁴ These programs already exist in Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas and Texas.⁵⁶⁵

Chuck Colson, in his leadership of Prison Fellowship Ministries⁵⁶⁶, warned that a threat exists for Islamic terrorists to be recruited in U.S.A. prisons. His argument supported that his Faith-based prison program is essential to prevent terrorist attacks in this country.⁵⁶⁷ Colson cited a recent study by researchers from George Washington University Homeland Security Policy Institute and the University of Virginia Critical Incident Analysis Group. The report, titled "Out of the shadows: Getting ahead of prisoner radicalization," led Colson to conclude "the U.S....is at risk of facing the sort of homegrown terrorism currently plaguing other countries." The underlying basis for that risk is America's prison population. The cited report stated that "with the world's largest prison population (over 2 million, 93% of whom are in state and local prisons or jails) and highest incarceration rate (701 for every 100,000 citizens), America faces what could be an enormous challenge: every radicalized prisoner becomes a potential terrorist recruit."

In 2006 there was \$236 million budgeted for Faith-based initiatives. The director of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (OFBCI), Jim Towey, reported that the 2007 budget targeted \$323 million for a series of programs that involved both faith-based organizations and community groups. Many of these fiscal awards would benefit prison programs.

The Prisoner Re-entry Initiative was awarded \$60 million in 2007. In addition, \$100 million was budgeted for the Compassion Capital Fund which included Helping America's Youth, a program to steer kids away from gang

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involvement. The drug abuse treatment program, Access to Recovery, was awarded \$98 million.⁵⁶⁸

Another Charitable Choice recipient was President G.W. Bush's program, Mentoring Children of Prisoners (MCP), established in 2003. The program received \$40 million in 2007 to work with hundreds of Faith-based and community organizations to recruit and train mentors.

U.S. District Court Judge John Shabaz later ruled that an Arizona-based prison program, MentorKids USA, that received government funds, had violated the First Amendment prohibition against the promotion of religion.⁵⁶⁹ The legal challenge had been filed by the Freedom from Religion Foundation.

InnerChange Freedom Initiative (IFI)

InnerChange Freedom Initiative (IFI) is a publicly supported, pervasively religious program that was established in Texas, Minnesota, Kansas and Iowa. The contractual and monetary relationship between Prison Fellowship, InnerChange, and the Department of Corrections (DOC) developed over a number of years. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice's support from the 77th Texas Legislature of \$1.5 million (FY 2002-2003) was the first allocation of state funds given to the InnerChange program. Since the initial IFI program began in Texas, IFI started two additional prison programs in the U.S.A. In October of 1999, a second program was opened in Iowa, which had the potential to serve 192 inmates. In January 2000, the third IFI program began operation in Kansas with a capacity for 158 inmates.

Constitutional questions regarding separation of church and state were raised at the level of the Eighth Circuit U.S.A. Court of Appeals. In March 2008, the InnerChange Fellowship Initiative in the Iowa prison system was terminated by the State of Iowa. This program's history in Iowa warranted careful review.

The InnerChange program in Iowa's Newton Correctional Facility was a program where inmates participated in "24-hour per day Christ-centered Bible-based programming" conducted by IFI employees, and were required by policy to be Christian. In 1997, the new Newton facility faced budgetary restraints, overcrowding, and lack of appropriate programs. In 1998, Iowa's General Services Department publicly issued a request for proposals to establish a non-compensated, values-based, pre-release program at Newton. Prison Fellowship and InnerChange, jointly,

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submitted the only proposal, but they sought state funding to pay part of the expenses of the program.

In March, 1999, Iowa Department of Corrections contracted with the programs Prison Fellowship and InnerChange for services, covering September 1999 to June 2002, with public taxpayer money used to reimburse non-religious costs and expenses. Prisoners in IFI were housed in a separate prison unit. In the first year of the contract, the DOC paid InnerChange \$229,950. The funds were reportedly from the Inmate Telephone Rebate Fund, which is designated for discretionary use for the benefit of inmates. The second year InnerChange received \$191,625 from the same fund. In 2002, the General Services Department accepted the InnerChange proposal for a pre-release program at Newton under a renewable one year contract, from July 2002 to June 2005, which was to fund only non-religious parts of the program. The Iowa legislature appropriated \$172,591 from the Healthy Iowans Tobacco Trust to the DOC "for a values-based treatment program at the Newton correctional facility."

The appropriation was used to expand the InnerChange program to the Release Center at Newton (a minimum-security facility one mile from the main facility). The payment from the Trust to the DOC for InnerChange was \$276,909. In the third year, 2004-2005, the contract was changed to a per diem payment of \$3.47 for each inmate participating in the program. The legislature appropriated \$310,000, with actual payment to InnerChange of \$236,532.55.

In 2005, DOC accepted InnerChange's proposal for a pre-release substance abuse treatment program. In the contract's first and second years, July 2005 to June 2007, the Iowa legislature appropriated \$310,000 each year. There was no clear distinction in records that delineated the religious from the non-religious expenditures. Until mid-2007, DOC funding accounted for 30-40 % of InnerChange's operating costs.

There were concerns from the first 1999 contract whether there was a clear definition of what was religious and what was not. Salaries and benefits for InnerChange's personnel were paid by the DOC on a percentage basis. The state paid 82% of the local director's salary; 9% for the program manager; 93% for the aftercare manager; 77% for the office administrator; and 16% for each of four Biblical counselors (also called case workers). All telephone costs (land and cell phone) were billed to the DOC. InnerChange's postal meter and thermal tape were billed to the state without detailed accounting. The DOC paid for InnerChange's computer hardware, software, repair, and internet account. The DOC also paid for InnerChange letterhead, envelopes, printer and copier toner, paper, blank videotapes, and standard office supplies. Each month, every photocopy up to 40,000 was charged to the

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DOC. Copies over 40,000 were designated as religious (although the record does not reflect how many total copies were made each month). Building M, a modular building housing InnerChange's offices and classrooms, was built in 2000. Under lease-purchase contract, the Telephone Fund paid \$294,017 for Building M. DOC payments to InnerChange for costs were deposited to the InnerChange bank account. InnerChange periodically transferred funds to Prison Fellowship's general accounts, to cover program operating costs. These general accounts also contain funds from private sources.

This mixing of public taxpayer money with private funds (nonprofit charities) makes it difficult if not impossible to be certain that the money was used for secular purposes only and not for exclusively religious purposes. In addition, some of the charity funds were mixed with monies potentially implicated in certain kinds of affinity fraud and other types of fraud. Money was moved around from account to account. There was little accounting transparency to the state government as to who actually got the money eventually. The portion of InnerChange expenses paid by the Prison Fellowship came from these co-mingled funds from other NGO charities.

A lawsuit was filed against the Prison Fellowship Ministries at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. The district court case, *Americans United for the Separation of Church and State v. Prison Fellowship Ministries*, resulted in the finding that the IFI program violated the Establishment Clause. The ruling expelled the program from the prison, and directed IFI to repay the Department of Corrections the \$1.5 million that it had been paid by the state. Defendants appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit in June 2006. Senior Litigation Counsel Alex J. Luchenitser argued the appeal in February 2007 before a panel that included former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. In December 2007, the Eighth Circuit largely upheld the district court's decision. The court held that Iowa's involvement with IFI violated the Establishment Clause by the indoctrination of inmates and IFI discrimination against non-Christian inmates.

Ronald A. Lindsay, Esq. of the Council for Secular Humanism and Center for Inquiry, stated in their brief that "No court has ever endorsed government-funded religious indoctrination and, as indicated, InnerChange was well aware that their government-funded activities very likely violated the Establishment Clause. Nonetheless, in their zeal to spread their religious message, InnerChange and PFM made a calculated decision to disregard the restrictions of the Establishment Clause in implementing their program."

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“To state that freedom of conscience is a core value under the Constitution would be an understatement. Religious liberty is one of our fundamental freedoms, and it cannot be denied that it advances public policy to preserve religious liberty and to prevent the government from allowing its resources to be used for religious indoctrination.”

“InnerChange and the Iowa DOC deliberately have refused to adhere to recognized limits on government funding of sectarian activity. Furthermore, their blatant disregard for constitutional limits on funding of activities of religious organizations is confirmed not only by the negligible, inadequate effort made to limit funding to secular activities, but by the design of the program itself.”

Judge Robert Pratt, U.S.A. District Court for the Southern District of Iowa, agreed with the plaintiff, Americans United for the Separation of Church and State. He ruled that the Faith-based prison program is unconstitutional and ordered the program shut down. Americans United had won the case at the district court level and on appeal.

Kristine Holmgren, formerly a Presbyterian chaplain at Minnesota Correctional Facility-Shakopee, stated she was fired in 2006 after she told her superiors that she had concerns about the InnerChange program. Holmgren charged that the program, sponsored by Colson’s Prison Fellowship, amounted to “establishment and preferential treatment of one religious group over other religious groups.” Holmgren also said that the prisons’ programs lacked religious diversity and were mainly evangelical Christian in character. Holmgren had complained that the program “engaged in humiliation tactics; they were offensive, they singled out minorities and unmarried women, harassed lesbians and praised the superiority of men.” Although she won her case and a cash settlement of \$250,000, the program she criticized, the [InnerChange Freedom Initiative](#) will continue to operate at prisons in Minnesota but will not be publicly funded.⁵⁷⁰ A prison in Lino Lakes had received some tax funding for InnerChange but the funding was discontinued in 2007. This is not a Christian-Jewish issue; it is not a political spectrum, left or right issue, it is a Constitutional right and wrong issue.

The prison fellowship InnerChange claims the program reduces recidivism. Some point to a study that compared “graduates” of the InnerChange program with nonparticipants. One cannot be a graduate of InnerChange unless one remains in the program following release from prison, obtains a job, and avoids being re-imprisoned for at least six consecutive months. The cited study does not focus on the number of participants who never graduated. If one looks at all the InnerChange program participants (both graduates and non-graduates), then the “InnerChange participants did

somewhat worse than the controls. They were slightly more likely to be re-arrested and noticeably more likely (24 percent versus 20 percent) to be re-imprisoned.”⁵⁷¹

The need for statistical research that accurately measures the effectiveness of funded programs in this and other areas of social intervention is basically indisputable. There are qualified persons capable of design and available to conduct studies that can guide the development and implementation of programs that rely on public funding. The lack of valid research is both shocking and disturbing. Large amounts of funding have been involved.

Faith-based prison programs

In 1997, Texas became the first state to use the Faith-based InnerChange Prison Program that has now taken root in Iowa and Kansas. Charles Colson, who runs the Prison Fellowship Ministries, has touted the success of his ministries based on studies that show lower recidivism rates among participants. However, Dan Mears, of the Florida State University College of Criminology and Criminal Justice, noted that the studies focused only on inmates who completed the program, while comparing its recidivism rates to those of all participants—including dropouts—of selected secular programs. Dan Mears found that, unfortunately, there was methodologically flawed research which was currently offered as proof of efficacy to policy makers. Mears and his fellow reviewers at the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C. concluded that, “despite the call for evidence-based programs and policies instead of belief-and-emotion-driven ones, current Faith-based prisoner reentry programs don't remotely constitute evidence-based practice.”⁵⁷²

Dan Mears points out that these basic minimum criteria are taken from the text, *Crime: Public policies for crime control*: “A rigorous evaluation requires four things to be done: First, people must be assigned randomly to either the prevention program or a control group...Second, the prevention must actually be applied. Sometimes people are enrolled in a program but do not in fact get the planned treatment. Third, the positive benefit, if any, of the program must last for at least one year after the program ends. It is not hard to change people while they are in a program; what is difficult is to make the change last afterward. Fourth, if the program produces a positive effect...that program should be evaluated again in a different location.”

Dan Mears concluded that Prison Fellowship Ministries (PFM) had grossly misrepresented outcome data in order to claim success and garner political

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support. The apparent stunning success of Prison Fellowship Ministry's InnerChange Freedom Initiative was announced by then-House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, stating that here was proof that sectarian Faith-based programs favored by the Bush administration were the answer. But *when those results were examined, it turned out that the InnerChange participants were actually more likely than controls to be re-arrested, and "noticeably more likely" to be re-imprisoned.*⁵⁷³

Faith-based programs proliferated in private prison systems and even in state-run facilities. Texas Senate Concurrent Resolution 44 urged corrections and law enforcement entities to use more voluntary Faith-based rehab programs and facilities to change the lives of criminal offenders.

The InnerChange Faith-based prison experiment in Sugar Land, Texas resulted from this legislation. InnerChange was the nation's first, 24-hour-a-day and values-based, pre-release program, aimed at helping inmates achieve spiritual and moral transformation.

In 1999 the State of Louisiana enacted a law to encourage Faith-based prison programs.⁵⁷⁴ ⁵⁷⁵ The State of Ohio in 2007 established a task force to study such correctional programs. The State of Georgia actually stated that Faith-based prison programs were the most effective in dealing with prisoners, and it created a prison chaplaincy appreciation day. However, there are many who do not hold the view that these Faith-based prison programs are better than other programs. They suggest that an inmate, to qualify for kinder treatment during prison life, would profess a religious belief only to satisfy the evangelical Christians running the rehabilitation program that he is making acceptable spiritual progress. Iowa found that its Faith-based prison wards violated the Establishment Clause, which prevents a government agency from "supporting a sectarian cause through the transfer of public funds." The Establishment Clause of the First Amendment is first of several pronouncements in the First Amendment to the U.S.A. Constitution, stating that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion."

The U.S.A. District Court for Eastern Iowa ruled (*Americans United for Separation of Church and State v. Prison Fellowship Ministries*) that Colson's Prison Fellowship Ministries could no longer be used as the sole drug rehabilitation program.⁵⁷⁶ ⁵⁷⁷ These are concerns about the Prison Fellowship Ministries:

- a) Inmate's kids were targeted for "bait and switch" evangelism;
- b) The only way to get preferential housing was to join the program;
- c) The only way to be eligible for parole was to join; if one left or was kicked

out, one essentially lost one's eligibility for parole.

d) Prison Fellowship InnerChange promoted "theophostic counseling" in other words, therapy through prayer, in a Bible-based, Christ-centered ministry. This model seeks to cure prisoners by identifying sin as the root of their problems. Inmates learn how God can heal them permanently, if they turn from their sinful past, are willing to see the world through God's eyes, and surrender themselves to God's will.

InnerChange relies on and directs members to God as the source of love and inner healing. Members then build on this new relationship to recast human relationships based on Biblical insights.

Opening the doors to hire prisoners

Teen Challenge was endorsed by Billy Graham and Ronald Reagan. Sheriff Paul Babeu, of Pinal County, Arizona endorsed the Home of Hope and Arizona Teen Challenge.⁵⁷⁸ Sheriff Babeu belongs to the National Sheriffs' Association, which is the largest association of law enforcement professionals in the country, representing more than 3000 elected sheriffs across the nation and has a total membership of more than 20,000. With these kinds of endorsements, Teen Challenge was poised to enter the prisoner re-entry business.

Teen Challenge opened its doors to hire known criminals (through a federally funded re-entry employment program) from among those who converted to Christianity. Teen Challenge had many centers in Texas and Florida. In 1997, Texas became the first state to use the Faith-based effort, run by Colson's Prison Fellowship Ministries, InnerChange. Support from the state governance under then-Governor G.W. Bush in Texas and Governor Jeb Bush in Florida were vital to the rapid growth of the enterprises. Hire of former prisoners into mentor positions within the rehabilitation facilities was an experiment that lacked adequate controls and supervision because government regulation had been stopped.

The Assemblies of God prison chaplains often have dual responsibilities and may also be paid prison staff with fairly unlimited access to prisoners. With Teen Challenge staff paid from federal re-entry prison funds, the Teen Challenge facilities had low staff overhead. This financially beneficial arrangement permitted rapid expansion of the Teen Challenge ministries program. The aggressive outreach of the Assemblies of God-Teen Challenge program was also funded by startup grants made possible through collaboration with the Faith-based and Community Initiative grant program and other linked programs.

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Prisoners are paroled from prison to Faith-based outreach at Teen Challenge centers where they receive counseling, study the Bible and attend church. These “Christian” criminals, who had spent hard prison time, had criminal associates/connections, and were not always under adequate supervision of their parole officers. Teen Challenge as an employer would vouch for the employed prisoners and make allowances for their non-compliant conduct in order to keep them “on the path”. The parolees, in re-entry employment at Teen Challenge, were tasked to do missionary “outreach” to teens on the streets of New England. Protected by their employer (Teen Challenge) and poorly supervised by officials from the prison system, these “Christian” employees openly did street “interventions”. But Teen Challenge facilities had long been suspected of abusive practices and the continuing stream of complaints that surfaced did not get adequate attention by state or federal authorities.

An even more ominous complication was yet to be recognized. The reports of abuse were made to properly identified authority channels, but persons who could block their progress and review had been strategically placed in critical positions. An example is seen in the case of recently convicted, former Office of Special Counsel director, Scott Bloch. Bloch was in charge of reviewing all federal whistleblower complaints in 2001, and could thus stop a sensitive investigation. The case is discussed in greater depth shortly.

Under the Second Chance Act, the Labor and Justice departments announced prisoner re-entry grants totaling nearly \$3 million to criminal justice agencies for Faith-based and community groups who provide ex-prisoners with employment services. Twenty-three agencies in 22 states and the District of Columbia were awarded grants of \$130,434 each. States were: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

In Ohio, Governor Ted Strickland signed into law an act to encourage Faith-based groups and volunteers to provide re-entry services in that state. In Alabama, Governor Bob Riley appointed an advisory council of government and religious leaders to develop a statewide prisoner re-entry strategy. Ohio’s Department of Rehabilitation and Correction faced \$74 million in budget cuts in 2008. Boston, Minneapolis and Durham County, NC, all came up with their own prisoner re-entry programs that engage Faith-based groups. Budget pressures are pushing for reductions in prison populations. At least eight states are reported to be considering proposals to permit early release of prisoners, including California, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, Rhode Island, South Carolina and Vermont.⁵⁷⁹

Teen Challenge - sex-offenders as staff

These public policy decisions opened the door for prisoners who professed religious conviction to be hired by Teen Challenge for positions working with children. The Northern New England District Assemblies of God is located in Portland, Maine and does outreach ministry to Taiwan, Peru, Paraguay, Argentina, the Caribbean, Russia, Chad and Honduras. Shondi Fabiano (maiden name, Barbato) was hired on staff and co-directed the Teen Challenge Men's facility in Maine. Shondi Fabiano was registered as a criminally convicted sex offender under her maiden name, Shondi "Barbato," She had previously managed the Teen Challenge Women's facility in Rhode Island prior to her marriage to Peter Fabiano.

With no regulatory control over staffing quality and no required criminal background checks, Teen Challenge in Winthrop, Maine hired registered sex offender, Shondi Fabiano to co- direct the program. Fabiano was convicted of sexual assault of a minor under the age of 14, and she was nearly 24 years old at the time of the offense. Fabiano has additional criminal conviction for fraud (specifically, attempts to obtain money under false pretenses, insurance fraud, and conspiracy) and a dismissed charge of possession of a controlled substance. Fabiano still works at Teen Challenge New England despite state laws that prohibit sex offenders and persons convicted of crimes against children from working in children's homes. She had her residence listed as Teen Challenge in Maine's sex offender registry.⁵⁸⁰ Maine has strict laws regarding contact with minors by registered sex offenders.

Shondi Fabiano is not the only rapist employed by Teen Challenge in Winthrop, Maine. Teen Challenge also hired Dennis Knox, who was convicted of gross sexual assault after raping an unconscious female and he is listed on the Maine Sex-Offender Registry.⁵⁸¹

Wayne Gray, Sanford Teen Challenge and labor abuse & fraud

Former Sanford, FL Teen Challenge director Wayne Gray resigned when his unlicensed telemarketing scam was discovered to only pay workers 33 cents a day for a 40 hour work week. Callers pretended to sell timeshare vacations from the "Disney Planning Center Resort." Inside the telemarketing phone rooms, unscrupulous persons gathered consumers' personal information (names, credit card numbers and security codes) from the teen-clients working for Teen Challenge, and used the information fraudulently. Kiernan said when he worked the phones he didn't tell callers he was in Teen

Challenge on a jail diversion program for grand theft and burglary convictions. He just read scripts to sell satellites and timeshares and collected credit card numbers. Investigation revealed that this scam had no relationship to Disney. Todd Ulrich, reporter for Action 9 news in Orlando, could not find any state registrations for a telemarketing operation at the Sanford FL address.⁵⁸²

Teen Challenge and Prison Fellowship use food assistance TANF funds

Prison Fellowship works through Teen Challenge to provide housing and jobs for recently released prisoners. There are co-mingled funds between these programs. In addition, Teen Challenge gets TANF federal food assistance, as do the re-entry prisoners, whose federal funds support their employment at Teen Challenge. Re-entry prisoners' paychecks are handed over to the Teen Challenge staff. Some Teen Challenge facilities get up to 80% of their funding from federal sources like TANF.⁵⁸³ Thus, the amount of non-federal or state sources of money that supports a program like Teen Challenge's Prison Fellowship aftercare program or IFI is difficult to compute accurately due to the lack of accounting procedures to identify and properly source funds.^{584 585 586 587 588}

The Teen Challenge food stamp fraud, the Frank Vennes Ponzi scheme, and affinity fraud of Southwestern Indian Foundation demonstrate that criminal corruption can co-exist inside charity or religious non-profits. Don Stewart Association (DSA), a Phoenix-based televangelism ministry, and its affiliated 22 charities (including Southwest Indian Foundation)⁵⁸⁹ were accused of controversial transactions with supplies that helped inflate reported financials. The DSA-affiliated charities transferred ownership of goods to other groups, including \$80 million of goods that the charities never physically handled.⁵⁹⁰

The true level of criminal conduct is not well documented because of lack of inspection and regulation of these facilities including lack of oversight and transparency.

What is Charitable Choice?

Religious organizations have long been involved in provision of services to the communities they live in and work in. Religious organizations working as government subcontractors are not new.⁵⁹¹ Catholic Charities⁵⁹², Lutheran Social Services, the Salvation Army⁵⁹³, and the Jewish Welfare Federation⁵⁹⁴ have long been indispensable sources of social aid. For almost 40 years there have been collaborative service agreements between the government and sectarian organizations. Catholic Charities, United Jewish Communities and others who have provided welfare services, maintained proper procedures in accounting to ensure the separation of church and state/federal funding. These religious organizations put in place safeguards to protect the integrity of the religious organization, as well as the interests of state/federal taxpayers. These religious organizations did not contract directly with the government; rather, religious institutions created separate entities (usually 501(c)(3) organizations) to handle public funds, and they did not incorporate religion into the publicly-funded program. For large religious organizations, such as Catholic Charities U.S.A., the government money has been a large or even major portion of their budget.⁵⁹⁵

The new Faith-based initiatives paved the way for a political system which delegates social welfare responsibilities to newly-affiliated organizations (some from the religious right) with which it forges privatized partnerships. The strategy redistributes federal funding for social services from government functions where accountability had been fairly established and allocates funds to newer programs expected to bridge gaps in service/funds by being more cost-effective. This places a greater burden on the former, established Faith-based community to become competitive bidders for their programs, increasingly subject to changes and cuts in government funding.

There is criticism that the proponents of new public-religious partnerships may be motivated by something other than a desire better to meet the social service needs of the country. This debate has been partially driven by political and ideological concerns beyond the desire to help the poor. These concerns persist, notwithstanding the fact that improving social service provision is the public justification offered by former President Bush's for charitable choice partnerships with pervasively sectarian organizations.

Charitable Choice was introduced during the mid-1990s after congressional committees devised alternate ways to address the burdensome welfare system. The Charitable Choice laws applied to four Federal programs: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and the Community

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Services Block Grant (CSBG) programs (both overseen by the Administration for Children and Families at the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)); programs for substance abuse and mental health (overseen by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) at HHS); and the Welfare-to-Work program (overseen by the Department of Labor).

It is viewed with concern by some who fear that it will end public provision of social services and a welfare support system that many Americans in need depend on. Charitable Choice strategy success requires that non-government social service providers will find the social services demand possible to meet. The increased burden of government regulation and competing demands for a charitable organization's resources might cause mission displacement and have a negative impact on congregations. A new dependence on government funds could result in decreased donations given to the charitable organization based on the presumed receipt of public funds. Public perception is not necessarily in sync with legislative intent. The premise behind Charitable Choice is that it relies on the market model with an emphasis on customers rather than citizens. The goals of a democratic government are more than to simply respond to its citizens as customers. There can be a potential for religious bias or discrimination by particular Faith-based contractors against needy citizen-clients who do not share common beliefs. There could also be bias in the grant of government contracts because effective oversight is difficult given the many different players at various levels of government.

Many civil rights watchdog organizations warned that Charitable Choice blurred the boundaries between church and state.⁵⁹⁶ Faith-based initiatives were policies based on concepts of fiscal conservatism, decreased size of the federal government, facilitated collaboration and cooperation in forged partnership with the religious community. Thus, through this new legislative policy, Charitable Choice authorized a change for the way in which the church and state interact. Conservatives find these Faith-based initiatives appealing because they want to decrease the size of government. They see the initiatives as an inexpensive alternative to government-sponsored social services. Cuts in government funding result in a greater burden placed on the Faith-based community to take up the slack.^{597 598}

The Charitable Choice concepts of indirect funding and neutrality principle⁵⁹⁹ appear to promote a "black hole" for federal funds due to little transparency or oversight and little accountability to the taxpayer. When private contractors are religious institutions they can claim constitutional protection against interference with free exercise of their religion. The law currently exempts houses of worship from the full financial disclosure that is required

from other non-profits when they are given tax-exempt status. Thus when a church or religious institution receives public money to run welfare-to-work programs, it may legally assert a right to religious liberty and thus resist disclosing its financial records. This may limit transparency regarding the dispersal of tax money to contracted service program providers and the government's ability to assure honesty in provision of government contracted services. A religious provider of job counseling, for example, could demand enough latitude to include prayer or Bible study in its programs, even if the government is directly contracting for the services. Thus the government might be viewed as endorsing those religious practices, establishing them, or even coercing individuals in dire straits to engage in a particular religious practice.⁶⁰⁰

The Charitable Choice program has been accused of giving preferential advantage to certain faith groups and endorsed them to receive federal grants. Constitutional concerns were raised in 2002 when President Bush issued Executive Order 13279, which facilitated churches and other Faith-based organizations to receive federal money by circumventing anti-discrimination laws. This opened the door to bias in employment practices and service provision by Faith-based and Community Initiative programs paid for with Charitable Choice funding. The Coalition Against Religious Discrimination (CARD)⁶⁰¹ warned that possible proselytism when federal funds are used could violate the First Amendment related to church-state relations. Many scholars believe that direct funding would compromise the religious rights of recipients, encourage intense competition among America's religions, create a divisive political and legal battle over whether government funds should ever pay for programs that discriminate in whom they hire, and harm religious entities by restricting their autonomy. Because of the lack of good options of social welfare programs in all areas, publicly funded vouchers may pressure people into religious activities that they would otherwise not choose.⁶⁰²

Privatization of welfare – due process & constitutional concerns

In concert with diminished regulation over programs, the social safety net is vulnerable to exploitation. Providing the safety net is a core public function which should remain responsive to democratic principles and accountable to elected officials. Although the government can contract out services, it cannot contract out the function of governing.

This privatization of welfare services leads to lack of adequate oversight in many jurisdictions when the organization that obtains the government grant subcontracts services to others, including private businesses. Thus, for-profit

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companies can be the entities that actually provide the in-field services. There is no provision for financial or service-quality oversight. In theory, the contractors should police themselves and their subcontractors, but there is little profit incentive to do proper oversight.

President George W. Bush's Faith-based initiative intended to reduce the size of government, but not necessarily the amount spent. His applied method shifted the responsibility for delivery of numerous social services from government agencies to newly-recognized, Faith-based organizations. Privatization of welfare by delegation to contractors and subcontractors for service provision raises due process and accountability issues. Welfare programs involve provision of adequate food, adequate clothing, adequate shelter, and minimal preventive public health care. Although the government has been viewed as the most obvious provider of these programs, faith-based programs have also frequently provided services to those in need.⁶⁰³ But the government, which is elected and accountable to the citizenry, still accepts responsibility and accountability to see that social justice prevails and a decent chance at a reasonably healthy and active life can be provided for all citizens.

In 1997, the Texas Supreme Court⁶⁰⁴ developed a test to evaluate the efficacy of delegation to private parties. These guidelines are used to frame decisions about the scope of authority, accountability to the public and to federal authorities. They identify the requisite expertise that qualifies a private entity to be a contractor.

There is concern that private entities which contract to provide welfare services are not governed by constitutional constraints. In other words, if a private contract provider of social services commits a wrongful action, the wronged person cannot invoke constitutional protections.

The legal doctrine that defines "State Action" determines that a person who is a government actor and commits a wrongful act is subject to constitutional constraints. State government and federal employees are clearly government actors, but private entities usually are not. With government privatization contracts, authorization is transferred to private entities, but not "state actor" obligations. Liability for actions is effectively diminished. Privatization of contracts for welfare services permits autonomy without supervision or legal accountability. Although there may be statutes in state or federal law that give the wronged person the opportunity to receive notice and obtain a hearing, these laws are generally not enforceable. The courts have held that, unless there is a specific provision for enforcement, there will be no enforcement of these procedural rights.⁶⁰⁵ The wronged person can sue under the third-party beneficiary principle - to

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compel compliance with the terms of the contract between the government and the private entity, but this is rarely successful.⁶⁰⁶

Contracts are often drawn up with the simple insertion of a provision in the contract that bars third-part lawsuits. Social service recipients are largely at the mercy of the political process to grant legal protection entitlements and due process rights. They are also at the mercy of contracted parties to define and/or grant them contractual rights.

Despite these constitutional and due process concerns, an increased number of government services are contracted out to private providers, which leaves clients with little or no recourse if their constitutional rights are violated. Privatization may, in reality, simply replace a government bureaucracy with a private monopoly.⁶⁰⁷ Most persons who oppose privatization are concerned about the negative outcomes it makes very possible.⁶⁰⁸

There is a human dimension to quality social services that is difficult to protect in an unregulated contractual arrangement. To relegate sensitive decisions to private organizations and companies that use market-based models is potentially a risk that is under-appreciated for its implications. Critical decisions that affect our society's most vulnerable citizens can become based on short-term private incentives rather than long-term public interests.^{609 610} Government authority may be unable to scrutinize the work of private entities adequately because of budgetary restrictions or unfamiliarity with contract management. The lack of oversight could mean that the public is not assured that tax dollars awarded to government contractors will yield a privatized service that performs adequately.

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996⁶¹¹ repealed Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), the federal cash assistance program, and replaced it with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), a cash assistance program primarily operated by the individual states. Prior to PRWORA, determination of which applicants qualified for federal benefits was performed by a public agency staff in civil service. (Title I, Section 104) Under the new 1996 law,⁶¹² however, TANF eligibility in Florida and Texas was contracted out to private organizations which were not directly accountable to public authority.

Privatization can be undermined by corruption if lucrative contracts are awarded to political allies, relatives or friends of public officials. Many of these contractors are not qualified for the work or may cut corners to expand profits, especially when oversight is limited. Contractors have been found to commit fraudulent and illegal practices, including:

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- bid-rigging (arranges bids to be submitted by selected firms to limit real competition);
- low-ball bids (sets bids artificially low to win contracts, then subsequently raises fees excessively through tactics such as change orders);
- over-billing (charge too much, or charge for work not done).

These practices are difficult to prove, to monitor for and to investigate.⁶¹³

Texas and Florida privatized functions to qualify clients for public benefits. They closed public offices and set up call centers that use 2-1-1 information lines. Staff employed by private contractors took initial client applications by telephone and if eligible, sent them to a public agency for final certification. Private contractors employed by corporations determined whether an application was submitted to a public agency. Access to benefits under this system can be manipulated to maximize profit or can be awarded in a biased way. The privatization of welfare eligibility determination, including food stamp and Medicaid coverage, represents a fundamental shift in delivery of social support to low-income populations. Large, for-profit corporations may have strong financial incentives to either turn away recipients or provide them with inadequate services. Freedom of information and open records acts do not apply to private contractors. This makes it difficult to determine how public funds were spent.⁶¹⁴

The use of subcontractors or outsourcing has often been used to abdicate social and moral responsibility. There are significant legal, political and economic advantages to the perpetrator of human rights abuses, of using subcontractors, because it ultimately helps obscure the relationship between the perpetrator and the actual act. It is a politically valuable device, because even if abuses are exposed, it will frequently look as if someone else (the contractor) was responsible. This ultimately makes it difficult to hold a violator legally accountable and to be able to apply appropriate sanctions. Thus the very effective human rights tactic of public shaming, in these circumstances, often becomes ineffective. Outsourcing to contractors permits the perpetrators to ignore the societal norms and to conceal the perpetrators breach of those norms. In addition, it legally protects perpetrators from both legal prosecution and embarrassment.

Subcontracting to corporations providing services such as prisons, healthcare and the military are particularly problematic, as in these settings there is reduced transparency to the public and less scrutiny by law enforcement. Transnational corporations have enormous political and financial influence and power. Health maintenance organizations and prisons use cost cutting methods which include using insufficiently trained, underpaid and over worked employees. Rapid employee training and high turnover can lead to inadequate services in residential treatment centers,

prisons, and other facilities. When operated as a for profit business, cost reductions can lead to inadequate care, lack of adequate programming and abuse. Outsourcing allows the perpetrator to not just abdicate responsibility but also assists the aggressor in maintaining a respectable public persona in the public eye. This often amounts to abuse of state-sanctioned power and authority. Often outsourcing is presented to the public as necessary to cut costs. The use of subcontractors makes it more difficult to determine who is responsible for abuses and these cases are very complex.

Teen Challenge lobbies for Charitable Choice

Teen Challenge-New England director, Rodney Hart, lobbied with Bob Woodson of the Washington, DC-based National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise, who fought for Teen Challenge during the Texas controversy in 1995. Hart also approached Jim Towey, head of the White House Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives under Bush (2002-2006), who worked with attorney Scott Bloch. President Bush set the provision of food stamp support to Teen Challenge as a priority for his administration. Through the Charitable Choice program and changes in the legislation for TANF, the federal government resumed funding to Teen Challenge without regulation or inspection under its alternative accreditation.

Charitable Choice policy in Texas

Executive orders as issued by the governors of the states are not laws, but do have the same binding nature. Executive orders are usually based on existing constitutional or statutory powers of the Governor and do not require any action by the state legislature to take effect. As governor of Texas, Bush rapidly incorporated the provisions of Charitable Choice into Texas policy and politics. In Texas the first state Faith-based Liaison positions were created. However, there was opposition to Charitable Choice proposals by the members of the Texas Faith Network, which is made up of more than 400 clergy.

Rabbi Peter Berg of Temple Emanuel in Dallas asked who would decide which churches or synagogues, which denomination or sect, would be funded and which would be excluded. There was clearly a lack of accountability on one hand and the unconstitutional lack of separation between church and state on the other. Although Faith-based groups play important roles in provision of social services, it is still necessary that they remain independent from the

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government. Taxpayers, through the Faith-based initiatives program, do financially support religious activity, but there is no accountability or transparency for how that money is spent. There are “strings” attached to government money, and the needy risk being compelled to practice a faith that is not their own just to get services.

In the mid 90’s, Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (TCADA) threatened closure of Teen Challenge facilities for failure to execute proper standards for screening, orientation, treatment and discharge of clients.⁶¹⁵

In June 1995, TCADA suspended Teen Challenge’s license for violations. Then-Governor Bush intervened publicly on behalf of the Faith-based program, saying TCADA was following procedure but he would state publicly that he strongly supported the Faith-based programs.⁶¹⁶

On Bush’s urging and other outside pressures, TCADA postponed judgment of the organization, dropped licensure demands, and agreed to wait until the legislature considered bills that would change the rules for Faith-based organizations.⁶¹⁷ According to the Houston Chronicle, notoriety about Teen Challenge made the organization a “cause-célèbre” among the religious right. Support from Christian leader Pat Robertson, who featured the group on his 700 Club program, represented the conservative policy crowd.⁶¹⁸

However, the Texas Freedom Network, a statewide, nonprofit, nonpartisan alliance that includes 7,500 religious and community leaders, challenged what it called “the growing social and political influence of religious political extremists.” Samantha Smoot, executive director of Texas Freedom Network, called the Faith-based effort in Texas “a lose-lose-lose deal.” Taxpayers lose, “because they are forced to financially support religious activity, and they get virtually no accountability for how the money is spent,” she said. “Churches lose, because the government strings that come with government funds threaten their independence. Poor people lose because they may be compelled to practice a faith not their own in order to receive services, and because Bush has exempted many of these programs from basic health and safety practices.” Teen Challenge was cited by civil libertarians as a flawed use of state funds because it was a church-based rehabilitation program that argued drug addiction is not a disease but a sin, with prayer and Bible reading as the necessary treatment.

Relevant U.S.A. federal law on Charitable Choice

Civil Rights Act of 1964 became the most comprehensive legislation to achieve equal rights and protect citizens from discrimination. Section 703(a) of the Act made it unlawful for an employer to "fail or refuse to hire or to discharge any individual, or otherwise to discriminate against any individual with respect to his compensation, terms, conditions or privileges or employment, because of such individual's race, color, religion, sex, or national origin."^{619 620 621}

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was extremely important in providing a legal basis to protect citizens from discrimination; however, many of the reforms in civil rights were gained by use of the Presidential Executive Orders. Large sweeping policy changes have been made possible by Presidential Executive Order, such as the desegregation of public schools under Dwight D. Eisenhower and the integration of the armed forces by Harry Truman. But executive orders can also curtail human rights like Executive Order 9066, where Franklin D. Roosevelt delegated military authority to detain citizens of Japanese and German heritage in internment camps in the U.S.A. for the duration of World War II.^{622 623 624 625 626 627} These documents are stored in the National Archives.⁶²⁸

1941 President Roosevelt's Executive Order 8802⁶²⁹ was the first to prohibit employment discrimination and marked the beginning of fair employment practices in the United States. The order required all federal agencies and departments involved with defense production to ensure that vocational and training programs were administered without discrimination as to "race, creed, color, or national origin." All defense contracts were to include provisions that also barred private contractors from discrimination.

1965 President Johnson Executive Order 11246⁶³⁰ expanded the prohibitions against employment discrimination to all government contractors, not just defense contractors.^{631 632}

In 1996 a welfare reform bill called the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) was enacted and signed into law by President Bill Clinton. This legislation has significantly impacted American religion. Embedded in the PRWORA was a small provision, Section 104, known as Charitable Choice, which makes it illegal for state governments to discriminate against social service providers whose organization has a religious mandate. The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA, Pub.L. 104-193, 110 Stat. 2105, enacted August 22, 1996) is a U.S. federal law that fundamentally shifts both the method and goal of federal assistance to the poor. The bill

added a workforce development component to welfare legislation, to encourage employment among the poor. The bill was a cornerstone of the Republican Contract With America, introduced by Rep. E. Clay Shaw, Jr. (R-FL-22), who believed welfare was partly responsible for increased illegal immigration to the U.S.A. Bill Clinton signed PRWORA into law August 22, 1996, fulfilling his 1992 campaign promise to "end welfare as we know it".

PRWORA instituted Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) which became effective July 1, 1997. **TANF replaced the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)** a program that had been in effect since 1935. It also supplanted the Job Opportunities and Basic Skills Training (JOBS) program of 1988. The law was heralded as a "reassertion of America's work ethic" by the U.S.A. Chamber of Commerce, largely in response to the bill's workfare component. TANF was reauthorized in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.⁶³³ PRWORA delegated to the states considerable new authority to design and implement their own social welfare programs under the auspices of federal block grant funds. This provision has been interpreted to apply also to Social Security Income (SSI), food stamp and Medicaid programs.

One of the first official acts for President George W. Bush following his January, 2001 inauguration was to establish the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (OFBCI), which kicked off the cornerstone social policy of his presidency. At a ceremony attended by numerous religious leaders, Bush announced executive orders that instructed the Departments of Health and Human Services, Labor, Justice, Education, Housing and Urban Development, to set up centers for Faith-based and community initiatives within their agencies. Bush faced congressional opposition over concerns that government money would support religious proselytism, and that recipients of government grants would be allowed to discriminate in employment practices (i.e., based on religious beliefs). Bush called on Senators Rick Santorum (R-PA) and Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) to craft a legislative compromise. When their efforts failed to win consensus, President G.W. Bush issued executive orders to achieve his aims.⁶³⁴

On January 29, 2001, **President Bush issued Executive Order 13199,**⁶³⁵ Establishment of White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. The order directed the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Justice, and Labor to "establish within their respective departments a Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives" to "coordinate department efforts to eliminate regulatory, contracting, and other programmatic obstacles to the participation of faith-based and other community organizations in the provision of social services."

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Bush's Executive Order 13199 called for eliminating "unnecessary legislative, regulatory and other bureaucratic barriers that impede effective faith-based and other community efforts to solve social problems".⁶³⁶ [George W. Bush: Executive Order 13199 - Establishment of White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives](#)

The Charitable Choice program has ultimately given preferential advantage to certain faith groups and endorsed them to receive federal grant money. Government officials purchase services from religious providers using Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Welfare-to-Work, and Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds. In late 2000, charitable choice was included in the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) block grants. This privatization of welfare services does not provide sufficient oversight to organizations with W-2 government contracts which often sub-contract services to other providers, including private businesses. These secondary providers have less formal supervision. Charitable Choice concepts of indirect funding and neutrality principle may have inadvertently promoted a "black hole" for federal funding with little transparency or oversight and little accountability to taxpayers.

In 2002 President Bush issued Executive Order 13279.⁶³⁷ This order made it easier for churches and other Faith-based organizations to receive federal money by circumvention of anti-discrimination laws.⁶³⁸ ⁶³⁹ EO 13279 intended to "guide federal agencies in formulating and developing policies with implications for faith-based organizations and other community organizations." It applied to certain contracts issued by various departments and agencies. **EO 13279 amended Section 204 of EO 11246 [9-24-1965] and related mandates that required equal opportunity for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin),** to read as follows: Section 204. The Secretary of Labor may, when the Secretary deems that special circumstances in the national interest so require, exempt a contracting agency from the requirement of including any or all of the provisions of Section 202 of this Order in any specific contract, subcontract, or purchase order.

The order defined the "social services" subject to the Faith-based initiatives:

- Child care services, protective services for children and adults, services for children and adults in foster care, adoption services, services related to the management and maintenance of the home, day care services for adults, and services to meet the special needs of children,

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older individuals, and individuals with disabilities (including physical, mental, or emotional disabilities);

- Transportation services;
- Job training and related services, and employment services;
- Information, referral, and counseling services;
- The preparation and delivery of meals and services related to soup kitchens or food banks;
- Health support services;
- Literacy and mentorship programs;
- Services for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency and substance abuse, services for the prevention of crime and the provision of assistance to the victims and the families of criminal offenders, and services related to intervention in, and prevention of, domestic violence; and
- Services related to the provision of assistance for housing under federal law.

There were several additional executive orders issued by President Bush. **Executive Orders 13280 (2002),⁶⁴⁰ 13342 (2004),⁶⁴¹ and 13397 (2006)⁶⁴²** mandated that the Departments of Justice, Education, Labor, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Agriculture, Commerce, Veteran Affairs, and Homeland Security, the Agency for International Development and the Small Business Administration each establish a Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.⁶⁴³

Because Bush's Faith-based initiative was established through Executive Orders, the White House office of Faith-based initiatives could be eliminated should a future administration decide to rescind those orders. To obviate this possibility, on March 2, 2005 Representative Mark Green (R-WI), introduced H.R. 1054.⁶⁴⁴ The provisions of H.R. 1054 if enacted would exist "until Congress acted to eliminate them." The Tools for Communities Initiatives bill was referred to the House Committee on Government Reform in 2005, but has not been acted on since then.⁶⁴⁵

The [Anti-Defamation League wrote a letter to President Obama](#) expressing a concern that federal funding of faith organizations should include essential

constitutional safeguards that protect religious organizations, beneficiaries, and the government. [February 19, 2009] Other civil rights organizations expressed similar constitutional concerns.⁶⁴⁶

President Obama Executive Order of November 17, 2010 was to clarify how the constitutional separation of church and state affects religious charities that get federal funds to provide social services.⁶⁴⁷ It states, for example, that such groups must separate their religious activities from the programs that get government funds, and to refer people who are uncomfortable with the organization's religious nature to other providers. [November 17, 2010 amendment⁶⁴⁸]

President Obama's White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships has developed a comprehensive partnership guide, [Partnerships for the Common Good](#) (PDF).⁶⁴⁹

Further protections through official State Liaison positions

A central goal of Charitable Choice was that small religious groups should not be discriminated against in government funding decisions. Most states have adopted Faith-based practices: 39 states have appointed persons into Faith Based Liaison positions (FBL), 22 states created state Offices of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (OFBCIs), and some have done both. 41 states also passed legislation or enacted administrative policy changes and some have run state-sponsored policy conferences. Because of the enormity of philosophic implications, its evolution shows a path with twists and turns not agreeable to all.

The earliest efforts to change state government policy and administration under then-Governor Bush in Texas had appeared to favor specific organizations (i.e. Teen Challenge), while it symbolically altered the relationship between church and state, manifest in laws, policies and procedural practices.⁶⁵⁰

The efforts in Texas were to push Charitable Choice principles that Congress enacted in August 1996 as part of federal welfare reform. Texas also added a "nondiscrimination" section in 1997 but did not label it as a Charitable Choice provision. The political goal was to change the governmental culture from within and without, beginning in Texas. Congressional committees worked to draft the legislation that ultimately became the enacted Charitable Choice conceptual framework.

Blurring the line between public and private funding

Charitable Choice clearly blurred the line between public funding and private religious organizations. During G.W. Bush's first term as president, the Compassion Capital Fund (CCF) distributed almost \$200 million to various faith and community-based organizations.

There was political bias in granting funds, such as to Chuck Colson's InnerChange prison program.

Minnesota Teen Challenge received, over seven years, more than \$10 million in federal funds. It also twice petitioned the Minnesota legislature to increase their state funds. In 2010 it continued to seek federal funds, and raised questions about the constitutional separation of church and state.⁶⁵¹

The distinctions over separation of church and state were complicated when a new Texas law allowed for finance of parish meeting rooms and schools if no "sanctuaries" or "chapels" are built with tax-exempt bond finances. Usually state and local municipal bonds are issued to benefit non-profit organizations that pledge to use the funds to fulfill a public purpose. The long-term repayment obligations required by the bonds are backed by the government's ability to tax its residents. The bonds are usually secured with real estate holdings as a tangible asset.

In Austin, Texas, [\\$79.8 million in bond financing](#)⁶⁵² went to the Capital Area Cultural Education Facilities Finance Corporation, but is not backed by real estate assets. The new Texas law allowed Faith-based organizations with little collateral to qualify for large amounts of municipal bond money. Borrowed money by religious non-profits without real estate assets puts the general taxpayer at risk should the non-profit not fulfill its debt obligations on the municipal bonds. This municipal bond money used for the capital improvements of a particular religious group would, in the event of default, become the responsibility of all taxpayers regardless of religious affiliation. Charitable Choice opens this door and new Texas laws hold the door open for those coached to use this opportunity.

The religious nature of Teen Challenge

Teen Challenge does not emphasize its religious philosophy when persons are court-ordered into its program as an alternative to jail. However, former inmates of Teen Challenge have reported that, *at minimum*, students are subjected to nearly 4 hours of religious indoctrination on Mondays and Fridays; on Wednesdays, it increases to 5 hours; Tuesdays and Thursdays include nearly 9 hours; on Sunday it is 8 hours; on Saturdays, over 2 hours are dedicated to indoctrination into the Assemblies.⁶⁵³

The curriculum at Teen Challenge is focused on religious studies with no non-religious material, no math and no science offered. Some critics have labeled this as educational neglect.

Statements of John Castellani, Executive Director of Teen Challenge

"We're out to tell them [addicts] what we feel is correct as far as we understand Christianity, and that Christianity is a big part of our therapy," John Castellani explained to a House Government Reform subcommittee, reported by AANEWS (May 25, 2001), from American Atheists.

"...completed Jews..." was the description given by John Castellani about Jewish clients of the Teen Challenge program *after* the program had enticed them to convert to the fundamentalist Christian religion. He suggested that Jews are "incomplete" unless they believe in the divinity of Jesus, explained to the House Government Reform subcommittee, on May 23, 2001, quoted from Americans United, "Faith-Based Group Draws Criticism for Telling House Congressional Committee About "Completed Jews" (May 25, 2001).

"In a sense, it's a compliment," he told reporters. "They're not a Christian, they're still a Jew. They've just found another part of themselves. I thought I was being kind ... Evidently, I'm in error; I apologize for that," Castellani adjusted his "completed Jews" remark after the testimony, quoted from AANEWS (May 25, 2001), from American Atheists.

Submitting to a “Higher Power”

All Alcoholics Anonymous and 12 Step self-help programs ask participants to submit to a “Higher Power,” however that entity is understood.

Rather than through personal introspection, inner spiritual growth and enlightenment, these programs recommend that the individual submit to the guidance of authority figures within the group and have a personal mentor, called a “sponsor.” Submission to the groups’ philosophy, the mentor’s advice and gleaned inspiration by a “Higher Power” is required to be helped. This places the individual in a vulnerable position if authorities are less than honorable and the program tenets have become skewed.

Abusive substance abuse treatment programs retaliate against clients that fail to comply with their “rules”. These rules include waiver of legal liability for wrongs; permission to violate privacy by program staff who reveals personal, confidential information in groups; restriction of communication with investigative authorities or even supportive family members, and acceptance of punishments for noncompliance.

A Human Rights-centered approach

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights advances a different perspective. The first 3 Articles of the declaration give clarity: “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.” “Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.” “Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.”

In regard to religious freedom, the Declaration states: “Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.” Regarding personal opinion and expression, “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.”

Restricted communication and coercive techniques force Teen Challenge clients into a behavioral modification program that can violate their human

rights. Teen Challenge has been accused of violation of Article 5: "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment." Article 4 was also cited: "No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms."

For a complete list of Human Rights, as delineated in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, see the document [here](#).⁶⁵⁴

Teen Challenge & Assemblies of God Statement of Faith

Teen Challenge is a 'faith-saturated' organization and religious faith is very important at all levels, and most staff members share the organization's faith commitments. 'Faith-saturated' programs involve explicit, extensive, and mandatory religious content integrated throughout the program. Teen Challenge includes religious ministries, which, while not formally churches, engage in proselytization or worship. Teen Challenge admits to religious bias in its hiring and employment practices. In Minnesota, the program requires all employees to sign a statement that acknowledges the program's Christian nature:

"I will participate in daily devotions, Bible reading, and prayer. I will participate in the Teen Challenge choir which performs Christian songs at weekly church services and special events. I will participate in lecture classes, individualized study courses, group counseling, individual counseling, and other program components that are based on Christian principles. I will attend church services when scheduled. If offered the opportunity to partake in communion or water baptism my participation is voluntary. If I object to the religious nature of this program and its requirements, I will notify the Dean of Students and receive a referral to another program of my choosing."

The Minnesota-Teen Challenge center's employment application contains this statement:

"I understand that MN Teen Challenge is a Christian church ministry affiliated with the Assemblies of God denomination. I understand that should my application be accepted, I will be working in an environment that is decidedly Christian in nature, and I hereby agree to abide by the bylaws, policies, and procedures of Minnesota Teen Challenge. I further understand that although my religious beliefs and practices may differ from those of Minnesota Teen Challenge, I will respect the religious views of MN-Teen Challenge and its leadership. I will refrain from promoting any beliefs or

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publicly demonstrating any behavior that contradicts the teaching, philosophy, or beliefs of the MN-Teen Challenge program during working hours, or while on MN-Teen Challenge property.” (MN-TC = Minnesota Teen Challenge)

In order to be admitted to the Teen Challenge program, there is a rigid requirement that parents/clients sign an acceptance of the Assemblies of God's statement of faith, such as the following example (from West Florida Teen Challenge, via Dog Emperor website).⁶⁵⁵

“As a Christian organization, we regard the following statements as our sound doctrine of faith, based upon the holy and inspired word of God, the Bible. All students enrolled at West Florida Teen Challenge are required to attend chapel services, Sunday worship services, and participate in the Teen Challenge International Christian character building curriculum.

1. We believe that the scriptures are inspired by God and declare His design and plan for mankind. II Timothy 3:15-17
2. We believe there is only one true God, revealed in three persons...Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Matthew 28:19 / Isaiah 43:10-11
3. We believe in the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, that as God's Son, he was both human and divine. Matthew 1:23 / Philippians 2:9-11
4. We believe that man willingly fell into sin, ushering evil and death, both physical and spiritual into the world. Romans 5:12-19
5. We believe that every person can have a restored fellowship with God through salvation, by accepting Christ's offer of forgiveness for sin. Acts 10:37 / Romans 10:13-15 / Ephesians 2:8-9
6. We believe in water baptism by immersion after repenting of one's sins and receiving Christ's gift of salvation, and in the Holy Communion, (the Lord's Supper) as a symbolic remembrance of Christ's suffering and death for our salvation. Matthew 28:19 / I Corinthians 11:26
7. We believe the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a special experience following salvation. Acts 1:4, 8 / Mark 16:20
8. We believe that the physical evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is "speaking in tongues" as experienced in the book of Acts. Acts 2:4 / I Corinthians 12:4-10
9. We believe that sanctification initially occurs at salvation and is a progressive lifelong process of separation from evil. Romans 12:1-2

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10. We believe that the "Church" is the body of Christ and consists of those people, throughout time, who have accepted God's plan of redemption (regardless of religious denomination) through the sacrificial death of His son Jesus Christ. I believe this Church has received the Great Commission to go into all the world to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Ephesians 1:22-23 / Hebrews 12:23
11. We believe in a divinely called and scripturally ordained leadership ministry that serves the Church, i.e. apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, evangelists). Mark 16:15-20
12. We believe that divine healing of the sick was provided for in Christ's atonement. James 5:14-16
13. We believe in the "blessed hope" – when Christ raptures His church prior to His return to earth (the Second Coming). I Thessalonians 4:16-17
14. We believe in the millennial reign of Christ when He returns with His saints at His second coming. And at that time the nation of Israel will accept Him as Messiah. Matthew 14:27, 30 / Revelation 1:7
15. We believe that a final judgment will take place for those who have rejected Christ. They will be judged for their sin and consigned to eternal punishment in a lake of fire, a literal place called hell. Matthew 25:46 / Revelation 19:20
16. We believe in and look forward to a perfect New Heavens and a New Earth that Christ is preparing for all people, of all time, who have accepted Him as their personal Lord and Savior. We will live and dwell with Him there forever following His millennial reign on earth. II Peter 3:13 & Revelation 21:22"

"Sixteen Fundamental Truths" form the official statement of faith of the Assemblies of God. The only difference is that the Teen Challenge version does not include the reference footnotes of the "official" Assemblies version; the Teen Challenge version references "Joel's Army"/"Joshua Generation" theology in promoting the idea of the "fivefold ministry". Both the official Assemblies' "Sixteen Fundamental Truths" and the Teen Challenge version explicitly call for the mass conversion of Jewish people to become "Messianic Jew" kosher neo-Pentecostals as an essential part of their end-times theology. (From the website of Dog Emperor, "[Investigating Teen Challenge](#)")⁶⁵⁶

Of the approximately 2 billion Christians in the world today, 648 million (11% of the world's population) are evangelicals, or Bible-based Christians.

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Evangelicals have grown from only 3 million in AD1500, to be 648 million worldwide, with 54% being non-Whites. In America today, about 75% of adults identify themselves as Christian. In comparison, the next largest religions in America are Islam and Judaism. The latter groups combined represent only about 1-2 percent of the U.S.A. population.

The top ten largest religious bodies in the United States

Rank	Religious Body	Year	Membership
1	Catholic Church	2002	66,407,105
2	Southern Baptist Convention	2003	16,400,000
3	United Methodist Church	2002	8,251,042
4	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	2004	5,599,177
5	Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	2003	4,984,925
6	Church of God in Christ	1991	4,500,000
7	Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)	2001	3,595,259
8	National Baptist Convention of America	1987	3,500,000
9	Assemblies of God	2002	2,687,366
10	Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod	2003	2,512,714

There are more than 1500 different Christian faith groups in America. They include 224,457,000 (75%) of the U.S.A. population. The Roman Catholic Church denomination is the largest Christian group in the world today with more than a billion followers constituting about half of the world's Christian population. Approximately 225 million people worldwide are Orthodox Christians. There are approximately 500 million Protestants in the world. About 12.6% of the U.S.A. population is fundamentalist Christian.

Teen Challenge (TC) is run by the Assemblies of God church. It maintains prison chaplains as well as in-prison programs. Teen Challenge is a fundamentalist evangelical Christian organization.

Are Faith-based substance abuse programs effective?

There appears to be little scientific evidence that religious-based programs are more effective than government or private social service programs. Supporters of Charitable Choice funds for these Faith-based programs often cite the December, 1996 report, "Faith in Action...A new vision of church-state cooperation in Texas," by then-Governor Bush's Advisory Task Force. The report quoted Governor Bush to state, *"Government can hand out money, but it cannot put hope in our hearts or a sense of purpose in our lives. It cannot bring us peace of mind. It cannot fill the spiritual well from which we draw strength day to day. Only faith can do that. In the final analysis, there is no overcoming anything without faith - be it drugs or alcohol or poverty or flawed social policy."*⁶⁵⁷

Another cited study is a 1996 comparison of homeless shelter programs in New York City. One program was operated by the Bower-y Mission Transitional Center, under Robert J. Polito, Executive Director. The statistical data was from monthly reports the shelters filed with New York City DHS. These were self-reported data on a mailed in survey and did not comprise valid scientific evidence.⁶⁵⁸

The vice-president of *Teen Challenge U.S.A.*, Carl Chrisner, actively solicits federal funds for the religion-based program, citing its "success rate"⁶⁵⁹ He stated *"from our own self-studies, we have over 40 years of proven success of 70%... We've also had studies conducted by the Federal Government...that confirm our 70% success rate."* No government studies have been provided to validate that claim. The study referred to is from 1976 and does not mention the purported 70% success rate. Scientific researchers have grave reservations regarding the methodology and execution of the evaluation. Data was collected years after clients were associated with the program and they were paid to participate. They were asked to report what they remembered. Many participants reported they had objected to the intensely religious nature of the Teen Challenge program. Black participants fared more poorly than whites according to the study results."⁶⁶⁰

There is little scientific documentation to show that religious indoctrination is associated with positive outcomes for drug abuse treatment programs. It is a distorted doctrine to promote changes in social policy based on casual assumptions about a single variable such as religion in statistical regression analysis and other sociological statistical measurements.⁶⁶¹ Yet, political

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think tanks have spent millions of dollars to influence public policy and to implement Charitable Choice provisions in the U.S.A.

*In The Christian Century magazine, Arthur E. Farnsley II has written, "But the people who are pushing for congregations to shoulder more of the burden of urban development need to be honest about church realities and capacities. In the long run, congregations could be damaged by shifting too much attention to community development and away from their many other ministries, both internal and external. The more immediate danger is that many needy people will go unserved if we assume that most congregations are doing or could do something that they cannot."*⁶⁶²

Civil rights groups raise alarms

Coercive control of teens in Teen Challenge facilities

There are obligatory legal agreements parents must embrace in which legal rights are waived, including the right to sue. Parents give Teen Challenge custody of their children, but are required to waive all rights to file abuse charges or to remove their children from the facility or criticize Teen Challenge. This is explicitly stated in actual Teen Challenge documents (from Dog Emperor)⁶⁶³

2. "Second Party voluntarily and unconditionally, without coercion or force, relinquishes and conveys the care and custody of said minor to West Florida Teen Challenge, expressly appointing West Florida Teen Challenge as lawful attorney for said Second Party and in Second Party's name, place, and stead for and to serve on loco parentis (in place of Second Party) of said child for his care, custody, safety, education, and training (both secular and religious) and for all other responsibilities, real or legal, including all necessities which West Florida Teen Challenge deems essential for the said child. This grant of custody and control shall commence upon the signing of this agreement by the last party hereto, and shall terminate as hereinafter provided.
3. West Florida Teen Challenge agrees to accept the care and control of said minor child while he is on the said property of West Florida Teen Challenge for the period and under the terms and conditions herein provided. Second Party agrees not to interfere with the custody or management of said minor in any way and shall not encourage anyone else to do so. Second Party also agrees to support West Florida Teen Challenge positively at all times."

In fact, for parents to visit the children, they are essentially required to sign a joint custody agreement, complete with visitation rights granted by Teen Challenge:

"I (we) agree that it is vital to the restoration of our family for my child to be visited on the prescheduled and designated visitation days, referred to hereafter as Parent Visit Weekend. I further agree to abide by the entire West Florida Teen Challenge visitation policies:

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1. Students are eligible for visits during the fourth month of residence or at the next prescheduled Parent Visit Weekend following the fourth month. Parents are notified by e-mail or letter.
2. It is mandatory that all Parents/Legal Guardians attend every Parent Visit Weekend. Failure to attend scheduled visits and parenting classes could result in your child's dismissal.
3. Split families must work out an acceptable agreement between the parents and notify West Florida Teen Challenge of the agreement.
4. The Parent Visit Weekends are for the Parent/Legal Guardian only. Siblings and grandparents may visit only during the graduation from Drill Academy's Basic Platoon or First Phase and the final graduation of the West Florida Teen Challenge program.
5. Students are permitted a Saturday 8-hour pass off campus and a Sunday six-hour pass off campus once they have successfully completed their 6th month in the Drill Academy program, or as personal evaluations permit. Passes off-campus are a privilege and not a right. They can be taken away at any time for disciplinary reasons.
6. Parents/Legal Guardians are expected to strictly adhere to the Leave Agreement directives, a signed document outlining the rules to be enforced while off-campus.
7. All items brought back to the ranch, as well as the student, will be thoroughly searched upon return from the off-campus pass.

The purpose of the off-campus pass is not primarily for entertainment, but for the opportunity to grow together as a family unit."

Physical restraint is used, despite that the West Florida Boys' Ranch is not a licensed mental health facility (note: psychiatric hospitals and police departments must follow specific legal requirements for use of restraints:

- I. "The first phase of West Florida Teen Challenge is a military structured program that instills discipline and enforces correct behavior. All Standards and Procedures are issued to each cadet and family member. They are explained and demonstrated to staff members to ensure safety, equality, and the knowledge of how to safely handle combative, aggressive cadets, or cadets that demonstrate by their

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actions that they are a threat to themselves or property.

- II. General information is outlined regarding possible violations or actions that can lead to the applying of hands-on techniques to restrain a cadet in order to protect, or prevent harm to himself, others, or property, or to press him into obedience.
- III. When and how will use of force be applied? When a cadet becomes combative, either vocally or by threatening actions, after being told to "stand down", a term they have been taught to mean STOP. The staff member on duty will call for back-up assistance. If time will not permit, he will proceed to physically bring the combative cadet under control by using approved arm bars or escort procedures, which will restrain the cadet without causing injury. Hands-on procedures are designed to gain control, prevent harm and protect property.
 - A. Step one: The staff member always tries to talk a cadet into submission first.
 - B. Step two: The staff member will always explain what the cadet did wrong, and why corrective actions were taken.
 - C. Step three: After combative conflicts, the staff member has the right to take pictures of the scene and the cadet to use as articles in his incident report that will be forwarded up the Chain of Command.
 - D. Step four: The staff member will file a report of date, time, location, situation, and parties involved. If necessary he will gather additional information in writing from eyewitnesses.

I understand and comply with the Rules, Regulation and Procedures of the West Florida Teen Challenge Drill Academy."

The use of restraints in the U.S.A. is legally constrained to the use of "necessary force;" this power is given only to those authorized to use it such as mental health facility staff and police officers. The allowable use is further limited and laws specify limits on periods of time.

Those who try to escape from Teen Challenge abuse are often returned involuntarily by police and become subject to additional retribution.

- 2. "Second Party recognizes that West Florida Teen Challenge accepts children who may have a history of running away and this is one of the rebellion issues that are addressed in the program.

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3. The Second Party agrees that West Florida Teen Challenge will not be held responsible for the safety of any minor child that runs away from the facility.
4. West Florida Teen Challenge will report a runaway child to the local authorities to facilitate their return. West Florida Teen Challenge will not be held responsible for finding a runaway child.
5. West Florida Teen Challenge is not responsible to involve itself in any court proceedings resulting from any criminal activity.
6. Students are not necessarily dismissed from the program for running away. We will continue to work with a student and their family to facilitate change as long as progress continues to be made.
7. Running away will result in the student's program being started over. If a student has been enrolled for less than two months, two months will be added to their program."

This is why many survivors/victims do not come forward for years, even for decades, until they finally feel emotionally and psychologically strong enough to bear witness and when they feel it is safe enough to do so. Juveniles under 18 years of age would need to successfully escape and then file an emancipation proceeding, since their own parents would send them back. (This material was also provided in the website by Dog Emperor)

Use of the court system to force young adults into Teen Challenge

The use of the court system to force teens and young adults into Teen Challenge as an alternative placement is widespread, used in Ohio, Florida, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Missouri as well as many local and municipal jurisdictions; municipal and county governments reporting internments of offenders include Lebanon, PA, Lansing, MI, and Cumberland County, TN.

[Bristol County, Massachusetts](#) has apparently [used county property to house a Teen Challenge program used as alternative sentencing](#). A lawsuit alleging First Amendment violation has been filed against the sheriff.⁶⁶⁴

The contents [in the indemnity agreement](#)⁶⁶⁵ for adults specifies:

1. "I understand that the case managers, staff, and volunteers of Teen Challenge of St. Louis are not professional counselors and are not licensed or certified by any state. These people are committed Christians, who will share their honest opinions and advice based on principles of the Bible.

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5. In consideration for the opportunity to obtain this counseling, I promise that I will not take any legal actions in the future for anything said, done, or omitted by my case manager, Teen Challenge of St. Louis, their agents, or family members during this case management program. I agree to hold Teen Challenge of St. Louis, their agents, and family members harmless for any legal claims of negligence or damage of any sort, which a person could assert, related to the Teen Challenge of St. Louis case management programs."

The agreement for "students" includes:

2. "I will dedicate myself to the discipleship program until it is recognized by the Teen Challenge staff that I qualify for completion. I realize this is only possible by submitting to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and that I cannot do this in my own strength.. . .
7. I understand that Teen Challenge will not be held responsible for any of my personal property left, lost, or stolen while I am in the Teen Challenge program. When leaving Teen Challenge, I understand that all my personal property must be taken with me.
8. *I release Teen Challenge from all financial or legal responsibilities in case of accident, injury, illness or other misfortune.*
9. I understand that I will not receive payment for the work I do while in the Teen Challenge program. I also understand that the purpose of this work is to aid in my character development."

In addition, inmates are required to agree to a "Christian Conciliation and Arbitration Agreement" that serves as a legal method to derail the possibility of a lawsuit:

"The undersigned parties enter into this Agreement as an essential condition of participation in the Teen Challenge program.

The undersigned parties accept the Bible as the inspired word of God. They believe that God desires that they resolve their dispute with one another within the Church and that they be reconciled in their relationships in accordance with the principles stated in 1 Corinthians 6:1-8, Matthew 5:23-24, and Matthew 18:15-20.

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Accordingly, the undersigned parties hereby agree that, if any dispute or controversy that arises out of or is related to this agreement is not resolved in private meetings between the parties pursuant to Matthew 5:23-24 and 18:15, then the dispute or controversy will be settled by biblically based mediation and, if necessary, legally binding arbitration, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for Christian Conciliation (Rules) of the Association of Christian Conciliation Services (current Rules attached and incorporated by this reference). The undersigned parties agree that these methods shall be the sole remedy for any dispute or controversy between them and, to the full extent permitted by applicable law, expressly waive their right to file a lawsuit in any civil court against one another for such disputes, except to enforce arbitration decision, or to enforce this dispute resolution agreement. Any mediated settlement agreement, or arbitrated decision hereunder shall be final and binding, and fully enforceable according to its terms in any court of competent jurisdiction."

These agreements release legal liability and are commonly used by Teen Challenge groups. [Minnesota Teen Challenge's teen admissions](#)⁶⁶⁶ has a nearly [identical indemnity form](#)⁶⁶⁷ in its admissions package:

"I/We, _____, parent(s), guardian(s), or conservator(s) of _____, a minor child born on _____, hereby agree that he/she can enroll in Minnesota Teen Challenge Academy (MTCA), a 12-month Christian residential rehabilitative program. I/We further agree that I/we relieve MTCA, its Staff, Employees, Students, and Board Members from any responsibility or liability for any damages to him or his property during his residence at MTCA or during any related travel and/or activities. I/We also agree to release, hold harmless, and relinquish all rights to pursue any cause of action whatsoever against MTCA, its Staff, Employees, Students, and Board Members if a student voluntarily leaves MTCA or for any damages incurred during his/her residence."

In addition, the form includes a HIPPA waiver (for medical records), a form for withdrawal of children from public schools (despite the documented lack of educational content other than religious indoctrination in Teen Challenge curricula), and media release forms.

This information was excerpted from the website of Dog Emperor. View additional personal stories and news about Teen Challenge at these web links:

Part 1: [Teen Challenge: The Assemblies' own "kiddie gulag"](#)⁶⁶⁸

Part 2: [Teen Challenge: Coercive groups disguised as rehab](#)⁶⁶⁹

- Part 3: [Teen Challenge: A typical week in the "Jesus Gulag"](#) ⁶⁷⁰
Part 4: [Teen Challenge: Life within the "Jesus Gulag"](#) ⁶⁷¹
Part 5: [Teen Challenge: Possible missionary mill?](#) ⁶⁷²
Part 6: [Teen Challenge: The depths of coercion at a "God Warrior" training camp](#) ⁶⁷³
Part 7: [Teen Challenge: Sex abuse and sexual predators](#) ⁶⁷⁴
Part 8: [Teen Challenge: Court-Ordered Coercion and CYA Indemnity Contracts](#) ⁶⁷⁵
Part 9: [Teen Challenge: Your Tax Dollars Pay For Institutionalized Abuse](#) ⁶⁷⁶

Freedom of Religion & social welfare programs

Prior to the G.W. Bush administration, many social welfare programs were administered through mainline religious denominations and their agencies, such as Catholic Charities and Lutheran Social Services. These agencies avoided religious discrimination in hiring or the clients served. They kept federal funds separate from church-related funds. Bush White House officials re-directed social welfare funds to local religious congregations and inexperienced Faith-based agencies, many of which were unconcerned about inclusive policies and ill-equipped to respond to the problems people faced.

There were also constitutional concerns about tying the receipt of services to participation in religious activities. If such conditions are applied to homeless persons who are typically in desperate need of food and shelter, the programs would effectively coerce some of them into unwanted religious experience. ⁶⁷⁷ Legally, the state may not offer needed services through a single program requiring religious activity and run by a single faith even if the program accepts participants from all faiths. ⁶⁷⁸ The only circumstances in which government-funded social services may be conditioned on participation in religious activities are those in which government financing is indirect, and the beneficiaries have genuine and independent choices among secular and religious alternatives. The requirement of participation in religious activities is the reason for the shutdown of the Prison Fellowship Ministries in prison program InnerChange in Iowa. ⁶⁷⁹

Freedom of Religion and Belief is a fundamental human right

Freedom of religion is a principle that supports the freedom of an individual or community, in public or private, to manifest religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship, and observance. The concept is generally recognized also

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to include the freedom to change religion or not to follow any religion. The freedom to discontinue membership in a religion or affiliated group, labeled "apostasy" by a rejected group at times, is also a fundamental part of religious freedom. Freedom of religion is considered by many people and nations to be a fundamental human right. It is enshrined in Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Freedom of religion and belief is protected by a number of international treaties and declarations, including article 18 (1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). This right encompasses freedom of thought on all matters and the freedom to manifest religion and belief individually or with others, in public or in private.

The right to freedom of religion is supported by the right to non-discrimination on the grounds of religion, contained in article 26 of the ICCPR.

International human rights law also protects people against the promotion of religious hatred which includes incitement of discrimination, hostility or violence (ICCPR, article 20).

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

Freedom of Religion: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." Thomas Jefferson said (1807) *"among the inestimable of our blessings, also, is that ...of liberty to worship our Creator in the way we think most agreeable to His will; ..."*

Showing respect for and honoring the First Amendment of the United States Constitution entails:

- Government agencies and federally funded organizations may not advance any religion or religious philosophy over any other religion or religious philosophy.
- No person may be compelled in any way to conform to a particular religion or religious philosophy.
- No person may be compelled in any way to witness or engage in any religious exercise.

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- No person may be compelled to curtail the free exercise of their religious practices or beliefs.
- All are entitled to the same Constitutional rights pertaining to religious freedoms and the free exercise of those freedoms.
- No person may be compelled to endure unwanted religious proselytism, evangelization or persuasion in a federally-funded program or agency.
- The full exercise of religious freedom includes the right not to subscribe to any particular religion or religious philosophy. The so-called “unchurched” cede no Constitutional rights by want of their separation from organized faith.
- It is responsibility of those that administer federally-funded services to ensure that the free exercise of religious freedoms of all are respected and served.
- All have the right to employ appropriate judicial means to protect their religious rights.

Religious attitudes can lead to discrimination

During G.W. Bush’s presidency, Richard Land participated in a weekly teleconference with other Christian conservatives focused on gay marriage, abortion, and other social issues. These religious leaders greatly influenced the social policies advanced by President Bush.

Richard Land preaches to 1.5 million listeners through his radio programs and regularly appears on mainstream media, such as Meet the Press. Land aptly represented the Southern Baptist Convention in Washington, DC. Land influenced the 16 million-member Southern Baptist Convention in 1979 to shift from a moderate to more “hardline” conservatism.⁶⁸⁰

Diane Knippers, president of the Institute on Religion and Democracy, is also a leader with impact. The Institute on Religion and Democracy has proved to be a divisive influence within liberal mainline denominations, especially about homosexuality.

Attorney Jay Sekulow, American Center for Law & Justice in Washington, is another religious leader with influence on public policy. He has pushed for Bible-study clubs on public-school campuses and protection of anti-abortion demonstrators’ right to rally outside abortion clinics. The American Center for Law & Justice has 700,000-members and a budget of \$30 million.⁶⁸¹

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Former U.S. Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA), as chairman of the Senate Republican Conference Committee, caused controversy with his targeted attacks on gay rights and supporters of abortion rights. Santorum, while in elected office, spoke monthly with Evangelical leaders to brief them on the status of legislation. His staff regularly tapped Evangelical broadcasters to help mobilize support for the Conservative agenda. Senator Santorum advanced laws intended to limit the access of minors to inter-state abortion.

In 1996, Senator Santorum chaired the Republican Party Task Force on Welfare Reform. The legislative efforts contributed to the Welfare Reform Act of 1996, The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA, [Pub.L. 104](#)) written by FL Congressman E. Clay Shaw, Jr. The legislation passed with overwhelming bipartisan support and was signed into law by President Bill Clinton.

These important religious thinkers affected public policy on Charitable Choice, which directs United States government funds to religious organizations to provide social services. Charitable Choice was a small provision, Section 104, of the reform Act (PRWORA, [Pub.L. 104-193](#), 110 Stat. 2105, enacted August 22, 1996). Charitable choice allows government officials to purchase services from religious providers through use of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Welfare-to-Work, and Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds. In late 2000, charitable choice philosophy was also applied to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) block grant.

Based on applicants' religious beliefs, preferential hiring by Teen Challenge and other religious non-governmental organizations (NGOs) was permitted, although entities received federal funds through Charitable Choice.^{682 683 684} The zeal of the religiously-affiliated counselors in the residential treatment centers led them to deliberately target certain identifiable groups, such as LGBT youth, for intentional and severe deprivation of rights. These applied deprivations are tolerated in the absence of government regulation and inspection of their facilities. The requirement that all citizens' rights are upheld despite variance in religious persuasion is ignored.

Those who most want to prevent government regulation and inspection of religious non-profit organizations have been accused of grievous violations of human rights. These violations are facilitated, as discussed, where biased employment practices are allowed by religiously-affiliated NGOs that receive federal funds through Charitable Choice.^{685 686}

The "Teen Challenge" network apparently offers [no reputable professional counseling](#).⁶⁸⁷ It offers no well-designed tracking of success and failure

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rates; its [reports](#)⁶⁸⁸ and [supposed success stories](#)⁶⁸⁹ appear to consist of isolated anecdotes and head counts which exclude youths who failed to complete a treatment program. Teen Challenge was accused of coercive practices against young women who wished to have reproductive choice over their own bodies. Teen Challenge was found to use coercive practices against those of Jewish faith as well as other faiths in an effort to force them to accept Jesus Christ. Persons were court-ordered into Teen Challenge facilities under the false belief that they were treatment programs for substance abuse when, in fact, there was no medical or psychological treatment component in programs and there was no licensed professional involved to supervise care in facilities. Teens in Teen Challenge were monitored by alarm systems to prevent unauthorized departures. Most staff was recruited directly through the Teen Challenge outreach to jailed prisoners, who could treat the captives as they wished. Untrained and unsupervised peer mentors with religious zeal abused others with bullying tactics.⁶⁹⁰

Teen Challenge U.S.A. targets those that they believe are gay (LGBT) and is linked to Exodus Ministries, an ex-gay ministry group accused of abusive treatment of LGBT persons.⁶⁹¹ Teen Challenge-MN, a Pentecostal substance abuse treatment program, applied for \$500,000 in federal funds,⁶⁹² and it works closely with Exodus International. Exodus International is the “ex-gay” therapy group which believes that they can “pray away the gay”.⁶⁹³ The official Teen Challenge [Student Handbook](#) instructs students to “conduct themselves in a manner pleasing to God” and strictly forbids any “homosexual behavior.”⁶⁹⁴

Exodus International has a network of 100 ministries that focus on changing the sexual orientation of clients. “Love in Action” was the largest and was closed in Tennessee after being investigated for abuse by several state agencies. The Tennessee Department of Mental Health & Developmental Disabilities stated that the organization violated Tennessee law that requires group homes for the mentally ill to be licensed. The Department of Health had ruled that the organization did not require licensing as an alcohol and drug addiction treatment center because the facility’s counselors provided ministry rather than treatment. Love in Action appealed that it should be exempt from state licensing rules because it is a Faith-based program.

The Texas Freedom Network – constitutional issues

Texas Freedom Network is a statewide, nonprofit, nonpartisan alliance that includes 7,500 religious and community leaders. It challenged what it calls

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"the growing social and political influence of religious political extremists." Texas Freedom Network, a 23,000 member non-partisan grassroots watchdog group based in Austin, conducted a five-year study of the policy and found, "As exempt faith-based drug treatment centers, [such] facilities are not required to have licensed chemical dependency counselors, conduct staff training or criminal background checks, protect client confidentiality rights, adhere to state health and safety standards, or report abuse, neglect, emergencies and medication errors."⁶⁹⁵ [The Texas Faith-Based Initiative at Five Years](#): Warning Signs as President Bush Expands Texas-style Program at National Level.⁶⁹⁶

American Jewish Congress - constitutional challenges

One of the first constitutional challenges to a charitable choice contract came from the American Jewish Congress. The group monitors issues such as the "charitable choice" proposals, in which federal funds support Faith-based institutions to provide social services that historically were the responsibility of government.

The First Amendment separation of church and state is emphasized by the American Jewish Congress as it asserts that Jews in the U.S.A. are not guests but full-fledged citizens by right. A key component for its work is the belief, "That only through the assertion of – and defense of – human rights in general, can Jewish rights themselves be guaranteed, that only through the pursuit of social justice for all can it achieve the narrower goal of justice for Jewish Americans." The American Jewish Congress describes itself as an association of Jewish Americans organized to defend Jewish interests at home and abroad through public policy advocacy, using diplomacy. The Texas Civil Rights Project filed a lawsuit in 2000 to invalidate a contract between the Texas Department of Human Services and the Jobs Partnership of Washington County (JPWC). The suit claimed that "Protestant evangelical Christianity permeates" the partnership's job training/ placement program. The complaint charged that JPWC uses tax dollars to convince students they need to "change from the inside out, rather than from the outside in, and that can only be accomplished through a relationship with Jesus Christ."⁶⁹⁷ This was perceived as federally-funded proselytism to Christianity.⁶⁹⁸

Freedom from Religion Foundation – the Establishment Clause

The Court has been nearly unanimous on questions of government support for structures in which religious uses are foreseeable, and it reflects one of

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the core concerns in the history of the Establishment Clause.⁶⁹⁹ The Freedom from Religion Foundation was the first to challenge the White House Office of Faith-Based Initiatives in 2007.⁷⁰⁰ The *Chicago Sun-Times* reported. "The group says Bush's program, which helps religious groups get government funding to provide social services, violates the separation of church and state." In 2005 U.S. District Court Judge John Shabaz ruled that an Arizona-based prison program that had received government money, MentorKids USA, violated the First Amendment prohibition against the promotion of religion. But the hearing revealed an even greater problem; the Dept. of Health and Human Services - the federal agency that dispensed the grant to MentorKids USA - had no system in place to monitor the money it was handing out.⁷⁰¹ A three-judge panel of the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals based in Chicago finally heard the case.

The Supreme Court decision, *Hein v. Freedom From Religion Foundation*, 551 U.S. 587 (2007), ruled that taxpayers do not have the right to challenge the constitutionality of expenditures by the executive branch of the government. So the Supreme Court supported the Faith-based initiatives. The case drew on three Supreme Court precedents: *Flast v. Cohen*, 392 U.S. 83 (1968), *Bowen v. Kendrick*, 487 U.S. 589 (1988), and *Valley Forge Christian College v. Americans United for Separation of Church & State*, 454 U.S. 464 (1982). (See [The Non Profit Times](#) Feb. 1, 2002 Faith-Based Changes Come From Within a Texas Prison by Richard Williamson.)^{702 703}

The Establishment Clause has generally been interpreted to prohibit 1) the establishment of a national religion by Congress; 2) the preference by the U.S.A. government of one religion over another. The first approach is called the "separation" or "no aid" interpretation, while the second approach is called "non-preferential" or "accommodation" interpretation. The latter approach prohibits Congress from preferring one religion to another. It does not prohibit government entry into religious domains to make accommodations in order to achieve the purposes of the Free Exercise Clause. (See *American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois v. City of St. Charles*, supra, 794 F.2d at 270). Many civil libertarians believe that the Charitable Choice program, as currently applied, may violate the Establishment Clause.^{704 705 706}

A religious leader who was closely aligned with President George W. Bush was David Barton,⁷⁰⁷ director of WallBuilders,⁷⁰⁸ an advocacy organization. Barton was co-chair of the Texas Republican Party for eight years, and was a recognized friend of House Majority Leader Tom DeLay.⁷⁰⁹ Barton is a popular Evangelical leader and prolific writer.⁷¹⁰ His books, videotapes and speeches are found in churches across America, reaching out to a generation of Evangelical "believers" who could be labeled Christian counter-history.⁷¹¹

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Former senator Sam Brownback,⁷¹² now the Governor of Kansas, has said that Barton's research "provides the philosophical underpinning for a lot of the Republican effort in the country today – bringing God back into the public square." Indeed, *Time Magazine* named him one of the nation's 25 most influential evangelical Christians in 2005.⁷¹³ Barton's view is that the U.S. was a "self-consciously religious nation" from its founding roots until the 1963 Supreme Court school-prayer ban.^{714 715 716 717 718}

A central point of the Bush administration's argument for the Faith-based initiatives became that Faith-based organizations had been discriminated against historically, and he was going to do all in his power to level the playing field, giving religious groups the opportunity to apply for and receive government grants. But there is little proof to support this theory, because in the U.S.A. faith and/or religious based organizations have received and continue to receive hundreds of millions of dollars from government each year, willingly acceding to government regulations that the money not be used for proselytism or for primarily religious purposes. The Salvation Army is in fact a Christian religion which gets in excess of \$300 million a year from US government, according to the *Washington Post*.⁷¹⁹

Americans United for Separation of Church and State v Prison Fellowship Ministries

Not everyone agreed that Charitable Choice was an appropriate way to spend taxpayer funds. Washington, DC-based Americans United for Separation of Church and State is a religious freedom advocacy group which has voiced opposition to tax-funded religious programs. *"Any program that relies on or requires a conversion to a particular religion is going to be a poor candidate for public funding."*

In the June, 2007 legal case, *Americans United For Separation of Church and State v. Prison Fellowship Ministries*, U.S.A. District Judge Robert Pratt of Iowa's Southern District ruled that InnerChange Freedom Initiative (IFI), the prison ministry, violated the constitution. There were prison fellowship ministries in six states at the time: Kansas, Minnesota, Texas, Iowa, Arkansas and Missouri. The judge's ruling effectively cut off federal funds to the program in Iowa; other states halted state funds of these IFI programs. Some IFI programs continued to operate with other sources of income. Kansas and Minnesota cut off their financial support after the court ruling against Iowa's program. The IFI program has operated entirely on private donations in Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, and plans to continue IA operations.

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AU's Senior Litigation Counsel Alex Luchenitser published an article about his involvement in the case in the *Ave Maria Law Review*.⁷²⁰ It can be read [here](#). "InnerChange: Conversion as the price of freedom and comfort – a cautionary tale about the pitfalls of faith-based prison units."⁷²¹

[Case Details from AU](#): "On June 2, 2006, the district court held that the program violated the Establishment Clause, expelled the program from the prison, and directed IFI to repay the Department of Corrections the \$1.5 million that it had been paid by the State. Defendants appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit in June 2006. Senior Litigation Counsel Alex J. Luchenitser argued the appeal in February 2007 before a panel that included former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. In December 2007, the Eighth Circuit largely upheld the district court's decision in our (Americans United) favor. The court held that Iowa's involvement with IFI violated the Establishment Clause by supporting the indoctrination of inmates and IFI's discrimination against non-Christian inmates. The court also held that, while IFI had to return funds it received from Iowa after the district court issued its decision, it could not be compelled to return funds it had received earlier. In January 2008, the Eighth Circuit denied Defendants' petition for rehearing *en banc*, which asked the entire Eighth Circuit to review the case. Defendants declined to seek review of the decision in the U.S. Supreme Court. In March 2008, Iowa terminated the IFI program."

Federal funding of religiously-based behavioral modification programs

In a landmark case Judge Daniel Hovland of the U.S. District Court for the District of North Dakota dismissed a lawsuit brought against several state and county officials. The case was filed by Freedom From Religion Foundation, Inc. (FFRF), by North Dakota taxpayers and various counties in that state. It concerned government expenditures for foster care of children in religiously-affiliated group homes.⁷²² The complaint alleged that the state and the counties financially supported religious experience by placing adolescents at Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch (DBGR). DBGR operates facilities that provide residential, medical, psychiatric, and educational services to children referred for treatment by government agencies in North Dakota. The complaint asserted that the payment of state and county funds to DBGR, which is affiliated with various Lutheran church bodies, violated the First Amendment's Establishment Clause. It was alleged that there was government-supported religious experience that included behavior modification therapy, Biblical teaching, instruction in Lutheran Confessions,

mandatory church attendance and spiritual life meetings, and other ways that integrate explicitly Christian messages into daily activities at DBGR. In light of the Supreme Court's 2007 decision in *Hein v. Freedom From Religion Foundation, Inc.*, state and county defendants separately moved to dismiss the case for lack of taxpayer standing to pursue it. Judge Hovland granted the motions, and ordered dismissal of the case against all defendants. Judge Hovland began his analysis with a recital of the basic requirements of Article III of the U.S.A. Constitution. The federal courts can only decide properly structured cases and controversies. One indispensable element of a case appropriate for decision is that the plaintiff must have standing to sue. In order to demonstrate such standing, a plaintiff must show that the defendant's allegedly wrongful conduct has caused the plaintiff an actual injury (or is about to cause an imminent injury), and that the requested action by the court will provide a remedy for that injury.⁷²³ Federal taxpayers have standing to raise Establishment Clause challenges to expenditures directly authorized by Congress.⁷²⁴

The key question for Judge Hovland was the extent to which the Supreme Court's 2007 decision in *Hein v. Freedom From Religion Foundation, Inc.* limited the scope of *Flast* and *Bowen*. The Court in *Hein* ruled that the right of taxpayers to challenge expenditures as violations of the Establishment Clause should not be extended to such discretionary expenditures by the executive branch. As Judge Hovland saw it, the suit "is not directed at an exercise of legislative power and lacks the . . . nexus [required by *Flast*] between taxpayer status and the type of legislative enactment attacked."⁷²⁵

The Fellowship (The Family)

President George W. Bush like many other U.S. presidents was invited to attend breakfast with The Fellowship. The Fellowship or "Family" is described by prominent evangelical Christians as one of the most politically well-connected, fundamentalist organizations in the U.S.A.⁷²⁶ It holds one regular public event each year, the National Prayer Breakfast, held in Washington, DC. Every U.S.A. president since Dwight Eisenhower has participated in at least one National Prayer Breakfast during his term. Persons who participate in The Fellowship are high-ranking U.S. government officials, corporate executives, heads of religious and humanitarian aid organizations, ambassadors and high-ranking politicians from across the world. Many U.S. senators and congressmen associated with the Fellowship have worked together to pass or influence legislation.⁷²⁷ The Fellowship shuns publicity and its members share a vow of secrecy but behind the scenes The Fellowship is a powerful political force.

Dominionism

Few evangelicals know of dominion theology, and fewer still embrace Christian Reconstructionism. The term "dominionism" is used different ways by different people. In a politico-religious context, dominionism is the tendency among conservative, politically-active Christians in the US to seek influence or control over secular civil government through political action. The goal of those who espouse dominionism is either a nation governed by Christians, or a nation governed by a conservative Christian understanding of biblical law. As a theological belief system, dominion theology believes that God's law, as codified in the Bible, should exclusively govern society, to the exclusion of secular law. This is also sometimes known as theonomy. Followers believe that Christians alone are Biblically mandated to occupy all secular institutions until Christ returns. The most prominent modern formulation is Christian Reconstructionism, founded by R. J. Rushdoony in the 1970s. Reconstructionists themselves use the word dominionism to refer to their belief that Christians alone should control civil government, conducting it according to Biblical law. Before he died in 2001, Rushdoony appeared several times on Christian Right televangelist programs such as Pat Robertson's 700 Club⁷²⁸ and the program hosted by D. James Kennedy. In some contexts Dominionism is used to describe the influence in the broader Christian Right of ideas inspired by Dominion Theology.^{729 730 731 732}
⁷³³ A number of Christian Right leaders, influenced by dominion theology, decided to gain political power through the Republican Party.⁷³⁴ Some were more militant in their beliefs than others. While all Christian Reconstructionists are dominionists, not all dominionists are Christian Reconstructionists.

The realization of goals became more possible with the achieved ability to put candidates in positions of authority through which "change from within" for government function could be executed. Those problems perceived as obstacles or threats were identified so as to achieve the necessary changes in governmental structures and systems. It seemed to be inconsequential to those involved that basic rights might be violated as progress toward their religious goals was made.

The "Christian Right" views are widely spread through evangelical preachers. Pat Robertson's "700 Club" is broadcast daily in most U.S. television markets via the *ABC Family* and *Trinity Broadcasting* networks. Robertson's *Christian Broadcasting Network* (CBN) claims that their program is viewed daily by one million people. Operation Blessing, run by Robertson, receives Charitable Choice funds. Through the Faith-based initiative, "the biggest chunk of federal aid" given to Operation Blessing comes from surplus nonfat

dry milk distributed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (i.e., \$22.7 million over two years).⁷³⁵

Lack of protection for Human Rights Defenders

Government oversight and the role of mandated reporters

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services or state or local department of social and rehabilitation services is often the agency doing the child abuse investigation, but their investigative officers do not have law enforcement powers and thus do not have experience nor authority to protect mandated reporters or whistleblowers from retaliation.

There is in the U.S.A. no governmental agency or organization empowered, mandated and authorized to defend mandated reporters from witness intimidation and retaliation directed against them personally and professionally. The closest governmental office to possibly protecting mandated reporters – at least within federal service employees – is the Office of Special Counsel within the Department of Justice.

In the United States *mandated reporters* ⁷³⁶ are professionals who, in the ordinary course of their work and because they have regular contact with children, disabled persons, senior citizens, or other identified vulnerable populations, are required to report (or cause a report to be made) whenever financial, physical, sexual or other types of abuse has been observed or is suspected, or when there is evidence of neglect, knowledge of an incident, or an imminent risk of serious harm. These persons are by statute defenders of human rights.

Please remember that when these cases move forward into the investigation phase, perpetrators of abuse can usually readily determine the identity of the mandated reporter. Thus mandated reporters, who are human rights defenders, may immediately experience retaliation.

Because these residential treatment centers are not licensed or regulated they do not abide by state standards regarding mandated reporting. Straight Inc., Teen Challenge, Kids Helping Kids, WWASPS, and other abusive programs do not train staff about mandated reporting laws and the need to report abusive treatment and neglect.

Professionals, who are mandated to report abuse, can be held liable by both the civil and criminal legal systems for intentionally failing to make a report but their name can also be said unidentified. Mandated reporters also include

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persons who have assumed full or intermittent responsibility for the care or custody of a child, dependent adult, or elder, whether or not they are compensated for their services. Persons with Durable Power of Attorney for the care of another person who is not capable of making decisions for themselves are mandated reporters, so too are foster care providers.

Approximately 48 States, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands designate professions whose members are mandated by law to report child maltreatment. Individuals designated as mandatory reporters typically have frequent contact with children. Such individuals may include:

- Social workers
- Teachers and other school personnel
- Physicians and other health-care workers
- Mental health professionals
- Child care providers
- Medical examiners or coroners
- Law enforcement officers

Some other professions are mandated reporters such as commercial film or photograph processors (in 11 States, Guam, and Puerto Rico), substance abuse counselors (in 14 States), and probation or parole officers (in 17 States). Seven States and the District of Columbia include domestic violence workers on the list of mandated reporters, while seven States and the District of Columbia include animal control or humane officers. Court-appointed special advocates are mandatory reporters in nine States. Members of the clergy now are required to report in 26 States.

All jurisdictions have provisions in statute to maintain the confidentiality of abuse and neglect records. The identity of the reporter is specifically protected from disclosure to the alleged perpetrator in 39 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Northern Mariana Islands. This protection is maintained even when other information from the report may be disclosed.

Release of the reporter's identity is allowed in some jurisdictions under specific circumstances or to specific departments or officials. Realize that the Federation of State Physicians Health Programs (FSPHP) is on that list to be legally informed and also the state medical board and state department of health. For example, disclosure of the reporter's identity can be ordered by the court when there is a compelling reason to disclose (in California, Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas, and Guam) or upon a finding that the reporter knowingly made a false report (in Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, South Dakota, Vermont, and Virginia). In

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some jurisdictions (California, Florida, Minnesota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, the District of Columbia, and Guam), the reporter can waive confidentiality and give consent to the release of his or her name.

RAINN ⁷³⁷ maintains a database of mandatory reporting regulations regarding children and the elderly by state, including who is required to report, standards of knowledge, definitions of a victim, to whom the report must be made, information required in the report, and regulations regarding timing and other procedures. RAINN applied for funding through Charitable Choice during the Bush Administration only to be turned down for federal funding for this very important program.

ASAM/FSPHP does not maintain privacy and confidentiality over clients' records, sharing private information freely with collaborating partners. Collaborating partners can be religious organizations such as Teen Challenge/Assemblies of God or A.A. or N.A. "peer mentors". The sharing of private client information by state physician health programs includes providing client information with law enforcement professionals, state medical boards, medical liability insurance companies and others such as pharmaceutical industry contacts which supply psychiatric medications to welfare clients or prisoners.

The Office of Special Counsel – protection of whistleblowers

The Office of Special Counsel (OSC) is an independent body charged with defending federal employees who disclose incidents of abuse, waste or mismanagement, or who have been discriminated against in the workplace because of political affiliation or personal status.

The OSC is an independent federal investigative and prosecutorial agency. The basic authorities come from four federal statutes: the Civil Service Reform Act, the Whistleblower Protection Act, the Hatch Act, and the Uniformed Services Employment & Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).

PPPs & Whistleblower Protection

OSC receives, investigates, and prosecutes allegations of Prohibited Personnel Practices, or PPPs, with an emphasis on protecting federal government whistleblowers. OSC seeks corrective action remedies (such as back pay and reinstatement), by negotiation or from the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB), for injuries suffered by whistleblowers and other

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complainants. OSC is also authorized to file complaints at the MSPB to seek disciplinary action against individuals who commit PPPs.

Disclosure Unit

OSC provides a secure channel through its Disclosure Unit for federal workers to report information about workplace improprieties, including a violation of law, rule or regulation, gross mismanagement and waste of funds, abuse of authority, or a substantial danger to public health or safety.

Hatch Act Unit (Political Activity)

OSC promotes compliance by government employees with legal restrictions on political activity by providing advisory opinions on, and enforcing, the Hatch Act. The Unit provides over a thousand advisory opinions yearly to guide individuals on whether political activities are permitted under the Act. Hatch Act Unit is charged to enforce compliance with the Act. Depending on the severity of the violation, OSC will either issue a warning letter to the employee, or prosecute a violation before MSPB.

Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (Veterans' Rights)

OSC protects the civilian employment and reemployment rights of military veterans, members of the National Guard and Reserve by enforcing the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).

Employee Information Programs

Section 2302(c) of Title 5 of the U.S. Code makes agency heads and officials with personnel authority responsible (in consultation with OSC) for informing federal employees of their rights and remedies under chapters 12 and 23 of Title 5. These chapters cover prohibited personnel practices, whistleblower disclosures, political activity, access to OSC and the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB).

Scott Bloch, Deputy Director of Faith-based and Community Initiatives

"One person can root out corruption and abuse of power. Once he understands this, he is redeemed and can break out of the trap of fear, and break free into the light of integrity and justice. That is the effect of seeing a brave whistleblower stand up and win; it inspires the rest of us."

Sophocles and The Shawshank Redemption, quote in official speech by Scott Bloch while at the OSC ⁷³⁸ ⁷³⁹

Scott Bloch was appointed in 2001 by President G.W. Bush to a critical task force for the Faith-based objectives. From 2001-2004, Bloch served as Deputy Director of the Department of Justice (DOJ) Task Force for the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (OFBCI). As Deputy Director, his mission was to provide oversight to the new program as it was implemented through various federal departments. The OFBCI facilitated the award of federal funds to programs like Teen Challenge under provisions of the Charitable Choice legislation.

Prior to this appointment, Bloch had practiced for a decade as an attorney in Lawrence, Kansas. Teen Challenge operates a program in Lawrence and owns land there. Bloch's ties to Kansas would prove useful in future needs.

Scott Bloch, Chief Counsel for the Office of Special Counsel

In 2004, Scott Bloch was promoted by President Bush to be Chief Counsel for the Office of Special Counsel (OSC). U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas swore him in. The OSC is an independent federal agency charged with safeguarding the merit-based employment system by protecting federal employees and applicants from prohibited personnel practices. A critical role is protection of federal whistleblowers, whose efforts safeguard American citizens and taxpayers. Bloch headed the OSC from 2004 through 2008.

In theory, as the Chief Counsel for the OSC, Bloch was responsible to investigate complaints related to waste, fraud and abuse, and to protect

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whistleblowers. Government employees, who report violations of the public trust, as well as illegal or dangerous activities, are known as whistleblowers.

Whistleblowers and Mandated Reporters (persons legally required to report certain violations by virtue of their employment and/or licensure) constitute our national alert system against serious threats to public safety and trust. Unfortunately, there has developed a tolerance for retaliation against a whistleblower by his or her management that does not correct the problem. Retaliation has occurred in the form of forced transfers, demotions, revocation of security clearances, and employment termination. Some reports of even more nefarious actions have been filed without relief.

Whistleblowers who experience retaliation expect to be able to go to the OSC to seek redress. The U.S. Office of Special Counsel is chartered to act independently. The OSC can force investigations into retaliation and/or misconduct that is reported by whistleblowers. Under Scott Bloch, the officially-designated safe harbor at the OSC became a very unfriendly place to whistleblowers. In fact, Bloch intentionally caused hundreds of whistleblower cases to be permanently destroyed without an investigation.

All reports of medical fraud, labor violations, and prison abuse and child abuse cases handled directly by federal agencies would ultimately be appealed to the Office of Special Counsel within the established chain of command. Scott Bloch came under criticism for alleged retaliation against his own employees and for closure of whistleblower cases without investigation. Bloch summarily dismissed hundreds of whistleblower complaints, including any complaints about Teen Challenge. The whistleblowers were in agencies such as Health and Human Services (HHS), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMSHA), National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), Department of Labor, Federal Bureau of Prisons and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Bloch closed cases that involved valid complaints by human rights defenders who were federal employees or whose complaints identified errant federal employees.

The OSC is charged to enforce the Hatch Act, which prohibits government employees from use of federal resources for political ends. The Special Counsel reports directly to the White House. When staff expressed concerns for how Bloch handled cases, Bloch retaliated.

Bloch eventually came under investigation himself for a variety of violations, including prohibited personnel practices and discrimination against the employees in his office. Bloch purged more than 20% of his staff, many of whom were experienced career professionals with years of work with whistleblowers. Bloch was cited for preferential hiring, such as for disgraced

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school headmaster, Alan Hicks, in conflict with federal personnel practices. The Hicks matter is discussed in greater detail below.

Bloch was investigated for violation of the Hatch Act, the federal statute that limits federal employees' participation in partisan political activities. The agency empowered to investigate violations of the Hatch Act was the OSC, the office Bloch was appointed to head in 2004. The sequence of political choices by President G.W. Bush enabled Bloch to not investigate himself for reported whistleblower allegations that he misused prerogatives through the Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives (OFBCI) program for partisan political purposes. <http://www.osc.gov/hatchact.htm>

As Special Counsel, Bloch dismissed or otherwise disposed of at least 600 whistleblower disclosures that reported waste, fraud, threats to public safety and violations of law. Bloch did not identify a single case where he ordered an investigation into a reporter's charges. Bloch admitted that he made 470 claims of retaliation disappear. Bloch never affirmatively represented a whistleblower to obtain relief before the civil service court system, called the Merit Systems Protection Board. There are persons who believed Bloch should have been terminated under the "*neglect of duty statute*."

While he was under a Congressional investigation, Bloch had his government computer and those of two of his staff "wiped clean" of information in December, 2006, using a private computer repair company, Geeks on Call. It was discovered that he had ordered his office to erase all references to workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation, claiming his office lacked the authority to protect gay and lesbian workers. This effectively prevented the FBI forensic team from retrieving the digital data. The US House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform questioned Bloch about the computer scrub in March, 2008. Bloch was removed from his position at the Office of Special Counsel in October, 2008.

Scott Bloch - Prohibited personnel practices

While at OSC, Scott Bloch disregarded the competitive merit system and, instead, hired his own political allies. These included recent graduates from very conservative Ave Maria law school in Florida. Bloch had ordered the removal from the OSC web site and training materials any statement that discrimination based on sexual orientation was a banned practice in the federal workplace. This was despite existing federal policy that "prohibits discrimination against federal employees based on sexual orientation." Bloch professed the view that discrimination simply based on sexual

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orientation did not warrant OSC investigation. Bloch deliberately removed several qualified career civil servants from their positions by forced transfer and other retaliatory measures (including removal of staff who expressed concerns about his hired consultant, Alan Hicks). The actions brought Bloch under investigation by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency, and a Senate committee.

Bloch gave special treatment to disgraced school headmaster, Alan Hicks, who had been dismissed from St. Gregory's Academy.⁷⁴⁰ Hicks had been recruited by Fr. Arnaud Devillers to be headmaster at St. Gregory's. Hicks had previously studied philosophy and logic at the University of Kansas, where he was in the Great Books program under Dr. John Senior, for whom he worked as an assistant instructor.

Scott Bloch's son attended St. Gregory's Academy, an exclusive Catholic boarding school for boys. Bloch hired his son's former boarding school headmaster as an expert consultant on a no-bid contract to work in the OSC. Hicks had briefly taught philosophy at the University of Kansas, but he did not seem to have expertise that qualified him to consult for the OSC.

Bloch employed Hicks in apparent violation of civil service rules, according to documents released by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER).⁷⁴¹

"It is beyond ironic that Scott Bloch heads the very office that is supposed to enforce the rules against nepotism and favoritism," stated PEER Executive Director, Jeff Ruch.

Documents obtained by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) www.peer.org/ under the Freedom of Information Act are below:

See the pay scale and terms of Alan Hicks consultant appointment
http://www.peer.org/docs/osc/05_12_04_consultant_pay.pdf

View the redacted work product of Alan Hicks

http://www.peer.org/docs/osc/05_12_04_consultant_results.pdf

Read the "Consultant Statement of Work"

http://www.peer.org/docs/osc/05_12_04_consultant_description.pdf

Look at unfolding developments in the troubled tenure of Scott Bloch as Special Counsel

http://www.peer.org/watch/federal_info.php?row_id=23

Hicks had left his headmaster position in the wake of allegations that priests of the Society of St. John sexually preyed on young students at St. Gregory's

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Academy. The school, owned and operated by the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, is a private high school for boys located in Moscow, Pennsylvania. Bloch gave the ex-headmaster a one-year appointment at the OSC. Hicks was to "advise on curriculum of future Office of Special Counsel training program." Hicks' appointment as consultant would earn \$111,966.40, but the only work produced during this employment was a four-page memo dated September 16, 2004. A FOIA request by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) obtained a redacted version with only a blank piece of paper for this 4 page memo.

Dr. Jeffrey M. Bond,⁷⁴² as president of the College of St. Justin Martyr, in a June 7, 2002 letter, warned the parents of children attending St. Gregory's, that *"...the SSJ priests had the opportunity to harm boys at St. Gregory's because of a pre-existing environment suited to their perverse purposes. I say this because parents, graduates, and other concerned parties who have read the above-mentioned letter have contacted me to share their experiences with me, and their stories indicate that the environment at St. Gregory's is not a healthy one for boys. That environment was largely the creation of Mr. Alan Hicks, the Headmaster of St. Gregory's Academy. In short, the bright promise of St. Gregory's has been betrayed by the very one whose task it has been to fulfill that promise."*

It is clear from Dr. Bond's letter of warning to parents that he believed Hicks acted in a callous and uncaring manner toward the boys who had been sexually abused. He stated further that "Mr. Hicks' attitude reveals a remarkable ignorance concerning the ways in which homosexual predators 'groom' their victims by degrees."

In one instance of inappropriate homosexual contact that parents reported, Dr. Bond concluded that *"neither Mr. Hicks nor Mr. Clark expressed a single word of concern for the welfare of this young man. They did express concern for their own jobs, however, by joking about how they would soon be "eating out of garbage cans." They also denied responsibility by stating that it was unrealistic for them to have to patrol the hallways of St. Gregory's at night."*

Dr. Bond delineated numerous instances of sexual abuse that occurred at St. Gregory's with several different boys, concluding that "the moral threshold was crossed long before by the creation and tolerance of a poorly supervised and unsafe environment for boys..... Clearly Mr. Hicks should not be in charge of a Catholic boarding school for boys. I therefore encourage all parents to insist that the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter take responsible action by removing Mr. Hicks in order to ensure that St. Gregory's Academy be the educational womb of Catholic gentlemen that it purports to and ought

to be.”

You can read the entire letter [here](#).⁷⁴³

The U.S. Federal Office of Personnel Management advises that an expert may be hired on a non-competitive basis only if she or he is *“a specialist with skills superior to those of others in the same profession, occupation or activity.”* In addition, federal agencies are not expected to use consultant appointments in order to avoid the normal hiring/employment procedures.

Personal financial involvement with Catholic-affiliated charities

Questions have been raised about Bloch’s activities in his federal position at OFBCI related to his personal financial dealings. Bloch held stock in O'Meara, Ferguson and Kearns (OFK), an investment firm founded by Patrick O'Meara. O'Meara graduated from Franciscan University (Steubenville, Ohio), was a onetime seminarian and a former director of young adult ministry for the diocese of Mobile, Alabama. O'Meara, Ferguson and Kearns had clients from 40 dioceses, eight religious orders, 15 Catholic universities, and more than a dozen other Catholic entities among its actual or prospective clients.⁷⁴⁴

In May, 2003, Bloch disclosed an estimated value for his OFK stock to be \$5,000-\$15,000. Bloch said that he is a *“private investor in O'Meara Capitol Partners, which then later became O'Meara Ferguson Kearns. He claimed that he was a small shareholder, a passive investor.”*⁷⁴⁵ Through OFK, Bloch had connection to Republican National Committee Catholic Outreach chair Deal Hudson, and with Bishop David Ricken of Cheyenne, WY. Hudson later resigned his Republican National Catholic Outreach position.⁷⁴⁶

Affinity fraud – Don Stewart Association Network

As an O'Meara, Ferguson and Kearns (OFK) shareholder, Bloch was alleged to be a key contact for the firm on OFK documents that dealt with the Cheyenne, WY, diocese and the Southwest Indian Foundation⁷⁴⁷ (a New Mexico-based, Franciscan-affiliated charity). The Southwest Indian Foundation had received grants from the Veterans Administration *“to assist community-based agencies [to] acquire, renovate, or build transitional housing facilities, provide supportive services for homeless veterans and purchase vans for outreach to or transportation of homeless veterans.”*

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However, there were concerns about how that federal money was spent. In April, 2005, Southwest Indian Foundation was given a rating of "F" as a non-profit charity by the American Institute of Philanthropy⁷⁴⁸ because Southwest Indian Foundation did not directly benefit charity recipients adequately. Too much money was reportedly used for fundraising overhead and too little for actual charity work.

Scott Bloch was involved with the Southwest Indian Foundation according to documents at the OFK. In May of 2009, the Arizona Republic reported on its yearlong investigation of activities between the Don Stewart Association (DSA),⁷⁴⁹ a Phoenix-based televangelism ministry, and its affiliated secular charities including Southwest Indian Foundation.⁷⁵⁰ Twenty two charities, including Southwest Indian Foundation, with ties to Don Stewart Association, were accused of performing controversial transactions with supplies that helped inflate their finances.^{751 752 753} The lapses in financial accountability made it difficult if not impossible to tell if the charity actually raised its own funds or how much of the money was theirs. Charities in the network used up to 76 percent of donations on salaries and administrative expenses, and often gave cash to other charities in the same network.

In non-profit organizations there are many connections between charitable organizations including shared board members and shared staff, personal ties and family connections.⁷⁵⁴ The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is the world's largest workplace charity campaign which allows federal employees and military personnel to donate a portion of their paychecks to charities of their choice. The 22 charities reported \$154 million in total revenue over three years. About four-fifths were in the form of gifts in kind. The charities transferred ownership of goods to other groups including \$80 million of goods that the charities never physically handled.

Scott Bloch's relationship with Deal Hudson of the Republican National Committee (RNC) was also under scrutiny. Hudson was a top consultant to the White House on Catholic issues and former chairman of the Republican National Committee's Catholic outreach effort. After exposure for a sexual liaison with an 18 year old Fordham University student and even more recent sexual misconduct, Hudson was forced to resign his RNC position. Hudson was also forced from his job as publisher for Crisis magazine, an affiliate of the think tank, Morley Institute for Church and Culture.

Scott Bloch turns a blind eye to Teen Challenge abuses

The survivors/victims of Teen Challenge and other abusive centers were concerned that Bloch, in his former OFBCI position, was responsible for failure to protect the human rights of U.S.A. citizens in the programs such as Teen Challenge that were funded by the OFBCI. The safety of these centers while exempt from oversight and accountability was not addressed in his professional functions. The residential treatment centers were known to hire ex-convicts with convictions for sexual abuse of children, drug dealing, domestic violence and money laundering. There had already been criminal investigations of labor abuse, credit card fraud, affinity fraud, TANF fraud as well as investigations into physical and sexual child abuse.

During his leadership of the Task Force on Faith-based and Community Initiatives, Bloch turned a blind eye when Teen Challenge staff were accused of abuse of minors and young adults, often based on discrimination against their religious beliefs or their sexual orientations.

Attorney Bloch disrespected both U.S.A. federal and international law when he dismissed whistleblowers' complaints about child abuse and other serious concerns for the public health and welfare without investigation, thus enabling human rights violations to continue. Bloch showed a troubling disregard for international laws against torture, for the legal rights of children and adults, and for the long term adverse consequences to the victims/survivors, whistleblowers, and human rights defenders.

When the individual whistleblowers and mandated reporters who form the only tangible defense against violations that reach egregious levels are betrayed by the system they must report to, we cannot protect civil rights or human rights. When retaliation is the reward for meeting one's legal duty and there is no valid entity to receive reports, there is an erosion of constitutional protections for every American's human rights.

There was intent to evade oversight, in the systematic changes that led to less protection in social institutions.

Thus, Medical Whistleblower acts in solidarity with survivors/victims and their advocates to have requested from Attorney General Eric Holder:

"To refuse to endorse the kind of compromise that gives rise to de jure or de facto amnesties for enablers or perpetrators of torture;

To denounce the use of torture under any circumstances;

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To affirm, with the Supreme Court, that it is unconstitutional to imprison anyone for months without access to lawyers or the right to challenge their detentions in court;

To affirm the binding legality of the United Nations General Assembly Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, CAT, ICERD, ICCPR, OP-CRC-SC, OP-CRC-AC, the Palermo Protocol, and the Geneva Conventions.

To reject the practice of abusive treatment in residential treatment centers at home and abroad.

We believe that the United States must be an example of moral leadership in the world community.

We cannot as a nation hold our head high when we fail to protect our own children on our own soil. However, the incidents in many of these teen residential treatment facilities have gravely compromised America's moral authority.

We ask that you commit yourself as Attorney General to repair of that damage by articulation and enforcement of legal policies that reject the use of cruel and degrading treatment and torture, embrace and advance standards of international law, and honor the dignity of all human persons."

See Medical Whistleblower's petition on
<http://www.change.org/petitions/stop-amnesties-for-enablers-or-perpetrators-of-torture-15>

Scott Bloch accused of criminal contempt of the U.S.A. Congress

To protect the Office of Special Counsel (OSC) from outside pressure, the agency's director is appointed for five years and cannot be removed except in cases of illegal misconduct. Scott Bloch's employment as Special Counsel for the OSC ended abruptly on October 23, 2008 during a meeting with White House officials.

On April 27, 2010 Bloch pled guilty to criminal contempt of Congress for, according to the U.S. Attorney, "willfully and unlawfully withholding pertinent information from a House committee investigating his decision to have

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several government computers wiped" Bloch was originally slated to be sentenced on July 20, 2010. On February 2, 2011 Magistrate Judge Deborah A. Robinson ruled that Bloch faced a mandatory sentence of at least one month in prison.

Scott Bloch pled guilty to criminal contempt of the U.S. Congress in the case, U.S.A. v Scott J. Bloch.

According to the Statement of Offense, on March 4, 2008, Bloch submitted to a transcribed interview with staff members of the United States House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and Government Reform ("House Oversight Committee"), which was investigating, among other things, whether and why Bloch: (i) directed the deletion of emails or files on any of Bloch's OSC-issued computers in December of 2006 by using the computer repair service Geeks On Call; (ii) directed that Geeks On Call delete emails or files contained on the computers of two of his OSC aides; and (iii) directed that any such deletion of computer files be done by use of a "seven-level wipe" process. This duly-empowered Congressional inquiry came after various media reports that Bloch had directed the deletion of files on several OSC-issued computers by enlisting Geeks On Call to perform a "seven-level wipe" on them said Ronald C. Machen Jr., United States Attorney for the District of Columbia.

The Statement of Offense describes five separate exchanges during Bloch's March 4, 2008 interview with staff members of the House Oversight Committee. During the interview, Bloch unlawfully and willfully withheld pertinent information from the Committee. Bloch admitted in Court that he refused and failed to state fully and completely the nature and extent of his instructions that Geeks On Call perform "seven level wipes" on his OSC computers as well as the two OSC-issued computers of two non-career OSC staff members in December of 2006.

Bloch pled guilty and faced a minimal jail sentence of one month. Bloch admitted as part of his guilty plea that he withheld information from the congressional staff; that before he ordered the wipe of the computers, he understood the procedure would make it virtually impossible to recover deleted files or e-mails. Bloch was informed he would serve jail time and asked the judge to withdraw his guilty plea to avoid mandatory jail time. Bloch stated in a court filing that he did not know when he pled guilty to a misdemeanor charge of criminal contempt of Congress that he would face a minimum of a month behind bars. This would seem to indicate that he views himself above the law, while his neglect of duty resulted in critical violations of human rights for vulnerable children and adults.

Judge Royce C. Lamberth allowed Bloch to withdraw his guilty plea

Former U.S. Attorney Scott Bloch pled guilty to charges of criminal contempt of Congress. Civil and criminal contempt are defined by their purpose (quoting *Lamar Fin. Corp. v. Adams*, 918 F.2d 564, 566 (5th Cir. 1990)). Civil contempt is used to coerce compliance with the court's orders or to compensate others for the party's violation. No special safeguards are required, i.e. establishing the mens rea or proving the case beyond a reasonable doubt. On the other hand, criminal contempt is a means to punish the non-compliant party and vindicate the power of the court. In either instance a failure to comply with the court's order can lead to jail time or monetary damages. In the case of civil contempt, the prison sentence must be conditional and coercive; monetary damages accrue over time. Conversely, prison terms for criminal contempt are meant to punish past conduct and are unconditional; monetary damages are enforced as a lump sum. Criminal contempt is governed by 18 U.S.C. § 401.

U.S. prosecutors charging contempt of Congress is a rare approach to address official misconduct. There are only two other reported cases in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in the past 20 years, according to court records. Bloch, who pled guilty to criminal contempt of the U.S. Congress and made a deal with prosecutors, claimed that he had the expectation that he would get probation as part of that plea agreement.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Robinson ruled that Bloch's plea requires "a mandatory minimum sentence of one month." The Washington DC U.S. District Court Magistrate Judge Robinson rejected arguments for a lesser sentence from Bloch's lawyers and prosecutors. Robinson set Bloch's sentencing hearing for March 30, 2011. The judge found Bloch guilty of criminal contempt of the U.S. Congress and sentenced him to a month in jail. Bloch, represented by Winston & Strawn partner William Sullivan Jr., chose to appeal the judge's decision.

Hundreds of whistleblowers felt betrayed by the disgraced former head of the Office of Special Counsel (OSC), Scott Bloch.^{755 756}

"Reported alleged misconduct of Scott Bloch: ⁷⁵⁷

- *Knowingly and willfully ignoring whistleblower disclosures;*
- *Dismissing and closing hundreds of whistleblowing complaints without investigation;*
- *Deleting hundreds of files pertaining to whistleblowing disclosures and complaints of retaliation and reprisal;*

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- *Rolling back protections for federal employees against discrimination based on sexual orientation;*
- *Staffing key OSC positions with cronies who shared his discriminatory views;*
- *Engaging in retaliatory activities against OSC staffers who opposed his wrongdoing;*
- *Assigning interns to issue closure letters in hundreds of whistleblower complaints without investigation;*
- *Intimidating OSC employees from cooperating with government investigators;*
- *Misusing prosecutorial power for political purposes;*
- *Reducing the backlog of cases pending at the OSC by 56% percent by closing cases without an investigation and destroying electronic files;*
- *During the fiscal year of 2008, the OSC filed 0 corrective action petitions with the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB);*
- *During the fiscal year of 2008, the OSC obtained 0 stays from the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB);*
- *Bloch reassigned his perceived critics within the OSC to field offices across the country – giving them 10 days to accept, or else they'd be fired;*
- *Bloch imposed retaliatory transfers upon OSC staffers he perceived as having a "homosexual agenda";*
- *OSC under Bloch rarely recognized legitimate whistleblowers, typically only when the whistleblower has already prevailed elsewhere;"*

Many felt that his recently imposed 30-day prison sentence was too light of a punishment and that prosecutors had failed to properly charge him. Bloch was prosecuted only for one count of criminal contempt of Congress - a misdemeanor. Whistleblowers felt he should have been charged with perjury, obstruction of justice and destruction of evidence. However, aided and abetted by government prosecutors and a federal judge, Bloch managed to avoid serving any part of that sentence. On August 3, 2011, Chief U.S. District Judge Royce C. Lamberth allowed Bloch to withdraw his guilty plea.⁷⁵⁸

[Scott Bloch's Plea Agreement](#)⁷⁵⁹

[Judge denies Scott Bloch's right to appeal sentencing verdict 3-29-11](#)⁷⁶⁰

[Judges order is stayed pending appeal in Scott Bloch case March 10, 2011](#)⁷⁶¹

[Bloch's DOJ press release 4-27-10](#)⁷⁶²

[Whistleblowers request special prosecutor in Scott Bloch case](#)⁷⁶³

The handling of these legal matters raises questions.

Did Scott Bloch properly obtain a license to practice law in the District of Columbia? Why did the DC staff not notice criminal investigations against him and fail to flag that fact to the Committee on Admissions when he applied for his law license in DC? In the months before Bloch left the administration, he applied for licensure in DC, granted in November, 2008. He joined the DC-based legal firm, Tarone & McLaughlin LLP at the time he was under criminal investigation for obstruction of justice and criminal contempt of Congress.⁷⁶⁴

United Nations – rights of victims

The U.S.A. cannot indicate to potential perpetrators of human rights violations that, over time, their actions will be forgotten. The U.S.A. should not deny to victims and their families the comfort of knowing that their suffering is recognized. Facilitators of past injustice, who protect perpetrators as if they are entitled to immunity, seem intent to deny the past and its implications. They seek to place blinders on our government leaders about the resultant future. This “blindness” is not a pathway to national security that can ensure the safety and protection of America’s citizens. To follow existing patterns into greater disaster means we do not learn from our mistakes and make the necessary changes to prevent similar problems in the future.

The survivors/victims of treatment program abuse that enjoyed tolerance under official governance have suffered retaliation for exposure of the inconvenient truth. Advocates for silent victims know that, while dwelling on past injustice cannot complete healing, the acknowledgement of what happened is necessary for redress. Human rights defenders tell the truth, despite risks to their personal situations. Their efforts ensure the right of the public to be informed and for leaders to govern through informed decisions.

Without access to protections of due process, those who expose human rights abuse are punished for the exercise of civil and political rights. Our U.S. judicial system, having become too often a venue that denies individuals the expected standards of justice, can be used by those in power as an instrument of repression to silence dissent. We desperately need the Rule of Law, but the legal system has been and can be manipulated to use against the people.

While there is no universal convention dealing with the rights of victims of conventional crimes, in 1985 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the [Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power](#). The text had been approved through consensus by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. To promote implementation, a *Guide for Practitioners Regarding the Implementation of the Declaration* was prepared. The United Nations Economic and Social Council, by resolution 1990/22 of 24 May 1990, invited the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders to widely distribute the Guide.⁷⁶⁵

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It is useful to review the Committee of Ministers Recommendation No. R (85) 11, issued to Member States of the Council of Europe on the Position of the Victim in the Framework of Criminal Law and Procedure, 1985.

We cannot afford to endorse political compromises that give rise to de jure or de facto amnesty for perpetrators of torture when the right to reparation for victims of wrongful action is a well-established principle of international law. (Review "The right of torture survivors to reparations as a matter of international law." Chorzow Factory Case (Germany v Poland), 1928, PCIJ, ser. A, no. 17, p. 47.)

Under UN guidelines, every nation State must ensure that its legal system provides prompt and effective legal procedures for reparation to victims of human rights abuse.

Applicants for reparation may include individual victims or a group of victims, the immediate family or the dependents of victims, or even "persons having a special relationship to the direct victims." The measure of reparation should be expeditious and fully effective.

Such reparation should remove or redress the consequences of violations, and may serve the purpose of prevention. Reparation shall be in proportion to the violation. No statute of limitation should apply for human rights violations as long as an effective remedy is not available. The possibility and procedure of reparation should be widely publicized, and the applications for reparation should be diligently dealt with within an appropriate time period. Reparation should include restitution, defined as the re-establishment of the situation that existed before the violation; compensation, defined as redress for economically assessable damage; rehabilitation, inclusive of medical, psychological, legal and social services; restored sense of satisfaction and guarantee of non-repetition.

U.S.A. class-action lawsuits have already changed the world of reparations under international law by making it possible for victims to win sizeable awards and the recovery of long forgotten assets. While it is notoriously difficult to measure non-pecuniary losses such as pain, suffering and emotional distress, the issue of property restitution could produce equally numerous challenges. Ideally, the reparation should be sufficient to allow the victim to be compensated and feel rehabilitated.

United Nations Declaration & International Law Related to Defenders of Human Rights: Articles 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 13 of the United Nations Declaration provide specific protections for human rights defenders, including the following rights:

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- ❖ To seek the protection and realization of human rights at the national and international levels;
- ❖ To conduct human rights work individually and in association with others;
- ❖ To form associations and non-governmental organizations;
- ❖ To meet or assemble peacefully;
- ❖ To seek, obtain, receive and hold information relating to human rights;
- ❖ To develop and discuss new human rights ideas and principles and to advocate their acceptance;
- ❖ To submit criticism to governmental bodies, agencies and organizations concerned with public affairs; also, proposals for improvement of their functions, and information that draws attention to any aspect of their work that may impede the realization of human rights;
- ❖ To make complaints about official policies and acts related to human rights and to have such complaints reviewed;
- ❖ To offer and provide professionally qualified legal assistance or other advice and assistance in defense of human rights;
- ❖ To attend public hearings, proceedings and trials in order to assess their compliance with national law and international human rights obligations;
- ❖ To unhindered access to and communication with non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations;
- ❖ To benefit from an effective remedy;
- ❖ To the lawful exercise of the occupation or profession of the human rights defender;
- ❖ To effective protection under national law when necessary to react against or oppose, through peaceful means, acts or omissions attributable to the State that result in violations of human rights;
- ❖ To solicit, receive and utilize resources for the purpose of protecting human rights (including the receipt of funds from abroad).

Rape as a crime under International Law

The UN Security Council officially recognized rape as a tactic of war. Rape is classified as an act of torture within international human rights, humanitarian and criminal law.

Rape is used to discourage dissent and to demonstrate power. It can be used to create an environment of fear that systematically breaks down the cohesion of a community by creating division and shame which tears apart social and family bonds. Rape in such a context is a war crime. Rape also occurs frequently in detention; in some countries, it is almost expected when a woman has been tortured.

Rape affects the entire community. Sexual assault is most often a crime defined by gender, with women and girls the predominant victims.

It is a tactic to rape a woman in order to shame and humiliate the men in her family who were unable to protect her. Thus, the sexual assault causes vicarious trauma to all who care about the rape victim and gives the rapist power over others who witness or hear about the rape.

Men and boys have also been subjected to sexual abuse and rape. The shame and humiliation of such sexual violations leave many victims unable to tell their stories. This aspect raises questions about reporting accuracy in the number and severity of the attacks.

Being raped has consequences far beyond the event itself. There is a risk of pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases and physical injury, as well as psychological consequences that can last for a lifetime. Those who have experienced rape as torture often experience depression, anxiety and inability to trust as well as headaches, nightmares and intrusive memories. There is long term impact on themselves, their families and society.

There is a human right to self autonomy and personal dignity. A man or woman has the human right to refuse sex with any particular person, at any particular time, under any particular set of circumstances. Consent is the requisite issue. No one else has the right to make that decision for another. It does not matter whether force, coercion or fraud have been used. If the person's right to decisions regarding her/his personal autonomy has been ignored and he/she has been humiliated, then it is rape. If she/he has not fully consented, it is rape.

On July 17, 1998 the International Criminal Court was created and on April 11, 2002 the Rome Statute (establishing the court) was ratified, coming into

effect in July, 2002. The International Criminal Court can not only prosecute nation States for committing crimes against humanity under the Rome Statute, but certain types of non-state actors can be prosecuted as well.

The definition of rape in The Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) includes two key elements:

"The perpetrator invaded the body of a person by conduct resulting in penetration, however slight, of any part of the body of the victim or the perpetrator with a sexual organ or of the anal or genital opening of the victim with any object or any other part of the body."

"The invasion was committed by force, or by the threat of force or coercion, such as that was caused by fear of violence, duress, detention, psychological oppression, or abuse of power, against such person or another person, or by taking advantage of a coercive environment or the invasion was committed against a person incapable of giving genuine consent."

One of the most significant aspects of the above elements is the presence of the "coercive environment" and the inability of a person to give consent. This moves away from an assumption of implied consent and recognizes that, under certain coercive circumstances, the assumption works the other way: namely, the assumption is that the sex was unwanted.

The Statute of Rome had included rape in its definition of crimes against humanity, but the Foca rape case made that language a reality. After the court's decision in the Foca case, one commenter noted that, "Now we say rape is a crime, a crime against humanity, or a war crime or a constituent part of genocide." The ICC Statute is important because it expands the coverage of crimes against women to more than just rape. The ICC statute also makes clear that such crimes as sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization and sexual violence are all punishable under international law. [The Statute of Rome](#)

The Foca case taught us that it is extremely important that the court considers the views and concerns of victims throughout legal proceedings. Experienced professionals with expertise in trauma, especially trauma related to sexual violence, should provide psychological counseling to victims and witnesses. There need to be special advisers with legal experience on the special issues regarding sexual and gender violence against children.

It must be remembered that the victims put themselves in danger by agreeing to testify. The court should take appropriate measures to protect the safety, the physical and the emotional well-being of the victims. These

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mechanisms to protect victim rights are crucial to accurately establish the truth about these serious crimes.

The United States' (U.S.A.) obligations to victims

The United States of America signed the UN Convention Against Torture (CAT) and, therefore, has an obligation to investigate, prosecute and punish those who commit torture. We believe in our systems as effective tools.

However, in reality, our society suffers deep-seated prejudice toward the weak or powerless; there is a special stigma against persons who claim psychological injury and who need to seek compensation or support.

Governments reflect the pervasive reactions to the horror of torture: denial, indifference, avoidance and repression are common.

Impunity of the perpetrators may prolong or, in some cases, may deepen the mental scars borne by the victim or by members of their families, as denial of the wrong makes psychological healing difficult. To obtain justice through the legal system, the torture victim is expected to testify about the violation suffered in order to create a public record of the event. While this truthful telling may have a reparative value for many victims, it may also be deeply traumatic, triggering emotional wounds. In addition, those who suffer from the mental anguish of torture do not necessarily show physical evidence of it. Thus, perpetrators seeking to evade accountability try to deny the extent of their victims' trauma and suffering. To start the healing process, it is necessary to acknowledge the pain and the wrongs suffered, and to put in place proper protocols to stop the abuse from recurrence.

We must stop client abuse in residential treatment

To stop further abuse of children and teens in residential programs, the U.S.A. must identify the persons and practices that enable this activity to flourish. We must deny the perpetrators' access to grant money and political power.

Much information is already available through several U.S. Congressional investigations. The most recent exposure was done by the House Education and Labor Committee, chaired by Rep. George Miller. Important legislation like H.R. 911: "Stop Child Abuse in Residential Programs for Teens Act of 2009" passed the U.S. House of Representatives on Feb 23, 2009; it has not yet received any real action in the U.S. Senate. This act was "To require certain standards and enforcement provisions to prevent child abuse and neglect in residential programs, and for other purposes." The U.S. Senate should be strongly encouraged to pass this legislation.

The United States must look carefully at provisions in federal and state laws that perpetuate a lack of transparency and accountability for residential facilities. The Charitable Choice program must be carefully scrutinized to see that it does not fund programs that violate civil rights and human rights. Non-government organizations (NGOs) and corporations must be supervised to prevent use of government contractor status for unwarranted immunity if legal transgressions are committed. Lack of accountability permits abuse.

These aberrant NGOs and other corporations constitute a "black hole" into which government funds are poured with ineffective outcomes, yet little transparency and accountability have been required of them.

Careful attention should be paid to ways in which a criminal element can invade religious non-profits and become able to exploit service provision, safety of children and financial assets. Persons with criminal records of sexual assault or sexual abuse should not have access to children or young people held in locked facilities. Those with criminal records for substance abuse, violent crimes, or financial crimes should not have their records "expunged," so that they qualify for unrestricted access to victims in new positions of authority over vulnerable others. White collar criminals capable of affinity fraud have been able exploit the naiveté and inexperience of church elders; thus, they are not a lesser risk as "restored" ex-convicts.

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There is a long history of persons within the clergy and religious organizations guilty of abuse, including sexual abuse of children. Since religious institutions have been ineffective in prevention and regulation when matters of abuse occurred, it is necessary to have government oversight to prevent and address abuse, especially in programs funded by taxpayers.

The federal government must retain legislative powers that permit regulation and inspection of all residential treatment facilities, regardless of whether they are private NGO facilities, federal or state subcontractors. This is necessary to assure protection of the human rights of persons inside such facilities. It is a national obligation under international human rights law.

It is important to know the identity of the key actors. Educating others about the role of both the enablers and the perpetrators can assist government officials to adopt effective due diligence commitments and to avoid complicity in criminal activity.

Economic sanctions, reduction of various forms of government assistance and public media attention can expose the problem. Focused pressure on key individuals can gain their attention and help them constructively review their actions or inactions.

The survivor/victims of residential treatment center abuse need to feel that the government of the U.S.A. will create effective measures to stop the violations, to verify facts, and to provide public disclosure of the full truth, especially for abuse that yet occurs. For 17 years, Straight Inc. and some of its medical doctors violated international law by violation of the Helsinki Declaration and the Nuremberg Code. This abuse still continues in centers worldwide. There has been no cogent effort to reduce the risk or address the harm caused. Effective regulatory control over residential treatment centers and wilderness camps is immediately required. The infractions identified are gross violations of international human rights law and serious violations of international humanitarian law, which need guarantees of non-repetition.

There must be denial of de jure or de facto amnesty to the founder and CEO of Straight Inc., Melvin Sembler. He should be required to make effective and adequate reparations to the survivors/victims of this institutional child abuse. Many victims, including but not limited to those abused in Straight Inc., Roloff Homes, Teen Challenge and WWASPS programs, desire a public apology that includes acknowledgment of the facts and acceptance of responsibility because the U.S. government knew of the abuse but failed to protect the children.

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The United States, as part of the international community, should keep faith and human solidarity with victims, survivors and future human generations. Also, the U.S.A. must reaffirm the international legal principles of accountability, justice and the rule of law, Human Rights Law International and U.S. Law.

International and human rights infrastructure

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 5 states, "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

In 2006, CAT recommended that the U.S.A. ensure that the Convention applies at all times, whether in peace, war or armed conflict, and that the provisions of the Convention expressed are applicable to "territory under the State party's jurisdiction," which applies to all persons under the effective control of its authorities.

The Committee against Torture (CAT) invited the U.S.A. to reconsider its intention not to become a party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. CRC made a similar recommendation.

As of May 30, 2011 the United States does not have a national human rights institution accredited by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

CERD recommended that the U.S.A. consider the establishment of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.

CRC and the Working Group of experts on people of African Descent made similar recommendations.

CERD recommended that the State ensure a coordinated approach toward the implementation of the Convention at the federal, state and local levels. The United Nations (CAT) noted that the U.S.A. had a federal structure and had an obligation to implement the Convention against Torture in full at the domestic level. Likewise, CRC recommended strengthening coordination in the areas covered by OP-CRC-SC, both at the federal and state levels.

The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including the right to life and freedom of association and expression, should be protected from violations not only by State agents, but also private persons or entities. (Human Rights Committee, general comment No. 31 on article 2 of the

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Covenant on the nature of the general legal obligation imposed on States parties to the Covenant, 26 May 2004.)

A/RES/58/178 of 22 December 2003 The United Nations Charter and The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the General Assembly resolution 53/144 of 8 March 1999, adopted the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, known as the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and subsequent resolutions.

The United States has a responsibility in relation to actions and omissions of non-State actors. Article 12, paragraph 3, of the Declaration, was also reiterated by numerous human rights bodies, the Human Rights Committee and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

UN CAT, Article 1. 1 "For the purposes of this Convention, the term "torture" means any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or a confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating or coercing him or a third person, or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind, when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to lawful sanctions."

[The Statute of Rome](#)

Under the Rome Statute (International Law) "Enforced disappearance of persons" means the arrest, detention or abduction of persons by, or with the authorization, support or acquiescence of, a State or a political organization, followed by a refusal to acknowledge that deprivation of freedom or to give information on the fate or whereabouts of those persons, with the intention of removing them from the protection of the law for a prolonged period of time."

The Statute of Rome had included rape in its definition of crimes against humanity, but the Foca rape case made that language a reality. After the court's decision in the Foca case, one commenter noted that, "Now we say rape is a crime, a crime against humanity, or a war crime or a constituent part of genocide." The ICC Statute is important because it expands the coverage of crimes against women to more than just rape. The ICC statute also makes clear that such crimes as sexual slavery, enforced prostitution,

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forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization and sexual violence are all punishable under international law.

It is pertinent to review "The right of torture survivors to reparations as a matter of international law." Chorzow Factory Case (Germany v Poland), 1928, PCIJ, ser. A, no. 17, p. 47.

United States Law

The United States Constitution and state Constitutions

The Bill of Rights – also State Bills of Rights

The United States also has Federal Statutes in regards to torture, cruel and degrading treatment. [Title 18 Chapter 113 C Torture](#)

[42 U.S.C. ' 13031](#)⁷⁶⁶ ⁷⁶⁷ All Federal law enforcement personnel have obligations under State and Federal law to report suspected child abuse.

A crime victim may also file an administrative complaint if Department employees fail to respect the victim's rights. The Attorney General must take and "investigate complaints relating to the provision or violation of the rights of a crime victim" and provide for disciplinary sanctions for Department employees who "willfully or wantonly fail" to protect those rights. ([18 U.S.C. ' 3771\(f\)\(2\)](#))⁷⁶⁸

United States of America obligations under International Law

[United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders](#)⁷⁶⁹ A/RES/58/178 of 22 December 2003 The United Nations Charter and The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the General Assembly resolution 53/144 of 8 March 1999 CAT - ratified Oct. 21, 1994,

[The UN Convention against Torture](#)⁷⁷⁰,

ICERD - ratified Oct. 21, 1994, [The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination](#)⁷⁷¹

ICCPR - ratified June 8, 1992, [The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights](#)⁷⁷²

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[The Palermo Protocol](#)⁷⁷³ - ratified

[The Geneva Conventions](#)⁷⁷⁴ or Aug. 12, 1949 and additional protocols I and II - all ratified

[OP-CRC-SC](#)⁷⁷⁵ - ratified Dec. 23, 2002 (art. 3 para 1 and 4 para 1)

[OP-CRC-AC](#)⁷⁷⁶ ratified Dec. 23, 2002

Universal instruments

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 1965

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 1979

Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 1984

Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989

United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000, and Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the Convention

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948

Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, 1985

Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, 1993

Regional instruments

African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, 1981

American Convention on Human Rights, 1969

Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 1994

European Convention on Human Rights, 1950

European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes, 1983

International standards

[Convention on the Rights of the Child](#)

[Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment \(CAT\)](#)

[Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment \(OP-CAT\)](#)

[International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights](#)

[Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners](#)

[Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisoners](#)

[Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women](#)

[Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment](#)

[Principles on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment](#)

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[Principles of Medical Ethics relevant to the Role of Health Personnel, particularly Physicians, in the Protection of Prisoners and Detainees against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment](#)

[Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials](#)

[Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials](#)

[United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of the Liberty](#)

[United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice](#)

[Principles relating to the status of national institutions \(The Paris Principles\)](#)

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¹ Washington, D.C., U.S.A., Capitol Hill Briefing - February 2009, Abuse of Youth in Residential Placements: A Call to Action, The growth of the troubled teen industry, including wilderness camps, therapeutic boarding schools, and boot camps, has given rise to allegations of inhumane treatment of youth, and exploitation of families who are desperately seeking help for their teenagers. This topic, previously the subject of two hearings in Congress and two special reports by the GAO, was examined further on Feb. 19th 2009, at a meeting sponsored by the Alliance for the Safe, Therapeutic, and Appropriate Use of Residential Treatment on (ASTART) and co-sponsored by the Community Alliance for the Ethical Treatment of Youth (CAFETY), on Capitol Hill. CAFETY is a youth-driven, grassroots organization dedicated to the protection of the human rights of youth placed in residential programs. ASTART, Bob Friedman, Ph.D., A START Coordinator, <http://astart.fmhi.usf.edu/>, <http://www.cafety.org/testimonies/732-us-house-testimonies>

<http://www.cafety.org/testimonies/733-us-house-of-representatives-testimonies>

<http://www.cafety.org/events/archives-conferences-and-events/725-astartcafety-capitol-hill-briefing-dc-february-19-2009>.

² Final GAO Report on Residential Facilities (Full Report) (May 2008) Residential Facilities: Improved data and enhanced oversight would help safeguard the well-being of youth with behavioral and emotional challenges, Report to Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives [PDF, 95 pages] GAO.gov, <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08346.pdf>.

³ Final GAO Report on Residential Facilities (Highlights) (May 2008) Residential Facilities: Improved data and enhanced oversight would help safeguard the well-being of youth with behavioral and emotional challenges, Report to Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives [PDF, 1 pages] GAO.com, <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d08346high.pdf>.

⁴ [GAO Report: Concerns Regarding Abuse and Death in Certain Programs for Troubled Youth \(Full Report\)](#) (October 10, 2007) Full report of testimony before the Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives. [PDF, 38 pages] GAO.gov, <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08146t.pdf>.

⁵ [Residential Facilities: State & Federal Oversight Gaps May Increase Risk to Youth \(Highlights\)](#) (April 24, 2008) Highlights of the report by Government Accountability Office of testimony before the Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives [PDF, 1 pages], GAO.gov, <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d08696thigh.pdf>.

⁶ [Residential Facilities: State & Federal Oversight Gaps May Increase Risk to Youth Well-Being](#) (April 24, 2008) Full report by the Government Accountability Office of

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testimony before the Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives [PDF, 21 pages], GAO.gov, <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08696t.pdf>.

⁷ Residential Programs: Selected Cases of Death, Abuse, and Deceptive Marketing (Full Report) (April 24, 2008) Full report of testimony before the Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives. [PDF, 24 pages].

⁸ Individual Rights and the Federal Role in Behavior Modification – A Study Prepared by the Staff of the Subcommittee, Scribd.com, www.scribd.com/.../Individual-Rights-and-the-Federal-Role-in-Behavior-Modification-A-Study-Prepared-by-the-Staff-of-the-Subcommittee, or obtained at NCJRS.gov www.ncjrs.gov/App/publications/Abstract.aspx?id=142690.

⁹ TheStraights.com, Synanon Story, <http://thestraights.com/theprogram/synanon-story2.htm#theseed>.

¹⁰ The Seed, Inc. was founded in 1970 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Seed received a \$1.8 million U.S. government grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) soon after it opened. And the grant had been administered by the founding director of NIDA who also happened to be the second White House Drug Czar—Robert DuPont. <http://thestraights.com/images/seed-funding.gif> The Senate forced NIDA to require Seed clients to sign a "risk to human subjects" form as required by NIDA's own policy for grants involving human experimentation. Barker balked at this and lost his bid for an additional federal grant for expansion. Another feature of The Seed was berthing clients at foster homes run by other Seedling parents. By 1975 Barker had opened four expansion Seeds, but in 1974 both houses of the US Congress had investigated The Seed and produced critical reports with the US Senate likening Barker's methods to the brainwashing methods employed on American POWs by North Korean Communists. <http://thestraights.com/images/seed-Ervin-brainwash.htm>.

¹¹ The Seed had been founded by a comedian and recovering alcoholic named Art Barker. The St. Petersburg Times reported that Barker had a mail-order degree in psychology. Barker had ambitions to make The SEED a national program. http://www.survivingstraightinc.com/FloridaGovernmentDocuments/StraightInvestigations/Project-Straight-SPECIAL-MONITORING-REPORT-by-FL-Bureau-of-Criminal-Justice-Planning-and-Assistance-1978_Combine.pdf <http://www.thestraights.com/articles/russell-genung-dale-report.htm>.

¹² The Synanon organization, initially a drug rehabilitation program, was founded by Charles E. "Chuck" Dederich, Sr., in 1958, in Santa Monica, California. Dederich, a reformed alcoholic and a member of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.), was said to be an admired speaker at A.A. meetings. The Synanon group used a confrontational approach. Social control over members was achieved through the "Game" which they considered a therapeutic tool. Similar to a form of group therapy, the "Game" was an encounter session in which members humiliated one another and encouraged the exposure of one-another's innermost weaknesses. In the 1970's

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Synanon evolved into the cultish Church of Synanon. Synanon was a successful business enterprise that for a time generated roughly \$10 million per year. Synanon was disbanded permanently in 1989 due to many criminal activities, including attempted murder, and civil legal problems, including federal tax-evasion problems with the Internal Revenue Service. Mel Wasserman who was influenced by his Synanon experience, in 1967 founded CEDU Educational Services, Inc., known simply as CEDU. The CEDU boarding schools were developed as parent-choice, private-pay residential programs. The schools used the confrontation therapy model of Synanon. The company owned and operated several therapeutic boarding schools and behavior modification programs in California and Idaho. A significant number of the schools in the therapeutic boarding school industry were developed or strongly influenced by people who were originally inspired by their CEDU experience. CEDU was sold to Brown Schools which went on to operate 11 boarding schools and educational facilities in California, Idaho, Texas, Vermont, and Florida. Facilities were in Austin, Texas and San Marcos, Texas. Brown Schools were sold to Psychiatric Solutions Inc. in 2003.

Szalavitz, Maia "The Cult That Spawned the Tough-Love Teen Industry," *Mother Jones*, August 20, 2007,
http://www.motherjones.com/news/feature/2007/09/how_a_cult_spawned_the_tough_love_teen_industry.html.

¹³ CEDU Sued for Abuse and Fraud, International Survivors Action Committee, was at <http://www.isaccorp.org/cedu/ceduabuse.pdf> but now see website SurvivingStraightInc.com, www.survivingstraightinc.com.

¹⁴ Daytop History, Daytop Homepage, retrieved March 25, 2010,
<http://www.daytop.org/history.html>.

¹⁵ Morgan, Fiona, One big dysfunctional family: A former member of the Synanon cult recalls the "alternative lifestyle" that shaped her, for better and worse, *Salon Magazine*, March 29, 1999,
<http://www.rickcross.com/reference/synanon/synanon2.html>.

¹⁶ Clark, Michael D., Her life with "One Big Brother," *San Jose Mercury News*, March 19, 1999, <http://www.rickcross.com/reference/synanon/synanon4.html>.

¹⁷ Fager, Wesley, Where did it come from?, Synanon Church and the medical basis for the straights, or Hoopla in Lake Havasu, by Wes Fager (c) 2000,
<http://thestraights.com/theprogram/synanon-story2.htm>

¹⁸ Wes Fager, "Has Operation PAR become the new treatment arm of Drug Free America Foundation? Or: 3 strikes and the 6th Circuit is out!," TheStraights.net,
<http://thestraights.net/articles/op-par-and-dfaf.htm>.

¹⁹ Szalavitz, Maia, "Why Jesus Is Not a Regulator," *American Prospect*, April 8, 2001, Prospect.org,

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http://prospect.org/cs/articles?article=why_jesus_is_not_a_regulator.

²⁰ Catherine Freer Wilderness Therapy Program, 420 Southwest 3rd Avenue, Albany, OR 97321-2261.

²¹ Catherine Freer Wilderness Therapy Programs responds to Congressional Hearings 11 OCT 2007 — Catherine Freer Wilderness Therapy Programs responds to the testimony before the U.S. House Committee on Education and Labor on "Cases of Child Neglect and Abuse at Private Residential Treatment Facilities."

²² *CBC News Canada*. "Alberta drug rehab centre abused us, former teen patients allege. Executive director calls them 'liars'," February 13, 2009, CBC News, The CBC's *The Fifth Estate* uncovered the allegations during an extensive investigation. Plagued by reports of alleged beatings and weird rituals, New Jersey authorities raided Newton's centre in 1989, finally shutting it down in 1998. A New Jersey lawyer Phil Elberg successfully sued the centre for \$18.6 million Canadian in 1998 claiming malpractice on behalf of former patients. Newton had wanted to expand his program to Alberta and started AARC in Alberta. Former patients of the Kids of Bergen County New Jersey went on to work at AARC as counselors despite having no formal training. The program receives \$400,000 a year in provincial funding. It was originally reported that it had received \$4 million in provincial funding since 2002. CBC.Ca, <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/story/2009/02/13/abuse.html>

²³ The Alberta Adolescent Recovery Center, 303 Forge Road S.E. Calgary, AB T2H0S9.

²⁴ *CBC, Canada*, http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2009/032/la1b_use.html.

²⁵ Guadalajara Reporter, Immigration Busts Lakeside Area Boarding School for Troubled Teens, Friday December 17, 2004, GuadalajaraReporter.com, Abundant Life facilities in Guadalajara Mexico are busted for immigration violations. Twelve boys and five girls, teens 14-17 years of age and all US citizens are sent back to the U.S.A. One 17 year old who was interned in an institution in Ajijc area, reported in lengthy testimony, abusive treatment by staff members, penned after he escaped and finally took refuge with an expatriate couple living nearby. Guadalajara Reporter +52 (33) 3615-2177 and+ 52 (33) 3615-0606.

²⁶ Teen Challenge Global Website, <http://www.globaltc.org/>.

²⁷ The Assemblies of God Church has its' headquarters in the State of Missouri and also its Credit Union is located in that state as well. Just to give you an idea of the strength and numbers of their membership of the Assemblies of God Church in Missouri and elsewhere. There are 467 churches in the Missouri Assembly of God Church Directory in the state of Missouri (This is just the listing for just one state.)

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²⁸ Assemblies of God Credit Union, 1535 N. Campbell Ave., Springfield, MO 65803
Charter Number 62897 P.O. Box 2328, Springfield, MO 65801,
<https://www.agcu.org/home/other/about-us/>.

²⁹ Credit Unions on Line, <http://www.creditunionsonline.com/credit-union-3468-50458.html>.

³⁰ These statistics were from reported regional statistics posted by Nothings Too Hard For God – media outreach by Assemblies of God - Nothing's Too Hard for God is a special media campaign designed to communicate God's power to change hearts, heal lives and meet needs. http://www.facebook.com/pages/Nothings-Too-Hard-for-God/161428487215059?sk=app_2309869772. It is a snapshot of the page as it appeared on Jul 17, 2011 11:04:12 GMT1445 N Boonville, Springfield, MO 65802, Website: <http://www.NothingsTooHardForGod.org>.

³¹ October 10, 2007 (first) GAO Report on Residential Treatment Programs, GAO.gov, <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08146t.pdf>.

³² May 14, 2008 – GAO Report Shows Need for Minimum Standards to Protect Teens in Residential Programs, Says Chairman Miller—Education & Labor Committee Will Vote Tomorrow on Legislation to Stop Child Abuse in Residential Programs, House.gov, http://www.house.gov/apps/list/speech/edlabor_dem/RelMay13GAOReport.html.

³³ May, 2008 – Residential Facilities – Improved Data and Enhanced Oversight Would Help Safeguard the Well-Being of Youth with Behavioral and Emotional Challenges, GAO.gov, <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08346.pdf>.

³⁴ May, 2008 – Residential Facilities – Improved Data and Enhanced Oversight Would Help Safeguard the Well-Being of Youth with Behavioral and Emotional Challenges, GAO.gov, <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08346.pdf>.

³⁵ October 10, 2007 – Also Residential Treatment Programs: Concerns Regarding Abuse and Death in Certain Programs for Troubled Youth GAO-08-146T, GAO.gov, <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-08-146T>.

³⁶ April 24, 2008 text of the day's testimonies, GAO.gov, <http://www.gao.gov/htext/d08713t.html>.

³⁷ HR 5876 – “Stop Child Abuse in Residential Programs for Teens Act of 2008”, Several Videos regarding this legislation on You Tube, YouTube.com, <http://youtu.be/YkmGgH11Dmk>
<http://youtu.be/z7PJBxwd7kc>
http://youtu.be/dr47O5OjC_A .

³⁸ 2008 Congressional Vote, Govtrack.us/congress, <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/vote.xpd?vote=h2008-459>.

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³⁹ April, 2008 – 110th Congress – Growing and Strengthening America’s Middle Class (more info on this act), House.gov, http://www.house.gov/ed_workforce/publications/residentialcampspamphlet0408.pdf.

⁴⁰ Legislation H.R. 6358 (formerly H.R. 5876) The Bill, Thomas.loc.gov, <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d110:h.r.06358>: Bill Passed, GovTrack.us/congress, <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/vote.xpd?vote=h2008-459>, govtrack.us, <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/vote.xpd?vote=h2008-459> Vote on HR 6358: GovTrack.us/congress, <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/vote.xpd?vote=h2008-459>.

⁴¹ June 25, 2008 – House Approves Legislation to Stop Child Abuse in Residential Programs, House.gov, http://www.house.gov/apps/list/speech/edlabor_dem/rel062508c.html.

⁴² May 13, 2008 – The Gavel, Speaker.gov/blog, <http://www.speaker.gov/blog/?p=1334>.

⁴³ October 10, 2007, Full report of testimony before the Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives. [PDF, 38 pages] GAO.gov, [GAO Report: Concerns Regarding Abuse and Death in Certain Programs for Troubled Youth \(Full Report\) http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08146t.pdf](http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08146t.pdf).

⁴⁴ Residential Programs: Selected Cases of Death, Abuse, and Deceptive Marketing (Full Report) April 24, 2008, Full report of testimony before the Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives. [PDF, 24 pages].

⁴⁵ Coalition Against Institutionalized Child Abuse (CAICA) website lists deaths that have occurred in “behavioral modification” facilities not unlike Cross Creek as a result of tackling and restraint. CAICA.org, <http://www.caica.org/RESTRAINTS%20Death%20List.htm>.

⁴⁶ Henry, Tim, “Synanon and the man who got the snakebite,” Nov. 20, 2010, PaulMorantz.com, http://www.paulmorantz.com/the_synanon_story/synanon-and-the-man-who-got-the-snakebite/.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=THu690d7qJE>.

⁴⁷ Synanon’s founder, Dederich tells his followers. “Our religious posture is: Don’t mess with us. You can get killed dead, literally dead.” Synanon is heavily implicated in the late-1972 or early-1973 disappearance of Rose Lena Cole, who was ordered by a court to enroll in Synanon before she disappeared. She has not been seen or heard from since. Rose Cole’s entry on The Charley Project, http://www.charleyproject.org/cases/c/cole_rose.html

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Following an investigative NBC Nightly News program in 1978, the NBC executives and its corporate chairman received hundreds of threats from Synanon members and supporters. Jack Anderson "NBC Cancelled Jonestown Story," March 20, 1981.

On September 21, 1978, the ex-Synanon member Phil Ritter, was severely beaten by two Synanon members, which caused him to fall into a coma for a week. Fluid leaked into his spinal column, which caused a near-fatal case of spinal meningitis. Mitchell, Dave, Light to celebrate 25th anniversary of its Pulitzer, Point Reyes Light/April 15, 2004, <http://www.rickcross.com/reference/synanon/synanon5.html> On Dec. 2, 1978, Synanon's founder, Dederich was arrested in Arizona - dead drunk. Along with Kenton and Musico, Dederich pled no contest to murder-conspiracy charges. Kenton and Musico went to jail, but Dederich received probation after his lawyers said he was so sick incarceration would kill him.

⁴⁸ Brian Dodd survivor of Straight Inc Case No.: 8:10-CV-1092-T23 TGW United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, Tampa Division, Susan Kenske, Attorney-in-Fact, 911 Washington Ave #217, Largo, Florida Largo, Florida 33770. Antifascistencyclopedia.com, <http://www.antifascistencyclopedia.com/allposts/lawsuit-brian-dodd-survivor-of-straight-inc-torture-vs-mel-semblar-et-al>.

⁴⁹ Abduction to WWASPS video shows details of Rick Strawn's criminal convictions and alcohol abuse, LegalAffairs.org, http://www.legalaffairs.org/issues/July-August-2004/feature_labi_julaug04.msp Video.google.com <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=352755530644740074#>.

⁵⁰ International Survivors Action Committee Corporation (also "ISAC") The International Survivors Action Committee Corporation was an industry watchdog organization created by survivors of Straight, Incorporated. ISAC works "to expose child abuse within privately owned behavior modification centers, drug treatment centers, specialty boarding schools and teen boot camps." ISAC was dissolved in 2009. Their documents can be viewed on line at www.survivingstraightinc.com.

⁵¹ Class Action Suit Against WWASPS, by Windle Turley and A. Watson, T Nguyen of Turley Law Firm, 6440 North Central Expressway, 1000 Turley Law Center, Dallas, TX 75206, Telephone: (214) 691-4025, Facsimile: (214) 361-5802 and James W. McConkie, II, Bradley H. Parker, Parker & McConkie, 175 East 400 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, Telephone: (801) 578-3250, Facsimile: (801) 524-1098, In the United States District Court for the District of Utah, Civil 2:06-CV-708, ECF, Honorable U.S. District Court Judge Clark Waddoups, HEAL-OnLine.org, <http://www.heal-online.org/turley.pdf> .

⁵² Balko, Radley, "Drug War Casualties," *Fox News*, May 23, 2002. Samantha Monroe was 12 years old in 1981 when her parents enrolled her in the Sarasota, Fla., branch of Straight Inc., She was raped by a male counselor and then forced to have an abortion. WebDiva.org, <http://www.webdiva.org/fox/>.

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⁵³ Whitsett, Ph.D., Doni and Kent, Ph.D., Stephen A., "Cults and Families," Doni Whitsett, Ph.D., Stephen A. Kent, Ph.D. from the University of Alberta stated that beginning in the mid-1970s, women in Synanon were required to shave their heads, and married couples were made to break up and take new partners. Men were given forced vasectomies, and a few pregnant women were forced to have abortions.

<http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/~skent/Linkedfiles/Cults%20and%20Families.pdf>.

⁵⁴ Dog Emperor, "Teen Challenge: The depths of coercion at a 'God Warrior' training camp," May 01, 2008 He states that "In the case of Teen Challenge, the anti-LGBT attitude is especially apparent." As noted, Teen Challenge is a division of a denomination known to have spawned an anti-gay hate group. The attitude in "Watchmen At The Walls" seems to be the unofficial stance of members in regard to LGBT people who won't stay in the closet or be "ex-gays". This is a denomination that embraces involuntary outing, "exorcism," and shipping LGBT youth to places like Teen Challenge. The Assemblies of God has a very official policy statement that defines being an uncloseted LGBT person as incompatible with the group. The Assemblies of God co-signed a letter to the American Psychological Association (APA) to protest its statement that "reparative therapy" is regarded as a formal ethics violation and is not only ineffective but harmful." DailyKos.com, <http://www.dailykos.com/story/2008/05/01/505299/-Teen-Challenge:-The-depths-of-coercion-at-a-God-Warrior-training-camp>.

⁵⁵ Jerry Vancil, age 17, escaped Straight Inc. in 1977 and went to the press. He claimed he was beaten by several "old comers" who, after the beating, hugged him and told him they loved him. Several old comers confirmed the incident but said they had not beaten Jerry. One said they had only patted him with their hands; another said that Jerry was hitting them. The state of Florida had opened an investigation but closed it when Jerry Vancil disappeared. No trace was ever found of Jerry Vancil (dead or alive) since his disappearance.

⁵⁶ Labi, Nadya, "Want Your Kid to Disappear?," *Legal Affairs*, July–August 2004, http://www.legalaffairs.org/issues/July-August-2004/feature_labi_julaug04.msp.

⁵⁷ Joanne Green, "Rough Love: Kids from South Florida and beyond are sent to Jamaica to straighten up. Or else," *Miami New Times*, June 22, 2006. http://www.miaminewtimes.com/Issues/2006-06-22/news/feature_full.html.

⁵⁸ See the testimonies of victims/survivors compiled by HEAL, Human Earth Animal Liberation, 126 SW 148th St, Ste C100-422, Seattle, WA, 98166-1984, (877)845-3232, HEAL-OnLine.org, <http://www.heal-online.org/childtortureusa.htm>

⁵⁹ Fornits runs a web chat room for victims/survivors – many accounts of abuse are recounted there, Fornits.com, <http://www.fornits.com/>.

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⁶⁰ Teen Cult manages a website that discusses in detail about Teen Challenge abuse including many newspaper reports, TeenChallengeCult.blogspot.com, <http://www.teenchallengecult.blogspot.com/>.

⁶¹ A detailed report provided by Children's Healthcare Is a Legal Duty, Inc. Nov. 4th, 2004 newsletter, ChildrensHealthCare.org, <http://childrenshealthcare.org/>.

⁶² The Fornits Home for Wayward Flora. This website lists survivors stories from Sea Org Refuge, Teen Challenge, SEED, Straight Inc., WWASPS, CEDU Brown Schools and derivatives, Aspen Education Group, Wilderness Programs, Weight Loss Programs, Public Sector Gulags, Ridge Creek School/Hidden Lake Academy, Elan School, Daytop Village, Vision Quest, Who Am I Discovery/Whitmore, Lighthouse of Northwest Florida, Rebekah /Roloff Homes, Mission Mountain School, Hyde Schools, Synanon, and Morgan Yacht. Fornits.com, <http://www.fornits.com/phpbb/>.

⁶³ Ray Bradbury and Wes Fager were prepared to share some perhaps telling statistics with the court. TheStraights.com, <http://thestraights.com/reports/martin-trip.htm>.

⁶⁴ The following is a list of former members of AARC who have taken their lives: Brian Neal (Brian was a client in Kids of North Jersey and later worked as staff in AARC. He reportedly broke into AARC before taking his life), Andrew Mazur (Former Client), Devon Newson (Former Client), William LeBaron? (Graduate. Known best as "Steve" LeBeraon).

⁶⁵ Kelly Mathews, WebDiva.org, <http://webdiva.org/straight/>.

List of Suicides at Straight Inc. **Straight Suicides:** This is a partial list of people who committed suicide while in straight or after they got out. Many others TRIED to take their lives. Last names were left out purposely for those who wish to maintain privacy. There are several others that have died reasons not disclosed. No doubt this list will continue to grow over time.

Note: According to statistics from the National Center for Health Statistics, in 1987 the Tampa Bay area (Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties) had the highest suicide rate in the country. It's not because of the large number of retirees there. The juvenile suicide rate in Pinellas County rose 130% between 1980 and 1986. A 1992 study found that 1 out of 4 girls in neighboring Pasco County attempted suicide in 1991 (national average was 10%). And in neighboring Hillsborough County the juvenile suicide rate rose from 3 in 1980 to 9 by 1987. 19 youths committed suicide in Pinellas/ Hillsborough Counties in 1989 [up to nine of these were gay.] Straight operated its founding center, Straight-St Pete, in Saint Petersburg, Florida in Pinellas County from 1976 to 1993.

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Springfield, VA Straight Jon Guyton 1985 Greg Hughes 1985 Steve Matthews 1986 Kristin Stottlemeyer 1986 Chris Weiss 1986 Chris Kelly 1987 Duane Rolfs 1987 Matthew Hunter 1988 Charlie Griffith 1989/90 Greg T. 1989 Dan Brown late 80s Ira Kauffman late 90s Glen Steepleton 2000 Kevin Yriondo 2000 Kent H. 2009 Travis Stone Paul Riffle Terry L. Teddy B. Lisa D. Stoughton, MA Straight Chris Ahlman 1988 Glenn Jenkins Brandon E. Dale N	Dallas, TX Straight William F. 2001 Vance H. Shiela C. Michelle K. Cincinatti, OH Straight Jeff Leugers 1990 Paul Price Rob H. Dane W. Sarasota, FL Straight Reagan F Atlanta, GA Straight Brandon K. Tara M. Theresa S. Tracey G. Ron H. Michelle E. Ben L. St Pete, FL Straight Jerry V. Geoffery R. Kent C.	Orlando, FL Straight Chris C. Aaron Rockey Dave Gilman James Mixon (died Oct 1989 -15 yrs old- possible suicide by cop) Matt Willingham Chris Cybulski The Seed Ken S. Others Charlie P. Jamie C. David H. Ryan K. Ron F. Phil W. Albert P. Andy M. Tracy B. Shirley C. Brian N. Bennett B. Bill F. Dan H.
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⁶⁶ Smith, Angela, H.E.A.L., Provo Canyon School and similar programs use a harmful and ineffective program of behavior modification or "thought reform"/"brainwashing" to violate children in their "care".
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSjW2gh2YQU&feature=related>.

⁶⁷ **Web Links to Survivor Stories:**

[Straight Inc. Alumni](#) - The largest online group of ex-straightlings. Great for locating people as well as discussing experiences and trauma related to attending straight and/or programs like it. All are welcome!
Groups.yahoo.com/group/Straight_Inc_Alumni,
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Straight_Inc_Alumni/.

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[Fornits](#) - A huge online discussion forum bringing together people who were in straight, Pathways, WWASP (World Wide Association of Specialty Programs and Schools), Kids Helping Kids, Aspen Group, The Seed, Elan School, wilderness programs, Brat Camp, CEDU/Brown Schools, Hidden Lake Academy, Hyde Schools, Daytop Village, Growing Together/L.I.F.E., Mission Mountain School, Synanon, Kids of North Jersey and more. Persons may remain completely anonymous on this discussion forum if they wish. [Fornits.com](#),

[The Rick Ross Institute on Straight Inc.](#) - This page contains information The Rick A. Ross Institute has gathered about Straight Inc. [RickRoss.com](#), <http://www.rickross.com/groups/straightinc.html>.

[Quackwatch](#) - Quackwatch, Inc., which was a member of Consumer Federation of America from 1973 through 2003, is a nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to combat health-related frauds, myths, fads, and fallacies. Its primary focus is on quackery-related information that is difficult or impossible to get elsewhere. Founded by Dr. Stephen Barrett in 1969 as the Lehigh Valley Committee Against Health Fraud, it was incorporated in 1970. In 1997, it assumed its current name and began developing a worldwide network of volunteers and expert advisors. [QuackWatch.org](#), <http://www.quackwatch.org/index.html>.

[Teen Advocates USA](#) - Founded in 1999 by Barbe Stamps, Teen Advocates USA is a non-profit children's rights and advocacy organization focused on monitoring the care and treatment of youth by the privatized behavior modification industry. Institutionalization without due process is no minor matter and other children's rights abuses, exploitation, fraud and even deaths under the invisible hand of free-market capitalism. Barbe Stamps is the founder and Director of Teen Advocates USA. [TeenAdvocatesUSA.homestead.com](#), <http://teenadvocatesusa.homestead.com/>.

[Teen Liberty](#) - Protecting the Civil and Human Rights of Teens. The Education Exchange, publisher of An American GULAG 2000-2004, Teen Liberty is a trademark and service mark of The Education Exchange Network (T.E.E.N.) a not-for-profit organization. TeenLiberty Defense Fund works to protect the civil and human rights of teenagers, labeled rebellious, defiant, or out-of-control, Contact: T.E.E.N., Box K, Eldorado Springs, CO 80025. To contact Alexia Parks, email: alexia@votelink.com, [TeenLiberty.org](#), <http://www.teenliberty.org/>.

[A Clockwork Straight](#) - Wes Fager's extensive website about straight, documenting it's past, present and future. Exposing institutional child abuse since 2000. [TheStraights.com](#), <http://thestraights.com/index.htm>.

[The Trebach Report](#) The Trebach Institute, 5505 Connecticut Ave, N.W., Suite 185 Washington, DC 20015-2601, e-mail: Info@trebach.org, Fax: (301)986-7815, [Trebach.com](#), <http://www.trebach.com/> <http://trebach.org>, Arnold Trebach, J.D., Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Law and Social Justice, American University, Washington DC, author and former head of the Office of Civil Rights, US Justice Department.

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[Over the GW](#) - New movie about a straight offspring (Kids Helping Kids) . Available on Netflix and in DVD, OverTheGW.com, <http://www.overthegw.com/>.

[Surviving Straight, Inc. In their Own Words!](#) Geocities.com/surviving_straight_inc/, http://www.geocities.com/surviving_straight_inc/index.htm.

⁶⁸ A gay teen describes her experience at a Utah facility – Cross Creek. Reddit.com, Xandir O'Cando's mother hired a for-profit teen transport company to take her to Cross Creek Manor in 2007, where she was held for two and a half-years.

<http://www.heal-online.org/xandir061411.pdf>

http://www.reddit.com/r/troubledteens/comments/hk0xy/a_gay_teen_describes_her_experience_at_a_utah

http://www.reddit.com/r/troubledteens/comments/hk0xy/a_gay_teen_describes_her_experience_at_a_utah/c1vznkk

http://www.reddit.com/r/troubledteens/comments/hk0xy/a_gay_teen_describes_her_experience_at_a_utah/c1vzo1a.

⁶⁹ CBC News in Canada, CBC.ca, <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/story/2009/02/13/abuse.html>.

⁷⁰ Fager, Wesley M., "Suicide or Murder? The destruction of young egos" Wesley Fager (c) 2000 <http://www.thestraight.com/theprogram/suicides.htm>.

⁷¹ Human Earth Animal Liberation, 126 SW 148th St, Ste C100-422, Seattle, WA, 98166-1984, (877) 845-3232, Heal-online.org, <http://www.heal-online.org/childtortureusa.htm>.

⁷² TeenChallengeExposed.com, <http://www.teenchallengeexposed.com/contactus.html>.

⁷³ Heal on Line – Survivor Testimony, CEDU Accent, <http://www.heal-online.org/cedu.htm>.

⁷⁴ Flannery, Christine, "Kids Helping Kids and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder - Is There a Connection?" *Cincinnati Beacon*, March 5, 2006, http://www.cincinnati-beacon.com/index.php/contents/comments/kids_helping_kids_and_post_traumatic_stress_disorder_is_there_a_connection/.

⁷⁵ TeenChallengeExposed.com, <http://www.teenchallengeexposed.com/contactus.html>.

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⁷⁶ Heal on Line, CEDU – Brown School, <http://www.heal-online.org/cedu.htm>.

⁷⁷ WWASPS Website – Teens With Problems,
<http://www.teenswithproblems.com/treatment.html>.

⁷⁸ Order and Judgment, World Wide Association of Specialty Programs ad Schools v. Thomas G. Houlahan, United States Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit, May 10, 2005. No. 04-4181 (D.C. No. 2:04-CV-107-DAK)
<http://ca10.washburnlaw.edu/cases/2005/05/04-4181.htm>.

⁷⁹ Maia Szalavitz, "The Trouble with Troubled Teen Programs," *Reason*, January 2007, <http://www.reason.com/news/show/117088.html>.

⁸⁰ Coalition Against Institutionalized Child Abuse, Webpage on WWASPS,
<http://www.caica.org/NEWS%20WWASP%20Main.htm>.

⁸¹ The Turley Law Firm in Dallas, Texas, initially filed a lawsuit on behalf of three plaintiffs in August 2006 alleging child abuse, neglect, and fraud. In October 2006, 26 more were added. On December 19, 2006, another 55 new plaintiffs joined the lawsuit, for a total of 82 plaintiffs. ([Click here](#) for Press Release). A Motion to Amend was recently filed to add another 51 plaintiffs for a total of 133. Plaintiffs are both parents who feel they were defrauded by WWASPS and former students who were abused and/or neglected during their stay at one or more of WWASPS facilities inside and outside the US. *Wood, et al. v. World Wide Association of Specialty Programs and Schools, et al.*
<http://caica.org/First%20Amended%20Complaint%20-%20Wood.pdf>.

⁸² Pound Pup, World Wide Association of Specialty Programs and Schools,
<http://poundpuplegacy.org/node/31585>.

⁸³ Lou Kilzer, "Desperate Measures," *Denver Rocky Mountain News*, 1999
<http://denver.rockymountainnews.com/desperate/site-desperate/day3/pg2-day3.shtml>.

⁸⁴ Adam LeBor, "Czech school accused of torturing pupils," *The Independent* (London), November 20, 1998,
http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_qn4158/is_19981120/ai_n14197431.

⁸⁵ CAFETY, Community Alliance for Ethical Treatment of Youth, Cutting Edge: Tranquility Bay Documentary, March 13, 2006,
http://cafety.org/index.php?Itemid=2&id=188&option=com_content&task=view.

⁸⁶ WWASPS Program, Magnolia Christian School formerly Carolina Springs Academy Alert Thursday, October 29, 2009, Sue Scheff, a parent whose daughter was harmed at Carolina Springs Academy, WWASPS, won a court battle in 2004 against WWASPS. She reports that Carolina Springs Academy who recently lost

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their license and now have re-opened with a new name – “Magnolia Christian School,” <http://suescheffdefeatswwasps.blogspot.com/>.

Sue Scheff successfully defeated WWASPS/Carolina Springs Academy through a jury trial. She won the landmark case (\$11.3M Jury Verdict for Damages) for Internet Defamation and Invasion of Privacy done by a former WWASPS parent that defamed here online. Read more in her upcoming book. Wit’s End.
<http://suescheffblog.com/2009/03/sue-scheff-announces-her-second-book-google-bomb-take-cover/>.

⁸⁷ Investigation shows troubled school may be buying interest with lawmakers (Associated Press, September 20, 2004),
<http://old.heraldextra.com/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=34937>.

⁸⁸ John, Sullivan, “Former student alleges months of abuse” *Columbia Daily Tribune*, April 15, 2005,
<http://www.columbiatribune.com/2005/Apr/20050415News002.asp>.

⁸⁹ “Utah-based school owner banned” *Deseret News*, July 6, 2003,
http://www.findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_qn4188/is_20030706/ai_n11411568.

⁹⁰ “Loophole in state law has allowed some in teen-help industry to go unlicensed,” *The Salt Lake Tribune*, July 16, 2007, http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_6385296

⁹¹ Horizon Academy therapeutic & military school 1472 North Highway 373. Amargosa Valley, NV 89020. Located on the Nevada-California border. Nevada Horizon Academy is one of the less known facilities among the WWASP behavior modification facilities. It is placed on the corner of West Mecca Road and Highway Route 373 in Amargosa Valley, Nevada.
http://wiki.fornits.com/index.php?title=Nevada_Horizon_Academy.

⁹² Midwest Academy in Keokuk, Iowa, Midwest Academy 2516 340th Street, Keokuk, Iowa, USA 52632, Boarding School. Midwest Academy is located in the tri-state area of Southeast Iowa, just miles from Illinois and Missouri.

⁹³ Red River Academy in Lecompte, Louisiana, 2810 Highway 71 S, Lecompte, LA 71346-9532, P.O. Box 1255, Lecompte, Louisiana 71346, Red River Academy, as the name suggests, is located near Red River which weaves through Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana. Red River Academy caters to clients from Houston and Dallas, TX. It claims to be accredited boarding school, constructed especially for the therapeutic care of troublesome children. It enrolls children from 8th grade to 12th. <http://www.redriveracademy.net/RRA/Welcome.html>
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<http://www.wwaspsinfo.net/wwaspsinfo.net/brightway/wwasps.03.03.03.html>.

¹⁰¹ Seven different companies including Teen Help, Robert Browning Lichfield Family L.P. and Dixie Contract Services all shared the same address 1240 E. 100 South No. 9, in St. George, which is the office next door to Attorney Ralph Atkin.

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¹¹¹ Kilzer, Lou, "Desperate Measures," *Denver Rocky Mountain News*, 1999 <http://denver.rockymountainnews.com/desperate/site-desperate/day3/pg2-day3.shtml>.

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¹¹⁴ Ivy Ridge, 5428 New York 37, Ogdensburg, NY 13669, (315) 393-5930.

¹¹⁵ The class action law suit against New York's Academy at Ivy Ridge (AIR) was brought by parents who had enrolled their children in the \$4,000/month residential program, after it was determined that AIR was not accredited in New York state, and therefore could not award high-school diplomas. AIR, at its founding, was part of Robert Lichfield's World Wide Association of Specialty Schools and Programs (WWASPS). It subsequently "severed" its relationship. In April, Magistrate Judge George H. Lowe in *Dungan v. Academy at Ivy Ridge*, 06-cv-0908 granted class status. In May, Senior U.S. District Court Judge Thomas J. McAvoy denied class action certification.

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¹¹⁶ History of Academy at Ivy Ridge: 2000--Robert Lichfield purchases the campus in Ogdensburg, NY.

Litigation Against Ivy Ridge and Similar Organizations: There are two suits going against the organizations Robert Lichfield has invested in. One is specific to Ivy Ridge; the other is broader. General class action suit (The "Wood Complaint"): (defendants include Lichfield, Ken Kay, Karr Farnsworth, David Gilcrease, and "John Does I through XX").

The amended complaint: [Download WoodAmendedComplaint.pdf](#)

If you want to join the suit, go to <http://www.wturley.com/>

Ivy Ridge class action suit: [Download IvyRidgeClassAction.pdf](#) .

¹¹⁷ Bell Academy was a WWASP facility located on 10650 Road 256, Terra Bella, California.

¹¹⁸ Bell Academy did open around 2003 but was shut down a short time later when the authorities in California demanded that they were licensed; The founders of the facility did open the Nevada Horizon Academy close to the border between Nevada and California. Nevada has less regulation for boarding schools. September 2009 the entire campus was for sale.

¹¹⁹ Dahlburg, John-Thor, "Lawmaker Urges Probe of Schools," *LA Times*, November 06, 2003, <http://articles.latimes.com/2003/nov/06/nation/na-teencamp6>.

¹²⁰ Winckel, Henry, "Bell Academy shuts down," *The Porterville Recorder*, September 26, 2003 (Re-print from WWASPSinfo) <http://www.wwaspsinfo.net/bell/bell-academy.09.26.03.html>.

¹²¹ Gomez, Phillip, "Private school quietly opens in Amargosa Valley," *Pahrump Valley Times*, June 29, 2005 (Re-print from International Survivor Action Committee) was at <http://www.isaccorp.org/wwasps/wwasps.06.29.05.html> but that is now shut down so check for documents on www.survivingstraightinc.com site.

¹²² "New Abuse Claim Against Bethel," <http://www.wdam.com/story/2952277/new-abuse-claim-against-bethel?redirected=true>.

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¹²⁵ Prior, Danny, "Carolina Springs Academy, WWASP – A Story of a Graduate," July 2004, Help Our Teens, http://www.helpyourteens.com/news/carolina_springs_academy_article.html.

¹²⁶ Neufer, Scott, "Battery investigation trails Whittell dean," *The Record-Courier* (Gardnerville, Nevada), September 4, 2009. "According to the Blue Ridge News Observer, Darrington was arrested in May by Fannin County sheriff's investigators for allegedly slamming a 17-year-old student on the floor, causing a tooth to fall out, and pushing a 16-year-old juvenile into a wall. Darrington paid \$6,000 bail and was released from jail. He relocated to Nevada, though the charges are still pending." <http://www.recordcourier.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090904/NEWS/909049977/1062&ParentProfile=1049>.

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¹³² Doran, Jamie, "Spring Creek closes its doors," Clark Fork Valley Press, January 14, 2009, http://www.vp-mi.com/articles/2009/01/14/breaking_news/doc496e176b41949364534296.txt.

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¹³⁴ Trebach, Arnold S., "An Updated Look at Why America is Still Not Winning the Great Drug War: And Rational Proposals to Turn the Tide," Unlimited Publishing LLC, Bloomington, Indiana, (2005) Library of Congress Number: 20005920711.

¹³⁵ Drug Free America Foundation Inc., 5999 Central Ave Ste 301, St Petersburg , FL 33710 Web Address: www.dfaf.org, DFAF states that it does Mental Health, Crisis Intervention / (Alcohol, Drug and Substance Abuse, Dependency Prevention and Treatment). Year Founded: 1978, Mission statement: To Prevent Drug Abuse and promote awareness through education.

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¹⁴¹ O'Brien, Tim, "Closure for a quack victim". *New Jersey Law Journal*, January 24, 2000. <http://www.rickross.com/reference/general/general171.html>.

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One of the nation's leading medical groups, the Association of American Physicians & Surgeons (AAPS), decried a move by the U.S. Senate to join with the House in funding a federal program AAPS says will lead to mandatory psychological testing of every child in America – without the consent of parents. Kathryn Serkes is the public affairs counsel for AAPS. AAPS lifetime member Rep. Ron Paul, M.D., R-Texas, tried to stop the plan in its tracks by offering an amendment to the Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations Act for FY 2005. The amendment received 95 "yes" votes, but it still failed to pass. Congressman Ron Paul's office confirmed that Ron Paul's amendment requiring parental consent prior to government psychological testing/mental screening of all school children was not added to the final bill. The New Freedom Initiative passed sans amendment, as it stood. When the Senate considered an omnibus appropriations bill that included funding for grants to implement universal mental health screening for almost 60 million children, pregnant women and adults through schools and pre-schools, it approved \$20 million of the \$44 million. This \$20 million matches a like amount already approved by the House, Serkes advised. While the funding cut of some \$24 million was a little good news, suggested Serkes, whose organization has zealously opposed the the measure, she said the organization was most worried about the failure of Congress to include "parental consent" language sought by the AAPS. http://www.infowars.com/articles/brave_new_world/new_freedom_paul_amendment.htm.

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¹⁶⁰ Breggin, Peter, Dr. Peter Breggin PhD Psychologist, International Counselors, Social Workers, Psychiatrists, Psychologists, & Educators, ICSPP.org, <http://www.icspp.org/> Dr. Breggin's 40-year effort to expose the scientific and ethical hazards of biopsychiatric theory and practices including psychiatric diagnoses, drugs, and ECT. And second, to encourage and inspire humane and ethical empathic social services and therapies that assist individuals and families toward better and more successful lives without the harmful effects of biopsychiatric interventions. You can also visit Dr. Breggin's professional page at Breggin.com, www.Breggin.com.

¹⁶¹ According to PublicIntegrity.org, more than a third of pharmaceutical companies' resources go into promotion and marketing.

Company Marketing costs vs costs of Research and Development

Pfizer \$16.90 billion in marketing and only \$7.68 billion in research & development

Glaxo Smith Kline \$12.93 billion marketing and only \$5.20 billion research & dev.

Sanofi-Aventis \$5.59 billion \$9.26 billion

Johnson & Johnson \$15.86 billion \$5.20 billion

Merck \$7.35 billion \$4.01 billion

Novartis \$8.87 billion \$4.21 billion

AstraZeneca \$7.84 billion \$3.80 billion

Hoffman La Roche \$7.24 billion \$4.01 billion

Bristol-Myers Squibb \$6.43 billion \$2.50 billion

Wyeth \$5.80 billion \$2.46 billion

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Abbott Labs \$4.92 billion \$1.70 billion

Annually, the industry spends nearly twice as much on marketing as it spends on research and development, although drug companies report neither total precisely. Various news reports estimate that the industry spent anywhere between \$30 billion to \$60 billion on marketing in 2004. The trade group PhRMA estimates its members spent \$39 billion on R&D that year. As this information shows, the same year, 11 major companies reported spending close to \$100 billion on marketing, along with administrative expenses not categorized separately. Those companies reported spending \$50 billion on R&D. In 2004, Pfizer spent almost \$120 million for media ads for Lipitor, the world's number-one selling prescription drug, while companies promoting erectile dysfunction treatments Viagra, Levitra and Cialis spent \$425 million. Direct to consumer advertisement has also grown significantly: from \$791 million in 1996 to \$3.8 billion in 2004.

¹⁶² The actual copy of the lawsuit is on the Rutherford Institute's website. [case 3:05-cv-00586-JTM-CAN](http://www.rutherford.org/case/3:05-cv-00586-JTM-CAN) - Rutherford.org
http://www.rutherford.org/PDF/Filed_Complaint.pdf.

¹⁶³ Lenzer, Jeanne, US teenager's parents sue school over depression screening test, *British Medical Journal*, BMJ.com,
<http://www.bmj.com/content/331/7519/714.2/suppl/DC1>.

¹⁶⁴ Vernonia Sch. Dist. 47J v. Acton (94-590), 515 U.S. 646 (1995). Justice Scalia delivered the opinion of the Court. <http://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/94-590.ZO.html> <http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/veronia.html>.

¹⁶⁵ BOARD OF ED. OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DIST.NO. 92 OF POTTAWATOMIE CTY. V. EARLS (01-332) 536 U.S. 822 (2002), 242 F.3d 1264, reversed. Justice Thomas delivered the opinion of the Court. The Student Activities Drug Testing Policy implemented by the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 92 of Pottawatomie County (School District) requires all students who participate in competitive extracurricular activities to submit to drug testing. Because this Policy reasonably serves the School District's important interest in detecting and preventing drug use among its students, we hold that it is constitutional.
<http://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/01-332.ZO.html>.

¹⁶⁶ BOARD OF EDUC. OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DIST. NO. 92 OF POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA Petitioner, v. EARLS. June 27, 2002 These are the signers of the Amicus brief in support of drug testing. The signers include: Drug Free America Foundation (DFAF); Robert DuPont who is on DFAF's advisory board; Peter Bensinger (Peter Bensinger is former head of the DEA and is the business partner with Robert DuPont); Julie Murdoch, Esq. (an employee with Bensinger, DuPont & Associates); Bensinger DuPont & Associates, Bethesda, MD; Institute for Behavior & Health, Bethesda, MD (another Robert DuPont company); Institute on Global Drug Policy (a division of DFAF); Eric Voth, MD, Topeka, KS (but Dr. Voth is the

director of DFAF's Institute on Global Drug Policy); Ambassador Melvyn Levitsky who has co-authored an article on drug policy with Dr. Eric Voth; Donald Ian Macdonald, M.D. (Straight's former national research director turned White House Drug Czar); Stephanie Haynes of Save Our Society From Drugs TM, (but SOS is a Betty Sembler foundation); Legal Foundation Against Illicit Drugs (an organization founded by Calvina Fay, executive director of DFAF, and others); Otto Hauswirth, M D, of the International Scientific and Medical Forum on Drug Addicts (DFAF's Calvina Fay is director the International Scientific and Medical Forum on Drug Abuse); Carolyn Burns, of Louisville, KY. DFAF's Calvina Fay is a board member and past president of Drug Watch International (DWI). DWI or its International Drug Strategy Institute division includes or has included Robert L. DuPont and Peter Bensinger, Straight's former national research director Donald Ian Macdonald, Straight's former national clinical director Miller Newton and Straight-Springfield's former research director Dr. Richard Schwartz, MD. Straight's former national executive director Bill Oliver is an Honorary Advisor for DWI (he also became director of parent training for P.R.I.D.E.). Joyce Tobias, formerly acting secretary for DWI, used to be a very active Straight parent. Alex Romero, a DWI board member, and Nancy Starr, a DWI delegate, were signers. And, of course, the Drug and Alcohol Testing Industry Association (DATIA) was a signer. You may see the brief itself at this website: <http://www.datia.org/resources/amicusbrief.htm>.

¹⁶⁷ The Straights.com SEED Brainwashing, TheStraights.com, <http://thestraights.com/images/seed-Ervin-brainwash.htm>

¹⁶⁸ Fager, Wesley, "Was Mel Sembler's daddy a bookie? a look at Straight clinicians and directors," 2005, TheStraights.com, <http://www.thestraights.com/articles2005/peoplebehindstraight.htm>

"In March 1987 the Florida Department of Insurance fined Melvin Gross, president of Diversified Health Services, \$5,000 and placed him on probation for using "deceptive and misleading" tactics while selling health insurance policies to senior citizens. The product being sold was supplemental Medicare insurance. According to the Dept. of Insurance this is how the pitch worked. Older Florida citizens were mailed literature that invited them to fill out a card to join NARP (the National Association of Retired People)--easily confused with AARP (American Association of Retired people). According to state officials the elderly were also mislead into thinking they would be sent information about group health policies. When people mailed in the cards they were sold to Diversified. Diversified agents contacted them and tried to sell them more expensive individual policies, not group. Many older people complained to the state insurance department saying they had been confused thinking they were dealing with AARP. (St. Petersburg Times, March 14, 1987, p. 1B)

In 1987 The St. Petersburg Times analyzed 2,771 complaints about medigap policies lodged with the Department of Insurance between mid-1985 and the end of 1986. Over that period state regulators received 412 complaints about National States Insurance Co. That's almost twice the complaints generated by any other

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company. Diversified was the exclusive agent in Florida for National States and Mel Gross was a major stockholder in Nations States. The Times reported that George and Sophie Ellis mailed in a card to NARP thinking it was AARP. An agent selling National States Insurance showed up and told them the company currently insuring them was on the verge of bankruptcy and that they should drop their policy and take one with him. When they declined they say he stomped out and "slammed the door." (St. Petersburg Times March 29, 1987, p. 1A) In an article titled, "One company refused to submit a sample supplement policy" the Times reported that as part of its study the Times had asked National States Insurance Co. for a copy of its supplemental policy but, the seventh-largest seller of Medicare supplement insurance in Florida did not submit its supplement policy to the St. Petersburg Times for comparison with other policies. Charles Rariden, president of National States, did not return several telephone calls and a telegram and Melvin Gross had said through a spokesman that he wouldn't submit a sample policy because his company had been treated unfairly by the press in the past. (St. Petersburg Times, March 30, 1987, p. 7A)

In those days Diversified was taking in \$25 million a year in sales. Two weeks after Mel Gross was exposed for deceptive insurance practices for the elderly, the Jewish National Fund Gulf Coast Council awarded him and Straight board members Walter Loebenberg and Joseph Zappala Tree of Life Awards. (St. Petersburg Times, April 10, 1987, p. 9B)

Two years later Mel Gross, Diversified and National States were being investigated by the state insurance department again because of consumer complaints. In one comparison reported in the Times Diversified generated 18 times more complaints than a competing company with similar sales. The Times reported that according to 1987 figures National States received 19 complaints for every \$1-million it earned in premiums or roughly five times higher than the average rate of complaints against Florida's other top 10 Medicare supplement sellers. The state insurance department received complaints that Diversified agents sometimes pose as "investigators" and sometimes as Medicare "consultants" or "advisers." One former agent wrote a letter to the insurance department in which he described training sessions at the insurance company as the "Ding-Dong School of Deceit." He wrote that agents are taught to "lie, gain entrance to a home, avoid the truth and mislead the public.".... When Melvin Gross got into trouble with the state insurance department he turned to attorney Anthony Battaglia. Though Straight had no declared corporate attorney, Battaglia probably came closer to that role, outside directors who were also attorneys, than anyone else. Besides Battaglia was a business partner to land developer and self declared Straight cofounder Joseph Zappala. One business venture that Straight cofounder Joseph Zappala teamed-up with Anthony Battaglia was BFZ Development, Inc. Another was the Great Crockett Lake Ranch Sale."

¹⁶⁹ In June First Florida Bank sued Park Avenue Communities, Joseph Zappala and Bruce Baynard for not paying their bills (foreclosure). (St. Petersburg Times, June 10, 1992, City Edition, p. 10)

¹⁷⁰ Fager, Wesley, "Was Mel Sembler's daddy a bookie? a look at Straight clinicians and directors," 2005, TheStraights.com, <http://www.thestraights.com/articles2005/peoplebehindstraight.htm> "This [link](#) is the resume Joseph Zappala submitted to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that considered his ambassadorial nomination to Spain in 1989. Notice that he is from New York and notice his meteoric rise from bookkeeper/timekeeper of a Long Island Construction Company in 1955 to owner of a multi-million dollar construction company by the 1960s who founded his own bank. Also notice that he claims to be a Straight cofounder and that he has been involved with Straight from 1979 to 1989. Now look at this [link](#). It shows that Straight was not founded in 1979 when Mr. Zappala says he got involved with Straight. Straight was incorporated on April 22, 1976. The link lists Straight's original directors and Joseph Zappala is not among them. There are many newspaper articles in 1976 about Straight and the people who founded it but Joe Zappala is never mentioned. For example, an article in the August 12, 1976 St. Petersburg Times tells of the various men including Mel Sembler who had a hand in the founding of Straight, but Joseph Zappala is not mentioned. It appears by his own submission to the Senate that Mr. Zappala got involved in Straight in 1979. Senator Paul Sarbanes of Maryland raised objections on the floor of the Senate.

¹⁷¹ During the midst of Zappala's nomination hearings for U.S. Ambassador to Spain, *The St. Pete Times*, August 27, 1989, reported on a \$ 3.5 million Spring Hill land deal in which Joe Zappala was involved. Zappala was a partner in Park Avenue Communities which brought the land for development."

¹⁷² Fager, Wesley, TheStraights.com, <http://www.thestraights.com/articles2005/peoplebehindstraight.htm> Nobody reported to the IRS a September 11, 1991 \$25,000 donation to Straight by Ray Chambers who is a former Straight, Inc. board member-at-large. Look at the foundation's tax returns for FY 85, page [14](#). See how in 1986 the foundation accounted for major donations of \$25,000. Atlantic Richfield Foundation, Constantin Foundation and Rosewood Corp. all gave donations of \$25,000 and the foundation accounted for it on their Form 990. Look at the tax returns for the original Straight, Inc. FY 83. On [page 1](#), Part 1, #1(a) notice that it took in \$1,526,341 in gifts and contributions. Notice that major contributors like the \$50,000 gift from Seibly Foundation are itemized on pages [11](#) and [13](#). Look at the tax return for new Straight, Inc. FY 85, page [1](#). See where it took in \$2,214,570 in gifts, contributions and grants. Now go to page [8](#) of that return to see where the major contributors were itemized--in this case a grant of \$1,255,719 from Straight Foundation. Anthony Battaglia is a former business partner of Straight cofounder Joseph Zappala. He frequently handled legal matters for Straight. Look at page [8](#) of the foundation's FY 87 tax return. See where the foundation gives Battaglia's law firm acknowledgment for its kind donation of \$5,000. Also acknowledged are Steven Karp, Lance Larenstein and the Lions Charity in Norfolk, Virginia each for a donation of \$5,000. Now observe from the returns for Straight Foundation FY 90, page [1](#) that it received no public support. On page [12](#) notice that the foundation return did

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account for a major contributor from back in 1986, but there is no acknowledgment of a gift from Ray Chambers. Now look at Straight, Inc. FY 90, page [1](#). Note that Straight, Inc. took in \$1,994,988 direct public support from gifts and contributions. But again, there is no acknowledgment of any gift of \$25,000 from Ray Chambers.

¹⁷³ Drug Free America Foundation Inc., 5999 Central Ave Ste 301, St Petersburg , FL 33710 Web Address: www.dfaf.org Telephone: 727-828-0211 Mental Health, Crisis Intervention / (Alcohol, Drug and Substance Abuse, Dependency Prevention and Treatment) Year Founded: 1978 Mission statement To Prevent Drug Abuse and promote awareness through education.

¹⁷⁴ The Sembler Report Prepared By: International Survivors Action Committee (ISAC Corporation) December 9, 2002, ISACCorp.org, www.isaccorp.org A special thanks to Wes Fager for all his research ISACCorp.org/straight, <http://www.isaccorp.org/straight/semblerreport.pdf> isaccorp.org website removed try www.survivingstraightinc.com site.

¹⁷⁵ Lifton, R. J. *Thought reform and the psychology of totalism: A study of "brainwashing" in China*. New York: Norton, (1961).

¹⁷⁶ Ayella, M. *Insane therapy: Portrait of a psychotherapy cult*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, (1998).

¹⁷⁷ Dawson, L. *Comprehending cults: The sociology of new religious movements*. Toronto, Canada: Oxford University Press, (1998).

¹⁷⁸ Zablocki, B., & Robbins, T. (Eds.), *Misunderstanding cults*. Toronto, Canada, University of Toronto Press, (2001).

¹⁷⁹ Straight Officials-Board-Sembler Family Contributions, TheStraights.com, <http://thestraights.com/people/straight-officials/board/sembler/sembler-family-contributions.htm> and Straight Political Contributions, TheStraights.com, <http://thestraights.com/reports/straight-political-contributions.htm>.

¹⁸⁰ Biography: Melvin Sembler, U.S. State Department, January 28, 2002 Former Ambassador to Italy (2001-2005); Former Ambassador to Australia and Nauru (1989-1993), State.gov, <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/biog/7043.htm>.

¹⁸¹ Melvin Sembler's biography, USEmbassy.it/mission/amb, <http://www.usembassy.it/mission/amb/amb-bio-en.htm>.

¹⁸² Betty Sembler's biography, Drug Free America Foundation, DFAF.org, <http://www.dfaf.org/post/sembler.htm>.

¹⁸³ The Straights.com Abuses at St. Pete, TheStraights.com, <http://www.thestraights.com/the-straights/st-st-pete/abuses-st-pete.htm>.

¹⁸⁴ Fager, Wesley, "Was Mel Sembler's daddy a bookie? a look at Straight clinicians and directors" (c) 2005 Straights.com, <http://www.thestraights.com/articles2005/peoplebehindstraight.htm>

¹⁸⁵ Rick Ross, Groups-Straight Inc., RickRoss.com, <http://www.rickross.com/groups/straightinc.html>.

¹⁸⁶ Rick Ross, Straight Inc., Reference, RickRoss.com, <http://www.rickross.com/reference/straight/straight52.html>.

¹⁸⁷ Drug Free America Foundation, DFAF.org, <http://www.dfaf.org/>.

¹⁸⁸ "Where did it come from?, Synanon Church and the medical basis for the \$traights, or Hoopla in Lake Havasu," by Wes Fager (c) 2000, theStraights.com, <http://thestraights.com/theprogram/synanon-story2.htm>.

¹⁸⁹ Szalavitz, Maia "The Cult That Spawned the Tough-Love Teen Industry," *Mother Jones*, August 20, 2007. Maia Szalavitz claims to charts the influence of Synanon in other programs including Phoenix House and Boot Camps. http://www.motherjones.com/news/feature/2007/09/how_a_cult_spawned_the_tough_love_teen_industry.html.

¹⁹⁰ ACI describes itself as a wholistic healthcare organization made up of physicians and a wide variety of healthcare professionals experts in the field of healing addiction. <http://www.acirehab.org/>.

¹⁹¹ Daytop History, Daytop Homepage, Father William B. O'Brien who founded New York's Daytop Village included Synanon's group encounters and confrontational approach in his research into addiction treatment methods. <http://www.daytop.org/history.html>.

¹⁹² *So Fair A House: The story of Synanon*, New York, Prentice-Hall (1963).

¹⁹³ Morgan, Fiona, "One big dysfunctional family: A former member of the Synanon cult recalls the "alternative lifestyle" that shaped her, for better and worse," *Salon Magazine*, March 29, 1999, <http://www.rickross.com/reference/synanon/synanon2.html>.

¹⁹⁴ Synanon at the Internet Movie Database, IMDB.com, <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0059774/>.

¹⁹⁵ Clark, Michael D., "Her life with 'One Big Brother,'" *San Jose Mercury News*, March 19, 1999, <http://www.rickross.com/reference/synanon/synanon4.html>.

¹⁹⁶ Gerstel, D. U., *Paradise, incorporated: Synanon*, Novato, CA, Presidio Press, (1982).

¹⁹⁷ Vorrath, Barry H., and Brendtro, Larry K., *Positive Peer Culture*, Transaction Publishers, 1985, also in 2008 Second edition copyright © 1985 Harry H. Vorrath and Larry K. Brendtro. Group peer pressure sessions, using confrontational therapy methods, were used, by the Department of Defense for the purpose of returning AWOL and malingering soldiers back to active duty on the WW II battlefield (early 1940s). Lloyd McCorkle helped develop many of the concepts of Group Peer Pressure which eventually gave rise to Positive Peer Culture. Harry Vorrath was the principle originator of Positive Peer Culture and worked under McCorkle in the 1950's.

¹⁹⁸ Harrison, T. and Clarke D., "The Northfield Experiments," *The British Journal of Psychiatry* (1992) 160: 698-708 doi: 10.1192/bjp.160.5.698. In Britain a similar program occurred in a military psych hospital in 1939 and 1942 (The Northfield experiments).

¹⁹⁹ Gottfredson, Gary D., Peer Group Interventions to Reduce the Risk of Delinquent Behavior: A Selective Review and a New Evaluation; 25 *Criminology* 671 (1987), <http://heinonline.org/HOL/LandingPage?collection=journals&handle=hein.journals/crim25&div=39&id=&page>.

²⁰⁰ Jack Anderson, "NBC Cancelled Jonestown Story," March 20, 1981, http://jonestown.sdsu.edu/images/jtr8/images/10d2e-lynch-Anderson_FULL_article.pdf.

²⁰¹ Chu, Keith, "Ever unconventional, long controversial," *The Bend Bulletin*, November 15, 2009, http://www.bendbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20091115/NEWS0107/911150428/1001/NEWS01&nav_category=NEWS01.

²⁰² Struggling Teens, StrugglingTeens.com went online as a referral website for information about the many schools and programs available for "troubled teens". The website states that it "lists news and articles as a resource for both parents and professionals, as well as anyone interested in helping troubled teens find successful paths to adulthood." StrugglingTeens.com, http://www.strugglingteens.com/artman/publish/article_5922.shtml.

²⁰³ A German offshoot of Synanon, website in German. <http://www.synanon-aktuell.de/>.

²⁰⁴ R. S. Weppner, "Matrix House. Its first year at Lexington, KY," *HSMHA Health Rep.* 1971 September; 86(9): 761-768, PMID: PMC1937175, NCBI.nlm.nih.gov, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1937175/> <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1937175/pdf/hsmhahr00009-0005.pdf>.

²⁰⁵ Ruth Fox according to her New York Times Obituary: Dr. Ruth Fox, a psychoanalyst who in 1959 became the first medical director of The National Council on Alcoholism, an agency devoted to alcoholism prevention, died in March 1989 at a nursing home in Washington. She was 93 years old and lived in Manhattan. Dr. Fox, a native New Yorker, performed pioneering research on the use of Antabuse, a chemical used widely in alcoholism treatment today. She was founder and first president of the American Medical Society on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependencies in 1954. She wrote, lectured and taught extensively on the subject. She also maintained a private practice and was one of the first psychoanalysts willing to accept alcoholics as patients. The winner of a number of honors, she received, among others, the Citation of Merit award from the Malvern Institute for Psychiatric and Alcoholic Studies in 1963; the Silver Key award from the National Council on Alcoholism in 1972, and the annual award from the American Medical Society on Alcoholism in 1973. Retired in '79.
<http://www.nytimes.com/1989/03/28/obituaries/ruth-fox-93-dies-psychoanalyst-pioneered-in-treating-alcoholism.html>.

²⁰⁶ Fox, Ruth, *Alcoholism: Behavioral Research, Therapeutic Approaches*, 1967, page 775, quoted in *Slaying the Dragon*, William L. White, page 229.

²⁰⁷ The Influence of Straight, Inc. (Drug Free America Foundation) On National and International Drug Policy, thestraights.net, www.thestraights.net/pickets/dfaf-and-drug-policy-5page-short.doc.

²⁰⁸ The Church Committee, Wikipedia.org,
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_Committee.

²⁰⁹ Opening Remarks by Senator Ted Kennedy. U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, and Subcommittee On Health And Scientific Research of the Committee On Human Resources. 08-03-1977. DrugLibrary.org,
<http://www.druglibrary.org/schaffer/history/e1950/mkultra/Hearing01>.

²¹⁰ AARCLibrary.org,
http://www.aarclibrary.org/publib/church/reports/book1/html/ChurchB1_0200b.htm.

²¹¹ The Church Report – The Select Committee to Study Governmental Operation with Respect to Intelligence Activities, Foreign and Military Intelligence, The Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities, Foreign and Military Intelligence". *Church Committee report, no. 94-755, 94th Cong., 2d Session*. Washington, D.C. United States Congress, 1976. pp. 392, AARCLibrary.org,
http://www.aarclibrary.org/publib/church/reports/book1/html/ChurchB1_0200b.htm.

²¹² CIA and DoD Human Subject Research Scandals Chapter 3, part 4: Supreme Court Dissents Invoke the Nuremberg Code: CIA and DOD Human Subjects

Research Scandals. *Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments Final Report*. HHS.energy.gov,
http://www.hss.energy.gov/healthsafety/ohre/roadmap/achre/chap3_4.html.

²¹³ Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. (1984), "Pass it on": the story of Bill Wilson and how the A.A. message reached the world, [ISBN 0916856127](#).

²¹⁴ Time Magazine Time 100: The most important people of the century, Retrieved December 31, 2007,
http://www.time.com/time/time100/index_2000_time100.html.

²¹⁵ Time Magazine Time 100:The most important people of the century,
http://www.time.com/time/time100/index_2000_time100.html.

²¹⁶ Faberman, J., & Geller, J. L. (January 2005). "My Name is Bill: Bill Wilson--His life and the Creation of Alcoholics Anonymous". *Psychiatric Services* 56 (1): 117. doi:10.1176/appi.ps.56.1.117.

²¹⁷ Galanter, M. (May 2005). "Review of My Name Is Bill: Bill Wilson--His Life and the Creation of Alcoholics Anonymous". *American Journal of Psychiatry* 162 (5): 1037–1038. doi:10.1176/appi.ajp.162.5.1037.

²¹⁸ Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. (1984), "Pass it on: the story of Bill Wilson and how the A.A. message reached the world," [ISBN 0916856127](#), P. 59.

²¹⁹ "Did Bill Wilson use LSD?" <http://www.texasdistrict5.com/lsd.htm>.

²²⁰ Hartigan, Francis, *Bill W. A Biography of Alcoholics Anonymous Cofounder Bill Wilson*, pages 176 to 179.

²²¹ *Bill W. A Biography of Alcoholics Anonymous Cofounder Bill Wilson*, Francis Hartigan, pages 178 to 179.

²²² White, William L., *Slaying The Dragon: The History of Addiction Treatment and Recovery in America*, 1998, pages 84 and 353.

²²³ The belladonna cure was likely a drug cocktail made up of belladonna, henbane, zanthoxylum (which eases gastrointestinal discomfort), barbiturates, megavitamins, morphine, and some other ingredients. Belladonna is an atropine powder derived from the leaves and roots of *Atropa belladonna* and is a powerful hallucinogen. *Atropa belladonna* has occasionally been used as a recreational drug because of the vivid hallucinations and delirium that it produces. These hallucinations are most commonly described as very unpleasant, however, and recreational use is considered extremely dangerous because of the high risk of unintentional fatal overdose. In addition, the central nervous system effects of atropine include memory disruption, which may lead to severe confusion. In humans its

anticholinergic properties will cause the disruption of cognitive capacities like memory and learning and its use can lead to severe confusion.

²²⁴ Raphael, Mathew J., *Bill W. and Mister Wilson — The Legend and Life of A.A.'s Cofounder*, page 189. Also see: Pittman, Bill, *AA: The Way It Began*, pages 164 to 169.

²²⁵ Wison, William G., *The Big Book*, 3rd edition, Chapter 1, "Bill's Story," page 13.

²²⁶ Latimer, Dean and Goldberg, Jeff, *Flowers in the Blood: the story of opium*, page 247.

²²⁷ Towns, C.B. "Successful Medical Treatment in Chronic Alcoholism". *The Modern Hospital*, 1917, 8:6-10.

²²⁸ Lambert, A. "The Obliteration of the Craving for Narcotics". *Journal of the A.M.A.*, 1909, LIII(13):985-989.

²²⁹ Wilson, W.G., *Those Goof Balls*. New York: The Alcoholics Anonymous Grapevine, Inc., November 1945.

²³⁰ Harrison, et al. *Principles of Internal Medicine*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1974. 7th edition.

²³¹ *As Bill Sees It*. New York: Alcoholics Anonymous. 1967. ISBN 0-916856-03-8, Dewey 616.861 ASB.

²³² Bill W. (2000). *My First 40 Years. An Autobiography by the Cofounder of Alcoholics Anonymous*. Center City, Minnesota: Hazelden, 55012-0176. ISBN 1-56838-373-8, Dewey B W11w 2000.

²³³ *Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers*. New York: Alcoholics Anonymous. 1980. ISBN 0-916856-07-0, LCCN 80-65962, LC HV5278.D62 1980.

²³⁴ Hartigan, Francis (2000). *Bill W. A Biography of Alcoholics Anonymous Cofounder Bill Wilson*. New York: Thomas Dunne Books. [ISBN 0-312-20056-0](#), [Dewey B W11h 2000](#).

²³⁵ Alcoholics Anonymous. "The Story of How Many Thousands of Men and Women Have Recovered from Alcoholism" (4th ed. new and rev. 2001 ed.). New York: Alcoholics Anonymous. ISBN 1-893007-16-2, Dewey 362.29 A347 2001. ('Big Book').

²³⁶ "The Big Book," really: *Alcoholics Anonymous*, Third Edition. Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. New York, NY. ISBN: 0-916856-00-3
Dewey: 362.29 A347 1976

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Note that the earlier editions of the A.A. book are available for free on the Internet <http://www.recovery.org/aa/download/BB-plus.html> The Alcoholics Anonymous web site is: www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.

Alcoholics Anonymous Comes Of Age William G. Wilson
Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. (AAWS), New York, 1957, 1986.
Harper, New York, 1957.
ISBN: 0-91-685602-X
LC: HV5278 .A78A4
Dewey: 178.1 A1c
This is Bill Wilson's version of the history of Alcoholics Anonymous.

²³⁷ *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*. New York: Alcoholics Anonymous. 1953.
ISBN 0-916856-01-1.

²³⁸ Orange, A., *The Effectiveness of the Twelve-Step Treatment*,
<http://www.orange-papers.org/orange-effectiveness.html>.

²³⁹ In 1950, Dr. Tiebout became the leader of the National Council on Alcoholism. A.A. traditions state that A.A. will not engage in any "outside controversy," so A.A. used front organizations like ASAM — the American Society of Addiction Medicine, NCADD — the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, and NAADAC — the National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors. The NCADD was originally named the NCA (the National Council on Alcoholism), and it was founded by Marty Mann, the first woman to get *and stay* sober in A.A., and authoress of the *Big Book* chapter "Women Suffer Too." Ms. Mann saw the need for an organization to publicize and promote Alcoholics Anonymous, so she started NCA, and Dr. Tiebout was chairman of it in 1950.

²⁴⁰ Cheever, Susan, *My Name Is Bill; Bill Wilson — His Life And The Creation Of Alcoholics Anonymous*, page 231 & 232. Tom Powers found Bill Wilson's behavior to be so objectionable and disgusting that he quit Alcoholics Anonymous and went off and started his own recovery program in Hankins, New York. Powers said, "This sex thing ran through the whole business. It wasn't just an episode." page 225. Many people in A.A. worried that Bill Wilson's sexual behavior would be discovered and reflect badly on the movement. Whether or not they were necessary, self-appointed "Bill watchers" usually stayed close to him at meetings and conferences to prevent him from interacting with attractive newcomers in a way that might appear unseemly.

²⁴¹ Bill W., *A Biography of Alcoholics Anonymous Co-Founder Bill Wilson*, Francis Hartigan, 2000, page 192. Bill Wilson was habitually unfaithful to the wife who was supporting him, both before and after sobriety. Bill was such an outrageous philanderer that the other elder A.A. members had to form a "Founder's Watch Committee," whose job it was to follow Bill Wilson around, and watch him, and break up budding sexual relationships with the pretty young things before he publicly embarrassed A.A. yet again. The impression that he was a ladies' man

seems to have come from the way he sometimes behaved at AA gatherings. When Bill wasn't accompanied by Lois (or later, Helen), he could often be observed engaged in animated conversation with an attractive young newcomer. His interest in younger women seemed to grow more intense with age. Barry Leach, who knew Bill nearly thirty years, said in the 1960s he and other friends of Bill's formed what they came to refer to as the "Founder's Watch" committee. People were delegated to keep track of Bill during the socializing that usually accompanies AA functions. When they observed a certain gleam in his eye, they would tactfully steer Bill off in one direction and the dewy-eyed newcomer in another. See chapter 25, *The Other Woman*, page 192, for the Founder's Watch Committee. Also see page 170 for the interview with Tom P.

²⁴² Wynn C. [Corum] was a mistress (one of many) of Bill Wilson according to her biographer Carolyn See. (Carolyn See, *Dreaming: Hard Luck and Good Times in America* (New York: Random House, 1995), p. 58.) Bill Wilson included her story, "Freedom From Bondage," in the second edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*. As the last story in the second edition (1955), "Freedom From Bondage" became the matching bookend for "Bill's Story." The narrative was retained in the third edition (1976) but shifted to the penultimate position. At one point the author quips that her history of multiple marriages (she admits to four) "caused the rather cryptic comment from one of my A.A. friends ... that I had always been a cinch for the program, for I had always been interested in mankind, but that I was just taking them one man at a time" (AA, 548-49). *Bill W. and Mr. Wilson; The Legend and Life of A.A.'s Cofounder*, Mathew J. Raphael, pages 130, 195. The "Freedom From Bondage" story is also present in the third and fourth editions of the Big Book at page 544.

²⁴³ Dr. Bob and A.A., (Robert Holbrook Smith and Alcoholics Anonymous) by Dick B., Robert Holbrook Smith, M.D., Cofounder of Alcoholics Anonymous, "The Prince of All Twelfth Steppers" Contact: Dick B., PO Box 837, Kihei, HI 96753-0837, (808) 874-4876, <http://www.drbob.info/>.

²⁴⁴ Robert H. Smith, MD Akron, OH, "Doctor Bob's Nightmare," 'the story of Robert Holbrook Smith, M.D., of Akron, Ohio. (OM, p. 183 in 1st edition, p. 171 in 2nd and 3rd editions. In the OM and 1st edition, it was titled The Doctor's Nightmare.) http://www.aabibliography.com/dr_bob_smith_nightmare.htm.

²⁴⁵ Pittman, Bill, *AA the Way it Began*, Glen Abbey Books , 1988.

²⁴⁶ Driberg, Tom, *The Mystery of Moral Re-Armament: A Study of Frank Buchman and His Movement*, p. 11-12 p.52, Secker & Warburg, 1964. The Oxford Group was a Christian movement that had a following in Europe, China, Africa, Australia, Scandinavia and America in the 1920s and 30s. It was initiated by an American Lutheran pastor, Frank Buchman, who was of Swiss descent. By 1931 this had grown into a movement which attracted thousands of adherents, many well-to-do, which became known as the Oxford Group. Buchman called the movement the Moral Re-Armament (MRA). By the 1950s the Group was banned by the Catholic

Church. Ildefonso Schuster, Cardinal Archbishop of Milan, stated that the Moral Re-Armament Movement endangered both Catholics and non-Catholics. He called the movement dangerous for non-Catholics because it presents a "form of religion cut in half and suggestive, morality without dogma, without the principle of authority, without a supremely revealed faith—in a word, an arbitrary religion, and therefore, one full of errors." The Vatican newspaper L'Osservatore Romano stated that secular and regular clergy were forbidden to attend any meeting of Moral Re-Armament and that lay Catholics were forbidden to serve it in any responsible capacity. A report concerning MRA by the Social and Industrial Council of the Church of England criticized MRA on three counts: theology, psychology and social thinking. The report found theology woefully wanting in MRA. It said, "A certain blindness to the duty of thinking is a characteristic... We have at times been haunted by a picture of the movement, with its hectic heartiness, its mass gaiety and its reiterated slogans, as a colossal drive of escapism from responsible living." The Oxford Group's focus was on personal concerns and placed the entire problem of human existence on self, the idea of personal sinfulness, asserting that individual sin was the key problem and the entire solution was in the individual's conviction, confession, and surrender to God. The Group revived an older 19th century approach in which the focus was on sin and conversion; it practiced a form of ethical and religious perfectionism that was reduced to a call for a renewed morality.

²⁴⁷ Bill (William G.) Wilson was raised in Vermont near the summer homes of Rowland Hazard and Ebby Thacher. Rowland Hazard III's struggles with alcoholism led to his direct involvement in the chain of events that gave rise to what is today Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), where he is remembered as "Rowland H. In 1961 letter from Dr. Carl Jung wrote to Bill Wilson concerning Rowland Hazard III – (photographic image on the link below), <http://speakingoffaith.publicradio.org/programs/recovery/images/jung-lettertobillw.jpg>

["Summarizing Cebra's Recorded 1954 Conversation with Bill W.: Part II: Rowland and Dr. Jung". *Culture Alcohol & Society Quarterly \(CASQ\)*, Newsletter of Kirk/CAAS Collections at Brown, Vol. III, No. 3: 6. April/May/June 2007.](#)

²⁴⁸ Alcoholics Anonymous, www.aa.org.

²⁴⁹ Mercandte, Linda A, "Victims and Sinners": p. 61-62 Publisher: Westminster John Knox Press Date 1996-01-01 ISBN 978-0-664-25508-4 ISBN 0-664-25508-6.

²⁵⁰ A New Awakening Recovery Path Today in St. Johnsbury, Vermont, <http://www.drbob.info/New-Awakening.shtml>.

²⁵¹ The New York Times, June 18, 1952, page 8.

²⁵² Time Magazine "Report on MRA," February 14th, 1955, <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,807024,00.html>.

²⁵³ Time Magazine 1936, "God Controlled Dictatorship,"
<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,847819,00.html>.

²⁵⁴ Driberg, Tom *The Mystery of Moral Re-Armament; A Study of Frank Buchman and His Movement*, 1965, pages 68-69.

²⁵⁵ Miscamble, Wilson D, "From Roosevelt to Truman: Potsdam, Hiroshima, and the Cold War," Cambridge University Press, 2006 , P. 14, ISBN 978-0-521-86244-8.

²⁵⁶ "The Candidates and their Churches," *Time Magazine*, August 14th , 1944.
<http://www.time.com/time/printout/0,8816,775168,00.html>.

²⁵⁷ White, William, L., *Slaying The Dragon: The History of Addiction Treatment and Recovery in America*, 1998, page 74.

²⁵⁸ Complete Biography Of Robert L. Dupont, M.D, Bensinger, DuPont & Associates website, <http://www.bensingerdupont.com/main/robertdupont.html>

²⁵⁹ Institute for Behavior and Health, Inc., www.ibhinc.org.

²⁶⁰ Drug Free America Foundation, formerly known as Straight, Inc. from 1976-1985. DFAF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

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²⁶¹ Drug Prevention Network of the Americas (DPNA),
<http://www.dpna.org/DPNA%20Calvina.html>.

²⁶² Drug Watch International, Drug Watch International, P.O. Box 45218, Omaha,
NE 68145-0218, USA, <http://www.drugwatch.org/>.

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²⁶³ Journal of Drug Policy and Practice, <http://globaldrugpolicy.org/>.

²⁶⁴ Ambassador Melvyn Levitsky, Professor of International Relations & Senior Fellow of the Gerald R. Ford School's International Policy Center, University of Michigan, Biography.
http://sitemaker.umich.edu/ambassador.levitsky.fordschool/ambassador_melvyn_levitsky_s_home_page.

²⁶⁵ Amicus Brief Submitted in School Drug Testing Case, NO. 01-332, IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES, BOARD OF EDUC. OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DIST. NO. 92 OF POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY,
<http://www.datia.org/resources/amicusbrief.htm>.

²⁶⁶ A New Approach To Reduce Drug Demand - Rooted In Hope, Growing With Success -Compiled by International Task Force on Strategic Drug Policy, Adopted February 2005,
<http://www.itfsdp.org/pdfs/maindoc.pdf>.

²⁶⁷ American Society of Addiction Medicine, ASAM.org,
<http://www.asam.org/ExamHistory.html>.

²⁶⁸ The ASAM certification process now included board certification by the ABAM.
http://www.asam.org/Certification_home.html In 2009, The American Society of

Addiction Medicine (ASAM) transferred the certification examination to the American Board of Addiction Medicine (ABAM), and the next examination will be offered by ABAM on December 1, 2012 and in subsequent years. A physician certified by ABAM is board certified. For More information please visit the ABAM Web site at www.abam.net.

²⁶⁹ DuPont, R.L.; McLellan, A.T.; White, W.L., Merlo LJ, Gold MS. *Setting the Standard for Recovery: Physicians' Health Programs*, Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment. 2009;36:159-171.

²⁷⁰ The Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) is a national non-profit organization representing the 70 medical and osteopathic boards of the United States and its territories. The FSMB leads by promoting excellence in medical practice, licensure, and regulation as the national resource and voice on behalf of state medical and osteopathic boards in their protection of the public. <http://www.fsmb.org/>.

²⁷¹ The Federation of State Physician Advocacy Groups (FSPAG) was founded in late 2007 as an independent physician-run alternative to the Federation of State Physician Health Programs (FSPHP) <http://www.fspag.org/>.

²⁷² Federation of State Physicians Health Programs – State Listing, http://www.fsphp.org/State_Programs.html.

²⁷³ Federation of State Physicians Health Programs Inc., 515 North State Street – Room 8584, Chicago, IL 60610, Phone: 1.312.464.4574 Fax: 1.312.464.5841.

²⁷⁴ American Society of Addiction Medicine. 4601 N. Park Ave., Suite 101, Chevy Chase, MD 20815. www.asam.org/.

²⁷⁵ Baxter Sr. MD, Louis E., "Physician Health Programs: How They Work," 2008 presentation on Physician Health Programs (PHP's) before the FSMB (Federation of State Medical Boards) at their 2008 annual meeting, given by 2009-2011 ASAM president FSPHP Dr. Louis E. Baxter, Sr., MD (an addiction psychiatrist), PHP missions now include, "To provide a means to identify, evaluate, and treat physicians who have diseases, at the Conference 2008.

²⁷⁶ The Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness (ABHW), formerly the American Managed Behavioral Healthcare Association (AMBHA), is an association of the nation's leading behavioral health and wellness companies. ABHW.org, <http://www.abhw.org/>.

²⁷⁷ Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness (ABHW), ABHW.org, <http://www.abhw.org/page3.html>.

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²⁷⁸ The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), a not-for-profit organization, assists 24 approved medical specialty boards in the development and use of standards in the ongoing evaluation and certification of physicians. ABMS, recognized as the “gold standard” in physician certification, believes higher standards for physicians means better care for patients. <http://www.abms.org/>.

²⁷⁹ ASAM website, <http://www.asam.org/abam.html>.

²⁸⁰ Pathway family Center listed in on the Dual-Diagnosis Drug-Rehab, National Family Center, Pathway Family Center is located at 6405 Castleplace Court, Indianapolis, IN 46250. Pathway Family Center claims to do primary services dual diagnosis, Substance abuse treatment and drug rehab. Type of care: Dual Diagnosis Rehab , Residential short-term sober living drug treatment (30 days or less), Residential long-term drug rehab treatment sober living (more than 30 days), Outpatient drug rehab, Partial hospitalization drug program/substance abuse day treatment. Services provided at Pathway Family Center are dual diagnosis drug rehab with a primary focus on substance abuse treatment and drug rehab. http://dual-diagnosis-drug-rehab.com/Dual_Diagnosis_Treatment_facility.cfm?state=IN&city=Indianapolis&ID=4109.

²⁸¹ *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, Fourth Edition Text Revision, American Psychiatric Association, pages xxxi, xxxii. Limitations of the Categorical Approach:

DSM-IV is a categorical classification that divides mental disorders into types based on criteria sets with defining features. This naming of categories is the traditional method of organizing and transmitting information in everyday life and has been the fundamental approach used in all systems of medical diagnosis. A categorical approach to classification works best when all members of a diagnostic class are homogeneous, when there are clear boundaries between classes, and when the different classes are mutually exclusive. Nonetheless, the limitations of the categorical classification system must be recognized.

In DSM-IV, there is no assumption that each category of mental disorder is a completely discrete entity with absolute boundaries dividing it from other mental disorders or from no mental disorder. There is also no assumption that all individuals described as having the same mental disorder are alike in all important ways. The clinician using DSM-IV should therefore consider that individuals sharing a diagnosis are likely to be heterogeneous even in regard to the defining features of the diagnosis and that boundary cases will be difficult to diagnose in any but a probabilistic fashion. This outlook allows greater flexibility in the use of the system, encourages more specific attention to boundary cases, and emphasizes the need to capture additional clinical information that goes beyond diagnosis. In recognition of the heterogeneity of clinical presentations, DSM-IV often includes polythetic criteria sets, in which the individual need only present with a subset of items from a longer list (e.g., the diagnosis of Borderline Personality Disorder requires only five out of nine items.)

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²⁸² ASAM Patient Placement *Criteria* for the Treatment of Substance-Related Disorders (2nd ed., Revised). Chevy Chase, MD: American Society of *Addiction Medicine*.

²⁸³ Maia Szalavitz, *Help at Any Cost: How The Troubled-Teen Industry Cons Parents and Hurts Kids* (New York: The Penguin Group, 2006), p. 221.

²⁸⁴ American Psychiatric Association, <http://www.psych.org/>.

²⁸⁵ The Federation of State Physician Advocacy Groups claims to be an informal group of concerned and dedicated medical and legal professionals who wish to remain anonymous, in order to reduce our exposure to retaliation or slander because of the controversial nature of our free speech. The Federation of State Physician Advocacy Groups (**FSPAG**) was founded in late 2007 as an independent physician-run alternative to the Federation of State Physician Health Programs (**FSPHP**). The FSPHP is an independent nonprofit corporation which controls the vast majority of standard "Physician Health Programs" (PHP's) operated by medical licensing boards in all 50 states. Also known as "diversion programs," PHP's were originally designed to provide a therapeutic avenue for physicians with "chemical dependency" (alcoholism and drug addictions) to access confidential treatment with protection from professional investigation and/or disciplinary action. Many PHP's have gradually expanded their missions to include monitoring and treatment management for physicians with mental illness, and some are now expanding even further to encompass monitoring and treatment management for all physicians with possible "diseases of impairment" (defined as alcohol and drug use disorders, psychiatric disorders, disruptive disorders, psychosexual disorders, metabolic disorders, and physical disorders -- including diabetes, hypertension, and asthma). These increasingly broad missions have not changed the fact that the majority of state PHP's are still run by medical directors who are qualified only in "addiction medicine" and have supervisory committees largely staffed by addiction specialists and members of the general public who are "in recovery" from various addictions and who need not be physicians at all.

<http://www.fspag.org/5.html>.

²⁸⁶ *Psychiatric Times*, <http://www.psychiatrictimes.com/web/10168/login>.

²⁸⁷ **Date:** 05-12-1999 **Case Style:** Dr. Leonard Masters v. Dr. G. Douglas Talbott, et al.

Case Number: 94-14004 **Judge:** Clarence F. Seeliger **Court:** Superior Court, DeKalb County, Georgia

Plaintiff's Attorney: Eric S. Block, Jacksonville, Florida and Harold D. Corlew, Atlanta, Georgia

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Defendant's Attorney: Milton B. Satcher, III of Long, Weinberg, Ansley and Wheeler, LLP, Atlanta; Kimberly L. Woodland of Love & Willingham, Atlanta, Georgia for Talbott and Georgia Alcohol & Drug Associates; and Joseph C. Parker of Downey & Cleveland, Marietta, Georgia represented Dr. Barry Lubin.

Description: Medical malpractice, false imprisonment, breach of fiduciary duty and fraud claims by doctor who claimed that he was held in an alcoholism recovery program he claimed he didn't need. Dr. Masters claimed that defendants coerced him into rehab treatment at the Talbott-Marsh Recovery Campus in College Park, Georgia under the threat of losing his medical license. He claimed that what happened to him cost him his career. Plaintiff was earning \$160,000 a year in 1991 and terminated by Family Care Partnership while he was in treatment. He never was able to earn the same income again and retired in 1994.

Outcome: Plaintiffs' verdict for \$1.3 million in compensatory damages.

Plaintiff's Experts: Dr. Anne Geller

Defendant's Experts: Unknown

Comments: This case was reported to have been settled before the jury returned its verdict on plaintiffs' punitive damage claim.

²⁸⁸ Ursery, Stephen, "\$1.3M Verdict Coaxes a Deal for Doctor's Coerced Rehab," *Fulton County Daily Report*, May 12, 1999.

²⁸⁹ Ursery, Stephen, "I Was Held Illegally in Alcohol Center, Doctor Charges," *Fulton County Daily Report*, April 27, 1999.

²⁹⁰ Williams, Dave, "Doctor wins his lawsuit; Says hospital misdiagnosed him," *The Florida Times-Union* (Jacksonville, FL), May 25, 1999, City Edition, METRO; Pg. B-3, Schaler.net, Schaler.net, <http://www.schaler.net/talbott.html>.

²⁹¹ Fornits.com, "Doctors report treatment abuse at Talbott Recovery Center," <http://www.fornits.com/wwf/viewtopic.php?f=9&t=9595&p=102930>

²⁹² Anason, Dean, "Anchor and Talbott-Marsh treat addicted professionals," *Atlanta Business Chronicle*, November 11, 1996, 12:00am EST, BizJournals.com, <http://www.bizjournals.com/atlanta/stories/1996/11/11/focus5.html#ixzz1ObP5QKQ9>.

²⁹³ The Juvenile Law Center, Luzerne County "Kids-For-Cash" Juvenile Court Scandal, JLC.org, JLC.org, <http://www.jlc.org/luzerne/>.

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²⁹⁴ The Juvenile Law Center, "Juvenile Law Center Petitions PA Supreme Court for Extraordinary Relief for Hundreds of Youth Tried Without the Benefit of Lawyers," June 17, 2008, JLC.org, <http://www.jlc.org/news/luzernecounty/>.

²⁹⁵ Mauriello, Tracie, "Commission reviews actions of removed Luzerne judges," *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, October 14, 2009, Read more: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/09287/1005458-100.stm>.

²⁹⁶ Mauriello, Tracie, "Commission finds multiple failures in Luzerne County," *Post-Gazette Harrisburg Bureau*, October 15, 2009, <http://www.postgazette.com/pg/09288/1005630-455.stm>.

²⁹⁷ Swift, Robert, "Juvenile justice panel focuses on inaction" *Harrisburg Bureau Chief*, October 15, 2009, <http://citizensvoice.com/news/juvenile-justice-panel-focuses-on-inaction-1.335680#axzz1TcycqxDP>.

²⁹⁸ Warner, Dave, "Former judge sentenced to prison for 'kids for cash' scheme," *Reuters*, August 11, 2011, Judge Ciavarella sentenced to 28 years in prison for 'kids for cash' scheme. Ciavarella was convicted in February of 12 charges, including racketeering conspiracy and money laundering. During the trial, Ciavarella testified that the money he received from Robert Mericle, the facility's developer, amounted to "finder fees" and had no connection to the fact that he was a sentencing judge. Conahan, formerly the president judge of the Luzerne County court, has pleaded guilty to racketeering conspiracy and is awaiting sentencing. Prosecutors said Conahan closed the publicly owned Luzerne County Juvenile Detention Facility and helped arrange financing for the private facility. Both former judges obstructed efforts to investigate the county's use of the private facility and also their financial relationships with Mericle and Robert Powell, the owner of the juvenile center, prosecutors said.

<http://news.yahoo.com/former-judge-sentenced-prison-kids-cash-scheme-212633067.html>.

²⁹⁹ Luzerne County "Kids-For-Cash" Juvenile Court Scandal Luzerne County Courthouse, JLC.org, <http://www.jlc.org/luzerne/>.

³⁰⁰ Juvenile Law Center, "Ciavarella found guilty on 12 of 39 charges: Juvenile Law Center responds to guilty verdict" , JLC.org, http://www.jlc.org/news/juvenile_law_center_responds_to_guilty_verdict_for_former_luzerne_coun/.

³⁰¹ Rubinkam, Michael, The Associated Press. "Ex-judge in Pa. guilty of racketeering in kickback case," *The Denver Post*, Feb. 19, 2011, http://www.denverpost.com/nationworld/ci_17427895#ixzz1ETIvZR2n.

³⁰² Denver Post, "Ex-judge in Pa. guilty of racketeering in kickback case," DenverPost.com, http://www.denverpost.com/nationworld/ci_17427895#ixzz1ETIvZR2n.

³⁰³ **The following former clients from various Straights and Straight legacy programs around the country have committed suicide:** Gregg Hughes, Steve Matthews, Chris Weiss, Duane Rholf and Chris Kelly, Mathew W. Hunter, Paul Riffle, Kristen Sottlemeyer, Kevin Yriondo, Glen Steepleton, Terry Long, Nancy, Chris Weiss, Lisa D., Jamie C., Travis Stone, Dan Brown, Jeff Leugers. Rob H., Dane W., Paul, Ryan K., Phil W., Albert Perez, Ron Hill, Richard B., Anna B., Kay Helms, Andy M., Tracy B., Shirley C., Brian Neal, Bennett Beverly, Bill French, Dan Hubbard, David Hicks

³⁰⁴ Kelly Mathews, a Straight Inc. Survivor – Her brother, who was also in Straight Inc., died of suicide. WebDiva.org, <http://webdiva.org/straight/>, Kelly Matthews, is in process of making a movie entitled Surviving Straight Inc - The Movie. SurvivingStraightTheMovie.com, <http://www.survivingstraightinthemovie.com/> This is her own story, WebDiva.org, <http://webdiva.org/straight/> SurvivingStraightInc. Com, [Surviving Straight Inc.](http://webdiva.org/straight/)

³⁰⁵ "Individual Rights and the Federal Role in Behavior Modification" A Study Prepared by the Staff of the Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights of the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, Ninety-third Congress, Second Session. Congress of the U.S., Washington, DC. Senate Committee on the Judiciary. Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 (Stock No. 5270-02620, \$5.35) Published 1974-11-00, pages 655, Abstract: This report responds to a directive issued to the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights to conduct an investigation into behavior modification programs, with particular emphasis on the federal government's involvement in the technology of behavior control and the implications of this involvement for individual rights. Two basic considerations motivated the investigation: first, the concern that the rights of human subjects of behavioral research are sufficiently protected by adequate guidelines and review structures; and second, the question of whether the federal government has any business participating in programs that may alter the substance of individual freedom. Although the material included in this report is by no means comprehensive, some initial findings are apparent: (1) there is widespread and growing interest in the development of methods designed to predict, identify, control, and modify individual behavior; (2) few measures are being taken to resolve questions of freedom, privacy, and self-determination; (3) the Federal government is heavily involved in a variety of behavior modification programs ranging from simple reinforcement techniques to psychosurgery; and (4) a number of departments and agencies fund, participate in, or sanction research involving various aspects of behavior modification. (Author/PC) NCJRS.gov, <http://www.ncjrs.gov/App/publications/Abstract.aspx?id=142690> For information on SEED see pages 193-207.

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³⁰⁶ Fager, Wesley, Blog "The Republican Party, cults and their money," Tuesday, December 20, 2005, posting of article by Wesley Fager, Why the United States Government should share in the liability for the damages caused to former Straight clients August 5, 1003. RepublicanPartyAndCults.blogspot.com,

<http://republicanpartyandcults.blogspot.com/2005/12/why-united-states-government-should.html>.

³⁰⁷ *Vernonia School District v. Wayne Acton*. The Fourth Amendment to our Constitution guarantees our citizens the right to protection from unreasonable searches and seizures, a right that extends to all citizens regardless of their age. However, in 1995 by a 6-3 decision in *Vernonia School District v. Wayne Acton* the U. S. Supreme Court decided that because public school athletics are susceptible to injuries, their right to Fourth Amendment protection could be waived in order to protect them from the added dangers of illegal drug use. The court gave schools the right to require suspicionless drug testing. Before making it to the Supreme Court the issue made it to the Federal Appeals Court. At the appeals court Veronia had submitted as their expert witness Dr. Robert L. DuPont, Jr. Dr. DuPont is the founding director of NIDA or the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the second White House Drug Czar. It was Dr. DuPont's NIDA that administered a \$ 1 million grant to The Seed -- Straight's predecessor program. Later Dr. DuPont became a paid Straight consultant and was an expert witness for Straight in several civil trials. Today Dr. DuPont is on the advisory board for DFAF. Dr. DuPont became the chairman of the scientific advisory board for Psychomedics--the world's premier hair testing drug program.

³⁰⁸ Miller, Richard Lawrence, "Teens and Marijuana:Ethics of Research," 1991, TheStraights.net, <http://thestraights.net/people/medical-doctors/miller.htm>.

³⁰⁹ Fager, Wesley, "Biography of Wes Fager," TheStraights.com, <http://thestraights.com/wes-bio.htm>.

³¹⁰ The Straights.com, <http://thestraights.com/>.

³¹¹ The Straights, TheStraights.com, <http://thestraights.com/theprogram/suicides.htm>.

³¹² Attempted suicides. TheStraights.com, <http://thestraights.com/theprogram/suicide-attempts.htm#donald>.

³¹³ Forced Abortions, TheAgitator.com, http://www.theagitator.com/2002_05_01_archive.php#85100686.

³¹⁴ Physical Abuse at Straight Inc., TheAgitator.com, http://www.theagitator.com/2002_05_01_archive.php#85102166.

³¹⁵ Fager, Wesley, A Clockwork Straight, TheStraights.com,
<http://www.thestraights.com/book/index.htm>.

³¹⁶ Richard Bradbury Award, WesFager.com,
<http://wesfager.com/wesfager/anderson.htm>.

³¹⁷ Wes Fager on Fox News, WebDiva.org, <http://www.webdiva.org/fox/>.

³¹⁸ The Clary Report, was the result of an investigation into Straight, conducted by Lowell Clary, Acting Inspector General for Florida's Department of Health and Human Services (HRS) now called the Office of Children and Family. Mr. Clary had begun his investigation back in December because of damaging documents about Straight's operations which he had received from Richard Bradbury. Mr. Clary released his findings on May 19, 1993 a month after Straight, Inc. had closed. His report, which is presented below in its entirety, insinuates team was preparing to deny the license. According to the report Harry Moffitt, an HRS senior program specialist, said that deputy assistant secretary Linda Lewis questioned why Florida would continue to let Straight operate in spite of allegations of withholding medication and food from clients, depriving them of sleep and using excessive force against them. That when Ms. Lewis brought this up to Ivor Groves, an assistant secretary to HRS, she had been told that she would be fired on the spot if she did not do as told. Groves denied the conversation and Lewis did not recall it. The report also revealed a definite pattern of abuse or excessive force used against clients at Straight facilities. See the five page report here:

- [Clary report page 1](#)
- [Clary report page 2](#)
- [Clary report page 3](#)
- [Clary report page 4](#)
- [Clary report page 5](#)

<http://thestraights.com/news/index.htm#sullivan>.

³¹⁹ Fager, Wesley, "Ray Bradbury's Watergate: Justice Pinellas County Style," 2003, TheStraights.com,
<http://www.thestraights.com/articles/bradburytrial88.htm>.

³²⁰ Straights.com Piercing the Veil, TheStraights.com,
<http://www.thestraights.com/financial/st-fdn-piercing-veil.htm>.

³²¹ Ready4Work is a nationally recognized program assisting ex-offenders with re-entry into the community and workforce, effectively leading participants toward a productive life. Operating with a four-pronged approach; case management, life-coaching, job training and job placement assistance, Ready4Work motivates and moves individuals to become productive, responsible citizens within the community.

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Commitments and strategic partnerships with faith-based organizations, local businesses, community outlets and the judicial system assist to ensure individuals transition successfully back into the community.

In 2003, President George W. Bush selected Operation New Hope as the pilot site for the Ready4Work program. Applauded by President Bill Clinton in his book, "Giving," and endorsed by President Barack Obama, Ready4Work is considered by many to be a model program for the nation. Other supporters include current and former City of Jacksonville leaders Mayor John Peyton, Sheriff John Rutherford, Sheriff Nat Glover and former U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao.

<http://www.operationnewhope.com/ready4work/>

³²² American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research, 1150 Seventeenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research, 1150 Seventeenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI) is a conservative think tank. As an independent non-profit organization it is primarily supported by grants and contributions from foundations, corporations, and individuals. Its headquarters are in Washington, D.C. Some AEI scholars are considered to be among the leading architects of the second Bush administration's public policy. More than twenty AEI scholars and fellows served either in a Bush administration policy post or on one of the many governmental panels and commissions. AEI.org, <http://www.aei.org/>.

³²³ "Kids of Bergen County Helping Teens Fight Addiction to Drugs, Liquor," 3-14-85, *Bergen Record*, KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/3-14-85.htm>.

³²⁴ Ibert, Deborah L., "Family is Considered Key in War on Drugs," Forum on Adolescent Narcotics Abuse, *Bergen Record*, April 21, 1985, Page A-59 (20 in.) SECTION: NEWS. Drug abuse among adolescents is a growing problem in New Jersey, said Richard Russo, head of the New Jersey Division of Alcohol, Narcotics, and Drug Abuse. He was one of five speakers invited to participate in the forum on adolescent drug use, sponsored by U.S. Rep. Robert Torricelli, Hackensack Democrat. Torricelli scheduled the forum, which was held at the Bergen County Courthouse, as one of his regular meetings with constituents. KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/4-21-85.htm>.

³²⁵ Eaton, Sabrina, "Elmwood Park Parents Urged To Join War Against Drug Abuse," *Bergen Record*, August 19, 1986, Page C-6 (8 in.) SECTION: ELMWOOD PARK, KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/8-19-86.htm>.

³²⁶ Gardner, Laura, "Licenses Optional For Drug Advisors," *Bergen Record*, July 20, 1986, Page A-1 (31 in.) Despite growing support for state regulation of all substance-abuse treatment programs, entrepreneurs in the business of counseling drug abusers can hang out their shingles without government approval. The result, state Health Department officials and drug counselors say, is that consumers

remain vulnerable to unprofessional treatment. Currently, programs that provide outpatient counseling for drug abusers -- but no medical treatment -- are not required to be licensed by the state. But some officials have pointed to KIDS of Bergen County, which was the object of an official inquiry, as an example of a treatment program that should seek voluntary licensure through the state Health Department. In order to obtain state licensing, programs must comply with certain building code regulations, open their books to officials, and show how they treat clients. They also must agree to four unannounced inspections yearly.

<http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/7-20-86.htm>.

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³²⁹ Leith, Rod, "A Fine For Housing Too Many Teens," *Bergen Record*, July 27, 1988, Page B-1 (19 in.) SECTION: NEWS, KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/7-27-88.htm>.

³³⁰ David, Goldman, "Lodi KIDS Shelter Cited As Illegal Boardinghouse," *Bergen Record*, August 14, 1988, Page A-32 (10 in.) SECTION: South Community, KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/8-14-88.htm>.

³³¹ Goldman, David, "Anger In Lodi Over Drug-Rehab Kids," *Bergen Record*, August 21, 1988, Page A-31 (21 in.) SECTION: South Community, KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/8-21-88.htm>.

³³² "Bowling to Fear," *Bergen Record*, August 29, 1988, Page B-10 (10 in.) SECTION: OPINION TYPE: EDITORIAL, KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/8-29-88.htm>

³³³ Bartelli, Jan, "Couple Sheltering Kids Leave Hasbrouck Heights," *Bergen Record*, January 10, 1989, Page B-3 (11 in.), KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/1-10-89.htm>.

³³⁴ Gardner, Laura, "Drug Therapy Business Booms," *Bergen Record*, November 10, 1986, Page A-1 (ill.) (37 in.) Hackensack-based KIDS of Bergen, took no chances. Before deciding to open its doors, KIDS conducted a marketing study to identify the best communities for its business, said Miller Newton, founder and director. Newton said the market survey helped locate KIDS in an area where a large number of families live with "an emotional investment in being a family." The program requires the whole family to participate in recovery, he said. All the private programs in Bergen County subscribe to the philosophy of Alcoholics

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Anonymous, which urges addicts to accept a "higher power."

KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/11-10-86.htm>.

³³⁵ "Unlicensed & Unregulated," *Bergen Record*, February 12, 1987, Page A-18 (9 in.) SECTION: OPINION, TYPE: EDITORIAL, KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/2-12-87.htm>.

³³⁶ Fager, Wes (2000). Reverend Doctor Virgil Miller Newton at Straight Inc. and at KIDS North Jersey/KIDS of Bergen County, thestraights.com, <http://www.thestraights.com/people/medical-doctors/newton/newton-theclinician.htm>.

³³⁷ Fager, Wes (2000). "Academic Credentials of Father Doctor2 Miller Newton" Newton joined Straight, Inc. St Petersburg as Assistant Director. The Straight program was founded in 1976. The average stay in Straight Inc. was twenty months long, and Straight's corporate goals were, "to admit 14 clients per month." In 1980, while he was assistant director at Straight, Inc., Newton's only formal training in the drug field was a workshop on alcoholism, which he attended in 1979 at the Johnson Institute in Minneapolis. It was during this time he also switched his doctoral focus to teen drug abuse. He defended his doctoral thesis titled "The Organization and Implementation of Family Involvement in Adolescent Drug-Use Rehabilitation," and graduated in 1981 with a PhD in Public Administration and Urban Anthropology. Newton had obtained directorship of the St Petersburg facility by 1981, and in July 1982, Mel Sembler promoted him to the position of National Director of Straight, Inc. While National Director of Straight, Inc., Newton's wife Ruth Ann joined the staff of the St Petersburg Straight Inc. program becoming an Associate Director. <http://www.thestraights.com/people/medical-doctors/newton/newton-credentials.htm>.

³³⁸ Goldsby, Frankie S. *Official letter sent to Dr Miller Newton Regarding Alleged Abuse*, (July 14, 1982), Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, The Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services sent Newton a letter on July 14, 1982, reporting accounts at Straight Inc. of Marathoning for up to 70 hours (i.e. sleep deprivation), disciplining by the "Spanking Machine," confrontations (including physical), restricted diets and false imprisonment of legal adults. The Florida state's attorney for Sarasota County released a 600 page criminal investigation of Sarasota Straight Inc. including allegations of kidnapping, false imprisonment, threats of being court ordered into the program unless the youth voluntarily enrolled, enrolling youths who were not drug dependent, hair pulling, grabbing clients around the neck and throwing clients against the wall. David Levin, principal investigator (and assistant state attorney) stated "...it was child abuse and torture, directed by Miller Newton." Sarasota Straight Inc. in Florida subsequently closed voluntarily, and so the state dropped its investigation. This was retrieved at <http://www.isaccorp.org/archives.asp#straight>, isaccorp.org website now removed so try www.survivingstraightinc.com site.

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³³⁹ Winston, Ali (January 25, 2007), "Settlement reached in KIDS abuse case," *The Jersey Journal* (Hudson County, NJ) <http://www.isaccorp.org/straight/miller-newton.01.25.07.html>, the isaccorp.org website removed so try www.survivingstraightinc.com site.

³⁴⁰ Winston, Ali, *The Jersey Journal* (Hudson County, NJ), January 23, 2007, "Ex-patient: I was prisoner at treatment center," <http://www.rickross.com/reference/straight/straight62.html>.

³⁴¹ McDivitt, Anita; Pitts, Jay "Drug treatment center loses case," *St Petersburg Times* (St Petersburg, FL) November 10, 1990, <http://www.rickross.com/reference/straight/straight16.html>.

³⁴² Winston, Ali, "Ex-patient: I was prisoner at treatment center," *The Jersey Journal* (Hudson County, NJ) January 23, 2007, <http://www.rickross.com/reference/straight/straight62.html>.

³⁴³ Journey, Mark "Straight client wins \$721, 000 suit," *St Petersburg Times* (St Petersburg, FL) November 10, 1990.

³⁴⁴ Fager, Wesley, "Reverend Doctor Virgil Miller Newton, III, formerly National Clinical Director for Straight, Inc. and alleged child abuse at Straight, Inc." <http://thestraights.net/newton-abuse-at-straight.htm>.

³⁴⁵ Trebach, op. cit., pp. 57-59. *St Petersburg Times*, 1-30-83, p. 1B. *Brandenton Herald*, 8-4-83. The Herald cites settlements with a LuAnn Jones of Sanford and with Hope Hyrons.

³⁴⁶ "Straight settled with this Hillsborough County woman for \$37,500," *St. Petersburg Times*, 6 -11-85.

³⁴⁷ On March 16, 1981 state officials Terrell Harper and Marshall met with Miller Newton and two female clients who had recently escaped from Straight-St Pete but had been returned. In the presence of the state officials Newton threatened the two girls that they could be "sent to a mental institution," and then told one of the girls he was considering advising her parents to take her to a treatment program in Georgia where she could be "locked-up for 6 months" on just her parents' signature. HRS removed one of the girls the next day. The other child was removed three days later by her mother at the recommendation of a court appointed guardian ad litem. State investigators found that the locks to the bedroom doors where these girls sleep--a Ms. M's home--had been reversed to lock from the outside. This is a violation of Florida Statue Chapter 397.041.

³⁴⁸ "Kids of America: Caring and Concern" *St. Petersburg Times*, 9-19-83, p. b1. *West 57th Street* 1-21-89.

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³⁴⁹ *Brandenton Herald*, FL, 9-17-83. *Brandenton Herald*, 9-8-83, p. B1. *St. Petersburg Times*, 9-7-83, p. 4B.

³⁵⁰ Gardner, Laura, "Kids: Is it treatment or Torment?" *Bergen Record*, July 13, 1986, Page A-1 (45 in.) Staff writer Susan Edelman contributed to this report. KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/7-13-86.htm>.

³⁵¹ Diane Raring, "Helping Teens Fight Addiction to Drugs, Liquor," March 14, 1985, *Bergen Record Corp.* KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/3-14-85.htm>.

³⁵² Ibert, Deborah L., "Family is Considered Key in War on Drugs – Forum on Adolescent Narcotics Abuse," *Bergen Record*, April 21, 1985, Page A-59 (20 in.) KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/4-21-85.htm>

³⁵³ "Newton, Miller, Students Have Right to Protection," *Bergen Record*, August 13, 1985," Page A-19 (ill.) (15 in.) SECTION: OPINION TYPE: OP-ED Forced testing of school students for drugs. Dr. Miller Newton is president and clinical director of KIDS of Bergen County, a private, nonprofit organization based in River Edge that helps young people with drug and alcohol problems. <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/8-13-85.htm>.

³⁵⁴ Glidewell, Jan, "Yet Another Hot Potato Falls Into His Hands," Series: OFF/BEAT, *St. Petersburg Times*; *St. Petersburg*; *Bergen Record*, Jan 17, 1989; Sub Title: [CITY Edition] Start Page: 1 ; 1; 1, KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/1-17-89.htm>

³⁵⁵ Gardner, Laura, Staff Writer, "KIDS: Is it Treatment or Torment?" *Bergen Record*, July 13, 1986, Sunday; Page A-1 (45 in.) Staff writer Susan Edelman contributed to this report, KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/7-13-86.htm>

³⁵⁶ Gardner, Laura, Staff Writer, "Licenses Optional for Drug Advisers," *Bergen Record*, July 20, 1986, Sunday; Page A-1 (31 in.), KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/7-20-86.htm>

³⁵⁷ Gardner, Laura, Staff Writer, "In Drug Program, Is the Cure A Curse?" *Bergen Record*, July 27, 1986, Sunday; Page A-17 (ill.) (36 in.), KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/7-27-86.htm>

³⁵⁸ Gardner, Laura, "In Drug Program, Is the Cure A Curse?" *Bergen Record*, July 27, 1986, Sunday; Page A-17 (ill.) (36 in.).

³⁵⁹ Kids of Bergen County Website, KidsOfBergenCounty.com, <http://www.kidsofbergencounty.com/kobcfacts.htm>

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³⁶⁰ Stoltzfus, Duane, "KIDS Program Faces New Charges In Utah," *Bergen Record*, October 24, 1989, Page B-1 (16 in.) SECTION: NEWS Jennifer Woolston, a 19-year-old who filed the lawsuit last month, claims she broke an arm and foot when she fell from a second-story roof while trying to escape from the program, according to her lawyer, Mary C. Corporon. Corporon said Woolston had left weeks earlier and was "kidnapped" on the street Sept. 3 by a group that included her parents and a man who showed her a badge and said she was under arrest. She was returned to the center, remaining there until she tried the rooftop escape Sept. 18.

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³⁶⁷ Alberta Adolescent Recovery Center, 303 Forge Road S.E. Calgary, AB T2H0S9.

³⁶⁸ AARC: Recovering Krystal. Additional information can be obtained from Dr. David Suzuki, "The Nature of Things" CBC.ca, TheStraights.com, <http://www.thestraights.com/aarc.html>.

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³⁷¹ Beyerstein, Barry L., "From Treatment, Thought Reform, and the Road to Hell" Professor Barry L. Beyerstein, a leading Canadian researcher on opiates and brain functioning who operates a laboratory at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia, Canada. TheStraights.com, http://thestraights.com/essays/beyerstein_report_on_straight.htm.

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<http://www.thestraights.net/flowchart.htm>.

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³⁷⁴ "Kids Helping Kids: A Cincinnati Beacon/Real Talk Live Ongoing Investigation," *Cincinnati Beacon*, February 11, 2006, Posted by The Dean of Cincinnati, http://www.cincinnati-beacon.com/index.php/contents/comments/kids_helping_kids_a_cincinnati_beacon_real_talk_live_ongoing_investigation/.

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³⁹⁶ Mathews, Kelly, Surviving Straight Website, Kelly Matthews, is in process of making a movie entitled Surviving Straight Inc - The Movie, She became an advocate not because she was in Straight, Inc - but because her brother was. And he did not survive. Trying to survive Straight, Inc. devastated many. Some former clients have committed suicide. Others have serious disorders as a result of their time in Straight, Inc. Some suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, panic disorders and severe depression. In addition, many have experienced other long-term detrimental effects such as inability to function normally in relationships, fear of therapists or any form of counseling, severe distrust of people, paranoia, nightmares, etc. This is certainly not a complete list but does give one an inkling of the serious long-term adverse effects on survivors caused by Straight Inc.

SurvivingStraightIncTheMovie.com, <http://www.survivingstraightinthemovie.com/>
She has shared her own story WebDiva.org, <http://webdiva.org/straight/>.

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Vulnerability in self-esteem makes individuals with Narcissistic Personality Disorder very sensitive to "injury" from criticism or defeat. Although they may not show it outwardly, criticism may haunt these individuals and may leave them feeling humiliated, degraded, hollow and empty. They may react with disdain, rage, or defiant counterattack. 301.81 Narcissistic Personality Disorder
DSM-IV-TR == Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition, Text Revision; Published by the American Psychiatric Association, Washington, DC. 2000; pages 658-661.

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Also see: *DSM-IV* == *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, Fourth Edition; Published by the American Psychiatric Association, Washington, DC. 1994; pages 658-661.

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Characteristics of a narcissist:

1. Easily lies, cheats, distorts, and misleads
2. Enjoys "putting something over" on others
3. Feels entitled to take advantage of others
4. Doesn't appear to feel guilty when caught lying
5. Is adept at off-loading blame
6. Feels superior
7. Is contemptuous of others
8. Boasts and brags
9. Engages in seductive behavior
10. Seeks to arouse envy in others

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⁴¹⁵ Dr. Robert J. Lifton's *Eight Criteria for Thought Reform Taken from Thought Reform and the Psychology of Totalism*, Chapter 22 (Second Edition, Chapel Hill, 1989) Chapter 15 (First Edition, New York, 1987) *The Future of Immortality*, Reveal.org, <http://www.reveal.org/library/psych/lifton.html>.

⁴¹⁶ Fager, Wesley, TheStraights.com, <http://www.thestraights.com/articles2005/peoplebehindstraight.htm>
"In 1988 Straight board members Mel Sembler, Joseph Zappala, Alec Courtelis and Roy Speer (founder of cable TVs Home Shopping Network [HSN]) each gave at least \$100,000 for Republican causes. In return George Bush made Sembler and Zappala ambassadors and did a TV commercial on Speer's Home Shopping Network for Straight. Zappala got the ambassadorship to Spain where plans were underway for the summer Olympics to be held in Barcelona. Roy Speer got the concession

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agreements for the summer Olympics in Spain. Allegations concerning HSN surfaced in 1993 about commercial bribes, secret investments and misleading filings with the SEC. Allen Alweiss, formerly the state prosecutor's chief assistant attorney for Pasco County and in 1989 a member-at-large on Straight Foundation, Inc.'s board of directors, left the prosecutor's office and gone on to work for HSN. He alleged that one HSN executive had ties to John Gotti. He also made claims of a proposed business venture between HSN and a convicted drug dealer named Doc McGhee." [Wall Street Journal 5-14-93. Sec A, p. 1; Wall Street Journal, 3-18-94 Sec B, p. 4; Saint Petersburg Times, 12-8-88, Sec Business, p29A, Ed: City]

⁴¹⁷ "Biography: Melvin Sembler," U.S. State Department, January 28, 2002 Former Ambassador to Italy (2001-2005); Former Ambassador to Australia and Nauru (1989-1993) <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/biog/7043.htm>.

⁴¹⁸ The Center for Responsive Politics is the nation's premier research group tracking money in U.S. politics and its effect on elections and public policy. Nonpartisan, independent and nonprofit, the organization aims to create a more educated voter, an involved citizenry and a more transparent and responsive government. OpenSecrets.org, which is a comprehensive resource for federal campaign contributions, lobbying data and analysis.

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<http://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/>

⁴¹⁹ George Bush XLI President of the United States: 2989-1993, Nomination of Joseph Zappala To Be United States Ambassador to Spain, March 17, 1989, Read more at the American Presidency Project: [George Bush: Nomination of Joseph Zappala To Be United States Ambassador to Spain](http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=16810#axzz1UIFj7l00)
<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=16810#axzz1UIFj7l00>.

⁴²⁰ Dahl, David, "Senate Panel Questions St. Petersburg Developer," *St. Petersburg Times*, June 9, 1989, RickRoss.com,
<http://www.rickross.com/reference/straight/straight30.html>

⁴²¹ Wes Fager, TheStraights.com, <http://thestraights.com/news/index.htm#sullivan>.

⁴²² Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR -www.un.org/Overview/rights.html) Fundamental international standard. Includes economic, social and political rights.)

⁴²³ Citizens United v FEC, Holding: Political spending is a form of protected speech under the First Amendment, and the government may not keep corporations or unions from spending money to support or denounce individual candidates in

elections. While corporations or unions may not give money directly to campaigns, they may seek to persuade the voting public through other means, including ads, especially where these ads were not broadcast.

Judgment: [Reversed](#), 5-4, in an opinion by Justice Anthony Kennedy on January 21, 2010. in a 5-4 decision with an opinion written by Justice Kennedy. Justice Stevens dissented, joined by Justices Ginsburg, Breyer, and Sotomayor.

<http://www.scotusblog.com/case-files/cases/citizens-union-v-federal-election-commission/>.

⁴²⁴ Supreme Court Decision, CITIZENS UNITED v. FEDERAL ELECTION COMM'N (No. 08-205) Reversed in part, affirmed in part, and remanded. appeal from the united states district court for the district of Columbia, No. 08-205. Argued March 24, 2009—Reargued September 9, 2009--Decided January 21, 2010. As amended by §203 of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 (BCRA), federal law prohibits corporations and unions from using their general treasury funds to make independent expenditures for speech that is an "electioneering communication" or for speech that expressly advocates the election or defeat of a candidate. [2 U. S. C. §441b](#). An electioneering communication is "any broadcast, cable, or satellite communication" that "refers to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office" and is made within 30 days of a primary election, §434(f)(3)(A), and that is "publicly distributed," [11 CFR §100.29\(a\)\(2\)](#), which in "the case of a candidate for nomination for President ... means" that the communication "[c]an be received by 50,000 or more persons in a State where a primary election ... is being held within 30 days," §100.29(b)(3)(ii). Corporations and unions may establish a political action committee (PAC) for express advocacy or electioneering communications purposes. [2 U. S. C. §441b\(b\)\(2\)](#). In *McConnell v. Federal Election Comm'n*, [540 U. S. 93](#), this Court upheld limits on electioneering communications in a facial challenge, relying on the holding in *Austin v. Michigan Chamber of Commerce*, [494 U. S. 652](#), that political speech may be banned based on the speaker's corporate identity. <http://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/08-205.ZS.html>.

Syllabus [HTML version](#) [PDF version](#)

Opinion [Kennedy] [HTML version](#) [PDF version](#)

Concurrence [Roberts] [HTML version](#) [PDF version](#)

Concurrence [Scalia] [HTML version](#) [PDF version](#)

CDInPart [Stevens] [HTML version](#) [PDF version](#)

CDInPart [Thomas] [PDF version](#) [HTML version](#)

⁴²⁵ Press Release by Public Citizen, October 20, 2010 at 5:32 PM, Public Citizen, Washington, D.C. Phone: 202-588-1000, Public Citizen is a national, nonprofit consumer advocacy organization founded in 1971 to represent consumer interests in Congress, the executive branch and the courts. Watchdog groups to FEC say American Future Fund appears to be violating campaign finance law, this conservative organization appears to operate as a political committee but is registered as nonprofit. <http://www.commondreams.org/newswire/2010/10/20-13>.

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⁴²⁶ Will Evans reporter for National Public Radio, August 20, 2008, A new conservative advocacy organization, the [American Future Fund](#) launched its first effort in March 2008 with a television ad supporting Minnesota Republican Senator Norm Coleman, who faces a competitive race this year. American Future Fund advocates free-market policies. It supports an energy agenda that includes drilling offshore and in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge; more oil exploration and refineries; and the development of nuclear and alternative sources of energy. The organization is led by professionals who worked for former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney's failed 2008 bid for the Republican presidential nomination, among other efforts. Since the positive Coleman ad, other American Future Fund ads have portrayed Democratic politicians negatively. The group plans to continue focusing on Senate races. It is a [501\(c\)\(4\)](#) and has an affiliated political action committee called American Future Fund Political Action. Funders: unknown, Leadership: Nicole Schlinger, Tim Albrecht, Lisa Lisker, Jan Van Lohuizen, Ed Tobin, Ben Ginsberg, Larry McCarthy, Phil Musser. Read more about these leaders in The Secret Money Project's [Who's Who Directory of Key Leaders of Independent Groups](#).

Will Evans is a reporter for the [Center for Investigative Reporting](#), NPR's partner for the Secret Money Project.
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=93790064>

⁴²⁷ Crossroads Grassroots Political Strategies – Crossroads GPS, 1401 New York Avenue NW, Suite 1200, Washington, DC 20005.

⁴²⁸ American Future Fund P.O. Box 13434 Des Moines, IA 50310 The American Future Fund operates as a 501(c)(4). March 27 2008 a complaint was filed by DFL against American Future Fund - violations of Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 as amended. The American Future Fund failed to register and report as a political committee with the Federal Election Commission and to comply with the obligations applying to such committees. The American Future Fund evaded basic disclosure requirements of the Federal Elections Commission by not filing a statement of organization and by refusing to file required reports. In this manner the AFF has evaded the oversight of the Federal Election Commission and failed to be in accordance with basic disclosure requirements and has spent money to influence elections. The AFF claim to provide Americans with a conservative multi-state advocacy group to communicate a free market viewpoint and to have a mechanism to communicate and a voice for free market ideals focused on bolstering America's global competitiveness across the country.

⁴²⁹ FactCheck.org, Oct. 13, 2010 "American Future Fund," Political leanings: Republican, Spending target: \$20 million to \$25 million, American Future Fund was founded in 2007 by Nick Ryan, a longtime political adviser to former Iowa congressman Jim Nussle, a Republican. Ryan ran Nussle's successful congressional campaigns in 2000, 2002 and 2004, his political action committee and his failed gubernatorial campaign in 2006. Nicole Schlinger, a former finance director of the Republican Party of Iowa, was American Future Fund's first president. Schlinger is

the founder of Capital Resources, a fundraising consultancy and management firm. She also served as the director of Mitt Romney's Ames, Iowa, straw poll campaign in 2007. On her company website, she claims to be "the most prolific political fundraiser in Iowa Republican history with over \$50 million raised for candidates from city council to governor." In 2008, Sandra Greiner replaced Schlinger as president of American Future Fund. Greiner served as an Iowa state legislator from 1992 to 2004 and is now a GOP candidate for state Senate. American Future Fund is registered as a 501(c)(4), which means it can receive unlimited donations and does not have to disclose its donors. In its most recent IRS filing from 2008, the group reported receiving \$7.5 million in donations and spending approximately \$6.3 million. It expects to spend between \$20 million to \$25 million on political ads on the campaign. Federal Election Commission data show American Future Fund has spent \$6 million in 16 states in independent expenditures as of Oct. 12. The group has not publicly disclosed its donors. <http://www.factcheck.org/tag/american-future-fund/>.

⁴³⁰ Rutenberg, Jim; Van Natta Jr., Don; and McIntire, Mike, "Offering Donors Secrecy, and Going on Attack," *New York Times*, October 11, 2010, <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/12/us/politics/12donate.html>

⁴³¹ Public Citizen, 1600 20th Street NW Washington, D.C. 20009, (202) 588-1000 ProtectOurElections.org, ProsperityAgenda.us, AmericanCrossroadsWatch.org, Attorney Kevin Zeese, P.O. Box 9596, Washington, DC 20016, Chris Holman, 215 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20003, Citizen.org, <http://www.citizen.org>.

⁴³² "GOP activists from Iowa take aim at Kansas attorney general race" *Lawrence Journal World*, By Associated Press, October 11, 2010, <http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2010/oct/11/gop-activists-iowa-take-aim-g-race/>.

⁴³³ Carpenter, Tim, "Iowa GOP activists target Six Conservative group's ad buy in Kansas AG race could exceed \$300-K" October 9, 2010 - 8:55pm, CJOOnline.com, http://cjonline.com/news/state/2010-10-09/iowa_gop_activists_target_six?page=2#.TjdM4GuKLkI.

⁴³⁴ "What is the 'American Future Fund'?" ProgressiveInvolvement.com, October 18, 2010, http://www.progressiveinvolvement.com/progressive_involvement/2010/10/what-is-the-american-future-fund.html

⁴³⁵ "At Kansas senators' request, committee will not consider Steve Six's nomination to the U.S. Court of Appeals" *Lawrence Journal World*, July 28, 2011, 10:38 a.m. Updated July 28, 2011, 6:07 p.m.

⁴³⁶ The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or PPACA ([Pub.L. 111-148](#)). was signed into law by President Barack Obama on March 23, 2010. The law along with

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Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 ([Pub.L. 111-152](#), 124 [Stat.](#) 1029) was major legislative health reform by the 111th United States Congress and the Obama administration. The PPACA passed the Senate on December 24, 2009, by a filibuster-proof vote of 60–39 with all Democrats and one Independent voting for, and all Republicans voting against. It passed the House of Representatives on March 21, 2010, by a vote of 219–212, with 178 Republicans and 34 Democrats voting against the bill. The law has received legal challenges regarding its constitutionality. The Supreme Court could review this law as early as the end of 2011 or the beginning of 2012.

⁴³⁷ Hancock, Jason, "Secrets of the American Future Fund" *Iowa Independent*, August 19, 2008, 12:29 pm. The American Future Fund (AFF), operating out of Des Moines, is sponsoring advocacy advertisements in closely contested congressional races from New York to Louisiana to Minnesota and Colorado. It is one of the most ambitious conservative independent expenditure groups to emerge in 2008. Most observers expect AFF to begin increasing its role in elections around the country, stoking speculation that it will spend heavily to prop up lightly funded Republican campaign committees. Because of the way the group is organized under Internal Revenue Service guidelines for nonprofit organizations it does not have to disclose its donors and is not governed by the Federal Election Commission (FEC). <http://iowaindependent.com/4203/secrets-of-the-american-future-fund>

⁴³⁸ Rutenberg, Jim, Van Natta Jr, Don, and McIntire, Mike, "Offering Donors Secrecy, and Going on Attack," *The New York Times*, October 11, 2010 <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/12/us/politics/12donate.html>

⁴³⁹ Lester Roloff (1914 – 1982) was an American fundamental Independent Baptist preacher, and founder of teen homes across the south. <http://swordofthelord.com/biographies/RoloffLester.htm>.

⁴⁴⁰ Roloff Evangelistic Enterprises Inc. <http://www.roloff.org/>.

⁴⁴¹ Fornits Home for Wayward Web Fora: An open discussion about the troubled parent industry, contains many accounts of abuse at a variety of teen residential treatment centers including Straight Inc., 2nd and 3rd generation Straight Inc., Teen Challenge, WWASPS, various wilderness and boot camps. Fornits.com, <http://wwf.fornits.com/viewforum.php?f=36>.

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⁴⁴⁴ FICAN Forum on Roloff Homes Evangelistic program, FICAN.freeforums.org, <http://fican.freeforums.org/roloff-evangelistic-programs-f7.html>.

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⁴⁴⁵ Fornits.com, The Homes started by Lester Roloff
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⁴⁴⁶ Jordan, Stephanie L., "Teen tells deputies of abuses - Allegations made about Roloff home," *Corpus Christi Caller Times*, April 4, 2000.

⁴⁴⁷ Jordan, Stephanie L., "Teen tells deputies of abuses - Allegations made about Roloff home," *Corpus Christi Caller Times*, Tuesday, April 4, 2000.

⁴⁴⁸ "Roloffs says order stand - Bar inspections of Homes," *The Victoria Advocate*, Jun 4, 1976.
<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=UyocAAAAIBAJ&sjid=QFsEAAAAIBAJ&pg=4936,785803&dq=lighthouse+barge+roloff&hl=en>.

⁴⁴⁹ NoSpank.net, <http://www.nospank.net/colloff.htm>.

⁴⁵⁰ Escobedo, Duwayne, "Secrets in the Schoolhouse," InWeekly.Net, It took 12 years for Rebecca Ramirez, now 28 years old to come forward. She waves a sign that claims Michael Palmer, the founder of the all-girls boarding school, Victory Christian Academy, raped her when she was a 16-year-old student in 1992. The Victory Christian for \$1,200 a month, offered parents a "faith-based" program that promises to help their rebellious and troubled daughters. Girls attending the school are sent by their parents for everything ranging from behavioral problems, drug abuse and depression. The courts in California shut him down when he refused to be licensed by the state. California authorities investigated a variety of complaints, including allegations of abuse. State authorities looked into the 1988 death of a 15-year-old girl, while she helped build a new part of the school. Her death was ruled an accident. And in September, Mexican authorities closed Genesis-by-the-Sea, a similar school Palmer owns near Rosarito Beach, Mexico, after immigration and child abuse complaints. Some former students and parents say neglect and abuse happen, not only at Palmer's Victory Christian Academy, but other schools in Santa Rosa County and across the state that all belong to the same organization—Florida Association of Christian Child Caring Agencies. FACCCA is a volunteer, non-profit group established by Florida law in 1984 that allows the private, faith-based schools to operate with little state oversight. Instead, they're monitored by FACCCA. FACCCA oversees about 31 schools, including New Beginnings Rebekah Academy in Pace, run by Pastor Wiley Cameron and his wife, Faye. For years, the Camerons ran the Roloff Group homes in Corpus Christi, Texas. The homes provided strict, Bible-based education and training for troubled girls and boys, as well as some adults. InWeekly.Net,
<http://www.inweekly.net/article.asp?artID=713>.

⁴⁵¹ NoSpank.net, <http://www.nospank.net/colloff.htm>.

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⁴⁵² Roloff Homes was operated by the People's Baptist Church, 1355 fm 665, Corpus Christi, Texas 78415, USA www.pbc-roloffhomes.org/ The first Men's Home (1958), the first Women's Home (1960's), Rebekah Girls Home (1968) The homes were located in several states. It was places like Corpus Christi, TX; Petal, MS; Belton, MO; Pace, FL; North Carolina; Tennessee. Some of them could detain large number of detainess - up to 300 in Rebekah alone. They were/are gender separated.http://www.pbc-roloffhomes.org/content/about_us/our_heritage.

⁴⁵³ BBC News, News.bbc.co.uk,
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/3992067.stm>.

⁴⁵⁴ American Atheists, "Probe Of Abuse Charges At "Bible Discipline" Home Leads To Bush, Raises Questions Of Faith-State Partnership," *American Atheists*, April 12, 2000, http://atheists.org/flash_line/texas2.htm.

⁴⁵⁵ Lester Roloff, 1914-1982, Evangelist, Broadcaster, Believers web. Biography of Lester Roloff posted 3/17/2003, BORN: June 28, 1914 Dawson, Texas
DIED: November 2, 1982 Houston, Texas,
<http://www.believersweb.org/view.cfm?id=120&rc=1&list=multi>.

⁴⁵⁶ Austin American Statesman, July 2, 1995.

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⁴⁵⁹ "FBI investigates charges against Bethesda home," *The Advocate* (Baton Rouge, La.), November 8, 1986.

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<http://www.splcenter.org/legal/docket/files.jsp?cdrID=60&sortID=2>.

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⁴⁶⁶ Clem, Pat, "Students Claim Abuse, Brainwashing In School," *Education Week*, March 17, 1982, <http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/1982/03/17/02170003.h01.html?tkn=YOYFiNa%2FgbML3q5ymqKFDZ1HCVXf1%2Bqd5XSO>.

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⁴⁸⁰ Official Website Assemblies of God Home Missions, <http://homemissions.ag.org/>.

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For some firsthand accounts of abuse go to these sites:

Teen Challenge Exposed, TeenChallengeExposed.com, <http://www.teenchallengeexposed.com/>.

Teen Challenge Cult, TeenChallengeCult.blogspot.com, <http://teenchallengecult.blogspot.com/>.

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Teen Challenge USA links to Exodus Ministries - an Ex-Gay Ministry -it's listed second on this link list, TeenChallengeUSA.com, <http://teenchallengeusa.com/links.php>.

E-Democracy forums posts on this topic are available, Forums.e-democracy.org, <http://forums.e-democracy.org/groups/mps/messages/topic/72YJU0BIDW2YbGZGqcPCIZ>.

⁴⁹¹ Assemblies of God Official Website, AG.org, <http://ag.org/top/>.

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"Throughout this Memorandum and Order, the Court will describe Prison Fellowship and InnerChange's theological position, as reflected in its public statements, curriculum, and in practice at the Newton Facility, as Evangelical Christian rather than simply Christian or Non-Denominational Christian. Absolutely no animus is intended by this nomenclature. As will be evident from the facts set forth, the religious nature of the InnerChange program is not only distinct from non-Christian religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Native American practices, and Judaism, for example) as well as atheist or agnostic practices, it is also quite distinct from other self-described Christian faiths, such as Roman Catholicism, Mormonism, and Greek Orthodoxy. Evidence shows that the Evangelical Christian message is also distinct from the beliefs held by self-described Protestant Christian denominations such as Lutheran, United Methodist, Episcopalian, and Presbyterian, again, to name only a few.

This brew of religious and non-religious groups makes up the American culture and it is the genius of the First Amendment that allows each person to enjoy the freedom to express themselves religiously without fear that another religious group will predominate with the state's seal of approval. See *Larson v. Valente*, 456 U.S. 228, 244 (1982) ("The clearest command of the Establishment Clause is that one religious denomination cannot be officially preferred over another."); *School Dist. of Abingdon Twp., Pa. v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203, 319 (1963) ("What our Constitution indispensably protects is the freedom of each of us, be he Jew or Agnostic, Christian or Atheist, Buddhist or Freethinker, to believe or disbelieve, to worship or not worship, to pray or keep silent, according to his own conscience, uncoerced and unrestrained by government.") (Stewart, J., dissenting); *Teterud v. Burns*, 522 F.2d 357, 360 (8th Cir. 1975) ("It is not the province of government officials or court to determine religious orthodoxy.").

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⁵⁸⁸ "Teen Challenge Your Tax dollars paying for institutionalized abuse," *Daily Kos*, May 4, 2008, DailyKos.com, <http://www.dailykos.com/story/2008/05/04/504505/-Teen-Challenge:-Your-tax-dollars,-paying-for-institutionalised-abuse>.

⁵⁸⁹ Southwest Indian Foundation 100 West Coal Avenue, Gallup, NM 87301.

⁵⁹⁰ Feuerherd, Joe, "Catholic connections help pitch plan," *National Catholic Reporter*, April 6, 2011, FindArticles.com, http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m1141/is_32_41/ai_n15933152/.

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⁵⁹² Catholic Charities USA, "Who We Are," <http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/who/index.htm>.

⁵⁹³ The U.S. Salvation Army received thirteen percent of its fiscal year 2001 funds from the government. Salvation Army USA Nat'l Headquarters, Annual Report (2001), available at <http://www.salvationarmyusa.org>.

⁵⁹⁴ In 2001, United Jewish Communities received a federal grant of \$59,868,000. CBBB Wise Giving Alliance, Charity Report United Jewish Communities (2002), available at http://www.give.org/reports/care2_dyn.asp. "United Jewish Communities, About Us," at http://www.ujc.org/aboutus_home.html.

⁵⁹⁵ "Catholic Charities USA is the nation's largest, private network of social service organizations with 1,400 local agencies and institutions providing essential services to more than 9.5 million people annually, regardless of their religious, racial, ethnic, or economic background." Letter from Catholic Charities USA to Senate and House Budget Committees (Feb. 26, 2000), at <http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/programs/Advocacy/letters/Letters2001/budget1.htm>.

⁵⁹⁶Charitable Choice Funds, MissouriNet.com, <http://www.missourinet.com/2010/12/23/charitable-choice-finds-staying-power-audio/>.

⁵⁹⁷ Sager, Rebecca, "Faith, Politics, and Power," *The Politics of Faith-Based Initiatives*, Oxford University Press, 2010, TheDivineConspiracy.org, <http://www.thedivineconspiracy.org/Z5242W.pdf>.

⁵⁹⁸ Stevenson, Dru, "Privatized Welfare and the Nondelegation Doctrine," 35 *Clearinghouse Rev.* 546 (2001-2002) Jan-Feb 2002. <http://heinonline.org/HOL/LandingPage?collection=journals&handle=hein.journals/clear35&div=54&id=&page>.

⁵⁹⁹ Gedicks, Frederick Mark, "A two-track theory of the establishment clause," Establishment Clause doctrine has long been informed by two mutually antagonistic values: the separation of church and state, and government neutrality with respect to religion. There are conflicting values of both separation and neutrality which co-exist. The Speech Clause doctrine provides an absolute minimum of constitutional protection for expression against even content-neutral regulation, so also Establishment Clause doctrine provides for an absolute minimum of church-state separation against even religiously neutral government action. The Establishment Clause has long been thought to protect two values, the separation of religion and government from each other, and government neutrality with respect to religion. Separation requires that religion and government each refrain from involving itself in the affairs of the other. (*Everson v. Board of Education*). Neutrality has not totally eclipsed separation, which is the more fundamental Establishment Clause value. Neutrality requires that government regulate its interactions with religious individuals and institutions so that it neither encourages nor discourages religious beliefs or practices. (*Epperson v. Arkansas*). http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/law/lwsch/journals/bclawr/43_5/03_FMS.htm.

⁶⁰⁰ Minow, Martha, "Public and Private Partnerships: Accounting for the New Religion," 116 *Harvard Law Review*. 1229, 1232-33 (2003).

⁶⁰¹ The Coalition Against Religious Discrimination (CARD) opposes charitable choice as an unconstitutional and dangerous proposal that will harm religion, authorize government-funded discrimination, undermine the accountability of taxpayer dollars, foster litigation against state and local governments, and violate the personal religious rights of Americans seeking help. See Coalition Against Religious Discrimination, What Is "Charitable Choice"?, at http://www.stopreligiousdiscrimination.org/what_is_charitable_choice.html. CARD includes many religious and nonreligious nonprofit organizations such as American Baptist Churches, USA; American Civil Liberties Union; American Jewish Committee; American Jewish Congress; Americans United for Separation of Church and State; Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs; Catholics for a Free Choice; Central Conference of American Rabbis; Friends Committee on National Legislation; Jewish

Council for Public Affairs; Jewish Women International; NARAL Pro-Choice America; National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors; National Association of Social Workers; National Council of Jewish Women; National Education Association; National Gay and Lesbian Task Force; National Organization for Women; National Parent-Teacher Association; National Partnership for Women and Families; National Women's Law Center; People For the American Way; Planned Parenthood Federation of America; Rabbinical Assembly; Service Employees International Union, AFL-CIO; The Interfaith Alliance; Union of American Hebrew Congregations; Unitarian Universalist Association; United Church of Christ (Justice and Witness Ministries); and United Methodist Church (General Board of Church and Society). Coalition Against Religious Discrimination, About C.A.R.D., at http://www.stopreligiousdiscrimination.org/about_CARD.html. More than 850 religious leaders signed a petition organized by CARD urging President Bush and Congress to reject charitable choice proposals, explaining that the "flow of government dollars and the accountability for how those funds are used will inevitably undermine the independence and integrity of houses of worship." Coalition Against Religious Discrimination, An Open Letter to President Bush and Congress from America's Clergy (June 14, 2001), http://www.stopreligiousdiscrimination.org/letter_from_clergy.pdf; see also Press Release, Americans United, Religious Leaders Urge Bush, Congress To Reject "Faith-Based" Funding Proposals That Allow Discrimination, Entangle Religion and State" (Apr. 24, 2001), <http://www.au.org/cardpressrelease.htm>.

⁶⁰² Saperstein, David, "Public Accountability and Faith-Based Organizations: A Problem Best Avoided," *Harvard Law Review*, Vol. 116, No. 5, (Mar., 2003), pp. 1353-1396, The Harvard Law Review Association, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1342729>.

⁶⁰³ Collins, Milton, "The Privatization of Social Service Programs," http://www.wlu.edu/documents/shepherd/academics/cap_03L_collins.pdf.

⁶⁰⁴ *Tex. Boll Weevil Eradication Found., Inc. v. Lewellyn*, 952 S.W.2d 454, 472 (Tex. 1997). These factors affect whether a government function can be delegated: (1) are the private delegate's actions subject to meaningful review by a state agency or other branch of state government; (2) are the persons affected by the private delegate's actions adequately represented in the decision process; (3) is the private delegate's power limited to making rules, or does the delegate also apply the law to particular individuals; (4) does the private delegate have a pecuniary or other personal interest that may conflict with his or her public function; (5) is the private delegate empowered to define criminal acts or impose criminal sanctions; (6) is the delegation narrow in duration, extent, and subject matter; (7) does the private delegate possess special qualifications or training for the task delegated to it; and (8) has the Legislature provided sufficient standards to guide the private delegate in its work. Although not all the factors relate to public assistance (notably three and five), the rest can, and are considered very instrumental to determine whether certain authority can have been delegated. <http://www.supreme.courts.state.tx.us/ebriefs/09/09048105.pdf>.

⁶⁰⁵ Freeman, Jody, 116 *Harv. L. Rev.* 1285, 1304-05 (2003).

⁶⁰⁶ Estrin Gilman, Michele, "Legal Accountability in an Era of Privatized Welfare," 81 *Cal. L. Rev.* 569, 611-12 (2001).

⁶⁰⁷ Freeman, Jody, "Extending Public Law Norms Through Privatization," 116 *Harv. L. Rev.* 1285, 1300 (2003).

⁶⁰⁸ Jody Freeman, "The Contracting State," 28 *Fla. St. U. L. Rev.* 155, 170 (2000). Persons concerned about the potential negative results associated with privatization are called "consequentialists."

⁶⁰⁹ Diller, Matthew, *Form and Substance in the Privatization of Poverty Programs*, 49 *UCLA L. Rev.* 1739, 1740 (2002).

⁶¹⁰ Shue, Henry, *Basic Rights: Subsistence, Influence, and U.S. Foreign Policy*, p. 23, Princeton University Press (1996).

⁶¹¹ Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Pub.L.No. 104-193, 110 Stat. 2105.

⁶¹² 42 U.S.C § 604(a)

⁶¹³ Stevenson, Dru, "Privatization of Welfare Services: Delegation by Commercial Contract," 45 *Ariz. L. Rev.* 83, 88 (2003).

⁶¹⁴ "Safety Net for Sale: Dangers of Privatizing Social Services," American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, 1625 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036-5687, Web site: www.afscme.org, Privatization Section, www.afscme.org/private/index.html

⁶¹⁵ Austin American Statesman, July 2, 1995.

⁶¹⁶ World Magazine 1995.

⁶¹⁷ "Faith-Based Chemical Dependency Treatment Program: Exemption Registration Packet," Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. (2000, June).

"Faith Based Registered Provider list," Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. (2000, August).

⁶¹⁸ Houston Chronicle, December 1, 1995.

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⁶¹⁹ The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission, Archives.gov, <http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/civil-rights-act/>.

⁶²⁰ Congress Link Basic Features of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, CongressLink.org, http://www.congresslink.org/print_basics_histmats_civilrights64text.htm.

⁶²¹ "Free At Last: The U.S. Civil Rights Movement," published by the Bureau of International Information Programs. View [the entire book](#) (PDF, 3.6 MB). America.gov, <http://www.america.gov/st/diversity-english/2008/December/20090106134535jmnamdeirf0.4566919.html>.

Read more: America.gov, <http://www.america.gov/st/diversity-english/2008/December/20090106134535jmnamdeirf0.4566919.html#ixzz1O9COS TcQ>.

⁶²² Cooper, Phillip J., *By Order of the President: The Use and Abuse of Executive Direct Action*, Kansas State University, Kanniversity Press, 2002.

⁶²³ Howell, William G., *Power without Persuasion: The Politics of Direct Presidential Action*, Princeton University Press, 2003.

⁶²⁴ Mayer, Kenneth R., *With the Stroke of a Pen: Executive Orders and Presidential Power*, Princeton University Press, 2002.

⁶²⁵ Warber, Adam L., *Executive Orders and the Modern Presidency: Legislating from the Oval Office*, Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2006.

⁶²⁶ SCOTUS, *Mississippi v. Johnson*, 71 U.S. 475 (1866), The Supreme Court's decision held that the President has two kinds of task to perform: ministerial and discretionary. EOs help facilitate the execution of the Executive's ministerial duties. *Mississippi v. Johnson* 71 U.S. 475 (1866) was the first suit to be brought against a President of the United States in the United States Supreme Court. The state of Mississippi attempted to sue then President Andrew Johnson for enforcing Reconstruction. The court decided, based on a previous decision of *Marbury v. Madison* that the President has two kinds of task: ministerial and discretionary. Discretionary tasks are ones the president can choose to do or not do. Ministerial tasks are ones required by his job, in fact if he fails to do them he could be violating the Constitution. The court ruled that by enforcing reconstruction Johnson was acting in an "executive and political" capacity--a discretionary rather than a ministerial one--and so he could not be sued. <http://supreme.justia.com/us/71/475/case.html>

⁶²⁷ SCOTUS, *Myers v. United States*, 272 U.S. 52 (1926), Majority Opinion. In 1867, Congress passed the Reconstruction Acts. Although President Andrew Johnson vetoed the Acts, Congress overrode the veto. In an attempt to delay or

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prevent Reconstruction, the state of Mississippi appealed directly to the Supreme Court. Mississippi asked the Court for an injunction preventing the President from enforcing the Acts on the ground that they were unconstitutional.

Question: Could the Supreme Court constitutionally issue an injunction directed against the President? Conclusion: In a unanimous decision, the Court held that it had "no jurisdiction of a bill to enjoin the President in the performance of his official duties...." The Court held that the duties of the President as required by the Reconstruction Acts were "in no sense ministerial," and that a judicial attempt to interfere with the performance of such duties would be "an absurd and excessive extravagance." The Court noted that if the President chose to ignore the injunction, the judiciary would be unable to enforce the order.

http://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/historics/USSC_CR_0272_0052_ZO.html

<http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/scripts/getcase.pl?navby=case&court=us&vol=71&invol=475>.

⁶²⁸ The National Archives contain the Presidential Executive Orders. U.S. Presidents have issued Executive Orders since 1789. Although there is no Constitutional provision or statute that explicitly permits Executive Orders, there is a vague grant of "executive power" given in Article II, Section 1, Clause 1 of the Constitution, and furthered by the declaration "take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed" made in Article II, Section 3, Clause 4. At the minimum, most Executive Orders use these Constitutional reasonings as the authorization allowing for their issuance to be justified as part of the President's sworn duties, the intent being to help direct officers of the US Executive carry out their delegated duties as well as the normal operations of the Federal Government - the consequence of failing to comply possibly being the removal from office. Executive orders are official documents, numbered consecutively, through which the President of the United States manages the operations of the Federal Government. There have been criticisms of the use of executive orders such as Executive Order 9066, where Franklin D. Roosevelt delegated military authority to remove any or all people (used to target specifically Japanese Americans and German Americans) in a military zone. The authority delegated to General John L. DeWitt subsequently paved the way for all Japanese-Americans on the West Coast to be sent to internment camps for the duration of World War II. There also was the case of Executive Order 13233, which restricted public access to the papers of Presidents Reagan and George H.W. Bush, was more recently criticized by the Society of American Archivists and other groups, stating that it "violates both the spirit and letter of existing US law on access to presidential papers as clearly laid down in 44 USC. 2201-07," and adding that the order "potentially threatens to undermine one of the very foundations of our nation." Executive Order 13233 was later revoked by President Obama.[6] The text of Executive orders appears in the daily [Federal Register](#) as each Executive order is signed by the President and received by the Office of the Federal Register. The text of Executive orders beginning with Executive Order 7316 of March 13, 1936, also appears in the sequential editions of Title 3 of the [Code of Federal Regulations](#) (CFR). Congress may overturn an executive order by passing legislation in conflict with it or by refusing to approve funding to enforce it. In the former, the president

retains the power to veto such a decision; however, the Congress may override a veto with a two-thirds majority to end an executive order. It has been argued that a Congressional override of an executive order is a nearly impossible event due to the supermajority vote required and the fact that such a vote leaves individual lawmakers very vulnerable to political criticism.

NOTE: The total number of Executive orders issued for each administration includes number-and-letter designated orders, such as 9577-A, 9616-A, etc.

<http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/executive-orders/>

⁶²⁹ **Executive Order 8802**

Reaffirming Policy of Full Participation in the Defense Program by All Persons, Regardless of Race, Creed, Color, or National Origin, and Directing Certain Action in Furtherance of Said Policy

- Signed: June 25, 1941
- Federal Register page and date: 6 FR 3109, June 27, 1941
- Amended by: [EO 8823](#), July 18, 1941; [EO 9111](#), March 25, 1942; [EO 9346](#), May 27, 1943; [EO 9664](#), December 18, 1945

⁶³⁰ **Executive Order 11246**

Equal Employment Opportunity

- Signed: September 24, 1965
- Federal Register page and date: 30 FR 12319; September 28, 1965
- Supersedes: [EO 10590](#), Jan 18, 1955; [EO 10722](#), August 5, 1957; [EO 10925](#), March 6, 1961; [EO 11114](#), June 22, 1963; [EO 11162](#), July 28, 1964
- Amended by: [EO 11375](#), October 13 1967; [EO 11478](#), August 8, 1969; [EO 12086](#), October 5, 1978; [EO 12107](#), December 28, 1978; [EO 13279](#), December 12, 2002
- Superseded in part by [EO 11478](#), August 8, 1969
- See: EPA regulation FRL366-8, 40 20239; Final Rule of August 12, 1997 (62 FR 44174)

⁶³¹ Representative Bobby Scott – US House of Representatives – Charitable Choice, BobbyScott.House.gov,
http://www.bobbyscott.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=295

⁶³² The National Archives – Executive Order 11246, Archives.gov,
<http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/codification/executive-order/11246.html>

⁶³³ Public Law 104-193 by the 104th Congress, Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, GPO.gov,
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-104hr3734enr/pdf/BILLS-104hr3734enr.pdf>

⁶³⁴ Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, White House Office of; establishment:
[EO 13199](#)

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Faith-based and community organizations; equal treatment in relations with Federal agencies: [EO 13279](#), [EO 13280](#)

⁶³⁵ **[Executive Order 13199](#)**

Establishment of White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

- Signed: January 29, 2001
- Federal Register page and date: 66 FR 8499, January 31, 2001
- Amended by: [EO 13498](#), February 5, 2009
- See: [EO 13559](#), November 17, 2010

⁶³⁶ The American Presidency Project, Executive Order 13199 - Establishment of White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, January 29, 2001 George W. Bush: Executive Order 13199 - Establishment of White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, Presidency.UCSB.edu, <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=61481#ixzz1O9GoFeMt>

<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=61481#axzz1O9Gapz6U>

⁶³⁷ **[Executive Order 13279](#)**

Equal Protection of the Laws for Faith-Based and Community Organizations

- Signed: December 12, 2002
- Federal Register page and date: 67 FR 77141, December 16, 2002
- Amends: [EO 11246](#), September 24, 1965
- Amended by: [EO 13403](#), May 12, 2006; [EO 13559](#), November 17, 2010

⁶³⁸ Executive Order: Equal Protection of the Laws for Faith-based and Community Organizations, GeorgeWBush-WhiteHouse.Archives.gov, <http://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2002/12/20021212-6.html>

⁶³⁹ President Bush's Executive Order 13279, Scribd.com, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/42977365/Obama-Executive-Order>

⁶⁴⁰ **[Executive Order 13280](#)**

Responsibilities of the Department of Agriculture and the Agency for International Development With Respect to Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

- Signed: December 12, 2002
- Federal Register page and date: 67 FR 77145, December 16, 2002

⁶⁴¹ **[Executive Order 13342](#)**

Responsibility of the Departments of Commerce and Veterans Affairs and the Small Business Administration With Respect to Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

- Signed: June 1, 2004
- Federal Register page and date: 69 FR 31509, June 3, 2004

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⁶⁴² **Executive Order 13397**

Responsibilities of the Department of Homeland Security With Respect to Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

- Signed: March 7, 2006
- Federal Register page and date: 71 FR 12275, March 9, 2006

⁶⁴³ President Bush's Executive Order 13279—Equal Protection of the Laws for Faith-Based and Community Organizations, Executive Order 13280—Responsibilities of the Department of Agriculture and the Agency for International Development With Respect to Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, EDocket.Access.gpo.gov, <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2002/pdf/02-31831.pdf>

⁶⁴⁴ HR 1054, Hearing 109th Congress, on H.R. 1054, Authorizing Presidential Vision: Making permanent the efforts of the Faith-based and Community Initiative. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CHRG-109hhrg23829/html/CHRG-109hhrg23829.htm>

⁶⁴⁵ HR 1054 from the 109th Congress was on 3/2/2005 referred to the House Committee on Government Reform - The Tools for Community Initiatives Act. Representative Mark Green's (R-WI) bill "would make the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives...and ten similar federal agency offices a permanent part of the federal government," according to the Web site of OMB Watch. The bill would "establish the offices and outlines their responsibilities. It does not include portions of current regulations that address how religious groups handle federal grants and did not address the issue of hiring on the basis of religion for federally funded jobs." Stanley W. Carlson-Thies, an original staff member of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives who is currently the Director of Social Policy Studies at The Center for Public Justice, testified in favor of the bill. The Center for Public Justice, which describes itself as "an independent organization for policy research and civic education, whose mission is to equip citizens, develop leaders, and shape policy," has and is a "subcontractor on several projects funded by the federal government," Carlson-Thies acknowledged. The Center has provided "research and technical assistance products for the HHS [Health and Human services] Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, and training and technical assistance to state commissions and other partners of the Corporation for National and Community Service." He also pointed out that he "also provided research and technical assistance on faith-based policy issues on contract to several states."

<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d109:H.R.1054:>

⁶⁴⁶ Wright, David. 2009. "Taking Stock: The Bush Faith-Based Initiative and What Lies Ahead," *Religion and Social Policy*, June 2009, ReligionAndSocialPolicy.org, http://www.religionandsocialpolicy.org/final_report/full_report_060809.pdf.

⁶⁴⁷ Faith-based and neighborhood organizations; principles and policymaking criteria for partnerships: [EO 13559](#).

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⁶⁴⁸ Obama's Nov. 17, 2010 Amendment to the Bush Executive Order, WhiteHouse.gov, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2010/11/17/executive-order-fundamental-principles-and-policy-making-criteria-partner>.

⁶⁴⁹ Partnerships for the Common Good, A partnership guide for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships, HHS.gov, http://www.hhs.gov/partnerships/resources/partnerships_toolkit.pdf.

⁶⁵⁰ McGinnis, Michael D., Forum on Public Policy, Religion Policy and the Faith-Based Initiative: Navigating the Shifting Boundaries between Church and State Michael D. McGinnis, Professor, Department of Political Science and Director, Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, Indiana University, Bloomington ForumPublicPolicy.com, <http://forumonpublicpolicy.com/Vol2010.no4/archive.vol2010.no4/mcginnis.pdf>.

⁶⁵¹ Birkey, Andy, "State funding for Minnesota Teen Challenge questioned," *Minnesota Independent*, January 18, 2010 2:52 pm Minnesota Teen Challenge describes itself as a "para-church" ministry that completes the "spiritual restoration" of Minnesotans dealing with drug addiction, yet over the last seven years it's received more than \$10 million in government funds — and twice the Minnesota Legislature has singled the program out for a raise. The arrangement raises questions about the constitutional separation of church and state, and some experts say the state has overstepped its bounds in contracting with Teen Challenge. MinnesotaIndependent.com, <http://minnesotaindependent.com/52630/state-funding-for-minnesota-teen-challenge-questioned>.

⁶⁵² Travis County Commissioners , Texas, Court Agenda, 2/15/2005, Co.Travis.TX.US, http://www.co.travis.tx.us/commissioners_court/agendas/2005/02/text/vs050215a2.asp.

⁶⁵³ Dog Emperor, "Teen Challenge: A typical week in the 'Jesus Gulag'" *Daily Kos*, April 28, 2008 at 02:04 PM DailyKos.com, <http://www.dailykos.com/story/2008/4/28/17428/8172/453/503981>.

⁶⁵⁴ The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, UN.org, <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml#atop>.

⁶⁵⁵ Dog Emperor, "Teen Challenge: The depths of coercion at a 'God Warrior' training camp'," DailyKos.com, <http://www.dailykos.com/story/2008/05/01/505299/-Teen-Challenge:-The-depths-of-coercion-at-a-God-Warrior-training-camp>.

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⁶⁵⁶ Dog Emperor, Teen Challenge Cult blogspot "Investigating Teen Challenge," TeenChallengeCult.blogspot.com, <http://teenchallengecult.blogspot.com/2008/05/daily-kos-dogemperor-teen-challenge.html>.

⁶⁵⁷ "Faith in Action, A New Vision for Church-State Cooperation in Texas," Governor's Advisory Task Force on Faith-Based Community Service Groups, Full Report, December, 1996. Introduction, p. v.

⁶⁵⁸ "Placements from DHS Adult Shelters and Programs, Fiscal Year 1996 to June 30, 1996," New York City Department of Homeless Services, September 26 1998 - summary, p.6.

⁶⁵⁹ Carl Chrisner: quotation from speech, from Ethics and Public Policy Center-sponsored symposium, 2-5-99 telecast on C-SPAN.

⁶⁶⁰ National Institute on Drug Abuse, Services Research Report, "An Evaluation of the Teen Challenge Treatment Program," US Dept. of HEW, DHEW Publication No. (ADM) 77-425, Printed 1977.

⁶⁶¹ *The Bell Curve: Intelligence and Class Structure in American Life*, by Richard J. Herrnstein and Charles Murray, copyright 1995 by Charles Murray, Free Press Paperbacks, New York, NY. Simon and Schuster Inc.

⁶⁶² George Bama, "The Second Coming of the Church," Word Publishing, 1998, p.6.

⁶⁶³ Dog Emperor, "Teen Challenge: The depths of coercion at a "God Warrior" training camp," *Daily Kos*, DailyKos.com, <http://www.dailykos.com/story/2008/05/01/505299/-Teen-Challenge:-The-depths-of-coercion-at-a-God-Warrior-training-camp>.

⁶⁶⁴ South Coast Today - Bristol County, Massachusetts has apparently used county property to house a Teen Challenge program used as alternative sentencing. A defiant Bristol County Sheriff Thomas Hodgson says its "absurd" to complain that an overtly Christian after-prison rehabilitation program using a county-owned building on Cherry Street is violating the separation of church and state. SouthCoastToday.com, <http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070510/NEWS/705100414>.

⁶⁶⁵ Teen Challenge Application Form <http://www.saintlouistc.org/pdf/stltc-application.pdf>.

⁶⁶⁶ Teen Challenge Minnesota – form limiting liability, MNTC.org, <http://www.mntc.org/teenagers>.

⁶⁶⁷ Teen Challenge Minnesota Indemnity Form, MNTC.org,
<http://www.mntc.org/uploads/pdfs/Applications/Life%20Care%20Teen%20Application.pdf>.

⁶⁶⁸ Dog Emperor, DailyKos.com,
<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2008/4/26/17250/8747/930/503496>.

⁶⁶⁹ Dog Emperor, DailyKos.com,
<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2008/4/27/171937/973>.

⁶⁷⁰ Dog Emperor, DailyKos.com,
<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2008/4/28/17428/8172/453/503981>.

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<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2008/4/29/165243/571/427/504015>.

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<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2008/4/30/1712/32864/374/504060>,

⁶⁷³ Dog Emperor, DailyKos.com,
<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2008/5/1/164418/2864>.

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<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2008/5/2/17850/21034>.

⁶⁷⁵ Dog Emperor, DailyKos.com
<http://www.dailykos.com/storyonly/2008/5/3/17742/55658>.

⁶⁷⁶ Dog Emperor, DailyKos.com,
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<http://teenchallengecult.blogspot.com/>.

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⁷⁰⁰ Freedom from Religion, *Hein v. FFRF*. <http://www.ffrf.org/legal/challenges/the-hein-decision-ffrf-sues-over-bushs-offices-of-faith-based-initiatives/> In June 2004, the Freedom From Religion Foundation filed the first lawsuit to challenge the creation of the White House Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives, as well as eight Cabinet-level "offices of faith-based initiatives." The Foundation alleged that conferences arranged by the White House office resemble revival

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meetings, and demonstrate government preference for funding religious social service agencies. The lawsuit alleged that the Departments of Education, Labor, Justice, and Health and Human Services have shown preference in funding religious organizations, and that many intermediary groups receiving federal funding do likewise. The case is the Freedom From Religion Foundation v. Jim Towney, et al., 04 C 03981, U.S. District Court, Western District of Wisconsin, Judge John Shabaz.

U.S. District Court Judge John C. Shabaz, ruled on Nov. 12, 2004, that taxpayers do not have standing to challenge executive branch officials who engage in constitutionally suspect activities funded by general Congressional budget appropriations. Bush created the faith-based initiative by executive order. Shabaz permitted the rest of the lawsuit to continue, which included the Foundation's challenge of federal funding of MentorKids USA and to Emory University "to support faith-based community health programs."

On March 9, 2005, the Foundation asked the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit to reinstate its legal challenge of the creation of the White House and other federal "faith-based" offices. On Jan. 13, 2006, a 7th Circuit panel, in a 2-1 decision, reinstated the Foundation's challenge, finding that taxpayers have a right under Art. III of the Constitution to sue over a violation of the First Amendment Establishment Clause, even if Congress did not specifically earmark money for the challenged program or activity.

"Taxpayers have standing to challenge an executive-branch program, alleged to promote religion, that is financed by a Congressional appropriation, even if the program was created entirely within the executive branch, as by presidential executive order," wrote Judge Richard A. Posner, joined by Judge Diane P. Wood.

The 11-member panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit in Chicago voted 7-4 not to rehear the question of standing in the Freedom From Religion Foundation's federal lawsuit challenging creation of federal faith-based offices. This technical victory for the Foundation allowed the lawsuit to continue.

The Administration appealed the Foundation's right to sue to the highest court. The U.S. Supreme Court, on Dec. 1, 2006, agreed to hear the Bush Administration's appeal of the reinstatement of taxpayer standing for the Foundation plaintiffs. Oral arguments were held on Feb. 28, 2007. At issue was whether the Foundation's taxpayer plaintiffs--co-presidents Dan Barker and Annie Laurie Gaylor, along with FFRF president emerita Anne Nicol Gaylor--have standing to sue over the creation of the faith-based offices. The Foundation notes that two of the three Supreme Court cases on the question of taxpayer standing to sue the executive branch over actions which violate the Establishment clause are in its favor. The case is now titled *Hein v. Freedom From Religion Foundation*.

The Supreme Court decision came down on June 25, 2007. Although FFRF lost its right to sue the executive branch over the creation of faith-based offices at the White House and Cabinets in *Hein v. FFRF*, FFRF did win the plurality opinion, as

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The Los Angeles Times pointed out. FFRF had 4 justices solidly in their camp, whereas the bloc of 5 Roman Catholic judges against us-Roberts, Alito, Scalia, Thomas and Kennedy-was divided. Although Kennedy, the swing vote, defected to the majority on FFRF's right to sue, he refused to vote to outright overturn the precedent of *Flast v. Cohen*, which permits taxpayers to sue over Congressional actions which violate the separation of church and state. The *Hein* decision says federal taxpayers do not have the right to challenge executive branch violations not explicitly authorized by the legislative branch. The unjust decision means our country has a constitutional separation between church and state, but no way to enforce it in this and many other instances. The punchy dissent, written by Justice Souter and signed by Justices Ginsburg, Breyer, and Stevens, noted: "If the Executive could accomplish through the exercise of discretion exactly what Congress cannot do through legislation, Establishment Clause protection would melt away." The Establishment Clause is in for a rough ride in the Roberts Court.

Original Complaint

- [Hein v. FFRF complaint](#)

Background Information on Hein v. FFRF

- [Read Supreme Court Decision](#) (pdf)
- [Read the dissenting opinion](#) (pdf)
- [FFRF Brief to the U.S. Supreme Court](#) (pdf)
- [Supreme Court oral argument transcript](#) (pdf)
- [7th Circuit decision](#) (pdf)

Amicus Briefs in Support of FFRF

- [Americans United with the ACLU, Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, People for the American Way and Anti-Defamation League amicus brief](#) (PDF)
- [Center for Free Inquiry/Center for Secular Humanism amicus brief](#) (pdf)
- [American Atheists amicus brief](#) (pdf)
- [Historians and Legal Scholars amicus brief](#) (pdf)
- [American Jewish Congress & American Jewish Committee friend of the court brief](#) (pdf)

News Releases

- [Supreme Court Faith-based Case Briefed; Oral Arguments Feb. 28, February 2, 2007](#)
- [Supreme Court Accepts *Hein v. Freedom From Religion Foundation*, December 4, 2006](#)

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- [White House Faith-based Office Challenge Headed to Supreme Court?, May 4, 2006](#)
- [Chicago Appeals Court Upholds FFRF's Right to Sue over Federal Faith-based Office, January 16, 2006](#)
- [Landmark Decision: Health & Human Services Ordered to "Vacate" Faith-based Funding of MentorKids USA, Jan. 15, 2005](#)
- [U.S. District Court Ruling, Jan. 11, 2005](#)
- [Watchdog Freedom From Religion Foundation Challenges HHS Faith-based Grant to Emory University, Jan. 3, 2005](#)
- [Health & Human Services Suspends Funds to Faith-based Mentoring Group Being Sued by Watchdog Foundation, Dec. 20, 2004](#)
- [Freethought Watchdog Group Sues over HHS Funding of Arizona Faith-based Mentoring Program in First-of-its-Kind Legal Challenge, Nov. 26, 2004](#)
- [Freethought Watchdog Group Takes First Challenge of White House & Cabinet Faith-Based Offices, June 17, 2004](#)

Cert Documents

- [Brief in Opposition \(PDF\)](#)
- [Hein Reply Brief \(PDF\)](#)
- [Answer Opposing Petition on Rehearing \(PDF\)](#)
- [Reply Brief of Appellants \(PDF\)](#)
- [Appellants' Brief \(PDF\)](#)
- [Reply Brief for the Petitioners \(PDF\)](#)
- [Petition for a Writ of Certiorari \(Petitioners\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [Amicus brief by Indiana and 11 other states in Hein v. FFRF \(PDF\)](#)
- [Brief Amicus Curiae of the Christian Legal Society in Support of Petitioners \(PDF\)](#)
- [ACLU Urges Supreme Court to End Special Privileges for Church-State Separationist Taxpayer Plaintiffs](#)

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⁷⁰² "Faith Based Changes come from within a Texas Prison," *NP Times*, NPTimes.com, <http://www.nptimes.com/Feb02/npt2.html>.

⁷⁰³ *Chicago Tribune* 3/29/10 ChicagoTribune.com, <http://www.chicagotribune.com/classified/jobs/ct-met-world-relief-20100531,0,5426879.story>.

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⁷⁰⁷ Wallbuilders.com, "David Barton Biography," <http://www.wallbuilders.com/aboutus/bio/index.htm>.

⁷⁰⁸ Wallbuilders, www.wallbuilders.com/ In the Old Testament book of Nehemiah, the nation of Israel rallied together in a grassroots movement to help rebuild the walls of Jerusalem and thus restore stability, safety, and a promising future to that great city. We have chosen this historical concept of "rebuilding the walls" to represent allegorically the call for citizen involvement in rebuilding our nation's foundations. As Psalm 11:3 reminds us, "If the foundations be destroyed, what shall the righteous do?" The WallBuilders' goal is to exert a direct and positive influence in government, education, and the family by (1) educating the nation concerning the Godly foundation of our country; (2) providing information to federal, state, and local officials as they develop public policies which reflect Biblical values; and (3) encouraging Christians to be involved in the civic arena.

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⁷¹¹ Rob Boston, "Sects, Lies and Videotape," *Church & State*, Volume 46, No. 4, April 1993, pp 8-12.

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⁷¹³ Texas Freedom Network Education Foundation, "The Anatomy of Power: Texas and the Religious Right in 2006," p.16.

⁷¹⁴ [*McCullum v. Board of Education Dist. 71*](#), 333 U.S. 203 (1948). The court finds religious instruction in public schools a violation of the establishment clause and therefore unconstitutional.

[*Burstyn v. Wilson*](#), 72 S. Ct. 777 (1952) Government may not censor a motion picture because it is offensive to religious beliefs.

[*Torcaso v. Watkins*](#), 367 U.S. 488 (1961) The court holds that the state of Maryland cannot require applicants for public office to swear that they believed in the existence of God. The court unanimously rules that a religious test violates the Establishment Clause.

[*Engel v. Vitale*](#), 82 S. Ct. 1261 (1962) Any kind of prayer, composed by public school districts, even nondenominational prayer, is unconstitutional government sponsorship of religion.

[*Abington School District v. Schempp*](#), 374 U.S. 203 (1963) The court finds Bible reading over school intercom unconstitutional and *Murray v. Curlett*, 374 U.S. 203 (1963) - Court finds forcing a child to participate in Bible reading and prayer unconstitutional.

[*Epperson v. Arkansas*](#), 89 S. Ct. 266 (1968) State statute banning teaching of evolution is unconstitutional. A state cannot alter any element in a course of study in order to promote a religious point of view. A state's attempt to hide behind a nonreligious motivation will not be given credence unless that state can show a secular reason as the foundation for its actions.

[*Lemon v. Kurtzman*](#), 91 S. Ct. 2105 (1971) Established the three part test for determining if an action of government violates First Amendment's separation of church and state:

- 1) the government action must have a secular purpose;
- 2) its primary purpose must not be to inhibit or to advance religion;
- 3) there must be no excessive entanglement between government and religion.

[*Stone v. Graham*](#), 449 U.S. 39 (1980) The court finds posting of the Ten Commandments in schools unconstitutional.

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[Wallace v. Jaffree](#), 105 S. Ct. 2479 (1985) State's moment of silence at public school statute is unconstitutional where legislative record reveals that motivation for statute was the encouragement of prayer. Court majority silent on whether "pure" moment of silence scheme, with no bias in favor of prayer or any other mental process, would be constitutional.

[Edwards v. Aquillard](#), 107 S. Ct. 2573 (1987) Unconstitutional for state to require teaching of "creation science" in all instances in which evolution is taught. Statute had a clear religious motivation.

[Allegheny County v. ACLU](#), 492 U.S. 573 (1989) The court finds that a nativity scene displayed inside a government building violates the Establishment Clause.

[Lee v. Weisman](#), 112 S. Ct. 2649 (1992) Unconstitutional for a school district to provide any clergy to perform nondenominational prayer at elementary or secondary school graduation. It involves government sponsorship of worship. Court majority was particularly concerned about psychological coercion to which children, as opposed to adults, would be subjected, by having prayers that may violate their beliefs recited at their graduation ceremonies.

[Church of Lukumi Babalu Aye, Inc. v. Hialeah](#), 113 S. Ct. 2217 (1993) City's ban on killing animals for religious sacrifices, while allowing sport killing and hunting, was unconstitutional discrimination against the Santeria religion.

⁷¹⁵ Walker, J Brent, "A Critique of David Barton's Views on Church and State," Baptist Joint Committee on Religious Liberty, BJConline, Friday, 01 April 2005, http://www.bjconline.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2377&Itemid=110.

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⁷¹⁷ Deborah Caldwell, "David Barton & the 'Myth' of Church-State Separation," Beliefnet.com, http://www.beliefnet.com/story/154/story_15469_1.html

⁷¹⁸ Arlen Specter, "Defending the Wall: Maintaining Church/State Separation in America," *The Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy*, Spring 1995, Vol. 18, Issue 2, In 1995. Republican Senator Arlen Specter wrote in the *Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy* that many of Barton's arguments "range from the technical to the absurd" and that they "proceed from flawed and highly selective readings of both text and history." Specter went on to state that Barton's "pseudoscholarship would hardly be worth discussing, let alone disproving, were it not for the fact that it is taken so very seriously by so many people."

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⁷¹⁹ Milbank, Dana, "Bush, Salvation Army discussing deal to let group avoid hiring gays," *Seattle Times*, July 10, 2001, <http://community.seattletimes.nwsources.com/archive/?date=20010710&slug=faith10>.

⁷²⁰ Jews on First - Separation of Church and State in Prison Programs, JewsOnFirst.org, http://www.jewsonfirst.org/sep_prisons.aspx, <http://www.au.org/what-we-do/lawsuits/archives/americans-united-v-prison.html>, <http://www.ca8.uscourts.gov/opndir/07/12/062741P.pdf>.

⁷²¹ Luchenitser, Alex J., *Ave Maria Law Review* Vol. 6:2 pp. 445-476.

⁷²² UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION complaint brought by DOROTHY MANLEY, KEN MISCHKA, and JUDY MISCHKA, Plaintiffs, V. LISA BJERGAARD, DANIEL P. RICHTER, and THE DAKOTA BOYS & GIRLS RANCH, INC., 18th day of June, 2007 A copy of the original complaint, detailing the allegations concerning religious activities at DBGR, can be found here: <http://ffrf.org/news/2007/FFRFvDakota.PDF> and update http://www.religionandsocialpolicy.org/legal/legal_update_display.cfm?id=61 (published July 10, 2007).

⁷²³ The decision is thus remarkably similar to that of the U.S. District Court for the District of Kentucky in *Pedreira v. Kentucky Baptist Group Homes, Inc.*, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 25725 (March 28, 2008, ReligionAndSocialPolicy.org, http://www.religionandsocialpolicy.org/legal/legal_update_display.cfm?id=65 The *Pedreira* decision also involves, among other issues, public funding of religiously affiliated group homes for children. Judge Hovland did not cite the district court opinion in *Pedreira*, which ordered dismissal of the complaint for lack of taxpayer standing and which is now on appeal in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit.

⁷²⁴ *Flast v. Cohen* 392 U.S. 83 (1968) and *Bowen v. Kendrick*, 487 U.S. 589 (1988).

⁷²⁵ Lupu, Ira C., and Robert W. Tuttle, "The State of the Law: A Cumulative Report on Legal Developments Affecting Government Partnerships with Faith-Based Organizations". Roundtable on Religion and Social Welfare Policy, 2008, ReligionAndSocialPolicy.org, http://www.religionandsocialpolicy.org/docs/legal/state_ofthe_law_2008.pdf.

⁷²⁶ Sharlet, Jeff (2008). *The Family: The Secret Fundamentalism at the Heart of American Power*. HarperCollins. p. 231. ISBN 978-0-06-055979-3.

⁷²⁷ Sharlet, Jeff, *The Family: The Secret Fundamentalism at the Heart of American Power*, published in 2008 by HarperCollins. The book investigates the political power of The Family or The Fellowship, a secretive fundamentalist Christian association led by Douglas Coe.

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⁷²⁸ In October 2002, Tommy Thompson, then-head of the Department of Health and Human Services, awarded a \$500,000 Compassion Capital Fund grant to Robertson's Operation Blessing International. Now "the federal government has become a major source of money for Operation Blessing ... In two years, the group's annual revenue from government grants has ballooned from \$108,000 to \$14.4 million," the *Virginian-Pilot's* Bill Sizemore recently reported. Robertson's "700 Club" is broadcast daily in most U.S. TV markets via the ABC Family and Trinity Broadcasting networks. Robertson's Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) claimed that the program is viewed daily by one million people. Through the faith-based initiative, "the biggest chunk of federal aid" Operation Blessing receives comes from surplus nonfat dry milk distributed by the Department of Agriculture. Operation Blessing has received \$22.7 million over two years.

⁷²⁹ Clarkson, Frederick. 2005. "The Rise of Dominionism: Remaking America as a Christian Nation." *The Public Eye magazine*, Vol. 19, No. 3, (Winter), PublicEye.org, http://www.publiceye.org/magazine/v19n3/clarkson_dominionism.html.

⁷³⁰ Sandlin, Andrew, "A Reconstructionist Manifesto," (1998). Forerunner.com, http://forerunner.com/puritan/PS.Recon_Manifesto.html.

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⁷³² Diamond, Sara. 1995. "Dominion Theology." *Z Magazine*, February 1995.

⁷³³ "The Rise of the Religious Right in the Republican Party," [TheocracyWatch](http://www.theocracywatch.org/), Last updated: December 2005. TheocracyWatch.org, <http://www.theocracywatch.org/>.

⁷³⁴ Taking Over the Republican Party, TheocracyWatch.org, http://www.theocracywatch.org/taking_over.htm.

⁷³⁵ "\$14 Million In Federal Faith-Based Money Goes To Pat Robertson," *Covenant NewsWire*, January 28, 2006, CovenantNews.com, <http://www.covenantnews.com/newswire/archives/050528.html>.
Media Transparency
<http://www.mediatransparency.org/story.php?storyID=108>.

⁷³⁶ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Mandatory Reporters of Child Abuse and Neglect: Summary of State Laws, Child Welfare Information Gateway, April 2010, http://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws_policies/statutes/manda.cfm.

⁷³⁷ RAINN - (Rape Abuse and Incest National Network) RAINN, 2000 L Street NW, Suite 406, Washington, DC 20036, phone: +1- 202-544-1034, info@rainn.org, 1.800.656.HOPE(4673), CFC#10488, RAINN State-by-state information about these so-called mandatory reporting laws, including who is required to report,

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standards of knowledge, definitions of a victim, to whom the report must be made, information required in the report, and regulations regarding timing and other procedures. Rachel Gandell, RAINN's Policy Manager, at rachelg@rainn.org. <http://www.rainn.org/public-policy/legal-resources/mandatory-reporting-database>.

⁷³⁸ Sophocles and *The Shawshank Redemption*, quoted in a prepared speech by Scott Bloch but never presented because award was never presented, "OSC Names Recipient of 2006 Public Servant Award, Whistleblower Leroy Smith Made Key Disclosures About Lack of Safety at Federal Prisons," press release from the U.S. Office of Special Counsel, 1730 M Street, N.W., Suite 218, Washington, D.C. 20036-4505 September 7, 2006, Press contact: Loren Smith, 202-254-3714, lsmith@osc.gov http://www.osc.gov/documents/press/2006/pr06_16.htm.

⁷³⁹ Schulman, Daniel, "Office of Special Counsel's War On Whistleblowers" April 24, 2007, *Mother Jones*, [Daniel Schulman](http://motherjones.com/politics/2007/04/office-special-counsels-war-whistleblowers) is Mother Jones' Washington-based senior editor, [dschulman \(at\) motherjones.com](mailto:dschulman@motherjones.com), <http://motherjones.com/politics/2007/04/office-special-counsels-war-whistleblowers>. It looked as if Leroy Smith was going to get recognition as a whistleblower. "A safety manager at a federal prison in California, he had challenged his bosses, risked his job, and endured threats of retaliation to expose hazardous conditions in a prison computer recycling program where inmates were smashing monitors with hammers, unleashing clouds of toxic metals. Now the federal government was flying him to Washington, D.C., as a whistleblowing hero. The Office of Special Counsel (OSC), the federal agency charged with protecting government employees who expose waste, fraud, and abuse, had scheduled a catered event honoring Smith as "Public Servant of the Year." The office's director, Scott Bloch, had prepared a flowery speech that was later posted on the agency's website, referencing Sophocles and *The Shawshank Redemption*: "In the end, Morgan Freeman's character truly becomes what his name implies—a Free man," it read. "One person can root out corruption and abuse of power. Once he understands this, he is redeemed and can break out of the trap of fear, and break free into the light of integrity and justice. That is the effect of seeing a brave whistleblower stand up and win; it inspires the rest of us." Only Bloch never delivered that speech. Just minutes before the September 7 ceremony was to begin, Smith received word that the event was off because a relative of an OSC staffer had died. It seemed "kind of fishy" to Smith; indeed, an OSC source told me the excuse was so transparent as to be "ludicrous." The real problem, the source said, was that Bloch—a Bush appointee who, employees say, shares his boss' antipathy for dissent—had learned that Smith was planning to speak at a press conference sponsored by the whistleblower group Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (peer), a persistent critic of the OSC. The peer event went forward as planned, and at it Smith told the press that he felt the OSC "bears some examination." True, he had been vindicated, but many of his colleagues who'd made similar disclosures had been ignored, and the prison conditions had not changed. "I cannot help but feel that my experience is a beacon of false hope for public servants who are trying to correct wrongdoing," he said.

Abuse and Neglect in U.S.A. Residential Treatment Centers

⁷⁴⁰ Alan Hicks was former Headmaster, St. Gregory's Academy, RR 8, Box 8214, Moscow, Pa., 18444, St. Gregory's Academy 100 Griffin Road Moscow PA 18444. Information taken from: The June 26, 1994 issue of *The Wanderer*, 201 Ohio Street, St. Paul, MN 55107.

⁷⁴¹ Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) is a national non-profit alliance of local, state and federal scientists, and law enforcement officers. PEER Executive Director Jeff Ruch, Phone: (202) 265-7337 Fax: (202) 265-4192 Email: info[at]peer.org, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) is a national alliance of local state and federal resource professionals. Public employees are a unique force working for environmental enforcement. In the ever-changing tide of political leadership, these front-line employees stand as defenders of the public interest within their agencies and as the first line of defense against the exploitation and pollution of our environment. PEER works nation-wide with government scientists, land managers, environmental law enforcement agents, field specialists and other resource professionals committed to responsible management of America's public resources. Resource employees in government agencies have unique responsibilities as stewards of the environment. PEER.org, www.peer.org/.

⁷⁴² Dr. Jeffrey M. Bond, President, College of St. Justin Martyr, 142 Market Road, Greeley, PA 18425, SaintJustinMartyr.org, www.SaintJustinMartyr.org.

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⁷⁴⁷ Southwest Indian Foundation, 100 West Coal Avenue, Gallup, NM 87301.

⁷⁴⁸ American Institute of Philanthropy Charity Rating Guide & Watchdog Report American Institute of Philanthropy, P.O. Box 578460, Chicago, IL 60657 Phone: (773) 529-2300, Fax: (773) 529-0024 CharityWatch.org, <http://www.charitywatch.org/ratingguide.html> www.charitywatch.org/.

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⁷⁵⁰ Fisher, G. Richard, Trinity Fi Org Press "Finances, Fraud, and False Teaching in the Troubled History of Don Stewart," TrinityFi.org, <http://www.trinityfi.org/press/donstewart.html>.

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⁷⁵² "Attorney general reviewing charities' practices," KSWT-TV, May 10, 2009, KSWT.com, http://www.kswt.com/Global/story.asp?S=10335560&nav=menu613_2_6.

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