

W.I.N.G.S. FOR TRUTH



Working to INform, Guide & Support

Those who have been sexually abused within the Truth Fellowship

On May 30th 2008, Ray Hoffman (overseer of Texas) distributed a letter to all members of the Truth Fellowship in Texas. The Texas friends were divided into three categories of recipients:

- 1) Some letters were posted via USPS mail
- 2) Some letters were hand delivered
- 3) For unknown reasons some friends were not notified or received a letter at all

The letter stated that two Texas workers, Ira Hobbs and Americo Quispe, are under investigation by law concerning Child Sexual Abuse. The letter also included an attachment titled 'Information on Child Sex Molesters', and an address for a web site which concerns CSA issues.

Ray is to be commended for taking the initiative to notify all the friends in Texas concerning these abuse issues involving workers in his field, and for the openness and honesty portrayed in his letter. This action (as stated in Ray's letter) will also "end the speculation and rumors" regarding why Ira Hobbs and Americo Quispe are no longer in the work.

This makes the third time in less than a year that a letter has been sent out to the friends in an entire state by an overseer, openly and honestly dealing with the issue of child molestation by workers in their field. It shows a willingness on the part of overseers to deal openly, honestly and lawfully with the issue of Child Sexual Abuse when it is brought to the overseers' attention. Ray also pointed out that if anyone suspects that their children were abused that they should contact the authorities before contacting him.

The WINGS group wholeheartedly endorses the letter sent by Ray, and wishes to thank him on behalf of all those professing folks who have contacted us concerning the issue of CSA, and also on behalf of those who have shared their stories of abuse by Ira Hobbs.

WINGS is willing to help out in any way we can in dealing with the issues regarding CSA.

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Dear Friends,

May 30, 2008

I deeply regret writing this type of letter to you, many of whom I haven't met yet, but it seems necessary to do so considering the serious nature of what I am about to write.

There has been an investigation by the authorities into what is termed child sexual abuse on the part of Americo Quispe when he was laboring here in Texas. This is a crime punishable by imprisonment if the perpetrator is found guilty. We are complying with the law in asking you to report to the local authorities any suspicious activity on the part of Americo or for that matter any worker, friend, family member or anyone that may have had contact with children in your care. I would also ask you to contact me that I could help in assisting them in the investigation.

Americo had spent time in many homes that had children and these alleged crimes could have taken place during what may have seemed to be innocent play to a child. If your child was molested he or she may be confused and often are made to feel it is their fault, and are embarrassed to talk about it. It is very important upon receiving this letter that you have a conversation with your child to determine if inappropriate sexual conduct took place. How you approach your child will have a great affect on them. Please be gentle and patient and accepting to what they tell you, and do not show anger or make them feel guilty as it is not their fault.

This response we are asking you to make is very important not only that justice could be served by the law but that also victims could receive professional counseling because this kind of abuse often leaves emotional, mental, and spiritual scars that can plague the victims for many years to come. Americo has been dismissed from his place in the work. We feel for all involved and hope reconciliation can occur that will restore peace and help heal those wounded by his actions.

Another matter needs to be discussed now. Many would know that Ira Hobbs is resting at his brother's place in VA. The following is to give a brief explanation to end the speculation and rumors as to why he is there and no longer to be active in the work. Recently there has been a case of child abuse in another state and Ira's name was among those that were accused. Though the investigation is ongoing and Ira's guilt is in question, the officer investigating the case has made an open inquiry on a website concerning Ira and asked any to come forward with any allegations against him and several have responded. Most all these cases are concerning incidents of some time ago. And while we are not wanting to bring up a man's past, we are disturbed because it is an unresolved past. He has not admitted to any of the allegations except one and that only in part. There are too many allegations to be dismissed or disbelieved. He is being urged to seek psychiatric care for this so that he could come to recognize what took place so often and hurt so many who for the most part are still hurting because of his lack of admission of guilt.

We very much appreciate Ira's guidance and help in every way the past 10 years in Texas. He has sought the Lord diligently and faithfully for your care. I have appreciated his help this year in getting me adjusted to the responsibilities here in Texas. The things that we have felt needful to discuss here is in no way to take away from all the good that Ira has done, nor of Americo. But it is an attempt to be open and honest with these things that are so painful to talk about yet have become needful just the same. May we learn to pray for these men that there could be restoration and as we mentioned, that there could be healing for all that were hurt and for the many still hurting.

The Lord is on the throne and will bring the hidden things to light so He can cleanse His Kingdom. Jesus spoke to the Samaritan woman at the well that "the water I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." This well is translated as a spring and it has an eternal source, and because it is a spring it will be forever cleansing us that His Kingdom will be pure. Malachi 3:3 also speaks of a cleansing the Lord will do to His ministry for His Kingdom "and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver..."

Romans 13:1 "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers...Whosoever resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God...For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil...For he is the minister of God to thee for good..." These words were not written to strangers but to God's people letting them know we are not exempt from the law and we must comply.

Feel free to contact me. Your brother in Christ, Ray Hoffmann Phone cell [REDACTED] email: [REDACTED]

PS. There is an enclosed page giving some information on pedophilia.

Information on Child Sex Offenders

How many victims does a child molester average?

Interviews guaranteeing complete confidentiality and immunity from prosecution, conducted by Emory University psychiatrist Dr. Gene Abel*, uncovered that:

- Male offenders who abused girls had an average of 52 victims each.
- Men who molested boys had an astonishing average of 150 victims each.
- Only 3% of these crimes had ever been detected.

How do child molesters get into situations where they can exploit children?

Due to the nature of their sexual addiction, few pedophiles are able to resist their powerful urges to initiate contact with children and will go to great lengths to do so. Common strategies include:

- Befriending parents, particularly single parents, to gain access to their children.
- Offering babysitting services to overextended parents or caregivers.
- Taking jobs and participating in community events that involve children.
- Attending sporting events for children and/or offering to coach children's sports.
- Volunteering in youth organizations, offering to chaperone overnight trips.
- Loitering in places children frequent - playgrounds, malls, game arcades, etc.**
- Spending time in Internet gaming and social communities, learning the online interests and lingo of youngsters.**
- Becoming foster parents.

Wouldn't a vigilant parent be able to detect a child molester, just by their actions?

Not necessarily. Always remember:

- Pedophiles are notoriously friendly, nice, kind, engaging and likeable.
- Pedophiles target their victims, often insinuating themselves into that child's life—their family, school, house of worship, sports, and hobbies.
- Pedophiles are professional con artists and are expert at getting children and families to trust them.
- Pedophiles will smile at you, look you right in the eye and make you believe they are trustworthy.

Source: www.childluresprevention.com/research/molester.asp