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BlackSDA _ 3ABN _ Tommy Shelton Vindicated!

Posted by: Pickle Dec 30 2006, 10:27 PM

I received a personal message today here on BSDA from an individual who claimed to be a former employee of 3ABN. That message included the following:

QUOTE

... don't mention my name.

I gave no promises, but for now, I am going to respect that request.

Also:

QUOTE

Your "informant", Glenn Dryden, is not a credible source of information. ... accusations the same reason as the ones he is leveling against Tommy Shelton: JEALOUSY. Glenn Dryden is a spiteful, vindictive backstabber when someone crosses him. He has done this with numerous people over the past several years I had to threaten him with legal action myself to get him to shut his mouth.

I just wonder if this was intended to be a veiled threat against me. Hopefully not. But in light of the email sent to Dryden today and CC'ed to me by this individual, I'm just not sure. Here's what that email in its entirety said, minus the signature:

QUOTE

Let this serve as a warning. If you mention my name in any of the letters and emails you're sending to anyone in your latest attack on Tommy Shelton, you WILL regret it.

At any rate, the reason I'm bringing this up here is because this individual just might be able to give us the information we need to vindicate Tommy and clear him of all the allegations against him, and thus clear Danny in the process. Notice what he said was the reason why Dryden has cooked up these allegations against Tommy: "JEALOUSY."

Does that ring a bell? It should:

QUOTE(Walt Thompson)

----- <http://www.maritime-sda-online.org/forums/ubbthreads.php?ubb=showflat&Number=82117&page=1&part=4#Post82149> -----
 Subject: Re: Possible way to win 3ABN critics.
 Date: Mon, 27 Nov 2006 09:04:53 -0600
 From: Walt Thompson

Dear Bob,

Thank you for your attempt to understand my sensitivity and that of 3abn administratin and board.

...

Subsequently, after this issue has been brought back to the forefront ... I contacted the only person from the Church of God that I could find that knew about the situation, and who had been present and witness to the events. ... The picture that was painted by that leader of the Church was exactly as portrayed earlier by Danny. Dryden was **jealous** of Tommy and was out to get him - a **jealousy** that has continued to the present. ...

I hope this is helpful to you.

...

Sincerely,

Walt

So this individual who contacted me today just may be the unnamed individual Walt referred to above. In fact, when I asked a few folks who they thought this unnamed individual might have been, the one who wrote me was a name that was suggested.

At any rate, I responded to the personal message with the following questions:

- "I would find it very helpful to know how Dryden's alleged jealousy of Tommy got the General Assembly of the Church of God in Illinois to revoke Tommy's credentials in 1985 when Dryden still lived 800 miles away from Tommy (and did not meet him until about that time), and did so until 1993. Could you help me on that point?"
- "Can you state explicitly that you know of not one instance when Tommy engaged in inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature with a minor?"

closed with, "If you have information that could clear Tommy Shelton's name, then people need to know about it."

In reply to the email he/she CC'ed to me, I asked the following questions:

- "Were you the one Walt talked with sometime since mid-August of this year, the one who said it was all about jealousy?"
- "If so, who gave Walt your name? I found it strange that the only Church of God member/leader he could find to contact had such a different story from everyone else."
- "How did it come about that all of a sudden you wrote both me and Pastor Dryden? In other words, since you stated that you were a former 3ABN employee, did you contact us or come to BSDA at the request or suggestion of anyone presently or formerly connected with 3ABN?"

closed with: "Rest assured that if you have any credible information that would **vindicate** Tommy, I will publicize it far and wide."

The most important question is probably #3 above. <http://www.maritime-sda-online.org/forums/ubbthreads.php?ubb=showflat&Number=82082&page=1&fpart=2#Post82108> to Tommy Shelton stated:

QUOTE(Roger Clem)

Then what makes me mad is when **your brother** calls to try to scare people into not saying anything or when the church receives a letter from **Mike Riva** telling us to stop saying anything. ... I will tell you up front, if I get a letter or phone call from **your brother** or **an attorney** that in any way appears threatening, I will immediately go to the sheriff's office and file charges against you.

It is in Danny's, Tommy's, and 3ABN's best interest that they and everyone presently or formerly connected with them not be involved in any intimidation whatsoever, whether we are talking about intimidating folks posting on this board, folks in Virginia, or folks in Illinois.

Besides that, we just must know the nature of this jealousy between Dryden and Tommy that would drive Dryden to persecute so horribly someone he had just met who lived 800 miles away.

And we need to hear that Walt got the name of the individual he talked with from someone other than Danny or Tommy. Do you understand why?

We're talking about a too-late investigation this year of the Tommy Shelton child molestation allegations by Walt Thompson. Was that investigation impartial and thorough? If he never contacted the other side, never contacted any of the alleged victims or their families as invited to do so in 2003 by Dryden, if he instead only contacted a single name provided to him by Danny or Tommy, a name of someone who was extremely biased in favor of Tommy and who did not present both sides of the case to him, then the investigation was anything but impartial. And I don't know what to call that but negligence.

So there is a lot hanging on these questions. So friend who wrote me, wherever you are, feel free to post your answers here and do all you can to vindicate Tommy, Danny, Walt, and the 3ABN board in regards to the Tommy Shelton child molestation allegations.

I wish you success in this venture.

Posted by: Johann Dec 31 2006, 05:23 AM

Truth needs no threats.

On this last day of the old year I am determined not to let anyone threaten me to silence again. I must admit I did this in May, 2004, when Danny did not want to let anyone hear what I had experienced and how I knew he was telling fables so he could get rid of Linda. I let his evil eye threaten me and I disappeared, when he said he'd have me arrested.

So I fled and denied the truth I knew, just like Peter and the Apostles did when they were threatened with arrest. But the Lord gave them new opportunities to tell the truth. I thank the Lord for giving me new opportunities, and I will rather face imprisonment or other threats from those who fear the truth, than to fail again.

I love the Lord and His Church. It must no longer be infestaed by such falsehoods as I have experienced in 3ABN's dealings with Linda. I must never fail Him again when facing ridicule or threats. . . It is a matter of Life or Death in these closing events of the history of our civilization.

Johann

Posted by: Pickle Dec 31 2006, 06:33 AM

Our unnamed friend responded in an email to Gailon regarding some of our questions:

QUOTE

At this time, all I will say is the following: Neither Danny Shelton, nor anyone else associated with 3ABN, directed me to contact Mr. Pickle. I did so of my own choosing when the insinuation was made that *****. Yes, that made me mad. Wouldn't you be angry if *****?

...

To date, I have never spoken with Dr. Walt Thompson regarding this issue, nor at any other time as best I can recall. I will say that I agree with what the unnamed individual from the Church of God reportedly told Dr. Thompson, but it was NOT me, and I can honestly say I have no idea who it was. That's one issue you can finally put to rest.

Very good. But we are still left with a couple major questions:

- How was Dryden jealous of Tommy to the point of instigating child molestation allegations against him as late as 1985, when he had just recently met him and lived 800 miles away until 1993?
- Can you explicitly state that you do not know of a single instance where Tommy engaged in inappropriate behavior of a sexual nature with a minor?

And to these we must add a few more:

- Who made the insinuation you referred to? Thus far I am unaware of any such insinuation, and I would not believe it if anyone made such an insinuation.
- You state that no one associated with 3ABN (except perhaps yourself, since you indicated you are a former employee) directed you to write. Can you also state that no one formerly or presently associated with 3ABN made or related that insinuation, or, directly or indirectly, pointed you to BSDA, or told you about what was on BSDA about this issue?

Of course, we all realize that the first two questions are the most critical in vindicating Tommy.

Posted by: Aletheia Dec 31 2006, 07:32 AM

I don't mean this criticism in a negative way but constructively, Bob.

After reading the title, and then reviewing what was written here, I am very disappointed.

Honestly, interesting as your opinions and questions and concerns are, why can't you just quote the letter in its entirety while withholding the name?

Why when you submit letters and documents, do you filter and quote, or copy and paste only what you think is important and not allow the rest of us to decide and discern that, or investigate for ourselves? Don't you think many heads are better than one?

I do.

I'm not saying expose the persons identity, which from what you did quote, appeared to be all that this individual asked for. I am saying respect that members here are not children or lacking intelligence, and first present all, and then post what you think.

Maybe, even asking, what do you all think? rather than telling us what to think.

This is not to just you, but all who do this, I think it a un-necessary waste of time and money to have to run out and plop down money for records, and spend time seeking them and trying to get them, and writing to individuals asking questions and for clarification and the facts when others have already done so, and the only reason I have to do so, is because those who did so before then refuse to disclose all.

Who is really being served by doing this? and in the interest of truth shouldn't we just lay out all the facts and evidence in a unbiased way regardless of our own opinions and conclusion about it?

Please, please think about this.

~ Aletheia

Posted by: Pickle Dec 31 2006, 09:35 AM

Hi Aletheia.

I'm just trying to be as kind as possible. There are parts of these communications that would identify the writer, or others.

And sometimes there are things in these communications that would simply distract people from the main issues. That distractions are possible has been amply demonstrated.

But in this case, it is absolutely certain that I cannot quote everything and still be kind to this individual by not revealing their identity at this point in time.

Posted by: gardener Dec 31 2006, 10:08 PM

It was just announced on 3ABN that Tommy is retireing from 3ABN.

Posted by: Pickle Dec 31 2006, 10:28 PM

QUOTE(gardener @ Dec 31 2006, 10:08 PM)

It was just announced on 3ABN that Tommy is retireing from 3ABN.

Really?

Gailon claims:

QUOTE(Gailon Joy)

Tommy Shelton and the Ezra Church of God refused to submit to church discipline after Tommy admitted to the molestation of minors and conducting a homosexual lifestyle.

In 1985 Tommy was relieved of his license and credentials. The Ezra Church of God subsequently separated from the General Assemblies and became a congregational church. Tommy left for approximately a year to assist in the development of a church school in Marion, Ky. Tommy returned to serve as pastor for an additional two years and during this period there were additional allegations of child molestation against Tommy Shelton by young men of the church school of Ezra Church of God. Tommy became ill and left the pastorate of Ezra COG.

Tommy Shelton was given carpentry work. At some point Tommy was made the production manager at 3ABN. In late 1991 Melody Shelton Mundall and Derrell Mundall gave several pages of written statements to Illinois Conference President BJ Christiansen.

The statement resulted in a board meeting and the board decided that Tommy Shelton could not work at 3ABN. **Tommy was severed from the payroll and was given contract work promoting 3ABN** with cable companies until he took a media consulting position and assistant pastor for media ministries with Dunn Loring Church of God, Dunn Loring, Va.

Thus, according to Gailon, the decision of the board to terminate Tommy was apparently circumvented by hiring Tommy on a contract basis.

What sort of financial arrangements have been made for his retirement? Is he still getting money from 3ABN through some sort of retirement package?

I think this is an important question that needs to be answered.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 2 2007, 11:31 PM

Mr. Unnamed Person, for whom this thread was dedicated,

Hate to say this, but I just got off the phone from a long, long call with yet another alleged victim. And this one hasn't come forward until now. He's from Illinois. How old is he? Well, we'll just have to wait until he can put his thoughts down on paper before the details come out.

Now Mr. Unnamed, how in the world are we going to be able to vindicate Tommy Shelton if new alleged victims keep popping up like this? How?

It's a tall order. How can we possibly blame it all on Dryden's jealousy? Who's going to believe that?

What we've had thus far are six alleged victims in Illinois, and three or four alleged instances of sexual misconduct in Virginia, one being a minor at the time. Now we have a seventh alleged victim in Illinois.

When will this horrid nightmare ever end?

By the way, I've noticed that you haven't responded yet. Hope you don't take too long.

Posted by: daylily Jan 3 2007, 06:33 AM

Mr Pickle,
Mr Joy said:

"In late 1991 Melody Shelton Mundall and Derrell Mundall gave several pages of written statements to Illinois Conference President BJ Christiansen."

Was this written testimony on Tommy's behalf or was it allegations against him? I've seen Melody and Tommy on several musical specials together since 1991 and they seem friendly toward each other. If she submitted statements against him, wouldn't there be some tension between them? Just curious.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 3 2007, 07:04 AM

QUOTE(daylily @ Jan 3 2007, 06:33 AM)

Was this written testimony on Tommy's behalf or was it allegations against him?

My understanding is that they were allegations against him.

Why would her feelings shift so drastically? I don't know. Maybe Gailon has some ideas on that one.

Posted by: sister Jan 3 2007, 11:05 AM

QUOTE(daylily @ Jan 3 2007, 07:33 AM)

Mr Pickle,
Mr Joy said:

"In late 1991 Melody Shelton Mundall and Derrell Mundall gave several pages of written statements to Illinois Conference President BJ Christiansen."

Was this written testimony on Tommy's behalf or was it allegations against him? I've seen Melody and Tommy on several musical specials together since 1991 and they seem friendly toward each other. If she submitted statements against him, wouldn't there be some tension between them? Just curious.

It was allegations against him. Melody attended the school where Tommy was the principal. At the time he received it, BJ Christiansen had Melody initial each page of the written statements to attest to the fact that it all came from her. Tommy's behavior is well known within the Shelton family.

Posted by: Lee Jan 3 2007, 11:41 AM

Bob, you said out of the seven people supposedly molested by TS, one is under age over on Maritime. Did I understand you correctly?

If so, then six of the seven would be considered "consenting" adults. And perhaps even the one under age was consenting, who knows if any of this is true. I have my doubts not because you posted it or because Mr. Joy investigated this, but because none of the 7 prosecuted TS or took him to court. I would certainly suggest to them that they do so as soon as possible.

Posted by: Denny Jan 3 2007, 11:51 AM

QUOTE(Lee @ Jan 3 2007, 05:41 PM)

Bob, you said out of the seven people supposedly molested by TS, one is under age over on Maritime. Did I understand you correctly?

If so, then six of the seven would be considered "consenting" adults. And perhaps even the one under age was consenting, who knows if any of this is true. I have my doubts not because you posted it or because Mr. Joy investigated this, **but because none of the 7 prosecuted TS or took him to court. I would certainly suggest to them that they do so as soon as possible.**

Its probably their word against his unless one has genetic evidence on ones person at the time one can prove nothing. Even then one feels so dirty, the first thing one does is wash the perpetrator off not thinking one has the evidence on thier person.

Posted by: daylily Jan 3 2007, 12:11 PM

If it was allegations against Tommy, that's scary. How Derrell must fear for his children. I would hope that Melody is keeping them safe, if thats even possible. Maybe she has warned the older ones. But I just don't understand how she could submit that testimony and not be ostracized by the rest of the Sheltons. And there's Brandy's children. I just feel like crying.

It just occurred to me...what action did the conference take on Melody's and Derrel's statement? How could a person read such a statement and take no action?

Posted by: Uncle Sam Jan 3 2007, 01:39 PM

If the family knows about it why is his wife still with him? Or is this a second wife? What about his daughter's at least one of them has children? Do they think he has changed?

Posted by: watchbird Jan 3 2007, 01:41 PM

QUOTE(Lee @ Jan 3 2007, 12:41 PM)

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If so, then six of the seven would be considered "consenting" adults. And perhaps even the one under age was consenting, who knows if any of this is true. I have my doubts not because you posted it or because Mr. Joy investigated this, but because none of the 7 prosecuted TS or took him to court. I would certainly suggest to them that they do so as soon as possible.

I believe you will find information on this in the Unauthorized History threads. Use the "guided tour" which is posted at the top and scan down through the items to find Tommy mentioned, then check out the dialogue surrounding each item you find.

It is my understanding that all of the victims in Illinois were under age at the time of the molestation, thus it was their parents who were lax in not following through with prosecution. It is also my understanding that some of these (now grown to) men are very angry about that and are seriously considering prosecution even at this late date. You can doubtless find clues as to why they did not prosecute at the time in the relevant threads posted here.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 3 2007, 04:15 PM

QUOTE(Lee @ Jan 3 2007, 11:41 AM)

Bob, you said out of the seven people supposedly molested by TS, one is under age over on Maritime. Did I understand you correctly?

If so, then six of the seven would be considered "consenting" adults. And perhaps even the one under age was consenting, who knows if any of this is true. I have my doubts not because you posted it or because Mr. Joy investigated this, but because none of the 7 prosecuted TS or took him to court. I would certainly suggest to them that they do so as soon as possible.

Lee,

You are incorrect. Out of the three or four in Virginia, one was a minor at the time.

The 2003 letter from Illinois to Dr. Thompson referred to "at least six boys."

"Perhaps even the one under age was consenting"????????? What are you trying to say? That people who commit homosexual acts with consenting children and/or consenting adults, and who to all appearances never manifest repentance, can still hold one of the highest positions at 3ABN, and have the allegations about them covered up with lies and threats?

Are you sure you want to go there?

You have identified yourself as being a female. Would you be so kind as to inform us why so many rape victims out there don't press charges?

QUOTE

"Rape is one of the most underreported crimes. In 2002, only 39% of rapes and sexual assaults were reported to law enforcement officials (DOJ 2003)." (<http://www.cdc.gov/node.do/id/0900f3ec80007538>)

Then after you explain that, let's discuss why teenage boys might have trouble talking about this until long after the statute of limitations has run out.

Posted by: Aletheia Jan 3 2007, 06:55 PM

Who cares if Lee is male or female?

The 'alleged' victims won't press charges or make a public statement? and that's an excuse why details aren't furnished? well this seems like common sense to me: If that is the case, then how can anyone else make charges and public statements?

The Mundalls made statements, and neither is here to say what the facts and evidence they gave were? Nor brave enough to repeat them in public, nor are their statements even quoted?

Then why is what they "allegedly" said even mentioned here as if it's evidence??? How do we even know this is true?

The point is Lee has said what many may think. I know I do.

There are **too many** questions and unexplained events and people and dates and places here.

Bob talked to 'someone' today?

Who is Bob, and how do we know he tells the truth? or even if he does, did the person who he spoke to tells him the truth? does any evidence support that?

Civil Courts need evidence and facts, and proof to convict. Do Jesus' people require less? Not the ones I know and fellowship with!

People are innocent till proven guilty.

Is their evidence to investigate? YES

Is that a conviction? NO

Does that mean people are protecting a child molestor or don't feel for the victims of child molesters ? NO

Tommy may be guilty, but it hasn't been proven, and personally?

I find this rush to judgment, and the spirit displayed in the Tommy steps down thread very much like that of a lynch mob. And I think this whole investigation is a joke! It's NOT a search for truth, it s a search for evidence to convict. Christians here are taking the role of the Adversary, and acting as prosecutors. The Job of Proesecuter is to convict and find fault and prove guilt, the nature of that job is biased from the start. We are NEVER called to do that as Christians, we are called to be impartial, and without hypocrisy, and to examine all, righteously.

I think the document posted where Tommy's ministerial liscence was suspended pending an investigation about this a good start.


But it is not the end.


What did the investigation find and conclude, and why?


Does anybody care?

Posted by: inga Jan 3 2007, 09:34 PM

QUOTE(Aletheia @ Jan 3 2007, 07:55 PM)

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Says **who?** 



Posted by: awesumtenor Jan 3 2007, 10:17 PM

QUOTE(Aletheia @ Jan 3 2007, 07:55 PM)

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I think the document posted where Tommy's ministerial liscence was suspended pending an investigation about this a good start.

But it is not the end.

What did the investigation find and conclude, and why?

Does anybody care?

And when you put on your holler-than-thou to make accusations, you are emulating whom, exactly?

3TW... what you have here... is an ad hominem attack... you are not refuting anything that has been stated; you are simply attacking those stating those things... in the hope that if you attack their person long enough and loud enough, those who read what they post will be less inclined to find it credible.

Here's an idea... refute things stated as fact with evidence showing them to be errant... if you can... rather than asking for "proof" and then saying you cant accept it because you don't know the person stating it or questioning their motivation for stating it.

If you have facts... names and dates and times and places and events that incontrovertibly refute the things stated as fact... then state them... otherwise.. admit you're just talking out the side of your neck and all of what you have to say is nothing more than the gospel according to cindy and those who read it will give it the consideration it deserves as such... whatever they may deem that to be.

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: sister Jan 3 2007, 10:22 PM

QUOTE(Aletheia @ Jan 3 2007, 07:55 PM)

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Does anybody care?

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wrote out a statement and signed it and it was given to the Illinois Conference President at the time. How do I know this is true? Directly from the mouth of the Mundall source. Are allegations of child molestation against Tommy Shelton included in this document, YES. How do I know, from the same Mundall source. When will the document be released? At the appropriate time and place.

Aletheia, verbally bullying witnesses by accusing them of not being brave enough to make all their statements publicly is really intolerable. Since the Illinois Conference President was also a sitting member of the 3ABN board, it appears that the Mundalls gave their evidence to an official whom they believed would both have influence and be above reproach since he was not controlled financially by 3ABN. Also, keep in mind that Tommy Shelton was not then, nor has he been since, a member of the SDA church. Thus SDA church has no authority over Tommy. But since Danny Shelton publically claims not to be independent, but rather a supporting ministry of the SDA church, it should have influence with him in regard to these matters.

Sister

Posted by: Johann Jan 3 2007, 10:54 PM

QUOTE(sister @ Jan 4 2007, 06:22 AM) □

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Sister

I have my information from the same source and can verify that what 'sister' states is correct.

Posted by: roxe Jan 3 2007, 11:39 PM

sister and Johann,

God bless you both!

you are so respectful, patient, tactful and courteous...

"God, make me like that □ "

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 3 2007, 11:51 PM

QUOTE(awesumtenor @ Jan 3 2007, 09:17 PM) □

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exactly?

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In His service,
Mr. J

Mr. J, while I agree with your assessment, IMO ad hominem attacks are so last year. I believe we have a brand new category of attacks emerging and I think it should be called **The Blender Defense**. To qualify for this new category, an adversarial poster grabs many bits and pieces of other members statements, adds one part illogical interpretation, one part ludicrous assumptions, a large helping of their own self-righteous rags then purees into an incomprehensible mess.

Does anybody care?" The answer is yes, many of us do.

Posted by: Aletheia Jan 4 2007, 04:58 AM

You all seem to have missed my point entirely.

I was not attacking any one person. I was attacking the WAY this is being done.

Whether the Mundalls made a statement is not the argument. Tommy's guilt or innocense is.

Your testimony that the Mundalls did make a statement would only be included in a court of law, if their statement had been submitted and testimony was needed to establish the fact that yes this was made by them.

But if Tommy was in a trial, and you came in saying well i know he's guilty because the Mundalls made a statement and gave it to someone. No one would convict Tommy based on that,'

If another came in and said " I know Tommy is guilty because someone told me there were six victims and I talked to one. He won't make a statement because he's afraid or embarassed to make charges or speak publically, and I can't tell you any details but I am here to say I know that this is true" again that isn't evidence to convict anyone.

If another comes in and says " I know Tommy is guilty because a Private Investigator has checked this out and talked to everyone and documented this, I don't know what he has, but he told me he has it and I believe him, and yet none of the evidence or statements are submitted" It proves NOTHING,

If a letter from a alleged victim is submitted which includes no details of the crime, and no times dates or places, well no matter how angry that person may be at Tommy. It doesn't prove anything regarding the charges leveled against Tommy except that he's angry.

Again if a document is submitted that says an investigation was being made in the past regarding Tommy's crimes or lack thereof. The only thing this shows is that an investigation was done. It does not indicate guilt.

Yet many people have done all but hang Tommy based on things like the above, I do not think this is right or godly, and I am entitled to express my views about this.

As far as the suggestion that I refute the facts if I want to argue about this, that's ridiculous, there are no facts to refute. That's my point. If facts were here. Then I and others could accept them.

Now if you all can't understand that, then Oh well. I am sure that there are those who will.

Toodles--

Posted by: watchbird Jan 4 2007, 05:58 AM

QUOTE(Aletheia @ Jan 4 2007, 05:58 AM) □

You all seem to have missed my point entirely.

I was not attacking any one person. I was attacking the WAY this is being done.

Not at all... we have your "point" loud and clear. And we are REJECTING your point!

You are the one who have missed the point of where you are and what we are doing and what your role is to be. First of all what this is NOT.

This is NOT a court of law. This is a bulletin board. We are not judge, we are not jury, and we are not a legal body to which anyone is submitting legal evidence. And WE includes you! YOU are not a judge nor a jury nor an independent consulting lawyer whose role is to pass judgment on those who bring information to share nor who decides the legality of who is allowed to speak and who must remain quiet and what is to be considered evidence.

What we ARE is a group of people who have a very strong commitment to truth and who have information to share on a topic that is very complex and very painful and on which truth has been withheld and buried under mounds of lies, distortions, half-truths, and vicious innuendos in other venues... including world wide Television.

We also respect the laws of the land and we do not try to usurp their jurisdiction. What that means is that we not only are not pretending to be a legal tribunal when we are not.... but it also means that we are not going to bring evidence here which rightly belongs only in a court of law.... which is useful only in a court of law.... and which, if we brought it here could significantly impact its usefulness in a court of law.

QUOTE

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Your testimony that the Mundalls did make a statement would only be included in a court of law, if their statement had been submitted and testimony was needed to establish the fact that yes this was made by them.

I repeat. This is not a court of law.... and it is inappropriate for a statement which should go before a court of law be brought to this venue. I repeat. We are sharing information here. And it is enough for

us if a person whom we trust witnesses to their experience. When several persons whom we trust confirm that witness, we accept that as sufficient and move on. Those who do not trust their witness can either not accept it or refute it.... but just pointing the finger and saying, "That is not anything I consider to be evidence." is doing nothing but convicting YOU as being an imposter and of lying about your real reason for being here. For if you are personally seeking truth, then you would sift the evidence that is brought ... and if you don't agree with it, then you would go to the effort of finding evidence for the other side and presenting that in a convincing manner. If you are too lazy to do your own research then just shut up and quit flaunting your own judgemental attitude by the way you attack the "WAY" we are bringing our various bits of information and sharing them in a public place.

QUOTE

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Again if a document is submitted that says an investigation was being made in the past regarding Tommy's crimes or lack thereof. The only thing this shows is that an investigation was done. It does not indicate guilt.

If.... If.... If.... If.... and if a current judge and jury convicted Tommy, that would also be nothing more than someone's opinion to you and would not "prove" a thing. So hang it up.... the facts are that you are not the judge of all the earth... what you think means nothing at all to us.... what others experience obviously means nothing to you.... and were you to suddenly have the power to turn back time and personally witness the events, you would also find some way to discount that experience as well. The facts are that multiple victims ARE telling their stories.... encouraged to come out of hiding no doubt by the fact that we are sharing here so they have a chance to learn that they are not alone in their misery. The facts are that a church DID investigate and were convinced of the truth of the allegations so that they acted to remove the offender from his position and to warn others of what he had done.

QUOTE





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You have expressed them.... multiple times. And frankly, you have come across so unkind, so unthoughtful of others, and SO ungodly, that I for one would rather be on your negative list than on your positive one.

QUOTE

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Toodles--

Ditto to your last sentence. It is just too bad that those coming here for information have to wade through garbage and barbed wire barricades such as those you have been throwing out on the information path!     b

Posted by: Aletheia Jan 4 2007, 06:21 AM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Jan 4 2007, 06:58 AM)

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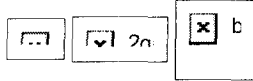
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Ditto to your last sentence. It is just too bad that those coming here for information have to wade through garbage and barbed wire barricades such as those you have been throwing out on the

information path!



F what you claim is true, then why isn't Tommy referred to as an "alleged child molestor" and why sn't he spoken of and regarded as innocent till proven guilty?

The fact is he has been found guilty and condemned on this board, and is considered that unless proven innocent, and this is revealed in the very way he is talked about, and what is said about him, and what he is called.

You can pretend no judgments have been made, but those who have done so, stand condemned by their own words.

So-- Sorry, I don't believe you.

Posted by: awesumtenor Jan 4 2007, 07:34 AM

QUOTE(Aletheia @ Jan 4 2007, 07:21 AM)

So-- Sorry, I don't believe you.

You're still missing the point.

Let me put it into terms you should understand.

1. The veracity of facts, events, names, dates and places is not contingent upon whether you choose to believe or disbelieve.
2. Your choosing to not believe, while your prerogative, is neither relevant nor significant to the ongoing discussion
3. If we were playing logical fallacy bingo based on the arguments you have presented, someone would be about ready to call "BINGO"... yes, as a matter of fact, there have been numerous logical fallacies in the things you've uttered...from argumentum ad hominem to argumentum ad ignorantiam to non sequitur to post hoc ergo propter hoc to appeals to pity, emotion, fear, ridicule and spite to wishful thinking to circumstantial ad hominem to hasty generalizations to slippery slope arguments to straw men and more...and seeing you have provided no evidence of any kind that refutes anything that has been said then how exactly does your utterance merit any serious consideration?

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: Observer Jan 4 2007, 07:35 AM

Aletheia you said: "Civil Courts need evidence and facts, and proof to convict. Do Jesus' people

require less? Not the ones I know and fellowship with!"

It may be that you are accurate in what you say--that you do not fellowship with such people. If that is true, you must have a very limited exposure to Seventh-day Adventists.

The fact is that denominational policy (SDA) requires that action be taken to protect children from people accused, but who have never had either a civil or a criminal trial. One example of this is the policy of the Walla Walla College church, and the Upper Columbia Conference. That policy, in my mind, may very well serve as a model of what should be.

As you probably know, the General Conference periodically sponsors a major Youth Rally. At that time they need a lot of volunteers to make it happen. They refuse to allow people to be involved with those who have been accused, even if they have never had either a civil or a criminal trial.

Our society (USA) in general, requires that we protect children from the accused, even when they have never gone to trial.

As a passing thought: Your comments in regard to victims pressing charges against TS demonstrate a lack of knowledge of the issues. You would do well to become more sensitive to issues that victims of sexual assault face in going to either the civil or criminal system. Yes, I have worked with some. Do you even understand why some women refuse to press charges against someone who raped them? Do you understand the effect of "shame" on a victim of sexual assault? NOTE: I am not suggesting that such have anything to be ashamed of.

Posted by: ToB1nJC Jan 4 2007, 07:39 AM

I am very saddened by the conduct that is displayed here many times. I would like to share something I read this morning in my devotionals and would ask all to contemplate this counsel...

"Never question the motives of your brethren; for as you judge them, God has declared you will be judged. Open your hearts to kindness, to the cheering rays of the Sun of Righteousness. Encourage kindly thoughts and holy affections. Cultivate the habit of speaking well of your brethren. Let not pride or selfish righteousness prevent you from making a frank and full confession of your wrong-doings. If you do not love those for whom Christ has died, you have no genuine love for Christ, and your worship will be as a tainted offering before God. If you cherish unworthy thoughts, misjudging your brethren and surmising evil of them, God will not hear your self-sufficient, self-exalted prayers. When you go to those who you think are doing wrong, you must have the spirit of meekness, of kindness, and be full of mercy and good fruits. Do not show partiality to one or more, and neglect other of your brethren because they are not congenial to you. Beware lest you deal harshly with those who you think have made mistakes, while others, more guilty and more deserving of reproof, who should be severely rebuked for their unChristlike conduct, are sustained and treated as friends."--RH Mar. 12, 1895.

I hope and pray that I will never behave un-Christlike in my thoughts, words, and actions.

Have a blessed day,

ToB1nJC

Posted by: awesumtenor Jan 4 2007, 07:50 AM

QUOTE(ToB1nJC @ Jan 4 2007, 08:39 AM)

I hope and pray that I will never behave un-Christlike in my thoughts, words, and actions.

Is that anything like "...God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are..."

Rather than infer, I figured I'd ask...

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: Aletheia Jan 4 2007, 07:51 AM

QUOTE(ToB1nJC @ Jan 4 2007, 08:39 AM)

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Have a blessed day,

ToB1nJC

Thank you for posting that. It is indeed a wakeup call and something i believe we, including myself, need to take to heart daily.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 4 2007, 08:29 AM

QUOTE(ToB1nJC @ Jan 4 2007, 06:39 AM)

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*"Never question the motives of your brethren; for as you judge them, God has declared you will be judged. Open your hearts to kindness, to the cheering rays of the Sun of Righteousness. Encourage kindly thoughts and holy affections. Cultivate the habit of speaking well of your brethren. Let not pride or selfish righteousness prevent you from making a frank and full confession of your wrong-doings. If you do not love those for whom Christ has died, you have no genuine love for Christ, and your worship will be as a tainted offering before God. If you cherish unworthy thoughts, misjudging your brethren and surmising evil of them, God will not hear your self-sufficient, self-exalted prayers. When you go to those who you think are doing wrong, you must have the spirit of meekness, of kindness, and be full of mercy and good fruits. Do not show partiality to one or more, and neglect other of your brethren because they are not congenial to you. **Beware lest you deal harshly with those who you think have made mistakes, while others, more guilty and more deserving of reproof, who should be severely rebuked for their unChristlike conduct, are sustained and treated as friends.**"--RH Mar. 12, 1895.*

I hope and pray that I will never behave un-Christlike in my thoughts, words, and actions.

Have a blessed day,

ToB1nJC

Welcome to BSDA ToB1nJC!

Like you, I also hope and pray that I will never behave in an un-Christlike manner.

I know that some who are "newbies" to this forum have spent much time reading what has been posted here before they register and begin to post. Is this the case with you? I hope so. There truly is a lot of information to sift through and weigh here before rushing to any judgements.

As I hope you have figured out, BlackSDA.com is a collection of forums where everyone is free to express their opinions. The 3abn forum has been set aside by the site owner as an area for those interested to participate in discussions on things related to 3abn. Sometimes the discussions get lively and sometimes they even get inappropriate. When necessary, Calvin or his appointed administrators will jump in and remind those erring of the rules of conduct for this site.

By your post it is hard to tell what type of conduct has saddened you. Perhaps you could clarify that for us all.

If you have been reading in depth the information here, you will know that many serious subjects have been discussed.

The Ellen White quote you posted is indeed wonderful counsel on how we should interact with our fellow believers!

I have bolded the last part because this is **exactly** the problem at 3abn that many are trying to address here on this very forum!

Posted by: Johann Jan 4 2007, 09:44 AM

QUOTE(ToB1nJC @ Jan 4 2007, 03:39 PM)

Beware lest you deal harshly with those who you think have made mistakes, while others, more guilty and more deserving of reproof, who should be severely rebuked for their unChristlike conduct, are sustained and treated as friends."[/i]--RH Mar. 12, 1895.

I hope and pray that I will never behave un-Christlike in my thoughts, words, and actions.

Have a blessed day,

ToB1nJC

May God bless you for posting this. My wife and I saw with our own eyes how un-Christlike Linda Shelton was being treated as she was accused of what she had not done, while the guilty, who should be severely rebuked, were sustained.

So thank you for showing us that God is leading us on the right track. I pray we may be Christ-like in doing what must be done, that His name may be glorified!

ohann

Posted by: inga Jan 4 2007, 01:37 PM



Welcome to the forum, ToB1nJC

I take it that you see your identity as "To Be One in Jesus Christ." And that is exactly what we need to strive for to help answer the prayer of Jesus.

Of course, you realize that Satan has a counterfeit to every good thing that God has in mind for us. However, his methods are very different. He can produce an apparent "oneness" in many ways -- by sweeping things under the rug, by agreeing to suppress differences in the interest of a common goal that is not the glory of God, etc.

By contrast, the methods of Christ are to be as transparent as sunlight in our own lives and to cover with love the mistakes and stumblings of our fellow believers. At the same time, we are admonished to deal faithfully with unrepentant sinners in our midst -- to draw them out of the fire with fear and trembling. If you're pulled out of harm's way by your hair, that may hurt. If you're roughly thrown to the ground in order not to be run over by a train, it's likely to hurt, etc.

People on this board have seen sin glorified in the name of the Lord. We have seen God misrepresented. And we believe it is our duty to do what we can to ensure that this misrepresentation of God stops. Sharing information is one step in this process.

Thank you for this beautiful quote:

QUOTE(ToB1nJC @ Jan 4 2007, 08:39 AM)

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pride or selfish righteousness prevent you from making a frank and full confession of your wrongdoings. If you do not love those for whom Christ has died, you have no genuine love for Christ, and your worship will be as a tainted offering before God. If you cherish unworthy thoughts, misjudging your brethren and surmising evil of them, God will not hear your self-sufficient, self-exalted prayers. When you go to those who you think are doing wrong, you must have the spirit of meekness, of kindness, and be full of mercy and good fruits. Do not show partiality to one or more, and neglect other of your brethren because they are not congenial to you. Beware lest you deal harshly with those who you think have made mistakes, while others, more guilty and more deserving of reproof, who should be severely rebuked for their unChristlike conduct, are sustained and treated as friends."--RH Mar. 12, 1895.

ToB1nJC

Note that the same author had something to say about sympathizing with those who are in the wrong:

QUOTE(Ellen White @ Testimonies to the Church, Vol I, p. 213)

I saw that many souls have been destroyed by their brethren unwisely sympathizing with them, when their only hope was to be left to see and realize the full extent of their wrongs. But as they eagerly accept the sympathy of unwise brethren, they receive the idea that they are abused; and if they attempt to retrace their steps, they make halfhearted work. They divide the matter to suit their natural feelings, lay blame upon the reprover, and so patch up the matter. It is not probed to the bottom, and is not healed, and they again fall into the same wrong, because they were not left to feel the extent of their wrong, and humble themselves before God, and let Him build them up. False sympathizers have worked in direct opposition to the mind of Christ and ministering angels.

It is not kind to sympathize with those who are heading on the way to destruction unless they are hit over the head and dragged out of harm's way -- if they don't struggle too much.

I agree 100% with what "Peacefully Bewildered" and Johann posted.

3 blessings,
 nge Anderson

Posted by: Fran Jan 4 2007, 04:05 PM

Just my thoughts;

I believe Aletheia is an attorney. I believe she/he is pointing out a valid fact in one sense.

Tommy "Retiring" has not solved a serious and obvious problem. Until Tommy is "Proven" guilty, he is free to continue in his past behavior.

If we are to do our duty as good citizens, we will find someone who will file charges against Tommy Shelton. Otherwise we have done nothing to stop or warn future victims. Therefore, Tommy's departure from 3ABN with the promise of a return is not the complete effect that is needed.

We are missing that last step in a court room or a confession so that he will be added to the sex offenders list and have to report where he is living.

As much as I dislike Aletheia's approach, I have to honestly say that she has a point. We have more work to do.

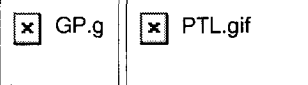
Also, have we forgotten the alligations against Danny for sexual misconduct? We have the witness

and her statement. Does he need to be on the list too?

"3ABN Live" being removed from the line up in programming does not solve the problem either.

However, I am sure the investigators have addressed this problem long before Aletheia came on the scene. Therefore, I will place my trust in the investigators to do what is right and best for all parties.

In the mean time ...



Posted by: Pickle Jan 4 2007, 04:48 PM

The seventh victim that has just come forward gave me the name of Brad Dunning, a gentleman who is now a United Pentecostal preacher. I contacted him and he has given the following written account of his own experience. It appears that Pastor Dunning may have been the first to make complaints of sexual misconduct on the part of Tommy Shelton at the Ezra Church of God, complaints that eventually led to the revoking of Tommy's ordination in 1985.

<http://www.maritime-sda-online.org/forums/ubbthreads.php?ubb=showflat&Number=82082&page=1&part=3#Post83274> were given for that 1985 action, one of which was:

QUOTE(Illinois Ministerial Credentials Committee)

1. Improper counseling procedures followed by you and admitted by you.

I asked the seventh victim what that might have been. He said that what he had heard at the time was that there was a boy at the school trying to get other boys involved in homosexual activity, and that Tommy had tried to bring it out into the open by propositioning the boy.

I asked the seventh victim which he had heard of first, the boy's problem or Tommy's "counseling" procedure. He said he heard of them at the same time. I suggested that it is possible this was a way for Tommy to explain away what he had really done.

Of course, it seemed important to follow up on this and see if maybe Tommy was almost in the clear after all. This is why I contacted the boy turned preacher, Pastor Brad Dunning. I told Dunning about how it has been said that Tommy was trying to bring his deviant behavior out into the open. He said that that was the first time he had ever heard of that.

I have mixed feelings posting this one, since it does describe exactly what Tommy said to young teenager Brad, and it doesn't make for pleasant reading. But what do you do?

It is hard to imagine that this could have been the first time something like this happened. People don't just wake up one day and say things like this out of the blue, do they?

Pastor Dunning would love to see Tommy behind bars. It burns him up to see him on the air. He said that because of all he knows about what goes on at Three Angels Broadcasting Network, that around his home they call it Three Devils Broadcasting. I assured him that Seventh-day Adventists don't tolerate this kind of thing, and he realizes that every group, including his, has its renegades.

<http://www.maritime-sda-online.org/forums/ubbthreads.php?ubb=showflat&Number=82117&page=1&part=3#Post82139>:

QUOTE(Walt Thompson)

The allegations against Tommy were made about 30 years ago. They were reported to the proper authorities. No physical actions ever occurred. **Tommy apologized to the kids** and offered recompence. The DA said there was no case. No restrictions were ever imposed.

I asked pastor Dunning if Tommy had ever apologized. He said, "No."

Mr. Unnamed Person, your task of attributing all these allegations to just Pastor Dryden's jealousy of Tommy Shelton is becoming tougher by the day. Better not wait too long to post, or your task will be horrendous.

I trust that whatever the seventh victim writes will be much more pleasant reading.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 4 2007, 04:58 PM

-----Original Message-----

Subject: RE: Here's my email, Pastor Dunning.
Date: Thu, 4 Jan 2007 16:09:11 -0600
From: Brad Dunning

Dear Bob,

Here is my follow up email from our telephone conversation yesterday January 3rd, 2007.

The purpose of this communication is to give you a personal account of how I was assaulted by Tommy Shelton, then Pastor of the Ezra Church of God.

I believe it was in the 1982-83 school year. I was a student in the Ezra Church of God Christian School. I was an honor student and a member of the basketball team.

On the day of my encounter with Tommy Shelton, here is what took place.

I was in the gym playing basketball one afternoon by myself. I had extra free time as I was an "E" privilege student.

Ricky Shelton came to the gym and told me that his dad wanted to see me in his office. So I left the gym and went to the Pastors office. Tommy invited me in and closed the door. He sat behind his desk, I sat on the couch.

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If I can be of any further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Because of Him,

Brad Dunning
<http://www.facs4u.com>

******Upon further review, Admin Staff has decided to restore this post in it's entirety*******

[And Pickle made Dunning's URL work again. (Hope that's not against the rules.)]

Posted by: Pickle Jan 4 2007, 05:10 PM

I guess what disturbs many is the apparently repeated offenses over so many years, with no apparent repentance or heartfelt apologies, and the cover ups that Danny has himself apparently been involved in in this matter.

May Tommy fall on the Rock and be broken. May he come clean before men and in the eyes of God. May he be washed in the blood of the Lamb, that blood that can cleanse every spot, and straighten every wrinkle.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 4 2007, 07:06 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 4 2007, 03:58 PM)

-----Original Message-----

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Date: Thu, 4 Jan 2007 16:09:11 -0600
From: Brad Dunning

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Janny, Tommy and all who have knowledge of this allegation, I would respectfully request that you veigh in on this testimony. If it is false, refute it, if it is true please acknowledge it. The truth shall set you free. It can also be the beginning of healing.

Posted by: Clay Jan 5 2007, 09:22 AM

One sick puppy.... and that's all I'm sayin...

Posted by: ToB1nJC Jan 5 2007, 09:41 AM

QUOTE(awesumtenor @ Jan 4 2007, 08:50 AM)

Is that anything like "...God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are..."

Rather than infer, I figured I'd ask...

In His service,
Mr. J

Ummm... hmmm... there is no veiled meaning, just read it as it is stated... just as PeacefullyBewildered has.

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jan 5 2007, 09:47 AM

QUOTE(ToB1nJC @ Jan 4 2007, 09:39 AM)

I am very saddened by the conduct that is displayed here many times. I would like to share something I read this morning in my devotionals and would ask all to contemplate this counsel...

"Never question the motives of your brethren; for as you judge them, God has declared you will be judged. Open your hearts to kindness, to the cheering rays of the Sun of Righteousness. Encourage kindly thoughts and holy affections. Cultivate the habit of speaking well of your brethren. Let not pride or selfish righteousness prevent you from making a frank and full confession of your wrong-doings. If you do not love those for whom Christ has died, you have no genuine love for Christ, and your worship will be as a tainted offering before God. If you cherish unworthy thoughts, misjudging your brethren and surmising evil of them, God will not hear your self-sufficient, self-exalted prayers. When you go to those who you [i]think are doing wrong, you must have the spirit of meekness, of kindness, and be full of mercy and good fruits. Do not show partiality to one or more, and neglect other of your brethren because they are not congenial to you. Beware lest you deal harshly with those who you think have made mistakes, while others, more guilty and more deserving of reproof, who should be severely rebuked for their unChristlike conduct, are sustained and treated as friends."[/i]--RH Mar. 12, 1895.

I hope and pray that I will never behave un-Christlike in my thoughts, words, and actions.

Have a blessed day,

ToB1nJC

I have issues w/ the above post.

Why? Because someone could take this to "question no one" - thus you have stuff like molestation

happening. I'm questioning when it comes to children. I'm questioning when it comes to a crime. I'm questioning when it comes to safety. I'm questioning....and there ain't a thang wrong with it....

NOW.....

I asked it before and someone answered it. After reading that letter:

"How many of **you** proponents/opponents of Tommy Shelton would allow him to babysit **your** children/grandchildren/nieces?"



Posted by: Pickle Jan 5 2007, 10:59 AM

Where oh where is Mr. Unnamed Person when you need him?

I get the feeling we are going to hear from him soon, and that he's going to try to tell us something earth shattering.

All due to jealousy ... we long to see the facts.

QUOTE(Clay @ Jan 5 2007, 09:22 AM)

One sick puppy.... and that's all I'm sayin...

Where have I heard that phrase before? Sounds familiar, Clay.

Posted by: ToB1nJC Jan 5 2007, 11:06 AM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ Jan 4 2007, 09:29 AM)

Welcome to BSDA ToB1nJC!

Thank you!

QUOTE

Like you, I also hope and pray that I will never behave in an un-Christlike manner.

To be Christlike is to be one in Jesus Christ!

QUOTE

I know that some who are "newbies" to this forum have spent much time reading what has been posted here before they register and begin to post. Is this the case with you?

My case? Not really. I visit when I have some free time, which varies.

QUOTE

I hope so. There truly is a lot of information to sift through and weigh here before rushing to any judgements.

The Lord is helping me daily to be more patient and gentle. Jesus is also helping me to hone my listening skills and my discernment. Sometimes I do rush to judgment but I am learning to stand back and listen again before coming to a conclusion.

QUOTE

By your post it is hard to tell what type of conduct has saddened you. Perhaps you could clarify that for us all.

I thought the EGW quote expressed it well. It saddens me that I have seen the same type of behavior on this board. *That is my perception and my perception could be wrong... as with anyone.*

QUOTE

If you have been reading in depth the information here, you will know that many serious subjects have been discussed.

Yes, there are many serious subjects discussed.

QUOTE

The Ellen White quote you posted is indeed wonderful counsel on how we should interact with our fellow believers.

Amen! Now if I can live up to this counsel!

Posted by: simplysaved Jan 5 2007, 11:16 AM

If this letter is genuine and sincere, then it sounds like an alleged case of mental illness on the part of Tommy Shelton....

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 4 2007, 05:58 PM)

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[And Pickle made Dunning's URL work again. (Hope that's not against the rules.)]

Posted by: ToB1nJC Jan 5 2007, 11:17 AM

QUOTE(inga @ Jan 4 2007, 02:37 PM)

welc
Welcome to the forum, ToB1nJC

I take it that you see your identity as "To Be One in Jesus Christ." And that is exactly what we need to strive for to help answer the prayer of Jesus.

Of course, you realize that Satan has a counterfeit to every good thing that God has in mind for us. However, his methods are very different. He can produce an apparent "oneness" in many ways -- by sweeping things under the rug, by agreeing to suppress differences in the interest of a common goal that is not the glory of God, etc.

By contrast, the methods of Christ are to be as transparent as sunlight in our own lives and to cover with love the mistakes and stumblings of our fellow believers. At the same time, we are admonished to deal faithfully with unrepentant sinners in our midst -- to draw them out of the fire with fear and trembling. If you're pulled out of harm's way by your hair, that may hurt. If you're roughly thrown to the ground in order not to be run over by a train, it's likely to hurt, etc.

People on this board have seen sin glorified in the name of the Lord. We have seen God misrepresented. And we believe it is our duty to do what we can to ensure that this misrepresentation of God stops. Sharing information is one step in this process.

Thank you for this beautiful quote:

Note that the same author had something to say about sympathizing with those who are in the wrong:

It is not kind to sympathize with those who are heading on the way to destruction unless they are hit over the head and dragged out of harm's way -- if they don't struggle too much.

I agree 100% with what "Peacefully Bewildered" and Johann posted.

Blessings,
Inge Anderson

It is interesting how the same Scripture or EGW quote can be taken in so many different ways, isn't it?! I see something in it, and you see something else. The thoughts that the EGW quote raised for me really had little to do with 3ABN and more with those discussing it here and their behavior towards each other. I just happened to be on the 3ABN topic when it meshed. I am very familiar with the EGW statement you provided and it is so true. I apologize for being off the subject.

Posted by: ToB1nJC Jan 5 2007, 11:39 AM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 5 2007, 10:47 AM)

After reading that letter:

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We had a person that would come to church that had been convicted of molestation years before... no one would let their children around this person--with good reason. I did speak to this person and would have good biblical discussions with them on many subjects, but I could never get comfortable with letting my children near the person without me present. There is nothing wrong with this for we cannot read another's heart and I didn't want to put my children in a situation where they could possibly be harmed, nor possibly put this person into a path of temptation--solely based upon this person's previous acts. However, I never shut the person away from Christian fellowship. He had accepted Jesus and from all appearances was a doer of the word.

do not know anything about Tommy Shelton one way or the other, so I cannot really speak to him other than to say what I said above.

Posted by: jene Jan 5 2007, 06:40 PM

Alethia, oh Alethia where art thou?

This "testimony" is coming straight from the victim's mouth. There is even a link to his website to show that he is a real person. What do you think

[quote name='Pickle' date='Jan 4 2007, 05:58 PM' post='167570']

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<http://www.facs4u.com>

Posted by: Pickle Jan 5 2007, 07:10 PM

I really hope we don't have to highlight the medical condition part of the story too much. I really wish it wasn't there.

But it should be pointed out that we now have two people testifying that Tommy pretends to have medical conditions that he doesn't have. Roger Clem claims that Tommy, whenever all this surfaces, suddenly has an illness which goes away whenever blows over.

Posted by: inga Jan 5 2007, 08:05 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 5 2007, 08:10 PM)

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Ah, yes ... "medical conditions" appear to serve *several* useful purposes for Tommy.

Posted by: princessdi Jan 5 2007, 08:12 PM

Jene, you know I likes you! I have been thiknking the same thing since I replace the post, and saw Cindy in here. I guess she aint' got nowords ofr us now. Maybe it was first hand enough for her!

Posted by: jene Jan 5 2007, 08:44 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 5 2007, 08:10 PM)

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I was trying to highlight the abuse since Alethia was pontificating about what is and isn't evidence. I did not even think about the fact that Tommy may be feigning a "medical condition".

Posted by: inga Jan 5 2007, 09:03 PM

QUOTE(jene @ Jan 5 2007, 09:44 PM)

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Yup, pontificating and

QUOTE

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Well, he had this "medical condition" that necessitated certain sexual contact, according to Brad Dunning.

And now he has a "medical condition" that allows him to retire with fanfare just when the situation gets a bit hot in the limelight.

Convenient?

Posted by: Ozzie Jan 5 2007, 09:11 PM

QUOTE(simplysaved @ Jan 6 2007, 04:16 AM)

If this letter is genuine and sincere, then it sounds like an alleged case of mental illness on the part of Tommy Shelton....

Please, please, don't give me the 'mental illness line'. Some people might be mad. Others are just plain **BAD!**

Many years ago, I 'nursed' a Methodist Minister, who had been sexually abusing his daughter from when she was 6 weeks old. Apparently, his wife was part of the sordid actions.

He was supposed to be 'my patient', and I was told that I'd just have to learn to be objective, when I said that I'd just turn him over to the Police. I believe that I was and am still objective. They did find someone else who would be 'his nurse and counsellor'.

Put those 'rock spiders' in the prison system, where they belong, rather than allowing them to come into the 'mental health system'; hiding out, staying there for awhile and then go back into society, to abuse/re-offend yet again.

Please don't insult the victims of these herious acts, by letting the perpetrators get away will an alleged 'mental illness'. Put them where they belong - in prison (and throw away the key).

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 5 2007, 09:13 PM

QUOTE(ToB1nJC @ Jan 5 2007, 10:39 AM)

I wasn't a member here when you first asked but here is what I would have answered: I would never let someone I didn't know babysit for me. Period!

We had a person that would come to church that had been convicted of molestation years before... no one would let their children around this person--with good reason. I did speak to this person and would have good biblical discussions with them on many subjects, but I could never get comfortable with letting my children near the person without me present. There is nothing wrong with this for we cannot read another's heart and I didn't want to put my children in a situation where they could possibly be harmed, nor possibly put this person into a path of temptation--solely based upon this person's previous acts. However, I never shut the person away from Christian fellowship. He had accepted Jesus and from all appearances was a doer of the word.

I do not know anything about Tommy Shelton one way or the other, so I cannot really speak to him other than to say what I said above.

It is obvious that you are a very conscientious parent with your children's welfare given proper priority. You made all the right decisions in regards to the fellow church member who had been convicted of molestation years before. It would, indeed, have been inappropriate to allow your children to be around this person without you for the very reasons you cited; they could possibly be harmed and could be a path to temptation for the person with this past conviction.

Now, imagine that you have a fellow church member who has ingratiated himself to the church family, appears deeply spiritual and is trusted by all. Unbeknownst to you or anyone else, this fellow has been molesting children for years but nobody knows about it because he has loved ones who use their power and position to keep his behavior secret.

They have effectively robbed you of the knowledge that every parent deserves to have in order to make the appropriate decisions for the welfare of their children. They have effectively paved that path to temptation and put children at risk.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 5 2007, 09:23 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 5 2007, 06:10 PM)

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But it should be pointed out that we now have two people testifying that Tommy pretends to have medical conditions that he doesn't have. Roger Clem claims that Tommy, whenever all this surfaces, suddenly has an illness which goes away whenever blows over.

This use of poor health seems to be a very typical diversionary measure for offenders. I have seen it personally. How sad that this ploy is often so effective.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 5 2007, 09:37 PM

QUOTE(Ozzie @ Jan 5 2007, 09:11 PM)

Put those 'rock spiders' in the prison system, where they belong, rather than allowing them to come into the 'mental health system'; hiding out, staying there for awhile and then go back into society, to abuse/re-offend yet again.

... Put them where they belong - in prison (and throw away the key).

We don't live in a theocracy anymore. That's why the government can enforce only the second table, not the first table, of the 10 Commandments.

That being said, do you know of any place in Scripture where God advocated prison time as punishment for crime? There was punishment, yes, and there was restitution, but was the punishment ever prison time?

Now while they were trying to figure out what to do with the accused, they did use prisons for that in the Pentateuch, but I don't recall prison time as punishment.

Posted by: Johann Jan 5 2007, 09:41 PM

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Now while they were trying to figure out what to do with the accused, they did use prisons for that in the Pentateuch, but I don't recall prison time as punishment.

Seems to me they were not allowed to remain among the living in Israel for such crimes as this.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 5 2007, 10:22 PM

QUOTE(Johann @ Jan 5 2007, 08:41 PM)

Seems to me they were not allowed to remain among the living in Israel for such crimes as this.

And, if those guilty in this day and age don't truly repent, that same God of Israel will not allow them to remain among the living when the time comes.

Posted by: Skyhook Jan 5 2007, 11:03 PM

I don't know what the laws are in other states, but in california the law requires people who work

in helping professions such as Doctors, Nurses, teachers, social workers, etc. to make an official report to the authorities any time they become aware of a case of child abuse, sexual abuse, elder abuse or anything along those lines. They are required to make a report whether they believe it to be true or not. It is a mandatory reporting law with penalties that include loss of professional license for failure to report.

I don't know what the laws are in Illinois, but I wonder if people like Kay Kuzma and Walter Thompson have considered the cost of failing to comply with laws that may require such reporting. Not to mention civil liabilities that could arise.

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Jan 5 2007, 11:05 PM

QUOTE(Skyhook @ Jan 6 2007, 12:03 AM)

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This is the case in Illinois also...

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 5 2007, 11:05 PM

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It is mandatory in Illinois as well.

Posted by: princessdi Jan 5 2007, 11:07 PM

That lists includes pastors, also.....

QUOTE(Skyhook @ Jan 5 2007, 09:03 PM)

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Posted by: Skyhook Jan 5 2007, 11:25 PM

I don't believe local authorities or state authorities will be interested in pursuing a case unless the offense happened in their jurisdiction, but that would be the responsibility of law enforcement to determine after the report is made. There would still likely be an obligation to report.

Posted by: Ozzie Jan 5 2007, 11:59 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 6 2007, 02:37 PM)

That being said, do you know of any place in Scripture where God advocated prison time as punishment for crime? There was punishment, yes, and there was restitution, but was the punishment ever prison time?

Now while they were trying to figure out what to do with the accused, they did use prisons for that in the Pentateuch, but I don't recall prison time as punishment.

Agreed Pickle, but probably God would strike them down. I don't know how it was dealt with back in Biblical times, but I don't 'buy' the mental health argument. Guess I've been around too long, and grown rather cynical. God destroyed Sodom and Gormorrah for its wickedness. Maybe, that God's way. I don't know.

However, in this place in time, all that is really left is prison. There are not many choices for dealing with perpetrators.

Restitution? How can a victim ever really receive restitution? Their lives are ruined. How can they get back their innocence and trust in the world? No way can they ever be the same as they were before.

QUOTE(Johann @ Jan 6 2007, 02:41 PM)

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Johann
That's about what I'm thinking too.

QUOTE(Skyhook @ Jan 6 2007, 04:03 PM)

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Yes. It is now the case in each state and territory of Australia too, but that was not the case in the early '70's, which was when the case I referred to actually occurred.

There are still a significant portion of perpetrators who **TRY** to get into the mental health system rather than where they belong, but that doesn't work for them any more.

Posted by: Ralph Jan 6 2007, 12:42 AM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 4 2007, 03:58 PM)

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<clip>

Being in shock, I told him that I had to think about it and left his office. I went home that afternoon and told my mother all that had gone on.

I did not return to school. My Mother, my grandfather and I, went back to the school and confronted Tommy. He denied everything and told my Grandfather that no one would believe us and he would win.

We then went to the West Frankfort Police department and filed a formal complaint.

I am proud of Brad and proud of his relatives. He had trust enough in them to speak up and they believed him and took the appropriate action. When a youth has that kind of support, he can meet up with unfortunate incidents, and yet come out on top. Brad has demonstrated this in his life.

It is a delicate task to caution a child and yet not make him/her suspicious of everyone.

Posted by: Johann Jan 6 2007, 01:08 AM

QUOTE(Ralph @ Jan 6 2007, 08:42 AM)

I am proud of Brad and proud of his relatives. He had trust enough in them to speak up and they believed him and took the appropriate action. When a youth has that kind of support, he can meet

up with unfortunate incidents, and yet come out on top. Brad has demonstrated this in his life.

It is a delicate task to caution a child and yet not make him/her suspicious of everyone.

appreciate you stating this, Ralph. You have worked in this area, and know what you are talking about.

In my ministry I have also been closely involved in other cases like this. Therefore I know from dealing with victims what life-long effects it has, not only on children, while they are children, but it leaves them with an ulcer that never is fully cured, no matter what level of maturity they reach later in life.

This is the reason why the societies we live in regard this as one of the worst crimes committed. A child molestor gets no sympathy from other inmates in prison. He often has to be protected by prison authorities or the other inmates will make life unbearable for him while he is there.

Could this be why in Bible times the punishment was death? Perhaps the most merciful way?

Posted by: seraph|m Jan 6 2007, 01:56 AM

QUOTE(Ozzie @ Jan 6 2007, 12:59 AM)

Agreed Pickle, but probably God would strike them down. I don't know how it was dealt with back in Biblical times, but I don't 'buy' the mental health argument. Guess I've been around too long, and grown rather cynical. God destroyed Sodom and Gormorrah for its wickedness. Maybe, that God's way. I don't know.

However, in this place in time, all that is really left is prison. There are not many choices for dealing with perpetrators.

Restitution? How can a victim ever really receive restitution? Their lives are ruined. How can they get back their innocence and trust in the world? No way can they ever be the same as they were before.

Johann

That's about what I'm thinking too.

Yes. It is now the case in each state and territory of Australia too, but that was not the case in the early '70's, which was when the case I referred to actually occurred.

There are still a significant portion of perpetrators who **TRY** to get into the mental health system rather than where they belong, but that doesn't work for them any more.

As a young person, I was a victim of emotional and sexual abuse so please know that my comments are not meant in any way to belittle this situation. My hope is to encourage.

Also, as a parent with children who were victims of a violent crime, though not sexual in nature, we can attest to the fact that God can provide us with restitution and restoration, when we ourselves cannot see a glimmer of hope. Our young people have not only survived but are living healthy and productive, though imperfect, lives despite the ordeal they experienced.

We truly need to be very aware that it is Satan's desire that victims of any crime feel him/or herself to be so demoralized that they can never be emotionally or spiritually whole again. It is a dangerous thing and we play into his hands when we are unable to see, for whatever reason, what God has done,

and will do for us as His children.

Though we can never get back what was taken from us physically we can, through the love and peace of God, be whole again spiritually and emotionally. Restitution may not be found, in this life, but restoration comes when forgiveness is given, not only to the perpetrators but to ourselves as well. Yes, it is hard to fathom forgiving those who have been used by satan, in an attempt to destroy us, but to be whole as Christ would have us forgiveness is key. And, if it were not possible Christ could not have said, while on the cross, Father forgiven them, for they know not what they do.

It is my prayer that we can all teach our children that only through Christ Jesus will any of us, man, woman, boy or girl, ever receive true "restitution" and restoration needed.

Be Blessed

Posted by: Green Cochoa Jan 6 2007, 02:27 AM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 5 2007, 09:37 PM)

We don't live in a theocracy anymore. That's why the government can enforce only the second table, not the first table, of the 10 Commandments.

That being said, do you know of any place in Scripture where God advocated prison time as punishment for crime? There was punishment, yes, and there was restitution, but was the punishment ever prison time?

Now while they were trying to figure out what to do with the accused, they did use prisons for that in the Pentateuch, but I don't recall prison time as punishment.

Yes, there was prison time. However, not for the crimes beings discussed here. There was only the death penalty for most sexual crimes, with an exception taken to the case of a man forcing himself upon an unmarried virgin--in that case, he was required to pay her dowry and to marry her.

The crime which required prison time was that of accidental murder. We would call it "involuntary manslaughter" in today's language. For this crime, the one responsible for the death had to flee to a "city of refuge" and could not leave, on pain of death, until the death of the high priest. Should they leave that city before the high priest's death, the relatives of the one killed would have the right to exact vengeance.

QUOTE

Numbers

35:25 And the congregation shall deliver the slayer out of the hand of the revenger of blood, and the congregation shall restore him to the city of his refuge, whither he was fled: and he shall abide in it unto the death of the high priest, which was anointed with the holy oil.

35:26 But if the slayer shall at any time come without the border of the city of his refuge, whither he was fled;

35:27 And the revenger of blood find him without the borders of the city of his refuge, and the revenger of blood kill the slayer; he shall not be guilty of blood:

35:28 Because he should have remained in the city of his refuge until the death of the high priest: but after the death of the high priest the slayer shall return into the land of his possession.

Posted by: Fran Jan 6 2007, 04:03 AM

Seriphim;

The victim can make it through. There are many victims alive and well today, but life is not the same as you have stated.

What about the perpetrator?

There are so many things that happen to children, and that influence them to do many things.

It does not matter what they are taught, if it is wrong, it is wrong. And through this problem of exposure at such an early age, the child thinks this action is normal.

I spent years telling my children to bathe, wash your hair, brush your teeth. They are grown and on their own, and to my amazement, they now choose to do those things all by themselves!

The Shelton's never have hesitated to tell about how they sang at many Bars and Clubs. This is the life they knew as children. They went everywhere Mom and Dad went. What Mom and Dad did, they did.

Where did Tommy learn to be a child molester and Homosexual? Was he just born that way? Or was he helped along the way? Could he have developed these feelings over his Dad. He truly loved his mother, I believe that after reading the tribute to his mom. The link was provided by My Little Friend at Maritime SDA Online.

For My little Friends post:

<http://www.maritime-sda-online.org/forums/ubbthreads.php?ubb=showflat&Number=83483&page=0&fpart=5>

This is a direct link to the Tribute to Goldie Shelton-Seddon

<http://www.churchofgodcv.org/wmf-info/1999/july-31-1999.aspx>

We don't hear as much about Dad. I have heard it RUMORED that he "did more than his share of getting around." Were the boys taking lessons? Maybe it was their preacher.

Mom made sure the children went to church. I believe she is the reason they are in Ministries. Was the home actually divided as to give the children a split vision of humanity?

It is clear that Tommy and Danny have no remorse what-so-ever. I believe that they rationalized there sexuality with religion, If God gave them these sexual tendencies, it must be OK! I believe they have accepted their life style as God given.

I know of a man that was taken to church by Mom and Dad, also. Mom and Dad had 13 children, but only 9 lived. This man was child # 7. He had a sister 17 yrs old when he was born, In fact she had one child and was pregnant with her second when he was born. Therefore, he had 2 nieces. One a year older than him and one a few month younger. He was the Uncle of both girls.

He also had 2 older brothers, and 2 younger brothers. All of the older children had to go to the fields to work, including Mom. She was required to work and cook. The oldest Daughter started watching the smaller kids so all the older kids could go to the fields. By time everyone returned, it was supper time and the older boys and girls had to watch the younger ones. The two older brothers were already sexually active and continued to be active sexually.. This man and his nieces turned 6-7. These boys took the 2 girls to the shed and had sex with them on an almost daily basis in front of this man and his younger brother, He would cry because he could not join in. It didn't take long for then to give him a try.

After several years it was found out by Mom. She got the belt out and was whipping each one when Dad arrived. He found out why she was spanking them and threw a fit that she would spank them for what was only "Natural". He took the belt and beat her. This lesson taught them that anything goes for the male as far as sex goes.

By 10 he had branched out and then found his puppy love finally at the age of 12. She was 8 or 9. He continued to have sex with anyone willing, but he went steady and finally became engaged to his puppy love when he was 19. I guess they were Common Law Husband & Wife since they were sleeping together for 7 years. He joined the military and dumped his fiancé because he found out she was having sex with someone else.

He married the first attractive gal he met to show his old fiancé. The new wife had never even met his family and was head over hills in love with him. He was unfaithful every chance he got. The wife was a Christian and believed that she needed to trust in God to take care of it. Does that sound familiar?

After 4 decades she finds that he has been having an ongoing affair with his old fiancé during all those years. But not just her, but her older sister too! Her sister was older and taught this man many new tricks back in the day.

This man was an abuser to the max. He not only beat his wife, but over the years, beat his own children. He became a thief in the military, and retired to embezzler. Sound familiar?

Finally, he decided to get rid of his wife and slowly tried to kill her. She still trusted this man, but began to add things up and got proof that he was truly trying to kill her. And she shared this with me. Then one day, He just "lost it" and beat his wife. This time she called the police.

Now, their daughter says she was molested as a child. Sound familiar? The daughter has been receiving counseling for several years now. She never told her Mom because she didn't want to hurt her mom. Sound familiar?

This man was also a "Christian", but justified all of his actions. He, to this day, tells his ex-wife his behavior was/is "normal". He tells his ex-wife he has done nothing wrong. Sound familiar?

Since I knew both of them, I had no idea all these things happened to him in his childhood until his ex-wife told me. She hired a private investigator and got all of this information back to deal with. It seems someone filed a child abuse case way back when, and nothing happened! Sound familiar?

This man and his wife remind me a lot of Danny and Linda. Danny has not missed his share of messing around, but I truly believe Linda was blind to it. It is very easy for us to look at things after the fact and say, "How is this possible?" I have seen it too many times.

Danny feels he is entitled to do as he pleases. The same with Tommy. People with entitlement issues are usually abusers. And why should Danny not think this? Just look and see how God has blessed them. Both love their work! Both love their sexual deviations.

Logical thinking would say, "If this was bad and not right, God would takes these deviated thoughts away from me!". And for all intents and purposes, God has NOT taken these desires away, so they have continued to act on them and will continue to do so until God acts and lets them understand that this can not continue.

In Danny's mind he thinks what he has/is doing is very normal. Everyone knows it is not acceptable for the wife to be unfaithful, but God allows men to because they are the ones made in God's image. In his emails he repeats that he has done nothing wrong or illegal. I believe he actually believes this.

I believe Linda's faithfulness to God was responsible for her having to leave that pit of sin. She, like my friend, had a lot of catching up to do. Both learned a vast amount of information over a

very short period of time. Praise God both are free now. My friend says she will never marry again! She says life is too short now to make the same mistake twice!

Now what? We will never convince someone who sees the sky as GREEN that the sky is actually BLUE

Posted by: Observer Jan 6 2007, 05:16 AM

QUOTE(Skyhook @ Jan 5 2007, 10:03 PM) □

I don't know what the laws are in other states, but in California the law requires people who work in helping professions such as Doctors, Nurses, teachers, social workers, etc. are required to make an official report to the authorities any time they become aware of a case of child abuse, sexual abuse, elder abuse or anything along those lines. They are required to make a report whether they believe it to be true or not. It is a mandatory reporting law with penalties that include loss of professional license for failure to report.

I don't know what the laws are in Illinois, but I wonder if people like Kay Kuzma and Walter Thompson have considered the cost of failing to comply with laws that may require such reporting. Not to mention civil liabilities that could arise.

Several people have commented on this issue. So, I will respond to them, and not just this one person:

1) There is normally (I could provide an exception, which is rare) no Federal law which governs in this situation. Rather individual (USA) State law governs. While there is a common thread, individual State law differs from place to place.

The exception is in situations where the person is not under the jurisdiction of any local law, but is only under Federal law. In such cases there is Federal law that governs.

2) Typically the governing law holds professionals responsible to report, but does not require a non-professional to report. I.e. It will typically require a licensed counselor to report, but not the next-door neighbor.

3) Clergy will typically fall into an exception. The reason for that is the First Amendment to the Constitution. Because of that Amendment, knowledge of abuse that the clergy person obtained in relationship to an attempt by a person to get right with God is not required to be reported. In fact, if it is reported, a good defense attorney will typically be able to prevent that information from being used in any way. The result of that may be that the charges will have to be dropped!

The Constitutional issue raised here is of such a magnitude that I am aware if one State in which the law does not grant the clergy exemption that I have mentioned. But, in that State prosecutors do not attempt to force clergy to testify under the conditions that I mention. They do that as they do not want a Federal court to throw out their case.

It should be noted that the above exemption is not a total exemption. The Constitution does NOT allow a clergy person to refuse to report and testify when the information was obtained in a non-sacramental manner. E.g. A clergy person may be required to report/testify in a case where a Sunday School teacher tells the clergy person that Sally told her that her Father had assaulted her.

4) Even in cases where a professional is required to report, there are clear bounds on that requirement. To illustrate, a licensed psychologist may be required to report that her client, Sam, informed her that he had been sexually active with 10 year-old Sally. But, that psychologist may not

be required to report that Ralph told her that Robert had told him, that John thought that Sam had been sexually active with Sally.

To be specific, I do not believe that people such as Kay Kuzma have any knowledge that they are required to report.

Posted by: Lee Jan 6 2007, 10:43 AM

I am speaking in a general sense here. Would it be possible to discuss this privately between all of you? Does all this have to be aired for all the world to see?

Think of who may be reading what you are posting. No doubt all this will bring a terrible hurt to Danny's grandchildren, his wife Brandi and other relatives. They must feel badly that all this must be drug out into the whole world to see concerning Danny and Tommy.

I'm not saying to not discuss it at all--but can't you all just email each other privately. This should not be here in public. It is hurting many innocent people. I think especially of the letter just published by Bob Pickle about Tommy. That should have never been published here because of the children/grandchildren. That letter was too graphic to be posted on a Christian public forum. I'm NOT saying that it should not be discussed at all or that something shouldn't be done--I'm just saying it should not be put out for everyone to read.

Why can't you form an email group and discuss all this privately. Please, for the sake of the children who are reading on this forum.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 6 2007, 11:05 AM

QUOTE(Lee @ Jan 6 2007, 09:43 AM)

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Why can't you form an email group and discuss all this privately. Please, for the sake of the children who are reading on this forum.

The clear answer to your question, Lee, is that **with knowledge comes the power to make informed decisions**. If information that is important for the public at large to be aware of is kept within private discussions other parents, who are unaware of the dangers, cannot make the informed decisions that will protect their children.

Any child who is reading this forum most likely has the maturity, IMO, to understand the importance of the posted information.

What makes you feel that this discussion will hurt Danny's grandchildren? Keeping this kind of behavior private is one of the key ways this type of abuse flourishes.

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jan 6 2007, 11:08 AM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ Jan 6 2007, 01:05 PM)

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ITA! Keeping it "private" and "quiet as kept" is what makes more victims.

I wonder if those that are saying this should be on the hush-hush would want it all on the hush-hush if it was their child/grandchild/niece-nephew that was victimized.... Oh. Of course not. This would be the same person that would be hot and mad as e'rything that **NOBODY TOLD THEM ABOUT THE MAN MOLESTING IN THE PAST!**

Sorry...but this is a sore spot for me. The SDA Church (and other churches in general) tend to want to cover up sex based crimes; but we'll go visit someone and try to evangelize in jail?



Posted by: seraph|m Jan 6 2007, 11:28 AM

QUOTE(Fran @ Jan 6 2007, 05:03 AM)

Seriphim;

The victim can make it through. There are many victims alive and well today, but life is not the same as you have stated.

What about the perpetrator?

There are so many things that happen to children, and that influence them to do many things.

...

Now what? We will never convince someone who sees the sky as GREEN that the sky is actually BLUE

Actually, nothing in my testimony says "life is the same" or that it will ever be the same again, nor will claiming such make it so. I have testified to the fact that we do not have to "stay" physical, emotional and/or spiritual victims of the deceiver through the actions of the perpetrator(s).

As for as the perpetrator is concerned well, we prayed about it and took the time, prior to the sentencing hearing, to take "Bible Answers" and "Steps to Christ" to take to him. His mother was there, who we also kept in prayer during the hearings and still do, and I was able to talk to her and encourage her. Since we were not sure if we could give him the book we wanted to share, we asked her to be sure he gets them. I am not sure how his life has been since he was incarcerated but I pray that he, and those who were with him, realizes how good God is and will sincerely open their hearts to Christ Jesus.

Obviously life is not going to be "the same". My point is that the victim can and should let go of the fear, anger and bitterness *that will destroy them from the inside out* if he/she is not shown the love and mercy of God through loving and supportive family and friends. It is a long and difficult process for most people, and we acknowledge that our testimony, is just that ours. We can only encourage others to look ever to Jesus, He is willing to aid you, He will carry you through.

Be Blessed

Posted by: graceto you Jan 6 2007, 12:17 PM

QUOTE(Lee @ Jan 6 2007, 12:43 PM)

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Think of who may be reading what you are posting. No doubt all this will bring a terrible hurt to Danny's grandchildren, his wife Brandi and other relatives. They must feel badly that all this must be drug out into the whole world to see concerning Danny and Tommy.

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Why can't you form an email group and discuss all this privately. Please, for the sake of the children who are reading on this forum.

Do you feel the same compassion for Linda, her children, relatives and friends who were hurt by the public divorce and trashing of Linda's reputation? Danny's the one who opened up this silmy can of worms when he ditched Linda and married Brandi.

"He who digs a pit will fall into it, and he who rolls a stone, it will come back on him. Prov. 26:27
"The measure you give will be the measure you get." Matt. 7:1

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 6 2007, 02:32 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 6 2007, 10:08 AM)

ITA! Keeping it "private" and "quiet as kept" is what makes more victims.

I wonder if those that are saying this should be on the hush-hush would want it all on the hush-hush if it was their child/grandchild/niece-nephew that was victimized..... Oh. Of course not. This would be the same person that would be hot and mad as e'rything that **NOBODY TOLD THEM ABOUT THE MAN MOLESTING IN THE PAST!**

Sorry...but this is a sore spot for me. The SDA Church (and other churches in general) tend to want to cover up sex based crimes; but we'll go visit someone and try to evangelize in jail?



PrincessDrRe, it should be a sore spot for all of us, IMO. Honesty and transparency on this subject should not be viewed as shameful in a church. It, instead, demonstrates that the church values their members as much as our Lord does.

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jan 6 2007, 05:50 PM

QUOTE(Lee @ Jan 6 2007, 12:43 PM)

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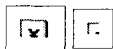
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Why can't you form an email group and discuss all this privately. Please, for the sake of the children who are reading on this forum.

One more time....

What if it's your child the next time? Will you still want it to be "kept quiet"?



Posted by: Pickle Jan 6 2007, 06:19 PM

QUOTE(Lee @ Jan 6 2007, 10:43 AM)

I am speaking in a general sense here. Would it be possible to discuss this privately between all of

you? Does all this have to be aired for all the world to see?

One way to look at it is that there is a very easy way to shut all of the discussion down regarding Tommy, Danny, and 3ABN. All we need is for Danny to make certain choices, and it's all over.

Thus far he hasn't wanted to do that. I hope he changes his mind soon before it gets any worse.

Posted by: Aletheia Jan 6 2007, 06:44 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 6 2007, 07:19 PM)

One way to look at it is that there is a very easy way to shut all of the discussion down regarding Tommy, Danny, and 3ABN. All we need is for Danny to make certain choices, and it's all over.

Thus far he hasn't wanted to do that. I hope he changes his mind soon before it gets any worse.

If Danny makes certain choices, the discussion about Tommy and child molestation charges and keeping other kids safe will shut down? Did I really just read that? This is just about Danny?

And the choice is what?

Posted by: Pickle Jan 6 2007, 06:56 PM

Maybe I should have worded that better. There may need to be choices made by several others too.

The average person looking on can probably describe what sort of choices need to be made, and what don't need to be made.

If the choices that need to be made had been made long ago, we wouldn't be discussing any of this today.

Posted by: Ed White Jan 6 2007, 06:57 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 6 2007, 06:19 PM)

One way to look at it is that there is a very easy way to shut all of the discussion down regarding Tommy, Danny, and 3ABN. All we need is for Danny to make certain choices, and it's all over.

Thus far he hasn't wanted to do that. I hope he changes his mind soon before it gets any worse.

Pickle your suggestion is the healthy approach, for our favorite inspired author says "Most difficulties could be cleared up in five minutes if we would only humble ourselves and say we are sorry". If this were to take place would it disappoint some that are reading here only to feed on the gossip? I hope most of us would rejoice, but you are right Danny is the key player to make this happen. But he has stated on 3ABN a number of times that he knows right from wrong in saying "Confession is GOOD for

the soul, but BAD on the reputation". May he make a "good" decision this time around.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 6 2007, 09:03 PM

On this, Ed, I agree with you.

I also think whoever participated in that scandalous tribute should apologize too.

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jan 7 2007, 12:36 AM

Say it like this. It wouldn't just "go away" for the children (now adults) that Tommy molested and that Danny knew about and did nothing for.

Now.

Why don't someone address that? A man "of the church" that knows children are being molested and doesn't do a thang about it?

Somebody address that.

Posted by: HUGGINS130 Jan 7 2007, 12:38 AM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 7 2007, 12:36 AM) □

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Now.

Why don't someone address that? A man "of the church" that knows children are being molested and doesn't do a thang about it?

Somebody address that.



Posted by: Johann Jan 7 2007, 05:10 AM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 7 2007, 05:03 AM) □

On this, Ed, I agree with you.

I also think whoever participated in that scandalous tribute should apologize too.

Very good!

Posted by: Pickle Jan 7 2007, 07:05 AM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 7 2007, 12:36 AM) □

Say it like this. It wouldn't just "go away" for the children (now adults) that Tommy molested and that Danny knew about and did nothing for.

You are absolutely right.

But if there were some apologies and appropriate steps taken regarding the 3ABN personnel that were involved in deceit and cover up regarding this issue, then while some may have to live with it all to the end of their days, these issues would disappear from such widespread, public scrutiny.

It is the persistent refusal to make amends that drives this public exposure.

I hope what a pastor told me last night is incorrect regarding a soon coming statement by the 3ABN board. If he was correct, I fear it will only add fuel to the fire. But maybe he was told wrong. Let's pray so.

Posted by: watchbird Jan 7 2007, 07:53 AM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 7 2007, 08:05 AM) □

You are absolutely right.

But if there were some apologies and appropriate steps taken regarding the 3ABN personnel that were involved in deceit and cover up regarding this issue, then while some may have to live with it all to the end of their days, these issues would disappear from such widespread, public scrutiny.

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I hope what a pastor told me last night is incorrect regarding a soon coming statement by the 3ABN board. If he was correct, I fear it will only add fuel to the fire. But maybe he was told wrong. Let's pray so.

I think the time is far past when any action from 3abn persons could make enough "apologies" or take any "appropriate steps" that would make the issues "disappear" from "widespread, public scrutiny". There needs to be a complete and permanent website where all these things are put on public display and left there.... not only for the latecomers who have not yet heard what has been going on at 3ABN, but also as a reminder to all who come to look at how evil was once harbored in an SDA supported institution, thus serving as a deterrent to those who take those first steps of covering up and excusing sin. It also needs to be there as source material for the historians who will need to have the basic information available as they sort through it and do their varied analyses on it for the benefit of future generations, as well as today's readers.

As to what you have heard about what the board may be going to say.... I think we should hear about it here.... many hands make light work when there is sifting of truth from falsehood. If it is an untrue rumor, maybe someone here will prove it to be so. If it is truth, then we need the warning ahead of time that you could give, for if, as you seem to imply, this is not something which will aid in

an actual cleanup of 3abn... then all need to know about it while there may still be time to prevent it happening.

As for "fuel to the fire"... I am recalling the fires of Battle Creek.... maybe it is in the Lord's provision that enough fuel be added so the fires, when they come, will completely consume all that needs to be consumed. In recalling the fires of Battle Creek, I am also recalling the statement made by one of the firemen whom my father knew personally.... that it seemed to those who fought the fires as though they were pouring kerosene on the fires rather than water. These Battle Creek firemen knew from experience that God's fires consume water. Remember Mt. Carmel.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 7 2007, 09:46 AM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 7 2007, 06:05 AM)

You are absolutely right.

But if there were some apologies and appropriate steps taken regarding the 3ABN personnel that were involved in deceit and cover up regarding this issue, then while some may have to live with it all to the end of their days, these issues would disappear from such widespread, public scrutiny.

It is the persistant refusal to make amends that drives this public exposure.

Not to mention that there has been a persistant refusal to even admit that any abuse happened except for "allegations about 30 years ago" that allegedly didn't involve any "physical actions" (a minimization of the very nature and impact of molestation) along with the claim that "Tommy appologized to the **kids** and offered recompense". He apologized to multiple kids for allegations? Is that a sanitized and indirect way of admitting Tommy's guilt? Or What?

QUOTE

I hope what a pastor told me last night is incorrect regarding a soon coming statement by the 3ABN board. If he was correct, I fear it will only add fuel to the fire. But maybe he was told wrong. Let's pray so.

If this isn't priviledged information it does seem that it would be good to share it here.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 7 2007, 10:31 AM

PB,

The only one I know of that Walt's words could possibly apply to is Brad Dunning, and he told me that Tommy had never apologized to him at all. Tommy called him a liar instead.

That's all I'll say for now.

Posted by: sonshineonme Jan 7 2007, 12:04 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 7 2007, 08:31 AM)

PB,

The only one I know of that Walt's words could possibly apply to is Brad Dunning, and he told me that Tommy had never apologized to him at all. Tommy called him a liar instead.

That's all I'll say for now.

Bob,

Do NOT be surprised by ANYTHING that "board" does or says - for remember, it's not really them at all, is it?

Posted by: Pickle Jan 7 2007, 10:01 PM

Mr. Unnamed Person, for whom this thread was started,

You hoo! Where are you?

You accused Glenn Dryden of jealousy, right? I gave you an opportunity to vindicate Tommy Shelton, right? How come you've been so long in making some sort of attempt at it?

You have defended him in the past, haven't you? When that letter was sent to Tommy on the letterhead of the General Assembly of the Church of God in Illinois, dated October 25, 1985, you with a number of others wrote letters of support for Tommy, did you not? You didn't believe Brad Dunning's tale, correct?

Well, if you defended him back then, please inform us why you are so slow to do it now.

And remember, we still have that seventh alleged victim in the wings, getting his thoughts together, pondering whether he should put it all in writing or not.

To everyone else,

If anyone thinks the above is out of character for me, you'll understand why I wrote that shortly, in my next post.

If you've ever raised kids, you know that there have to be consequences for wrong behavior. No consequences? That is one of the most unkind, unmerciful things you can do. And if you raise kids that way, you are only preparing them for the fires of hell, for they will grow up thinking that they can sin all they please and God won't give them any consequences either.

Ellen White wrote, "A law that has no penalty is of no force." How true. Have a rule in the state, home, church, or school that has no penalty, or a penalty that never gets enforced, it is as if the rule wasn't even there.

We want mercy for Tommy Shelton as well as justice. But no consequences for such deeds is neither just nor merciful. It is the most unloving thing a person can do.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 7 2007, 10:21 PM

Okay, I confess. The reason Mr. Unnamed Person, the one who was angry at me nine days ago and who threatened Dryden shortly thereafter, the reason he hasn't risen to the occasion and

vindicated Tommy is rather simple.

- He to this day believes Dryden was jealous of Tommy.
- He is a brother of alleged victim Roger Clem.
- He came across BSDA by accident and was shocked to find his brother mentioned by name and got angry.
- On last Monday he wrote Gailon and me and apologized.
- On Tuesday night he called me and told me that for the first time in his life, just an hour before, he had told someone that what Tommy did to Roger he had done to him as well.

In other words, Mr. Unnamed Person who we had hoped would vindicate Tommy is in fact our seventh victim.

I just got done talking to him on the phone, and he says that what Brad Dunning says Tommy told him, Tommy also told our seventh victim.

Consider the implications: Tommy's chief defense is that Dryden was jealous. Here is a fellow, brother of Roger Clem, who still believes Dryden was jealous, and yet he testifies that the allegations against Tommy are TRUE. Thus, **Tommy is left without a defense!**

More to come.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 7 2007, 10:35 PM

Here is another letter from the other brother of Roger Clem, and brother of the seventh victim.

----- Original Message -----
 Subject: In Response To Your Message....
 Date: Thu, 04 Jan 2007 12:15:17 -0600
 From: Scott Clem

Hi, Bob!

I am contacting you in response to your telephone message of Wed., Jan. 3. My apologies for being so long in getting back with you.

...

First of all, I want to make you aware that I know a little about who you are, having read your posts at Maritime SDA Online. I want you to know that I fully support your efforts to clean up the mess at 3ABN, and that my prayer is for successful results for the good of 3ABN and it's viewers, and most importantly, for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I wish to make it clear that, though I am Southern Baptist, I hold nothing against the Seventh Day Adventist Church, any of it's members, or 3ABN personally. My problem, as I am sure is the same with you, is the un-Christian conduct so rampant at 3ABN. Such conduct serves no purpose but to undermine the original intended objective of 3ABN and to embarrass the SDA Church. Those responsible for this misconduct must be exposed and dealt with, and I applaud your efforts to do just that.

As you now know, both of my brothers are victims of past molestation by 3ABN vice president Tommy Shelton, who served as our pastor at Ezra Church of God at the time that the molestations took place. There is also evidence that my brothers are not the only victims. While I have never been a victim of any type of sexual abuse, I am greatly enraged by such actions, particularly as such a despicable act has been perpetrated on my brothers by someone in whom our entire family had placed so much trust and confidence for so many years. Few things in life

have cut me so deeply as this situation, and the human side of me wants to see Tommy Shelton fall to the most harsh and swift justice known to man in response to his devilish actions. It is my feeling that the Lord, though he still loves Tommy, also desires that he pay for his actions. Tommy's conduct is clearly not of God.

I am equally pained by the fact that our late mother, who died of cancer on Dec. 1, 2001, left this world never having known that two of her children were victimized by Tommy in this way. She remained steadfast in her support of Tommy due to this lack of knowledge. At the same time, I consider everyone involved in this ordeal, with the obvious exception of Tommy, to be completely blameless. Mom never knew the truth, and I can guarantee you that if she had, she would have turned on Tommy in the blink of an eye. As well, while I cannot say that I truly understand what my brothers went through, I can somehow understand why they waited so long to come forward. Feelings of guilt and embarrassment are commonplace with victims of sexual abuse for many years after the abuse has taken place. I also know that my brothers were fearful of hurting Mom or other family members by coming forward with this information, and/or of what might happen in the aftermath. Our family is hurt and angered by this, but this pain and anger is not directed at, nor is it the fault of, my brothers. I am just glad that they have both realized the importance of coming forward, as it will be a major step on their road to recovery and toward bringing Tommy to justice for what he has done. Simply put, it is my observation that, of all the numerous people involved in this terrible situation, the blame for it's entirety rests solely on one person, and that would be one Tommy Shelton. May God, in this situation, forego His endless mercy and leave Tommy to face the consequences that he really deserves!

As for the other information that I may provide for your continuing investigation, [What follows is a legal matter that I would like to verify before posting.]

Again, I state that I have nothing against 3ABN personally, but I support and applaud your efforts to get a stranglehold on the situation as it stands now. I wish to see 3ABN become a great powersource for the furtherance of God's Kingdom, but I can no longer believe that this will happen under the leadership of Danny and Tommy Shelton. It appears to me that, in order for 3ABN to move forward as a ministry, Danny and Tommy must be ousted. While we should continue to pray for them, it is clear that the situations in which they have placed 3ABN will necessitate their removal. Otherwise, 3ABN will surely fall, and I really do not believe that it has to come to that.

On an added note, some of these situations, if placed for investigation by the federal government, could result in the revocation of 3ABN's licenses. Perhaps the best course of action would be to recommend to Dr. Walt Thompson that steps be taken in the very near future to remove Danny and Tommy so that 3ABN will have a fighting chance to save it's authority to broadcast. At this point, it could be in serious jeopardy.

To tell you the honest truth, I would very much welcome an opportunity to work with 3ABN in whichever ways ..., but I will not even make an attempt at such an arrangement as long as 3ABN is under the facist thumb of Danny Shelton and his child molester brother Tommy. God does not honor such things, and I refuse to do so as well. As a past volunteer at 3ABN, I would love to re-establish a friendship with the network, and my hope is that, in the foreseeable future, I will be able to do so. As things stand right now, this just cannot happen.

Again, my best to you and those working with you to bring back some order to 3ABN. It is my hope and prayer that your investigations will bring Danny and Tommy and all other guilty parties to justice and restore 3ABN to her former self for the glory of God. If you need anything else from me, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In Christ,

Scott Clem

Posted by: roxe Jan 7 2007, 11:00 PM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Jan 7 2007, 06:53 AM)

I think the time is far past when any action from 3abn persons could make enough "apologies" or take any "appropriate steps" that would make the issues "disappear" from "widespread, public scrutiny". There needs to be a complete and permanent website where all these things are put on public display and left there.... not only for the latecomers who have not yet heard what has been going on at 3ABN, but also as a reminder to all who come to look at how evil was once harbored in an SDA supported institution, thus serving as a deterrent to those who take those first steps of covering up and excusing sin. It also needs to be there as source material for the historians who will need to have the basic information available as they sort through it and do their varied analyses on it for the benefit of future generations, as well as today's readers.

As to what you have heard about what the board may be going to say.... I think we should hear about it here.... many hands make light work when there is sifting of truth from falsehood. If it is an untrue rumor, maybe someone here will prove it to be so. If it is truth, then we need the warning ahead of time that you could give, for if, as you seem to imply, this is not something which will aid in an actual cleanup of 3abn... then all need to know about it while there may still be time to prevent it happening.

As for "fuel to the fire".... I am recalling the fires of Battle Creek.... maybe it is in the Lord's provision that enough fuel be added so the fires, when they come, will completely consume all that needs to be consumed. In recalling the fires of Battle Creek, I am also recalling the statement made by one of the firemen whom my father knew personally.... that it seemed to those who fought the fires as though they were pouring kerosene on the fires rather than water. These Battle Creek firemen knew from experience that God's fires consume water. Remember Mt. Carmel.

i agree...
you said it good, WB!!

Posted by: lurker Jan 8 2007, 09:30 AM

It should be clear now that this was not just a gossip session. Without the warm welcome of the "Boss" and of Daryl to those who needed a place for open discussion, the brother(s) would not have come forward.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 8 2007, 09:41 AM

QUOTE(lurker @ Jan 8 2007, 09:30 AM)

It should be clear now that this was not just a gossip session. Without the warm welcome of the "Boss" and of Daryl to those who needed a place for open discussion, the brother(s) would not have come forward.

Just for clarification, Roger came forward in his community in 2003, so that was unrelated to BSDA.

But it was BSDA that let us know what church Tommy had pastored in Virginia, which then allowed us to contact Pastor Dryden last August. And that eventually put us in touch with Roger Clem. All this stuff posted at BSDA and Maritime convinced Roger's brother to come forward.

Now everyone who hasn't gone through all of what they have can just keep silent. Imagine what it takes to come forward, all the horrible memories that come back and the shame of it all. Imagine the

thoughts that haunt you: Should I have come forward sooner? Would another victim have been spared if I had? Should I come forward now? Might it help save a child from a predator if I do?

Thank God you don't have thoughts like these to wrestle with if you don't. And if you don't, PLEASE refrain from some of the totally senseless comments that have been made heretofore if you are tempted to criticize.

Posted by: Daryl Fawcett Jan 8 2007, 09:51 AM

Yes, this does show that what is being posted here and at the Maritime forum is productive in this known way and probably also in ways not yet known to us.

Posted by: simplysaved Jan 8 2007, 10:45 AM

****Professional Counselor Cap On****

As a victim and survivor of abuse personally and a counselor/clinician for over 12 years (including batterers and sex-offenders, I know what I am speaking to and have treated. No matter how wrong and sinful the allegations are, if the behavior has occurred he IS sick and needs help as much as those who have been hurt. If alleged perpetrators do not receive help, the cycle continues and there is no healing. Healing needs to happen both for the survivor and alleged perpetrator--as most perpetrators were victims themselves.

****Professional Counselor Cap Off****

QUOTE(Ozzie @ Jan 5 2007, 10:11 PM)

Please, please, don't give me the 'mental illness line'. Some people might be mad. Others are just plain **BAD!**

Many years ago, I 'nursed' a Methodist Minister, who had been sexually abusing his daughter from when she was 6 weeks old. Apparently, his wife was part of the sordid actions.

He was supposed to be 'my patient', and I was told that I'd just have to learn to be objective, when I said that I'd just turn him over to the Police. I believe that I was and am still objective. They did find someone else who would be 'his nurse and counsellor'.

Put those 'rock spiders' in the prison system, where they belong, rather than allowing them to come into the 'mental health system'; hiding out, staying there for awhile and then go back into society, to abuse/re-offend yet again.

Please don't insult the victims of these heinous acts, by letting the perpetrators get away with an alleged 'mental illness'. Put them where they belong - in prison (and throw away the key).

Posted by: awesumtenor Jan 8 2007, 11:03 AM

QUOTE(simplysaved @ Jan 8 2007, 11:45 AM)

****Professional Counselor Cap On****

No matter how wrong and sinful the allegations are, if the behavior has occurred he IS sick and needs help as much as those who have been hurt.

****Professional Counselor Cap Off****

If the behavior has occurred, the allegations are neither wrong nor sinful.... even if public. If he is inrepentant and in denial about the depraved nature of his predilections, then all secrecy does is enable him to victimize someone else's children.

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: Skyhook Jan 8 2007, 12:31 PM

simplysaved, isn't it generally believed that pedophiles are not very good candidates for therapy in that they seldom if ever get over thier sexual preferences? From what I have heard and read, it is very predictable that they will offend again even after long periods of incarceration, and supposedly, counseling within the CJ system or places like state hospitals. What is your view on that?

BTW, I have a granddaughter who was molested at age 4 by her father, who did some time and was released on a technicality. He is now wanted for failure to register as a sex offender after leaving the area. My granddaughter is now a young woman, and had a lot of counseling as a child, but is not doing as well as I would like, (or as she would like.)

Posted by: Observer Jan 9 2007, 07:12 AM

QUOTE(Ozzie @ Jan 9 2007, 04:23 AM)

**** Professional hat on****

After 35 years in like positions, I'm still waiting for the 'miracle cure'. I'm yet to see even one.

****Professional hat off****

The Conference in which I live has a convicted child molester as a member of one of its congregations. He went to prison. He has served his time. He has been discharged.

He tells people:

I did it.

I was guilty.

I was wrong.

I could do it again.

I should not be around children.

You should supervise me at all times when I am either attending church functions, or on church

property.

Folks, that man is as close to a cure as I have seen. Yet, he is not cured. But, he has taken responsibility. He has accepted his need to be supervised so that he does not offend again.

And, the congregation has accepted the responsibility to supervise him.

Posted by: Johann Jan 9 2007, 07:59 AM

QUOTE(Ozzie @ Jan 9 2007, 01:23 PM)

**** Professional hat on****

After 35 years in like positions, I'm still waiting for the 'miracle cure'. I'm yet to see even one.

****Professional hat off****

This is very difficult to deal with. A God-fearing lady preparing to meet her Lord, who had been a widow for about 35 years, told me that her husband had homosexual tendencies. She knew he had severe fights with himself, where God gave him strength to overcome.

It seemed like his fights with himself made him a rather strict and conservative Seventh-day Adventist. But when he faced death he called a number of people to him and asked their forgiveness for how strict he had been towards them. . . And he was in constant prayer until he took his last breath.

Peace with God and your fellow men is what Christianity is more about than any doctrine. This is not possible as long as you make others scapegoats of your own failings, and keep on accusing them falsely to the whole world. But this is where even the worst of sinners can find salvation - by confessing both to God and to those you have done wrong to. And to those you have deceived through TV broadcasts. And thereafter be willing to be under supervision.

Just stating, either 'I have not done it', or that God has forgiven me, so you cannot condemn me for it, does not delete an open sin. God forgives a secret sin that is not confessed openly, but He will not forgive a sin committed against others, nor making others a scapegoat for your sins, unless these sins are dealt with, with asking forgiveness and restitution made to the victims.

It is difficult for me to tell you that this woman was my own mother. . . I had not known, but recognized the symptoms when she mentioned them. I was there when my father called some of the brethren to his deathbed to make his confession, and I was with him when he said his last word - in the middle of a prayer. I will always be grateful the Lord permitted me to experience this.

Posted by: September Jan 9 2007, 09:41 AM

Johann, that was a beautiful testimony...thank you for sharing that. It's proof that God never gives up and will hold out for one of His children until the very last moment if need be.

Blessings to you!

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 9 2007, 10:31 AM

QUOTE(Observer @ Jan 9 2007, 06:12 AM)

The Conference in which I live has a convicted child molester as a member of one of its congregations. He went to prison. He has served his time. He has been discharged.

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You should supervise me at all times when I am either attending church functions, or on church property.

Folks, that man is as close to a cure as I have seen. Yet, he is not cured. But, he has taken responsibility. He has accepted his need to be supervised so that he does not offend again.

And, the congregation has accepted the responsibility to supervise him.

This is called accountability. While not cured it is the only way to limit the likelihood of him reoffending. It gives the parents and fellow church family members the knowledge they need to protect their children.

Interestingly enough, without this frank openness and lack of accountability it is likely that more would be victimized.

QUOTE(Ralph @ Jan 9 2007, 01:18 AM)

OK I'll bite. Some families are so dysfunctional that clear boundaries have never been in place. The wall has been broken down between acceptable adult/child love and sexual love. Once this wall is broken down, it is hard to rebuild. In such a home, actions that seem abhorrent to most of us are no big deal. It is here that the larger community will have to put on appropriate pressure to get results.

Ralph, how true this is! And we, here on the 3abn forum, are part of that larger community so we can't be silent.

Posted by: sister Jan 9 2007, 12:08 PM

QUOTE(Ralph @ Jan 9 2007, 03:18 AM)

OK I'll bite. Some families are so dysfunctional that clear boundaries have never been in place. The wall has been broken down between acceptable adult/child love and sexual love. Once this wall is broken down, it is hard to rebuild. In such a home, actions that seem abhorrent to most of us are no big deal. It is here that the larger community will have to put on appropriate pressure to get

results.

With my knowledge of the Shelton family, I would say the above explanation is the situation that exists there and why such abhorrent actions of one family member is so easily tolerated by other family members. Clear boundaries that should exist within a family are not present there and the same dysfunctional attitudes have been carried over into the administration of 3ABN: a Shelton family business with dysfunctional Shelton family "values", in my opinion.

Posted by: Clay Jan 9 2007, 01:56 PM

there is no cure for pedophilia.... I stated that before..... talk therapy will not work... there are some things chemically that could be done but that would have to be in conjunction with strict accountability, i.e. knowing where the person was all the time, knowing who he was talking to, etc....

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jan 9 2007, 02:09 PM

Got a lot to speak on so let me get started....

QUOTE(ToB1nJC @ Jan 5 2007, 01:39 PM)

I wasn't a member here when you first asked but here is what I would have answered: I would never let someone I didn't know babysit for me. Period!

..but see that's the main point. Many folks "claim" to "know" Tommy Shelton - and don't realize that he is a molestor. A child rapist! That being said.... well...you know the question.....

QUOTE(Skyhook @ Jan 8 2007, 02:31 PM)

simplysaved, isn't it generally believed that pedophiles are not very good candidates for therapy in that they seldom if ever get over thier sexual preferences? From what I have heard and read, it is very predictable that they will offend again even after long periods of incarceration, and supposedly, counseling within the CJ system or places like state hospitals. What is your view on that?

for the most part pedophiles and child molesters rarely get over their obsession w/ children and sexual relationships w/ children. They are the hardest to "rehabilitate" per se.....

QUOTE(Ralph @ Jan 9 2007, 04:18 AM)

OK I'll bite. Some families are so dysfunctional that clear boundaries have never been in place. The wall has been broken down between acceptable adult/child love and sexual love. Once this wall is broken down, it is hard to rebuild. In such a home, actions that seem abhorrent to most of us are no big deal. It is here that the larger community will have to put on appropriate pressure to get results.

True...so true.

QUOTE(Observer @ Jan 9 2007, 09:12 AM)

The Conference in which I live has a convicted child molester as a member of one it it's

congregations. He went to prison. He has served his time. He has been discharged.

He tells people:

I did it.

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Folks, that man is as close to a cure as I have seen. Yet, he is not cured. But, he has taken responsibility. He has accepted his need to be supervised so that he does not offend again.

And, the congregation has accepted the responsibility to supervise him.

..and that is the ultimate form of "responsibility" that I have ever heard of from a convicted child molestor. To admit that he must be supervised....that says that it's still in his heart. He may not be acting" on it...but he knows that it's there...and that's way deep....

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 9 2007, 02:36 PM)

I know someone who had, I think, a good Christian counselor for a particular issue, and later had someone who perhaps caused a good bit of difficulty, or at least didn't help things any, resulting in a lot of grief.

Anyone who studies a bit of Freud, who, if I recall correctly, thought God was a volcano, can understand why Ellen White wrote the warnings she did about psychology. Yet not everyone who has the title of psychologist has a mind that is in the gutter like Freud's was.

Freud is not as "twisted" as folks may believe. They look at his beliefs about attraction to mother/father and not the "whole" picture. Freud studied the Bible more than many a SDA has (he was documented as reading the Bible 5+ times front to back and a deep "studier" of the word).

Everything that everyone writes is not to be followed at all times. Everything that Freud writes is not to be followed; however he had plenty good to discuss in regards to Psychotherapy and Psychotherapeutic interventions.

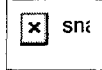
As for EG White's "warnings" about Psychology; psychology is not just "tell me your thoughts" - psychology is also the discussion of why you feel the way you feel, why you are having trouble getting over the fact that you saw your Mommy kill your sister, and how do you cope with the death of your father. You can pray. Yeah - you sure can. However the Bible also states to "consider/go to the physician"...which is what I will be upon finishing my studies, a Doctor of Psychology.

QUOTE(Clay @ Jan 9 2007, 03:56 PM)

there is no cure for pedophilia.... I stated that before..... talk therapy will not work... there are some things chemically that could be done but that would have to be in conjunction with strict accountability, i.e. knowing where the person was all the time, knowing who he was talking to, etc....

Again - just as above...I agree.

Carry on!



Posted by: Observer Jan 9 2007, 02:11 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ Jan 9 2007, 12:56 PM)

there is no cure for pedophilia.... I stated that before..... talk therapy will not work... there are some things chemically that could be done but that would have to be in conjunction with strict accountability, i.e. knowing where the person was all the time, knowing who he was talking to, etc....

Chemical castration (or physical) will not solve the problems. Sexuality begins in the brain. The brain remains the same following castration.

Folks: You do not need genitalia to molest a child.

Posted by: Clay Jan 9 2007, 02:21 PM

QUOTE(Observer @ Jan 9 2007, 02:11 PM)

Chemical castration (or physical) will not solve the problems. Sexuality begins in the brain. The brain remains the same following castration.

Folks: You do not need genitalia to molest a child.

I did not say chemical castration will solve the problem... I said there are some things that can be done chemically IN CONJUNCTION with strict accountability... having said that there are some meds that would indeed block some of those receptors in the brain and dampen the sex drive... which is one of the reasons some people prefer not to take meds for some psychiatric problems because the unwanted side effect is sex drive dampening...

Posted by: Aunt B Jan 9 2007, 09:58 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 9 2007, 07:38 PM)

Molestation is not only about the act of penetration. It is about the sexual preying on of a child. Although it may not be called "molestation" out and out - Molestation has many different forms. If an adult asks a child to masturbate them; that's a form of molestation. If an adult masturbates and forces a child to watch; that's a form of molestation If an adult asks a child to look at a

pornographic magazine with them; that is a form of molestation. If an adult just brushes up against a child for sexual gratification (frotteurism) that is a form of molestation.

Molestation goes way, WAY farther than just sex with a child. ...and many of the acts may seem "innocent" to others but are just as damaging as actual penetration sex.

Can I be next in line after Peaceful? I recently earned my bachelors degree in psychology; good for you for working on your Phd. I appreciate all you are saying here regarding counseling, therapy etc. Keep educating people regarding the science of psychology!

see the results of molestation of children every day. As one who works with children who are in treatment foster care, almost 100% have been molested in some way. I have known of situations where the perpetrator didn't think he had done anything wrong, because there was no penetration. (a different situation than the rationalization that there had been "no touching" in the Walt Thompson letter) It is hard, long work to help these kids to heal.

Aunt B

Posted by: inga Jan 9 2007, 10:54 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 9 2007, 07:38 PM)

The aspect of "self-disclosure" does not weaken others - if you have ever been in a church that has a "Witness" section of service - people will talk about how the "LORD blessed them when they were in their lowest state." That's not weakening anyone...that is giving glory to GOD!

Yes, indeed!

QUOTE

When you have "been through" and can discuss with someone how you "came through" and show them through coping skills, helps, and prayer how they can come through that is COUNSELING and there is nothing ethically or morally wrong with that. The actual admittance of your own shortcomings assists people in realizing that they are not alone and they too can make it out of their despair.

As administrator of several online support lists, I can vouch for that. It is amazing to see how such a little thing as just knowing that others are having the same struggle can actually be liberating.

Another thing I've observed is that *admitting* the exact nature of a problem, rather than denying it, is also liberating. Then it's possible to actually *deal* with the problem behavior, rather than spending all one's energy on suppression and denial.

QUOTE

My LORD. I hope you are not counseling **ANYONE** feeling that you are so above them that you cannot share of yourself to assist in their struggles....

Indeed!!! It sounds to me as though Ed White considers his preachy advice as "counseling." I don't see that as counseling at all. Furthermore, I see it as unlikely to help anyone. Genuine sharing by any person is likely to do more good than all the preaching from one who takes the position of being

superior to the one in need.

Posted by: Ed White Jan 10 2007, 11:16 AM

QUOTE(awesumtenor @ Jan 10 2007, 09:05 AM)

Though usually not nearly as quickly as those who stand in need of it and are in denial of that fact...

In His service,
Mr. J

There is no question Mr. J. that Tommy Shelton needs help, but maybe him & his brother have been looking for love in all the wrong places all these years. Black Hills could help if those counselors trained wrong don't get in the way to true lasting healing.

Posted by: awesumtenor Jan 10 2007, 12:00 PM

QUOTE(Ed White @ Jan 10 2007, 12:16 PM)

There is no question Mr. J. that Tommy Shelton needs help, but maybe him & his brother have been looking for love in all the wrong places all these years. Black Hills could help if those counselors trained wrong don't get in the way to true lasting healing.

You presume I am speaking of the Sheltons... and in doing so, you err... They are not the only ones who could benefit from counseling... nor are they the only ones in denial about it.

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: simplysaved Jan 10 2007, 01:52 PM

Ed:

Until there are present charges placed through the courts there will be little humanly possible to be done.

Prayer and faith are the only ways to handle this for now.

QUOTE(Ed White @ Jan 10 2007, 12:16 PM)

There is no question Mr. J. that Tommy Shelton needs help, but maybe him & his brother have been looking for love in all the wrong places all these years. Black Hills could help if those counselors trained wrong don't get in the way to true lasting healing.

Posted by: Clay Jan 10 2007, 01:58 PM

this thread was split, the posts that dealt with counseling have been moved to the Cafe....

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Jan 10 2007, 11:49 PM

It might be interesting to note that Tommy will be back at 3ABN in a couple of weeks to tape music with Dan. That took a long time!

Posted by: Ozzie Jan 11 2007, 12:50 AM

QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Jan 11 2007, 03:49 PM) □

It might be interesting to note that Tommy will be back at 3ABN in a couple of weeks to tape music with Dan. That took a long time!

Wonder why I'm not surprised???? Things go on, just as before.

Posted by: Fran Jan 11 2007, 03:48 AM

QUOTE(Ozzie @ Jan 11 2007, 12:50 AM) □

Wonder why I'm not surprised???? Things go on, just as before.

This is sick!

Posted by: watchbird Jan 11 2007, 07:45 AM

QUOTE(Fran @ Jan 11 2007, 04:48 AM) □

This is sick!

More than sick. Defiantly evil. □

Posted by: Ed White Jan 11 2007, 08:45 AM

QUOTE(Fran @ Jan 11 2007, 03:48 AM) □

This is sick!

Just "mending broken people" with flour paste when super glue is within reach.

Posted by: Johann Jan 11 2007, 12:06 PM

QUOTE(Aunt B @ Jan 10 2007, 05:58 AM)

Can I be next in line after Peaceful? I recently earned my bachelors degree in psychology; good for you for working on your Phd. I appreciate all you are saying here regarding counseling, therapy etc. Keep educating people regarding the science of psychology!

Aunt B

In my youth I attended a school in Norway that was in many ways patterned according to the instructions given by Ellen White. We used her writings as a number of our textbook. In our English classes we read Steps to Christ, Education, and Evangelism, and many of our term papers were based on the writings of Ellen White. It was from her writings the leaders of our school gathered how important a science it is to study how the human mind works. As a consequence we had several classes in psychology. I'd say these courses were of great benefit to me, and there was nothing in the textbooks used that turned the mind away from God as our Creator and Savior. So lets beware of downgrading all psychology. It is a very important subject.

Posted by: princessdi Jan 11 2007, 01:14 PM

Ok so they believe themselves some serious singers and musicians? I have never heard them sing or play.

QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Jan 10 2007, 09:49 PM)

It might be interesting to note that Tommy will be back at 3ABN in a couple of weeks to tape music with Dan. That took a long time!

Posted by: Nuggie Jan 11 2007, 01:47 PM

QUOTE(princessdi @ Jan 11 2007, 02:14 PM)

Ok so they believe themselves some serious singers and musicians? I have never heard them sing or play.

Trust me, you haven't missed much...well, I take that back...it is good if you have trouble falling asleep...

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Jan 11 2007, 03:28 PM

QUOTE(Nuggie @ Jan 11 2007, 02:47 PM)

Trust me, you haven't missed much...well, I take that back...it is good if you have trouble falling asleep...

Tommy is actually extremely musically talented.

Posted by: princessdi Jan 11 2007, 03:35 PM

Gotcha'!

QUOTE

Trust me, you haven't missed much...well, I take that back...it is good if you have trouble falling asleep...

Now, he plays the piano, right? I can see this being true.....

QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Jan 11 2007, 01:28 PM)

Tommy is actually extremely musically talented.

Posted by: Noahswife Jan 11 2007, 04:24 PM

Because I do not watch 3ABN I had not realized there was a connection between the Black Hills Health and Education Center and 3ABN. No wonder my mother, who I have discussed elsewhere, was so happy Tommy was going there to take care of his "physical" health issues.

Does anyone here know if 3ABN or Black Hills promotes the writings of Pastor Dennis Smith and especially his book Spirit Baptism & Deliverance?

As for the consequences of abuse, I have spent most of my adult life in the field of disability law. I have found that a very high percentage of my clients who had disabling pain in excess of physical findings were molested or sexually abused in the past and few, if any, received counseling even when they reported the abuse. Few of the perpetrators were charged as most, and the majority were women, found little if any support from their families and in particular their mothers.

I want to believe this is changing with this generation of women. Do our posters who deal with this know if women today are more likely to believe their children? In my city last year, two young

children died in a fire set by their mother rather than deal with the accusations that they had been molested by their father. The mother has been found incompetent to stand trial.....

noahswife

Posted by: inga Jan 12 2007, 12:05 AM

QUOTE(Noahswife @ Jan 11 2007, 05:24 PM)

Because I do not watch 3ABN I had not realized there was a connection between the Black Hills Health and Education Center and 3ABN.

I never considered a connection between them any greater than the connection between other speakers and 3ABN.

I sure hope Dick Nunez is not "connected" with 3ABN, other than their hosting his health/exercise show.

Barbara Kerr was more closely connected with 3ABN because she actually worked on the set there. I believe Dick Nunez's show is actually filmed at his facility, though I may be wrong, since I haven't watched him for a while ...

Posted by: sister Jan 12 2007, 12:08 PM

QUOTE(inga @ Jan 12 2007, 01:05 AM)

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I sure hope Dick Nunez is not "connected" with 3ABN, other than their hosting his health/exercise show.

Barbara Kerr was more closely connected with 3ABN because she actually worked on the set there. I believe Dick Nunez's show is actually filmed at his facility, though I may be wrong, since I haven't watched him for a while ...

Sorry, Inga, Dick Nunez's exercise show was not filmed at Black Hills, but on a set at 3ABN.

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Jan 12 2007, 01:11 PM

Because someone's show is on, or taped at, 3abn does that make them part of Danny's problem? Amazing Facts is broadcast on mainline networks that show all kind of filth but does that make them also filthy? I don't have the answers, just a few questions.

Richard

QUOTE(sister @ Jan 12 2007, 01:08 PM)

Sorry, Inga, Dick Nunez's exercise show was not filmed at Black Hills, but on a set at 3ABN.

Posted by: daylily Jan 12 2007, 01:27 PM

Personally, I'm thankful that all those different shows are taped or aired by 3ABN. I enjoy watching them. I rarely watch Danny or some of the others now but I did watch Jon Paulien on 3ABN Live a week or so ago. I can't bring myself to watch Kay Kuzma either. But I like the cooking shows, Dick Nunez's program, the health programs, and quite a few others.

Posted by: inga Jan 12 2007, 03:16 PM

QUOTE(sister @ Jan 12 2007, 01:08 PM)

Sorry, Inga, Dick Nunez's exercise show was not filmed at Black Hills, but on a set at 3ABN.

Thanks, Sister, for the facts on the matter.

That makes Dick as dependent on Dan Shelton as Barbara Kerr was. And, as I understand it, she still has not received the tapes of the shows that were taped there.

Posted by: sister Jan 20 2007, 10:20 PM

The following information comes from Gailon Arthur Joy. I will make no comments other than to say, that Duane Clem is the brother of Roger Clem, whose testimony is also on BSDA. And I, too, weep for these victims...

Sister

Read and weep; This is number seven of what is now ten and counting. Notice many contacts came while Tommy was at 3ABN late 80's and early 90--91. Think we will find others in the contemporary period? Wonder if there are more in Dunn Loring?

Gailon Arthur Joy
AURporter

Gentlemen,

Here is the long awaited statement. You have my OK to use it in whatever way you feel necessary, and you may include my name. This has been extremely hard to do, but I think it had to be done.

--- statement follows ---

It has taken me a long time to get to the point where I felt I could write this. In light of recent events and allegations brought forth by other parties, I feel it has become necessary to compose this statement.

Let me begin by saying that I am not writing out of a spirit of vengeance or animosity. I had never planned on sharing what happened with anyone else. I was prepared to take this to my grave. I had forgotten, or at least pushed back, the feelings of shame and resentment I had about this situation, but in recent days a lot of that has been brought back. I do not, however, blame anyone who has been DIRECTLY affected by this for coming forward.

Tommy Shelton was my pastor for many years at the Ezra Church of God in West Frankfort, IL. I began attending with my mother, sister and 2 brothers around 1974 or so, and my father became a Christian and began coming with us shortly after I graduated high school in 1984. Tommy and I were never really close until I began attending the Christian school our church operated. Over the next few years, we would spend a lot of time talking, as I was dealing with depression issues and he was counseling with me.

When the General Assembly of the Church of God in Illinois decided to suspend Tommy's ministerial credentials in 1985, I was one of several who wrote a letter in his defense. I was also questioned by a detective at the West Frankfort Police Department. I had been on a few overnight trips with him, and gave testimony that nothing had happened that would substantiate the allegations being made against him. At the time, this was true. It was, unfortunately, about to change.

Sometime in late 1985 or early 1986, Tommy came to me and said he had an unusual medical problem and asked for my help. I was shocked. I had previously been told by two other young men that he had said the same thing to them, but I could not believe that they were telling me the truth, even though they told me identical stories at 2 different times. Now, I was hearing these words from my pastor. I felt trapped. I wanted to say something right then, but I didn't. I had vigorously defended him against allegations in the past, and had even lost friends because of it. I had written a letter saying nothing had happened to me. I had told the police nothing happened. Now, here I was, 19 years old, with NO ONE I felt I could talk to about it.

Over the next few months, Tommy and I would meet at his house, the church, the original 3ABN building and even one night on a back country road, anywhere he thought no one would see us. There was a lot of inappropriate touching, but nothing further. He wanted much more out of it, but I couldn't let it happen because in my heart I knew it wasn't right. I was wrestling with thoughts like "What if someone finds out? What will happen to the church....his family...my family? Who would believe me anyway?"

Whenever he would be touching me, I would get muscle spasms in my back. I guess it was because I was so tense. More than once he sensed that I was in pain, and a couple of times he even accused me of "faking it" because I didn't care or didn't want to help him. I really started questioning if I was in the wrong. It was constant mental and emotional turmoil.

On one occasion, I had been hired by a television and appliance rent-to-own company as an assistant manager, and was to travel to the main office about an hour away for 2 days of training. The company said they would get me a motel room so I wouldn't have to drive back and forth. When Tommy found this out, he decided that it would be a good opportunity for him to come down to my room and no one would ever know the difference. I paid very little attention to my training all day long because I was dreading what was going to happen that night. Finally, as the supervisor was going to reserve the room, I told him that "something had come up" and I was going to have to drive back home, so I wouldn't need the room after all. I lied. I don't remember what excuse I gave Tommy for not staying the night down there, but I know I lied to him also. I really didn't want to drive back and forth, but I hated the thought of another "meeting" worse. I loved my pastor and didn't want to hurt him, but I didn't know how much longer I could keep this up. I was now lying to try to avoid it.

Finally, he said he realized that I was uncomfortable and decided we shouldn't be doing this. It

was like a thousand pound weight was gone. I felt free. The problem is that I felt such a release that I didn't consider the fact that this had already happened before, or so I had been told. I never told anyone. It is because of my silence, I feel, that others have been harmed. That is one of my big regrets and I will carry that guilt for the rest of my days. There is nothing I can ever do to change that. I only hope that in some way, speaking out now will help put an end to it once and for all.

I am happy to say that God has been with me through it all. I am still attending church faithfully, and have been working with teens at church for the past 10-12 years. I was ordained as a General Baptist minister in September of 2005, and have served as a youth pastor and Sunday School teacher at churches I have attended previously. I am pleased to be able to say that I do NOT have any homosexual desires or tendencies as a result of my experience. If anything, it has made me abhor and detest it even more than I ever did before. In addition, it is very possible that I will be dealing with a young person in the future facing similar issues, and God may have allowed me to go through this so I would know how to help them. All things DO work together for good to those who love God!

In conclusion, I want to say that I do NOT hate Tommy Shelton, nor do I want to see him or his family destroyed. I grew up with the Shelton kids. They're almost like family to me. I hope that my coming forward doesn't end our friendships, although I'm sure it will never be the same from this point forward.

I ask all who read this to please pray for all those who have been directly involved, our families, our churches and yes, for Tommy Shelton also. It is my opinion that he needs to be out of the ministry right now, but he also needs the Lord's leadership as he deals with past issues. Our God is a God of judgment, but He is also a God of forgiveness and restoration. I want that restoration for Tommy and everyone else who has been affected by this. Snide remarks and hateful comments won't solve anything or bring healing to anyone, only God's touch can do that.

Thank you for your prayers and thoughts as we all try to put this behind us. God bless.

Duane Clem

Posted by: calvin Jan 20 2007, 10:58 PM

Why can't somebody file charges?

Posted by: Clay Jan 20 2007, 10:59 PM

QUOTE(calvin @ Jan 20 2007, 10:58 PM) □

Why can't somebody file charges?

yanno.....

Posted by: lookin4truth Jan 20 2007, 11:20 PM

I believe in some previous posts it was noted that the statute of limitations, in the state of Illinois, was recently extended, to cover the victim up to the age of 38.

If I did my math correctly, Duane Clem is approximately 40 years old. He stated that the abuse occurred in 1985 or 1986, and he was about 19 at the time.

By reading Roger Clem's statement, it appears he may be within the new statute of limitations.

Brad Dunning stated he was 14 at the time of his encounter with Tommy. That was in the 1982-1983 timeframe, which would make him about 38.

I am not sure what the limit is in Virginia, but if the victim, who was a minor at the time of the abuse, would choose to press charges, it is possible that there may be a case there.

Someone with legal experience may wish to comment on whether civil law suits are a possibility.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 20 2007, 11:43 PM

Dear Duane Clem,

Thank you for this brave move!

Praise God that He has sustained you and led you through the valley. I know you have regrets for not coming forward earlier but now you have set the record straight and that was important to do. You have laid another stepping stone onto the path leading out of darkness and into the marvelous light of truth! Perhaps others will be encouraged to follow your example.

Any time sin is exposed it can turn some against the one bringing it to light. It is painful to be rejected for telling the truth and I pray this doesn't happen for you. While it is important for Tommy Shelton's salvation to be allowed to experience the consequences of his actions, hate for him should not be among them. He is precious to the Lord, just as each of us are, in spite of his despicable sins.

Posted by: Ralph Jan 21 2007, 12:37 AM

Sex offenders whom we knew to be guilty beyond the shadow of a doubt are walking the streets today. They were declared "not guilty" because they had a sharp lawyer who defended the dark side and was able to bring question because of some technicality. "Not Guilty" is not necessarily synonymous with "Innocent."

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Jan 21 2007, 12:45 AM

QUOTE(Ralph @ Jan 21 2007, 01:37 AM)

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Amen.

Posted by: Ralph Jan 21 2007, 12:55 AM

QUOTE(calvin @ Jan 20 2007, 09:58 PM)

Why can't somebody file charges?

Sorry, Calvin. I should have had this quote at the top of my previous post.

Posted by: Observer Jan 21 2007, 06:36 AM

QUOTE(lookin4truth @ Jan 20 2007, 10:20 PM)

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Someone with legal experience may wish to comment on whether civil law suits are a possibility.

According to a published report, an attorney involved in this case as a representative of an involved party states that an extension of the statute of limitations would be unconstitutional, and that his client would vigorously fight its application to him.

As I am not an attorney, I cannot comment on that legal opinion.

The bottom line is: As has been stated before, things may not be a simple as they seem on the surface.

Posted by: eye witness Jan 21 2007, 08:35 AM

QUOTE(Observer @ Jan 21 2007, 06:36 AM)

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As I am not an attorney, I cannot comment on that legal opinion.

bottom line is: As has been stated before, things may not be a simple as they seem on the surface.

question, does God see a value in YOU? Does God see a value in Tommy? It doesn't appear that he is SDA, and this is your witness to him????? How, my friend can you open the Word and offer the saving grace of Jesus, thru the Truth of His Word after you have cried crucified him. Have mercy! "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matthew 25:40. These allegations, the gossip, this faultfinding, the slander is not yours to be meddling with.

It might be helpful, to be sounding the Trumpet of a soon coming King, the message of a saving Grace, a message of a forgiving God.

My encouragement to Tommy is this:

Not even a sparrow falls to the ground without the Father's notice. Satan's hatred against God leads him to delight in destroying even the dumb creatures. It is only through God's protecting care that the birds are preserved to gladden us with their songs of joy. But He does not forget even the sparrows. "Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows." Matthew 10:31

Posted by: Observer Jan 21 2007, 09:28 AM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Jan 21 2007, 07:35 AM) □

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What prompted that reply I do not know. I simply made a comment on the legal issues, and off you went on your own agenda with no reference to me or my post. Oh well!

Posted by: watchbird Jan 21 2007, 09:52 AM

QUOTE(Observer @ Jan 21 2007, 10:28 AM)

What prompted that reply I do not know. I simply made a comment on the legal issues, and off you went on your own agenda with no reference to me or my post. Oh well!

Fear not those that call evil good and good evil. There is but one remedy for sinners... and when Tommy repents is the time to give "encouragement" and the assurance of God's blessing. Until then, all those that coddle him and protect them are but encouraging him in his evil ways... and thus in a very real sense, becoming partners with him in his sins.

Their fate is not an enviable one.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 21 2007, 12:47 PM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Jan 21 2007, 08:52 AM)

Fear not those that call evil good and good evil. There is but one remedy for sinners... and when Tommy repents is the time to give "encouragement" and the assurance of God's blessing. **Until then, all those that coddle him and protect them are but encouraging him in his evil ways... and thus in a very real sense, becoming partners with him in his sins.**

Their fate is not an enviable one.

This is such an important point!

Eye witness seems to be overlooking two key factors when she complains about the "witness" SDA's are having on this non-SDA, Tommy Shelton, by exposing his sins:

1. Tommy, by his claim of Christianity, is considered a brother no matter what denomination he has chosen. As a Christian he has the same obligation to God's law. He has been around the "witness" of SDAs at 3abn for many years and still remains a non-SDA.

2. I would ask what "witness" the SDAs involved at 3abn are having in the West Franfort/Thompsonville communities as they strive to keep Tommy's alleged sinful behavior hidden by denials and intimidation?

Posted by: daylily Jan 21 2007, 02:14 PM

Eyewitness said "My encouragement to Tommy is this:" and quotes Matthew 10:31.

And my encouragement to Linda Shelton, the Clem brothers and others would be this:

Not even a sparrow falls to the ground without the Father's notice. Satan's hatred against God leads him to delight in destroying even the dumb creatures. It is only through God's protecting care that the birds are preserved to gladden us with their songs of joy. But He does not forget even the sparrows. "Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows." Matthew

10:31

Posted by: lookin4truth Jan 21 2007, 04:02 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Jan 21 2007, 09:35 AM) □

It doesn't appear that he is SDA, and this is your witness to him?????

Eyewitness,

This is a good point you bring up, and it has always made me wonder. I have spoken to people who were shocked to find he wasn't Adventist.

Tommy Shelton was raised Seventh-day Adventist. He left the SDA, and pastored denominational churches. He taught against keeping the Sabbath.

Then he came back to 3ABN, where people around the world think he is an Adventist. How can 3ABN have someone who doesn't believe SDA doctrine in a key ministry position.

How can Tommy make his living helping to propagate doctrine, which he preaches is false.

Just a few thoughts that come to mind.

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Jan 21 2007, 05:11 PM

This just goes to prove the point, that Danny and the Shelton's control 3abn, not the board which seems to be there mostly for looks, not the contributors, who I'm sure would not be giving if they knew the truth about all that has been going on.

Richard

QUOTE(lookin4truth @ Jan 21 2007, 05:02 PM) □

Eyewitness,

This is a good point you bring up, and it has always made me wonder. I have spoken to people who were shocked to find he wasn't Adventist.

Tommy Shelton was raised Seventh-day Adventist. He left the SDA, and pastored denominational churches. He taught against keeping the Sabbath.

Then he came back to 3ABN, where people around the world think he is an Adventist. How can 3ABN have someone who doesn't believe SDA doctrine in a key ministry position.

How can Tommy make his living helping to propagate doctrine, which he preaches is false.

Just a few thoughts that come to mind.

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jan 21 2007, 06:27 PM

Innocent children were molested..... adults are dealing with wounds to their innocence of childhood.



Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 22 2007, 06:55 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 21 2007, 05:27 PM)

Innocent children were molested..... adults are dealing with wounds to their innocence of childhood.



And three of those innocent children have now made their identities know to all of us. They are no longer anonymous. Let us hope that more of them are encouraged to come forward and take appropriate actions.

Posted by: Johann Jan 24 2007, 11:36 PM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ Jan 23 2007, 02:55 AM)

And three of those innocent children have now made their identities know to all of us. They are no longer anonymous. Let us hope that more of them are encouraged to come forward and take appropriate actions.

understand one more is appearing, one who was quite young.

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Jan 24 2007, 11:51 PM

QUOTE(Johann @ Jan 25 2007, 12:36 AM)

I understand one more is appearing, one who was quite young.

Quite young" = "under 18"

Posted by: Johann Jan 25 2007, 04:47 PM

QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Jan 25 2007, 07:51 AM)

"Quite young" = "under 18"

minus eleven years = b

Posted by: Spike Jan 25 2007, 06:29 PM

I was reading a post on martime by Crater how those in the know have a responsibility to report this kind of behavior to the right authorities especially as he was in charge of Kids Time. Crater also mentioned something about the board being held responsilbe . Isn't it time something was done.

I would hate to see 3abn go under, but what is more important 3abn or the safety of one child. I think what was done to Linda was a terrible thing and I hope she will be able to have another ministry someday. But if it comes to 3abn or the safety of a child I take the childs safety any day.

God is not limited in using other ways to get the gospel out.

If I were a parent that had a child that had much contact with TS I would be having a serious talk with my child.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 26 2007, 08:37 PM

Taken from <http://www.save3abn.com/tommy-shelton-victims-family-mom-1.htm>.

Broken-Hearted Mother #1

[As alleged victims of Tommy Shelton talk to their old friends, yet more are coming forward. Just yesterday a new one came forward, one who remembers well an incident that allegedly occurred when he was eight years old.

He called his mother first and told her his story before he called us. Can you imagine what it must be like to be a mother and get a phone call like that?

Read her statement below and feel her pain as she unburdens her soul.

It should be noted that she confirms that Tommy did excuse his propositioning of around 14-year-old Brad Dunning by saying that he was trying to expose Brad's own homosexual activity.

- This was a story previously told to us by Duane Clem, which he said that he was told back in the early '80's when Brad and his family complained about what Tommy had done.
- Yet when we asked Duane whether he had heard anything about such problems with Brad prior to Tommy getting into trouble, he said that he had not.
- When we asked Pastor Brad Dunning about this story, he told us that that was the first time he had ever heard of such a thing.

Thus, unfortunately, we have here evidence that Tommy Shelton was not beyond slandering someone's reputation in order to escape getting into trouble over serious allegations. We hope that this apparent tendency does not run in the family.]

Her Letter Arrives

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Discussion Yesterday

Date: Thu, 25 Jan 2007 19:42:55 -0800 (PST)

Bob,

As promised yesterday, I am sending you a letter from a broken-hearted mother. To keep *****'s confidentiality at this time, I would rather you didn't use my name. ... I check the website everyday and am impressed with all the new information posted.

Thanks,

***** *****

Letter of a Mother of an Alleged Victim of Tommy Shelton

Dear *****,

I cannot begin to tell you the grief and heartache I feel right now. If I start at the beginning, I can tell you my husband and I were staunch supporters of Tommy Shelton for all the years he ministered at Ezra Church of God. My family attended there when it was a small, one room building with an outhouse. Tommy performed our wedding ceremony in that small church. We continued as part of his following into the new building across the street. That building, by the way, was built by his brothers (Shelton Construction) and is one foot shorter on one side than the other. Danny, evidently, had not found his true calling at that time.

I worked closely with Tommy for all those years, and each time allegations would arise, he would call me into his office and recite the cover-up story he had carefully planned. He personally told me about Brad Dunning and the mistake he (Tommy) admitted making by trying to meet with him alone to find out if he had indeed made advances to the other boys in school. He again called me into his office when he was caught with another student from school in a bald-faced lie. He was very convincing to be sure. As I said, I stood against his accusers because I thought there was no way any of this could be true. The students had grudges against him and other people misunderstood the situation, excuses he spoon-fed his followers and we regurgitated at appropriate times.

As a mother, I will never forgive myself for my own absorption and mindless following of Tommy's plight that I missed clues within my own family. For that reason, it took 25 years for my own son to admit that he, also, had been abused by Tommy. The scabs that had covered his own pain for so many years were ripped away this week when new allegations arose and more of his friends broke their long, overdue silence. A dam broke when he was forced to step back to that dark place he had sealed up so long ago. His only excuse was that he knew I hadn't believed all the other boys, and he didn't think I would believe him either. Because of this simple statement, I will live with my own guilt and regret for the rest of my life.

Also, in hindsight, I blame Carol as much as Tommy. How could you, as a mother, turn a blind eye to what you knew he was doing? You were condoning it by keeping your silence. How could you rob us mothers of the opportunity to help our sons grieve and help them begin their healing? You turned your cold heart to us and allowed Tommy to continue with his sickness clear across the United States. You did him no favors by "forgiving" him, when what he needed was help to get well. Instead, he kept infecting others and you stood at his side and helped him. As far as I know, you stand there today with the same blood on your hands.

Professionally, I have a Master's degree in Social Work. When I look back at the church in those years under Tommy's leadership, I see that the black seed of his sin was at the very core. I see the many families he split in two because of his lies and cover-ups. Some of these never recovered. When I look at the lives of the boys he abused and see where each of them is today, I know that many have internalized the abuse and are still living with the guilt he placed on their heads. The guilt that forced them to face their feelings alone as they kept their silence against the man placed before them in a position of power and authority by their own parents. The boys who have never worked through the process of grieving over what they lost. There should be a special punishment for a person who abuses the trust of children and shatters their dreams; a special punishment for the man who ripped the joys and pleasures of childhood from young boys and changed their self-perceptions forever.

Moreover, can anyone imagine the guilt and regret of the mothers who failed to be there when their children needed them the most? Mothers who will always feel they failed at the job God blessed them with by not doing enough to protect their children against this evil.

Anyone still protecting him, Carol, Danny, 3ABN, or the attorney who keeps spouting about statute of limitations, your hands will also be held accountable for the evil you work to cover up. There is no "statute of limitations" on the pain and suffering these boys feel—it doesn't go away after a set number of years—it's there for the rest of their lives. Come forward now and get him the help he needs. He admits to having a "sickness" and you have failed him as we have failed our children. Help the healing begin for everyone involved before any more time goes by.

From a mother's heart.

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Jan 26 2007, 08:51 PM

Wow. The tears of this earth will dry up someday. Even so come Lord Jesus.

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 26 2007, 09:37 PM) □

Taken from <http://www.save3abn.com/tommy-shelton-victims-family-mom-1.htm>.

Broken-Hearted Mother #1

[As alleged victims of Tommy Shelton talk to their old friends, yet more are coming forward. Just yesterday a new one came forward, one who remembers well an incident that allegedly occurred when he was eight years old.

He called his mother first and told her his story before he called us. Can you imagine what it must be like to be a mother and get a phone call like that?

Read her statement below and feel her pain as she unburdens her soul.

It should be noted that she confirms that Tommy did excuse his propositioning of around 14-year-old Brad Dunning by saying that he was trying to expose Brad's own homosexual activity.

- This was a story previously told to us by Duane Clem, which he said that he was told back in the early '80's when Brad and his family complained about what Tommy had done.
- Yet when we asked Duane whether he had heard anything about such problems with Brad prior to Tommy getting into trouble, he said that he had not.
- When we asked Pastor Brad Dunning about this story, he told us that that was the first time he had ever heard of such a thing.

Thus, unfortunately, we have here evidence that Tommy Shelton was not beyond slandering someone's reputation in order to escape getting into trouble over serious allegations. We hope that this apparent tendency does not run in the family.]

Her Letter Arrives

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Discussion Yesterday

Date: Thu, 25 Jan 2007 19:42:55 -0800 (PST)

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From a mother's heart.

Posted by: princessdi Jan 26 2007, 10:34 PM

Have Mercy!!! So many damaged lives.

Posted by: Hawk Jan 27 2007, 02:11 AM

QUOTE(princessdi @ Jan 26 2007, 10:34 PM) □

Have Mercy!!! So many damaged lives.

Yes, and the damage is not completed. 3ABN, ASI, the Shelton family, people such as Bystander, "Eye Witness", Alethia and others will continue to pour salt into the wounds of these damaged souls and support threats to litigate against anyone who dares tell of what happened. Abuse, molestation, and malicious attack on hurting people is their "christian" witness of 3ABN and the Adventist church to the world. Maybe the news agencies would like to help clean up this mess. Maybe they should. Time for them to see the documents on save3abn.com. Time for the world to see them.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 27 2007, 05:26 AM

Hitler is reported to have said, "Make the lie big, make it simple, keep saying it, and eventually they will believe it."

Let's face it, this whole matter is so bizarre, the average Adventist when they first hear a bit of it, say, "That can't possibly be true." Can you blame them?

Who would ever believe that Danny Shelton, according to his own 3ABN board chairman, would tell him that the Tommy Shelton child molestation allegations are 30 years old, when he must have known that there had been problems in Virginia just a few years before, and when an eye witness was in Danny's house with Danny around late 1985 when Tommy was beside himself as an alleged victim and his parents were returning a car Tommy had given the boy?

Who ever would imagine that a 3ABN attorney would threaten a non-Adventist pastor in 2003 and a non-Adventist church in 2007 in order to silence these child molestation allegations, and that Danny would refuse to answer whether 3ABN had paid the attorney to do that in 2003 when the letter written by that attorney was only on behalf of Tommy, and that that 2003 letter would base its threats of legal action solely on the logic that, "Even if the actions did occur," the statute of limitations has run out?

Regarding the statute of limitations, the one who came forward this week may still be able to press charges or sue, since he says he was about 8 at the time. Perhaps Riva can think of another way to silence the fellow.

But back to the main point: This is so bizarre, Adventists have a hard time swallowing this, since it is so contrary to everything they believe in. And I for one can't blame anyone who is in utter shock or denial.

Posted by: Clay Jan 27 2007, 10:33 AM

only adventists who refuse to see the truth.... before they were adventist, they were people, and people can and will do evil things to other people.... add to the mix limited education and lots of money.... you have a hot mess....

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 27 2007, 11:47 AM

QUOTE(Hawk @ Jan 27 2007, 01:11 AM)

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Hawk, the majority here on the 3abn forum want to do all in our power to stop the salt on the wounds! Yes, there are those with eyes and judgement clouded by the sick system that appears to be in control at 3abn. They come here with their desperate lies and fiery darts inspired by the father of lies but can see them for what they are.

As more and more Seventh-day Adventists become aware of the dispicable victimization of so many young people, the robbing of their innocence, the devastating impact on their lives and the lies and cover ups by those claiming to be followers of Christ, as more SDAs read the poignant account from the mother of one of these victims, I believe you will see an outcry by true Christians that will begin to set things right!

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Jan 27 2007, 04:30 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ Jan 27 2007, 11:33 AM)

before they were adventist, they were people, and people can and will do evil things to other people....

Adventist, Catholic, Jewish, Atheist...as far as I know, there are child molesters in all categories. However, the most vicious are those who hide behind a robe of religion.

Posted by: Salli Jan 27 2007, 04:34 PM

Broken-hearted Mother

So sorry for you.

As I live in West Frankfort and once worked at 3ABN where I learned not to trust anyone in power. If the leadership of 3ABN is a picture of God then God is unfair.

We are taught as I was to trust preachers, teachers, and police they are here to help you. The worst offenders comes from those who children trust. Until that attitude changes they will be taken advantage of.

Until we learn to teach our children only to trust God and not those who rule over them. There are the Hitlers in power who will take advantage of the weaker. We need to teach our children to think before they obey anyone. If a few parents, school & church boards, superiers, and and protectors of the offenders were punished along with the offenders maybe things would change.

S

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 27 2007, 04:42 PM

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Salli, welcome to the 3abn forum on BSDA!

I hope you know that God is not represented by those who would victimize young people while wearing the robes of religion. Those who would do such things are the followers of a far different being! How sad that our children and even our selves are sometimes not safe from those who portray themselves as trustworthy men of God.

Posted by: inga Jan 27 2007, 07:54 PM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ Jan 27 2007, 05:42 PM) □

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Salli!

I agree with everything PB says. Please realize that it is the work of Satan to misrepresent the character of God. And Tommy and Danny Shelton are aiding Satan in that work. □ It is very likely that the Shelton brothers have scars from their own childhood, but **that does not excuse their behavior now.**

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 29 2007, 05:46 PM

I read an interesting article online today and thought it might be appropriate to quote a bit of it here.

QUOTE

SAN JOSE, California (AP) -- A man prosecutors said was one of the nation's most prolific child molesters was sentenced Monday to 150 years in prison for abusing two 12-year-old boys.

This next quote is disturbing but very typical of the twisted thinking that justifies this damaging behavior:

QUOTE

Schwartzmiller, who represented himself during his October trial, told jurors that he was innocent and maligned by a society that does not accept men who love boys.

<http://www.cnn.com/2007/LAW/01/29/molester.sentenced.ap/>

Posted by: Pickle Feb 1 2007, 09:42 AM

QUOTE("Committee to Protect Journalists")

Mexican reporter says coverage of priest abuse case sparks threats

New York, January 17, 2007—The Committee to Protect Journalists is alarmed by reports that Mexican reporter Sanjuana Martínez has been threatened for her coverage of allegations that a Catholic priest sexually abused dozens of boys in Mexico and the United States and that two cardinals sought to protect the priest.

Martínez told CPJ that she began receiving death threats in September 2006, when she began covering the case extensively for the Mexico City daily *La Jornada* and the daily news program "Hoy por hoy" on W Radio. Martínez also wrote a book about the case, *Manto Púrpura* (Purple Cloak), which was released in December. ...

(<http://www.cpj.org/news/2007/americas/mexico17jan07na.html>)

Interesting. How many more parallels are we going to see? Yesterday Gailon says he finally got a threatening sounding letter from an attorney, but he did say it didn't have any claws.

It's ridiculous. Why is Danny getting so desperate? All he has to do is come clean. But the fact that he refuses suggests that he knows that he can't. And perhaps his pride prevents him from saying those few words that melt most hearts: "I am sorry. Will you forgive me?"

But he should remember that only God is infallible. Adventists don't believe in papal infallibility.

If only Lucifer had humbled himself in repentance way, way back, before he got kicked out of heaven, we wouldn't be in this mess today. Let that be a lesson to us all.

Posted by: Pickle Feb 1 2007, 10:19 AM

QUOTE(Canada.com)

Priest blames girls for abuse he caused

Lawyer speaks at workshop after visiting pedophile in prison

Roberta Pennington, CanWest News Service

Published: Thursday, January 18, 2007

WINDSOR - Convicted pedophile Reverend Charles Sylvestre blames his victims, other clergy and a school principal for the abuse he caused nearly 50 young girls, Ontario Crown Paul Bailey said yesterday.

"What we have here is a man who minimized his own involvement, blamed others, showed no [remorse] whatsoever to the psychological carnage that he caused," Mr. Bailey said. ...

(<http://www.canada.com/nationalpost/story.html?id=a9b28207-58bd-4e0d-b8fe-57be11a56f73>)

Just too many similarities.

The undiluted second angel's message says, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen." And Rev. 18 says, "Come out of her my people." As W. D. Frazee pointed out to a group of Country Life workers in 1983, not only do we have to come out of Babylon, but Babylon has to come out of us.

Hmm. Does anyone think any of the language in Rev. 18:2 fits this situation?

Now understand, I'm one who will fight tooth and nail against the idea that the Adventist Church is Babylon. We're not Babylon. We're nauseating Laodicea, the people who think they are rich and increased with goods and in need of nothing, and instead are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked. We're the people whom Jesus says He is about to spew out of His mouth, and that means cease to intercede for, not confess our names before the Father anymore.

Yet we are told that "the church may appear as about to fall." Is another prophecy being fulfilled before our very eyes?

Posted by: eye witness Feb 1 2007, 11:59 AM

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Pickle first of all Tommy Shelton is not a member of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church! Second he has not been convicted of any crime! Thirdly with your idea of restoration, love and ministry, I really doubt that Tommy Shelton could ever look at the Remnant Church as being that which it was called to be.

The tower of Babel resulted in confusion, Babylon has always been confusing. Babel represents a mixture of conflicting ideas. (Much like the forums seen here.)

Remember that there are only two kinds of people in the world -those who know God, and those who don't know God. And both types can be found in every church, including your own. It takes more than having a name written on the church books to be a Christian. A Christian is one who KNOWS Jesus Christ.

Right at the end of the second angels message is something that needs to be looked at. The "fornication" in a spiritual sense this would be the merging of two principles that cannot merge, "salvation by faith" and "salvation by works".

It appears much that you preach the salvation by works. My friend it is only through the Blood of Jesus and His Righteousness that you, I, and Mr. Shelton are saved. Martin Luther struggled with this same thing many years ago.

It is not you Mr. Pickle who can offer forgiveness to Mr. Tommy Shelton. It is not you Pickle that

Tommy Shelton (if guilty of these alluded offenses) would confess His doing too, this my friend is the concept of the Priest in those denominations we are so familiar with as SDA's.

You appear to make yourself of some great importance, finding a place to condemn, correct, and demand. Do you Pickle have some sort of self worship going on? Isn't man worshiped when we have not time to seek God's power, His presence, and His control of situation and happenings in our lives. It seems you have called yourself to stand as some sort of judge and executioner for Mr. Shelton. Friend there is one common thread that runs through the Three Angles Message and it's personal. It is YOU fear God, YOU give glory to Him, YOU worship Him. It's also the warning of Self worship and the invitation to the deeper life of worshipping and TRUSTING GOD.

The message that you and I should be proclaiming to the world and to Mr. Shelton is Jesus Saves and Jesus Forgives Sin!

What is your witness Pickle? Where is it? Your respect of person's in this is evident! Is this not sin? So how is it that what you do, and your respect of person (yourself, Linda) a lesser sin than what you have accused Mr. Shelton of? *I understand sin in whatever form will not be in heaven.*

I cry to you as Elijah called to the people, as John the Baptist called to the people, and as part of the Remnant Church and the last message of time. REPENT and turn from your evil ways. Give Glory and Honor and Power to the Lord Jesus Christ. For it is His Righteousness that will save you.

"Not by power not by might but by my spirit says the Lord."

You have the duty to sound the alarm, which has been done repeatedly. Can you not trust the Lord to use all that you have brought forward? Is God lacking and his arm shortened in this matter? God Forbid! Pickle fall to your knees and humble yourself in the presence of God Almighty!

It's not your profession of SDA that has called you to this stand, it is not the credentials as pastor that has called you to this position. It has not been the Lord that called you to such either, for our Lord is a loving God and He does not burn people forever and ever and ever.

Yet you proclaim God has called you to scorn this man for months on end, over, and over, and over.

Posted by: princessdi Feb 1 2007, 12:20 PM

Be SDA or not, he was a minister of God who prayed upon the young male members of his church, and basically everywhere he went. Those Catholic priests went for years with out being convicted or disciplined in any manner, they were still guilty. Tommy is right where they were before they were finally caught. Thing is somebody had to talk about it, bring it out, shed some light on that which was done in darkness. I am just not understanding you and others defending and condoning his behavior. As a married man it was wrong let alone, calling himself a Man of God.

You, also, are welcome to boycott BSDA in protest. We will miss you.....really. ☹

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 09:59 AM) ☹

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Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Feb 1 2007, 12:26 PM

How long have the charges against Tommy Shelton been discussed here? Since late 2006? Would Tommy Shelton be more likely to be interested in becoming SDA if everyone here were to turn a blind eye to the testimonies of the Clem Brothers and Brad Dunning or the hurting mother of a younger victim?

How long has Tommy Shelton been exposed to all of the Remnant working at 3abn? How long has he seen his SDA brethren work to cover up his alleged damaging behavior by lies and intimidation? That witness by the Remnant working at 3abn didn't seem to do much to woo him in, did it?

I have personally stated many times that Tommy Shelton is one of God's children, purchased by the same blood that Jesus shed for all of us. I am praying that he will break out of his denial, claim the salvation that Jesus offers and truly repent and provide restitution to his victims.

Please, if you are going to cry to anyone as Elijah and John the Baptist to repent and turn from your evil ways, cry to Danny Shelton and his brother Tommy for their own sakes and that of the wonderful ministry of 3abn!!!

Posted by: erik Feb 1 2007, 12:33 PM

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It appears much that you preach the salvation by works. My friend it is only through the Blood of Jesus and His Righteousness that you, I, and Mr. Shelton are saved. Martin Luther struggled with this same thing many years ago.

It is not you Mr. Pickle who can offer forgiveness to Mr. Tommy Shelton. It is not you Pickle that Tommy Shelton (if guilty of these alluded offenses) would confess His doing too, this my friend is the concept of the Priest in those denominations we are so familiar with as SDA's.

You appear to make yourself of some great importance, finding a place to condemn, correct, and demand. Do you Pickle have some sort of self worship going on? Isn't man worshiped when we have not time to seek God's power, His presence, and His control of situation and happenings in our lives. Is seems you have called yourself to stand as some sort of judge and executioner for Mr. Shelton .

Friend there is one common thread that runs through the Three Angles Message and it's personal. It is YOU fear God, YOU give glory to Him, YOU worship Him. Its also the warning of Self worship and the invitation to the deeper life of worshiping and TRUSTING GOD.

The message that you and I should be proclaiming to the world and to Mr. Shelton is Jesus Saves and Jesus Forgives Sin!

What is your witness Pickle? Where is it? Your respect of person's in this is evident! Is this not sin? So how is it that what you do, and your respect of person (yourself, Linda) a lesser sin that what you have accused Mr. Shelton of? I understand sin in whatever form will not be in heaven.

I cry to you as Elijah called to the people, as John the Baptist called to the people, and as part of the Remnant Church and the last message of time. REPENT and turn from your evil ways. Give Glory and Honor and Power to the Lord Jesus Christ. For it is His Righteousness that will save you. "Not by power not by might but by my spirit says the Lord."

You have the duty to sound the alarm, which has been done repeatedly. Can you not trust the Lord to use all that you have brought forward? Is God lacking and his arm shortened in this matter? God Forbid! Pickle fall to your knees and humble yourself in the presence of God Almighty!

Its not your profession of SDA that has called you to this stand, it is not the credentials as pastor that has called you to this position. It has not been the Lord that called you to such either, for our Lord is a loving God and He does not burn people forever and ever and ever.

Yet you proclaim God has called you to scorn this man for months on end, over, and over, and over.

Eye witness,

In this country(USA) we removed from office a sitting congressman for sending suggestive emails to underage young people. NOW please show me where we are to **hold our pastors** no matter what church they are grouped with, to lower standard then our political leaders?

Eye witness , I do not believe that Mr. Pickle is trying to scorn or burn Tommy S. over and over again, only just trying to get the Shelton Brothers to stop playing Games. You my friend are only aiding in those games. The bottom line is that only God can forgive sin I am sure that Mr. Pickle would full agree with that, but the same God that can forgive has stated in his word that for Public sins there needs to be public confession that has not been forthcoming in the least period.

So after Tommy confesses and Mr. pickle still goes after him then you will have grounds to complain, until that time please try and be understanding if some of us do not want to sit by and watch the gospel being made a mockery.

Erik W.

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ Feb 1 2007, 10:26 AM)

How long have the charges against Tommy Shelton been discussed here? Since late 2006? Would Tommy Shelton be more likely to be interested in becoming SDA if everyone here were to turn a blind eye to the testimonies of the Clem Brothers and Brad Dunning or the hurting mother of a younger victim?

How long has Tommy Shelton been exposed to all of the Remnant working at 3abn? How long has he seen his SDA brethren work to cover up his alleged damaging behavior by lies and intimidation? That witness by the Remnant working at 3abn didn't seem to do much to woo him in, did it?

I have personally stated many times that Tommy Shelton is one of God's children, purchased by the same blood that Jesus shed for all of us. I am praying that he will break out of his denial, claim the salvation that Jesus offers and truly repent and provide restitution to his victims.

Please, if you are going to cry to anyone as Elijah and John the Baptist to repent and turn from your evil ways, cry to Danny Shelton and his brother Tommy for their own sakes and that of the wonderful ministry of 3abn!!!

amen, amen amen

Posted by: sister Feb 1 2007, 12:35 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 12:59 PM)

Yet you proclaim God has called you to scorn this man for months on end, over, and over, and over.

Eye Witness, your arguments are based upon the false assumption quoted above. If the assumption is false, then the conclusion arrived from it must in turn be false. Pickle has never claimed that God "called" him to "scorn" Tommy Shelton. He has also made statements here, that he came searching truth, neither as a supporter of Danny or Linda Shelton. Within the framework of that investigation he has gone directly to the sources to hear their testimony. Where he found conflicting statements, he sought further for answers. Those answers lead to the information regarding the allegations of sexual molestation against Tommy Shelton. Rather than merely accepting second hand allegations he sought out the victims. It is the testimony of the victims that speak against Tommy Shelton. The Bible say that it takes the testimony of two or more witnesses to convict a man of sin. In the case of Tommy Shelton the testimonies have exceeded two a number of times over and more victims are still coming forward.

Eye Witness, isn't time to set aside this charade of trying to misrepresent and discredit the messenger in order to silence the message? This dog doesn't hunt here...

Sister

Posted by: Observer Feb 1 2007, 12:40 PM

Re: "WINDSOR - Convicted pedophile Reverend Charles Sylvestre blames his victims, other clergy and a school principal for the abuse he caused nearly 50 young girls, Ontario Crown Paul Bailey said yesterday.

"What we have here is a man who minimized his own involvement, blamed others, showed no [remorse] whatsoever to the psychological carnage that he caused," Mr. Bailey said. ... (http://www.canada.com/nationalpost/story.h...fe-57be11a56f73)"

That attitude is not uncommon. I once worked with a highly educated, highly paid male who blamed the 4 YO female that he molested: How was he expected to respond to her? She walked in front of him naked! What would any normal male do?

For those who were unable to logon to the above URL try this one:

<http://www.canada.com/nationalpost/story.html?id=a9b28207-58bd-4e0d-b8fe-57be11a56f73>

Posted by: eye witness Feb 1 2007, 12:50 PM

QUOTE(princessdi @ Feb 1 2007, 12:20 PM)

Be SDA or not, he was a minister of God who prayed upon the young male members of his church, and basically everywhere he went. Those Catholic priests went for years with out being convicted opr disciplined in any manner, they were still guilty. Tommy is right where they were before they were finally caught. Thing is somebody had to talk aabout it, bring it out, shed some light on that which was done in darkness. I am just not understanding you and others defending and condoning his behavior. As a married man it was wrong let along, calling himself a Man of God.

You, also, are welcome to boycott BSDA in protest. We will miss you.....really.

Tommy (if convicted and is guilty of these allegations) was wrong to prey upon young males period. His relationship with God, his forgiveness with God, is not your business. You business is to witness to millions upon millions in this world of a Father who offers saving grace and mercy. HE (God) can change peoples lives. NOT you.

You are only making MR. Shelton your prey. Do two wrong make a right? Tell me are you looking for some sort of self satisfaction in your prey process? Sounds like to me that this is could be a problem in your prey on him and in his alleged prey on them. As I have stated the alarm has been sounded and sounded over, and over again. Let God be God and let the judicial system do their job. And as a christian (if you are) then do your job and witness about Jesus and his power to change lives. Has Jesus done anything for you? Has he changed your life in any way? If not, then let me introduce to you the creator of this world. The very one that hung the planets in space on nothing. He has deliever many from the hands of Satan and He can do the same for you today. He loves you, He created you to serve Him. He has made promise after promise in His word for you. H e wants you in his kingdom and He wants Tommy Shelton there also. God is all powerful, all knowing and not one thing passes by that He does not know about or can not attend to. He also knows every desire of your heart, every feeling that you possess at this minute. It is He that is so very much in love with you even when He is

not on your mind. Ask for His forgiveness for your wrong doings, ask Him to become Lord of you life, forgive those around you and trust God and believe Him not just believe in Him.

Posted by: Rosyroi Feb 1 2007, 01:10 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 09:59 AM) □

Pickle first of all Tommy Shelton is not a member of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church! Second he has not been convicted of any crime! Thirdly with your idea of restoration, love and ministry, I really doubt that Tommy Shelton could ever look at the Remnant Church as being that which it was called to be.

The tower of Babel resulted in confusion, Babylon has always been confusing. Babel represents a mixture of conflicting ideas. (Much like the forums seen here.)

Remember that there are only two kinds of people in the world -those who know God, and those who don't know God. And both types can be found in every church, including your own. It takes more than having a name written on the church books to be a Christian. A Christian is one who KNOWS Jesus Christ.

Right at the end of the second angels message is something that needs to be looked at. The "fornication" in a spiritual sense this would be the merging of two principles that cannot merge, "salvation by faith" and "salvation by works".

It appears much that you preach the salvation by works. My friend it is only through the Blood of Jesus and His Righteousness that you, I, and Mr. Shelton are saved. Martin Luther struggled with this same thing many years ago.

It is not you Mr. Pickle who can offer forgiveness to Mr. Tommy Shelton. It is not you Pickle that Tommy Shelton (if guilty of these alluded offenses) would confess His doing too, this my friend is the concept of the Priest in those denominations we are so familiar with as SDA's.

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What is your witness Pickle? Where is it? Your respect of person's in this is evident! Is this not sin? So how is it that what you do, and your respect of person (yourself, Linda) a lesser sin that what you have accused Mr. Shelton of? I understand sin in whatever form will not be in heaven.

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Yet you proclaim God has called you to scorn this man for months on end, over, and over, and over.



Posted by: eye witness Feb 1 2007, 01:12 PM

QUOTE(sister @ Feb 1 2007, 12:35 PM) □

Eye Witness, your arguments are based upon the false assumption quoted above. If the assumption is false, then the conclusion arrived from it must in turn be false. Pickle has never claimed that God "called" him to "scorn" Tommy Shelton. He has also made statements here, that he came searching truth, neither as a supporter of Danny or Linda Shelton. Within the framework of that investigation he has gone directly to the sources to hear their testimony. Where he found conflicting statements, he sought further for answers. Those answers lead to the information regarding the allegations of sexual molestation against Tommy Shelton. Rather than merely accepting second hand allegations he sought out the victims. It is the testimony of the victims that speak against Tommy Shelton. The Bible say that it takes the testimony of two or more witnesses to convict a man of sin. In the case of Tommy Shelton the testimonies have exceeded two a number of times over and more victims are still coming forward.

Eye Witness, isn't time to set aside this charade of trying to misrepresent and discredit the messenger in order to silence the message? This dog doesn't hunt here...

Sister

Sister what Pickle has posted, what Pickle has investigated and brought forward to the people are statements that are unfounded. Where are these people? Why have they not went to the authorities? One statement I read said that the person went to the authorities and there was nothing done? Why? Was there no evidence? How can you on someone draw a conclusion and find that because someone said it that it is truth.

Do you not know that their are people whom this is the only way they can get attention. It is with such methods at like this. I have questioned are any of these really just homosexuals, they don't have a case in the courts because they are known in the community as homosexuals. I don't know, but none of this without court proceedings, convictions is justified. If its court facts then weigh it, wallow in it, To do so without, well it just doesn't make since, not for what is suppose to be "christians".

Have you thought about how many of those sort of burdened people that have peverted ways get on this forum and get their statisfaction from reading about this gore. Their minds work differently than ours and they can find the content exciting, arousing. You and all those who have over and over and over went through this stuff are giving them more and more satisfaction. Have you ever thought about it? Give it some thought. This stuff is unhealthy for the poster for the readers and for the peverted as well. Posting the example of this incident and that incident this only helps those with the sickness to picture in their minds exactly the act they have either committed or would like to commit. This could be an asset to some child or whatever to become a victim today. Please I beg you, for those who this gore could hurt, stop giving Satan tools.

Ted Bundy was all about written material and pictures and so on. Please stop it folks you are enhancing what could be death for some who fall victim to the perversion.

Posted by: princessdi Feb 1 2007, 01:13 PM

Oh but it is my buisness, you see I belong to SDA church, and 3ABN, although an independent ministry, is an independent SDA ministry. All the programming on their is Adventist in their beliefs and doctrine. They carry all of our major events. So it is my business to make sure we nip this mess in the bud, before it this network TV. Do you realy think they will over look this in light of

the problems with Catholic priests? Another religious leader praying on young boys and men? We just had the preacher a few months ago with the homosexual affair? Yes, it *IS* my business.

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 10:50 AM)

Tommy (if convicted and is guilty of these allegations) was wrong to prey upon young males period. His relationship with God, his forgiveness with God, is not your business. You business is to witness to millions upon millions in this world of a Father who offers saving grace and mercy. HE (God) can change peoples lives. NOT you. You are only making MR. Shelton your prey. Do two wrong make a right? Tell me are you looking for some sort of self satisfaction in your prey process? Sounds like to me that this is could be a problem in your prey on him and in his alleged prey on them. As I have stated the alarm has been sounded and sounded over, and over again. Let God be God and let the judicial system do their job. And as a christian (if you are) then do your job and witness about Jesus and his power to change lives. Has Jesus done anything for you? Has he changed your life in any way? If not, then let me introduce to you the creator of this world. The very one that hung the planets in space on nothing. He has deliever many from the hands of Satan and He can do the same for you today. He loves you, He created you to serve Him. He has made promise after promise in His word for you. H e wants you in his kingdom and He wants Tommy Shelton there also. God is all powerful, all knowing and not one thing passes by that He does not know about or can not attend to. He also knows every desire of your heart, every feeling that you possess at this minute. It is He that is so very much in love with you even when He is not on your mind. Ask for His forgiveness for your wrong doings, ask Him to become Lord of you life, forgive those around you and trust God and believe Him not just believe in Him.

Posted by: erik Feb 1 2007, 01:17 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 11:12 AM)

Sister what Pickle has posted, what Pickle has investigated and brought forward to the people are statements that are unfounded. Where are these people? Why have they not went to the authorities? One statement I read said that the person went to the authorities and there was nothing done? Why? Was there no evidence? How can you on someone draw a conclusion and find that because someone said it that it is truth.

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Please I beg you, for those who this gore could hurt, stop giving Satan tools.

Ted Bundy was all about written material and pictures and so on. Please stop it folks you are enhancing what could be death for some who fall victim to the preversion.

eye witness,

what would you have us to do look the other way, that certainly is satans tool has well.

ERIK

Posted by: seraph|m Feb 1 2007, 01:20 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 01:50 PM)

Tommy (if convicted and is guilty of these allegations) was wrong to prey upon young males period. His relationship with God, his forgiveness with God, is not your business. You business is to witness to millions upon millions in this world of a Father who offers saving grace and mercy. HE (God) can change peoples lives. NOT you.

EW, you obviously don't know your place. It's not your place to tell anyone here or elsewhere about what their business is.

A lil advice. You would be better served taking your own advice and, let the Holy Spirit work with your attitude. Let Him tame that tongue of yours... Don't be a stumbling block, just keep movin and keep YOUR eyes on Jesus. Ta ta

Posted by: eye witness Feb 1 2007, 01:30 PM

QUOTE(erik @ Feb 1 2007, 12:33 PM)

Eye witness,

In this country(USA) we removed from office a sitting congressman for sending suggestive emails to underage young people. NOW please show me were were are to **hold our pastors** no matter what church they are grouped with, to lower standard then our political leaders?

Eye witness , I do not believe that Mr. Pickle is trying to scorn or burn Tommy S. over and over again, only just trying to get the Shelton Brothers to stop playing Games. You my friend are only aiding in those games. The bottom line is that only God can forgive sin I am sure that Mr. Pickle would full agree with that, but the same God that can forgive has stated in his word that for Public sins there needs to be public confession that has not been forthcoming in the least period.

So after Tommy confesses and Mr. pickle still goes after him then you will have grounds to complain, until that time please try and be understanding if some of us do not want to sit by and watch the gospel being made a mockery.

Erik W.
amen, amen amen

until that time please try and be understanding if some of us do not want to sit by and watch the gospel being made a mockery.

The mockery of the Gospel is found in each and every one of our lives, if we are profession christians, and sin. Do you sin?

QUOTE(seraph|m @ Feb 1 2007, 01:20 PM)

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I should have frazed that a little differently. The Bible gave christians the great commission. Some will and some won't. There are those who serve and there are those who don't.
Ta Ta

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Hey is that your picture? Which one are you the naked man or the naked women.

Posted by: seraph|m Feb 1 2007, 01:33 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 12:59 PM)

... The tower of Babel resulted in confusion, Babylon has always been confusing. Babel represents a mixture of conflicting ideas. (Much like the forums seen here.)

Remember that there are only two kinds of people in the world -those who know God, and those who don't know God. And both types can be found in every church, including your own. It takes more than having a name written on the church books to be a Christian. A Christian is one who KNOWS Jesus Christ...

Again, you have forgotten your place. Calling either the Adventist church or BSDA Babylon is not a wise thing.

Posted by: Clay Feb 1 2007, 01:36 PM

Eyewitness... you better get of of 3abn's computer... they may need it to do some other productive things.... as for your little tirades...



talk to the hand....

Posted by: eye witness Feb 1 2007, 01:40 PM

QUOTE(Clay @ Feb 1 2007, 01:36 PM)

Eyewitness... you better get of of 3abn's computer... they may need it to do some other productive things.... as for your little tirades...



talk to the hand....

May talk to the hand cause the mind is not with you.

Posted by: erik Feb 1 2007, 01:42 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 11:30 AM)

until that time please try and be understanding if some of us do not want to sit by and watch the gospel being made a mockery.

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 I should have frazed that a little differently. The Bible gave christians the great commission. Some will and some won't. There are those who serve and there are those who don't.
 Ta Ta
 Hey is that your picture? Which one are you the naked man or the naked women.

Eye Witness,

How do you mean that if i sin i am making mockery of the gospel?

Secondly, to answer your Question yes i do, sadly must go to cross daily to confess various things.

Thirdly, it is a mockery of the gospel to have repent offender by all appearances unrepentant on top of that out proclaiming the gospel has a pastor, IF tommy has repented then i am the first to give him second chances but he has not has proven by the letter mike riva wrote in jan. 2007 so please do lower my sin or tommy's by comparing them. they are different yet all sin places a barrier between us and god. WERE the difference comes in is unrepeated of sin removes from the saving power of the gospel until such time has place ourselves back under the cross.

please do not try and defend the actions of tommy by looking for sin in my life or anyones else's it does nothing to remove tommys actions or guilt.

erik

Posted by: Clay Feb 1 2007, 01:42 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 01:40 PM)

Clay talk to the hand cause the mind is not with you.

eye witness we are giving you the benefit of the doubt regarding your possessing a mind... its clear you don't possess common sense.....

Posted by: eye witness Feb 1 2007, 01:55 PM

QUOTE(seraph|m @ Feb 1 2007, 01:33 PM)

Again, you have forgotten your place. Calling either the Adventist church or BSDA Babylon is not a wise thing.

You have twisted some of those words. The Seventh Day Adventist church is not Babylon. They are the Remnate Church one that will carry the message of the Third Elijah to the entire world, including you, and dear friend it is Christ our Righteousness. This is the part of the Three Angles Message that, well even you may not understand. See what I am saying right now is this: Without this relationship with God, which is the entire basis of the Christian life, the Seventh Day Adventist religion becomes nothing more than some kind of moralistic club or society. Many can get caught up in sounding trumpets, and keeping the law, but seem to forget about Christ Our Righteousness. See Salvation is either totally through faith in Christ alone or tatally through your own words. There is no middle ground. To attempt combining the two is to attempt the impossible.

Posted by: task force Feb 1 2007, 02:03 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 11:59 AM)

Pickle first of all Tommy Shelton is not a member of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church! **Second he has not been convicted of any crime!** Thirdly with your idea of restoration, love and ministry, I really doubt that Tommy Shelton could ever look at the Remnant Church as being that which it was called to be.

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Right at the end of the second angels message is something that needs to be looked at. The "fornication" in a spiritual sense this would be the merging of two principles that cannot merge, "salvation by faith" and "salvation by works".

It appears much that you preach the salvation by works. My friend it is only through the Blood of Jesus and His Righteousness that you, I, and Mr. Shelton are saved. Martin Luther struggled with this same thing many years ago.

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You have the duty to sound the alarm, which has been done repeatedly. Can you not trust the Lord to use all that you have brought forward? Is God lacking and his arm shortened in this matter? God Forbid! Pickle fall to your knees and humble yourself in the presence of God Almighty!

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Yet you proclaim God has called you to scorn this man for months on end, over, and over, and over.

Eye Witness, You say their are **no convictions** against Tommy Shelton, were there ever **any charges filed** against him with the arthorities? Anywhere, anytime? I want to ask you this because it is my understanding that the Clem man that wrote the letter that G. Joy has posted, is about 40 years old now. It that is true, then Clem must have been 19 or 20 when this thing was suppose to have happened. Wouldn't that just be a "consenting" adult?. Do you know anything about D. Clem? I understand that he has never been married, has never had a girlfriend, and has never even dated a girl. If I am wrong, correct me if you know about that.

Posted by: seraph|m Feb 1 2007, 02:06 PM

Anyway, I'm shaking the dust off of my feet, in light of the following:
Pro 26:5 Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.

Posted by: eye witness Feb 1 2007, 02:07 PM

QUOTE(seraph|m @ Feb 1 2007, 01:33 PM) □


**Again, you have forgotten your place. Calling either the Adventist church or BSDA
Babylon is not a wise thing. □**

You have twisted again the words there seraphim. Again an example of what happens when he said, she said. Seventh Day Adventist are people who are the Remnant who have a relationship with God, which is the entire bases of the Christian life, the Seventh-day Adventist religion becomes nothing more than some kind of moralistic club or society with out the relationship with Jesus and *understanding Christ our Righteousness.*

Posted by: Grace Feb 1 2007, 02:07 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 08:55 PM) □

You have twisted some of those words. The Seventh Day Adventist church is not Babylon. They are the Remnate Church one that will carry the message of the Third Elijah to the entire world, including you, and dear friend it is Christ our Righteousness. This is the part of the Three Angles Message that, well even you may not understand. See what I am saying right now is this: Without this relationship with God, which is the entire basis of the Christian life, the Seventh Day Adventist religion becomes nothing more than some kind of moralistic club or society. Many can get caught up in sounding trumpets, and keeping the law, but seem to forget about Christ Our Righteousness. See Salvation is either totally through faith in Christ alone or tatally through your own words. There is no middle ground. To attempt combining the two is to attempt the impossible.

Aren't we getting...  ?

Posted by: seraph|m Feb 1 2007, 02:12 PM

QUOTE(task force @ Feb 1 2007, 03:03 PM)

Eye Witness... If I am wrong, correct me if you know about that.

TF be advised you have bitten off much more than you can swallow. Now, if that's your thing fine, but I suggest that you please take your preferences some place other than here. Just tryin to be helpful. Don't let the door hit'cha, where the good... on your way out.

Posted by: eye witness Feb 1 2007, 02:32 PM

QUOTE(task force @ Feb 1 2007, 02:03 PM)

Eye Witness, You say their are **no convictions** against Tommy Shelton, were there ever **any charges filed** against him with the arthorities? Anywhere, anytime? I want to ask you this because it is my understanding that the Clem man that wrote the letter that G. Joy has posted, is about 40 years old now. It that is true, then Clem must have been 19 or 20 when this thing was suppose to have happened. Wouldn't that just be a "consenting" adult?. Do you know anything about D. Clem? I understand that he has never been married, has never had a girlfriend, and has never even dated a girl. If I am wrong, correct me if you know about that.

There has been no filings with any authorities anywhere. Tommy's record is clean. There are no convictions or there would be a filing on that. This that you read is all gossip nothing of substantial facts in any police station, judicial court ect. About the consenting adult thing. Well if it happened, I guess that, in this case it would be a homosexual relationship.


*****This post was edited for content*** Eyewitness you can only question the validity of Duane's testimony, not guess at his sexual orientation.**

We must realise though that Jesus still loves him and he also is welcome to the Living Water that Jesus offers to all. His healing can come through Jesus, if he but surrenders. I am amazed how people are trying to say that the man named Pickle is to bring Clem healing. There is no human on this earth that can bring healing for anyone in any situation.


Posted by: watchbird Feb 1 2007, 02:33 PM

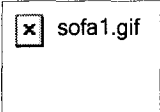
QUOTE(Grace @ Feb 1 2007, 03:07 PM)

Aren't we getting... off ?

....  WHAT?!?... you dare suggest that a good Pentecostal preacher is "getting off topic"???

Impossible.... when they are "on a roll" EVERYTHING is "on topic" and "fair game" for their gunfire....

 2n


Just take cover....  sofa1.gif relax.... there are some firm hands on the tiller here.... but...

this kind need to be given enough opportunity to fully expose their character.....

Peace... 

Posted by: Brenda Feb 1 2007, 02:40 PM

QUOTE(task force @ Feb 2 2007, 07:03 AM) 

Eye Witness, You say their are [b]no convictions against Tommy Shelton, were there ever **any charges filed** against him with the arthorities? Anywhere, anytime? I want to ask you this because it is my understanding that the Clem man that wrote the letter that G. Joy has posted, is about 40 years old now. It that is true, then Clem must have been 19 or 20 when this thing was suppose to have happened. Wouldn't that just be a "consenting" adult?. Do you know anything about D. Clem? I understand that he has never been married, has never had a girlfriend, and has never even dated a girl. If I am wrong, correct me if you know about that. 

Now what has Duane Clem's dating history to do with this story?

One possible answer - He is and was homosexual and was happy with what Tommy Shelton did/is alleged to have done.

Problem - this flies in the face of Duane's own testimony

Two - He was so scarred by what happened/allegedly happened that he has not felt able to form a relationship with anyone since.

Just my cogitations.

Posted by: Grace Feb 1 2007, 02:48 PM

[quote name='Brenda' date='Feb 1 2007, 09:40 PM' post='174410']

Now what has Duane Clem's dating history to do with this story?

My thoughts: E.W. and T.F. are desperately trying to make Duane

look very bad so T.S. can look better.

 Not working for me!

Posted by: eye witness Feb 1 2007, 02:52 PM

QUOTE(erik @ Feb 1 2007, 01:42 PM)

Eye Witness,

How do you mean that if i sin i am making mockery of the gospel?

Secondly, to answer your Question yes i do, sadly must go to cross daily to confess various things.

Thirdly, it is a mockery of the gospel to have repent offender by all appearances **unrepentant on top of that** out proclaiming the gospel has a pastor, **IF tommy has repented then i am the first to give him second chances but he has not has proven** by the letter mike riva wrote in jan. 2007 so please do lower my sin or tommy's by comparing them. they are different yet all sin places a barrier between us and god. WERE the difference comes in is unrepeated of sin removes from the saving power of the gospel until such time has place ourselves back under the cross.

please do not try and defend the actions of tommy by looking for sin in my life or anyones else's it does nothing to remove tommys actions or guilt.

erik

You have said that Tommy is "unrepentant" and that it has not been proven to you that he has repented.

Do you know Tommy personally? Have you talked to him personally about this "unrepentance?" If you haven't , then maybe you have judged him wrongly. His repentance is "between" him and God, just as yours is.

Posted by: Hersheys99 Feb 1 2007, 02:55 PM

Yes the other team failed with their tactics so lets try it another way but still saying the same things. Bottom line is it DON'T Matter what their sexual preference is Tommy was married at the time & was having relationships outside of his marriage so on that grounds alone he was committing adultery in their own words. Still wrong. But to belittle the ones that have come forward with their stories & even the mom of one of the victims who was 8 or 9 at the time is just wrong of them & then they have the nerve to bring their bs in here. That dog don't hunt here.



Posted by: princessdi Feb 1 2007, 03:00 PM

Here is the problem EW. We dont' have to know him personally. If, inded, Tommy is of the mind that his victims were "consenting" adults, and him approaching them for sex was ok because they were of age(forgetting about the married pastor part), and generally in denial about the whole situation, why would he repent? He believes he did nothing wrong.

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 12:52 PM)

You have said that Tommy is "unrepentant" and that it has not been proven to you that he has repented.

Do you know Tommy personally? Have you talked to him personally about this "unrepentance?" If you haven't, then maybe you have judged him wrongly. His repentance is "between" him and God, just as yours is.

Posted by: eye witness Feb 1 2007, 03:16 PM

QUOTE(princessdi @ Feb 1 2007, 03:00 PM)

Here is the problem EW. We don't have to know him personally. If, indeed, Tommy is of the mind that his victims were "consenting" adults, and him approaching them for sex was ok because they were of age (forgetting about the married pastor part), and generally in denial about the whole situation, why would he repent? He believes he did nothing wrong.

Did he do anything wrong princessdi? Can you plug up the chair and pull the switch? Have you already written the prison sentence term? If you can and if you think you can then why don't you administer the punishment that you have determined? Could it be that you are no body in the judicial system who handles the crimes of the land. Are you saying that america's judicial system is lacking and you can improve on it? Are you just a bystander feeding on unfactual evidence and pointing a loaded gun at someone because your you, and you think your in the know?

Maybe your right knowing him personally has nothing to do with anything and not knowing him personally puts you just as far out in left field. One person who knows it all, and can fix all is the Lord.

You know absolutely nothing if Tommy is in denial or if he isn't. It's not you forgiveness, or your determination of any facts that will make a difference in court or with God.

Involving yourself with such is just being a busy body.

Posted by: watchbird Feb 1 2007, 03:28 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 04:16 PM)

Did he do anything wrong princessdi? Can you plug up the chair and pull the switch? Have you already written the prison sentence term? If you can and if you think you can then why don't you administer the punishment that you have determined? Could it be that you are no body in the judicial system who handles the crimes of the land. Are you saying that america's judicial system is lacking and you can improve on it? Are you just a bystander feeding on unfactual evidence and pointing a loaded gun at someone because your you, and you think your in the know?

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You know absolutely nothing if Tommy is in denial or if he isn't. It's not you forgiveness, or your determination of any facts that will make a difference in court or with God.

Involving yourself with such is just being a busy body.

And do you know Di... or any of the rest of us personally? Turn your questions upon yourself. Do you or an instant think that there are not people on here who DO know Tommy personally? Is YOUR opinion the only one in the world that counts?

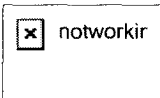
A pox on your attitude... be it unto you as you have tried to do to others....

..... 

Posted by: Grace Feb 1 2007, 03:30 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 10:16 PM)

Involving yourself with such is just being a busy body.

four techniques  notworkir because we can't wash our hands and close our eyes to abuse being perpetrated.

Posted by: princessdi Feb 1 2007, 03:37 PM

EW, Evidence in the form of letters from victims has been repesented here. If you have credible testimony to the contrary present it. If you don't just concede this one. Now, you dont' really believe Tommy is innocnet either, or else you would not trying to be justifying his actions, Trying to infer that Duane is gay, trying "adjust" the ages of the young men to make it "homosexual" affairs, instead of child molestation.

I am not saying anything aobut our judicial system only that in the case of the Catholic priests Somebody finally talking about it and the new media is what jumpstarted them into action.

Also, you really need to watch your tone.

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 01:16 PM)

Did he do anything wrong princessdi? Can you plug up the chair and pull the switch? Have you already written the prison sentence term? If you can and if you think you can then why don't you administer the punishment that you have determined? Could it be that you are no body in the judicial system who handles the crimes of the land. Are you saying that america's judicial system is lacking and you can improve on it? Are you just a bystander feeding on unfactual evidence and pointing a loaded gun at someone because your you, and you think your in the know? Maybe your right knowing him personally has nothing to do with anything and not knowing him persoanlly puts you just as far out in left field. One person who knows it all, and can fix all is the

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Posted by: erik Feb 1 2007, 03:38 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 12:52 PM) □

You have said that Tommy is "unrepentant" and that it has not been proven to you that he has repented.

Do you know Tommy personally? Have you talked to him personally about this "unrepentance?" If you haven't , then maybe you have judged him wrongly. His repentance is "between" him and God, just as yours is.

EW,

You are 100% correct that i do not personally know Tommy S., in fact for his sake it is lucky that i do not know him because he would be getting a earful from me about his whole mess.

Secondly, IF, IF tommy S. is repented of his actions against this young men, then HE WOULD IN NO WAY have allowed the letter written by a Mr. Mike Riva in jan. 2007. or if it was done with out his knowledge then has soon has he is aware of it he will post in a very public manner a rebutal of mr. Riva's letter.

So far that has not happened so i think it is VERY, VERY safe to have deep, deep questions about his level of repentance.

erik

Posted by: awesumtenor Feb 1 2007, 03:49 PM

QUOTE(erik @ Feb 1 2007, 04:38 PM) □

Secondly, IF, IF tommy S. is repented of his actions against this young men, then HE WOULD IN NO WAY have allowed the letter written by a Mr. Mike Riva in jan. 2007. or if it was done with out his knowledge then has soon has he is aware of it he will post in a very public manner a rebutal of mr. Riva's letter.

If he was repentant, this entire line of discussion would not have seen the light of day... these repeated attempts to conceal, deny, change the subject, condemn the victims, et cetera et cetera et

cetera (think Yul Brynner in The King and I... but i digress...)

There is a reason Achan's family had to die with him; aiding and abetting is no better than the act itself... one would think a family and friends with so many numbered among them that are supposed to be so learned in the word would have picked up on that before they set out to defend Tommy by any means necessary...

But i guess when one's conscience is seared as if with a hot iron, repentance is only a fruit of getting caught...

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: princessdi Feb 1 2007, 04:00 PM

I edited out he inflammatory portion of Eye Witness' post, because it was mean and meant to defame the character of Mr. Clem.

Now here is a NEWS FLASH!!!! for all of you who didn't know. Your claim that "Mr. Clem is and was homosexual therefore he liked and wanted it", is bogus. Not every homosexual wants to have sex with every man walking. That is part of a sterotype. Besides he said he didn't like at all. You need to take his word for it, they are his feelings and you should not invalidate them. Besides, it is telling of the fact that you believe Tommy did indeed approach these young men, and that he, indeed, is homosexual. Seeing as that is damagin to Mr, Shelton, you might want to let that go. That being said:

******We will have no more speculation as to the orientation of the victims who have stopped forward ******

QUOTE(task force @ Feb 2 2007, 07:03 AM)

Eye Witness, You say their are [b]no convictions against Tommy Shelton, were there ever **any charges filed** against him with the arthorities? Anywhere, anytime? I want to ask you this because it is my understanding that the Clem man that wrote the letter that G. Joy has posted, is about 40 years old now. It that is true, then Clem must have been 19 or 20 when this thing was suppose to have happened. Wouldn't that just be a "consenting" adult?. Do you know anything about D. Clem? I understand that he has never been married, has never had a girlfriend, and has never even dated a girl. If I am wrong, correct me if you know about that.

QUOTE

Now what has Duane Clem's dating history to do with this story?

One possible answer - He is and was homosexual and was happy with what Tommy Shelton did/is alleged to have done.

Problem - this flies in the face of Duane's own testimony

Two - He was so scarred by what happened/allegedly happened that he has not felt able to form a relationship with anyone since.

Just my cogitations.

Posted by: erik Feb 1 2007, 04:10 PM

[quote name='awesumtenor' date='Feb 1 2007, 01:49 PM' post='174433']

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AMen

Posted by: eye witness Feb 1 2007, 04:30 PM

*******This post has been edited for content. I said that we would have no more speculation of the sexual orientation of any of the victims who have stepped forward, and I meant it. Perhaps, after a 48 hr.s time out, you will have some different conversation*******

QUOTE(erik @ Feb 1 2007, 03:38 PM)

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Erik

erik, erik, erik, what you think he should do, does not make the man guilty or innocent. His level of epentance in your eyes does not make a hoot either.

QUOTE(princessdi @ Feb 1 2007, 03:37 PM)

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testimony to the contrary present it. If you don't just concede this one. Now, you dont' really believe Tommy is innocnet either, or else you would not trying to be justifying his actions, Trying to infer that Duane is gay, trying "adjust" the ages of the young men to make it "homosexual" affairs, instead of child molestation.

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Also, you really need to watch your tone.

don't know what tone I am typing in. Is it the color? I'll switch. I thought they were all there to be used. I don't type in caps. Please enlighten me on the tone. I am not pleading Tommy innocent or guilty. What has been asked is where do you stand?

Posted by: princessdi Feb 1 2007, 04:44 PM

I don't know what tone I am typing in. Is it the color? I'll switch. I thought they were all there to be used. I don't type in caps. Please enlighten me on the tone.

I am not addressing this at all, grown folks know when they have attitude problems

I am not pleading Tommy innocent or guilty. What has been asked is where do you stand?

I stand with the fact that there are at lest four letters here from victims and relatives who have the same story aobut Tommy Shelton, and until I get some equally convincing evidence, it is more than possible that he is guilty, but it should be investigated either way. Besides, I have three of you here, not proclaiming Tommy's innocence per se, but only making him guilty of having homosexual affairs. Which means you even believe something happened. I have always said that they should not allowed him to be at 3ABN until an investigation was done. If he is innocent, so be it, if not, then we have one more sexual predator off the streets. Simple!

Posted by: erik Feb 1 2007, 05:34 PM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 02:30 PM) □

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EW,

our right what i think does not matter, but what God thinks does!

Secondly, on the whole issue of repentance: "like my mother told me when i was young ACTIONS speak MUCH louder then words."

this is why the letter from Mr. Riva speaks so loud because it is action that can not be explained away.

Thridly, here is news headline about what happens in the real world when an affair happens.

AIDE QUIT AS NEWSOM'S AFFAIR WITH HIS WIFE IS REVEALED
Campaign manager confronts mayor, who is 'in shock'

Erik

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Feb 1 2007, 07:06 PM

IMO EW was successful today. She came here to divert attention and we all fell for it, myself included. She switched our focus from the important issues to the non important ones, and herself. How to prevent it? I have no idea.

Richard

Posted by: PaperTigers Feb 1 2007, 07:09 PM

we could just ignore her ... but that is easier said than done..



Posted by: princessdi Feb 1 2007, 07:11 PM

Time out works real good!

QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Feb 1 2007, 05:06 PM)


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How to prevent it? I have no idea.
Richard

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Feb 1 2007, 07:23 PM

Of course the truth be known if the 3abn camp would just shut up there would be a lot less written here. They just don't seem smart enough to get that.

Richard


QUOTE(princessdi @ Feb 1 2007, 08:11 PM)

Time out works real good! 

Posted by: princessdi Feb 1 2007, 07:26 PM

Come on now, Richard! You are asking waaaay too much of them! LOL!!


QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Feb 1 2007, 05:23 PM)

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Richard

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Feb 1 2007, 09:09 PM

QUOTE(Richard Sherwin @ Feb 1 2007, 08:23 PM)

Of course the truth be known if the 3abn camp would just shut up there would be a lot less written here. They just don't seem smart enough to get that. 

Richard

I was thinking exactly the same thing. They keep a lot of the drama going.

Posted by: ex3ABNemployee Feb 1 2007, 11:47 PM

QUOTE(task force @ Feb 1 2007, 02:03 PM)

Eye Witness, You say their are **no convictions** against Tommy Shelton, were there ever **any charges filed** against him with the arthorities? Anywhere, anytime? I want to ask you this because it is my understanding that the Clem man that wrote the letter that G. Joy has posted, is about 40 years old now. It that is true, then Clem must have been 19 or 20 when this thing was suppose to have happened. Wouldn't that just be a "consenting" adult?. Do you know anything about D. Clem? I understand that he has never been married, has never had a girlfriend, and has never even dated

a girl. If I am wrong, correct me if you know about that.

Well, if you really must know, why don't you just ask me instead of engaging in gossip?

Duane Clem

Posted by: Bystander Feb 2 2007, 12:01 AM

QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Feb 1 2007, 09:09 PM)

I was thinking exactly the same thing. They keep a lot of the drama going.

was just thinking the same about you hoty. By the way, your info that Tommy was coming back on weeks ago never happened.

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Feb 2 2007, 12:02 AM

QUOTE(task force @ Feb 1 2007, 03:03 PM)

Eye Witness, You say their are **no convictions** against Tommy Shelton, were there ever **any charges filed** against him with the arthorities? Anywhere, anytime? I want to ask you this because it is my understanding that the Clem man that wrote the letter that G. Joy has posted, is about 40 years old now. It that is true, then Clem must have been 19 or 20 when this thing was suppose to have happened. Wouldn't that just be a "consenting" adult?. Do you know anything about D. Clem? I understand that he has never been married, has never had a girlfriend, and has never even dated a girl. If I am wrong, correct me if you know about that.

This is must be the lowest thing I've ever seen posted here. This is nothing more than a request for any information that would make Duane's credibility lowered. You should really spend some time out while you reassess the situation. In fact, try spending some time praying before you post something so hideous.

You are implying some things here just shows your inner self. And I am not liking what you're showing. Shame on you.

Posted by: Bystander Feb 2 2007, 12:10 AM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 1 2007, 11:47 PM)

Well, if you really must know, why don't you just ask me instead of engaging in gossip?

Duane Clem

You're right. the key word is ENGAGING. In order to engage their must be others involved and there certainly is on this forum. Why is it ok for them to engage in gossip? There have been so many assumptions, accusations, half truths and lies told here that it makes ones head spin.

[quote name='husbandoftheyear' date='Feb 2 2007, 12:02 AM' post='174562']

This is must be the lowest thing I've ever seen posted here. This is nothing more than a request for any information that would make Duane's credibility lowered. You should really spend some time out while you reassess the situation. In fact, try spending some time praying before you post something so hideous.

So hideous??? Maybe you missed the post by Fran last night that said Texas might pass a law to give the death penalty to 3 time sex offenders. She then said come on down to Texas Tommy but please wait until the law is passed. Now that is hideous, unchristian, spiteful and unfeeling. Yet I never saw anyone warn or reprimand her on that post.

QUOTE(princessdi @ Feb 1 2007, 07:26 PM)

Come on now, Richard! You are asking waaaay too much of them! LOL!!

Now how can we shut up when the administrators play favorites. Maybe you missed the post by Fran last night that said Texas might pass a law to give the death penalty to 3 time sex offenders. She then said come on down to Texas Tommy but please wait until the law is passed. Now that is hideous, unchristian, spiteful and unfeeling. Yet I never saw anyone warn or reprimand her on that post. Now really di, how could you take off eyewitness for hinting at something but not take off Fran for this terrible remark? We might be of differing opinions here but no one can say that something like that should be allowed here.
Am I right?

Posted by: awesumtenor Feb 2 2007, 12:21 AM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 2 2007, 01:10 AM)

snipped

You seem unable to grasp that this forum doesn't originate from Thompsonville... and being here is not a right; it's a privilege... a privilege that for you was revoked...

Dont get too comfy...

In His service,
Mr. J

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 2 2007, 01:01 AM)

snipped

Is this the best you can do, Danny? What's next? A rousing rendition of " I'm rubber, you're glue" or "sticks and stones", perhaps?

I bet Pat Robertson doesn't play such childish games...

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: Ralph Feb 2 2007, 12:29 AM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 1 2007, 10:47 PM)

Well, if you really must know, why don't you just ask me instead of engaging in gossip?

Duane Clem

I notice that Bystander didn't take you up on your offer. Strange.

Posted by: ex3ABNemployee Feb 2 2007, 12:32 AM

QUOTE(Ralph @ Feb 2 2007, 12:29 AM)

I notice that Bystander didn't take you up on your offer. Strange.

Not strange at all. He appears to be a coward. I have no problem posting my name. I have nothing to hide. Bystander wants to launch little doubt grenades under the cover of a screen name. Cowardice to the "n"th degree.

Duane Clem

Posted by: seraph|m Feb 2 2007, 12:47 AM

I ran across this site, and thought it might help answer a few questions.

<http://www.bullyonline.org/workbully/bystand.htm>

Sad that this word, and others, is used by aggresors...

Posted by: inga Feb 2 2007, 12:54 AM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 02:12 PM)


Do you not know that their are people whom this is the only way they can get attention. It is with such methods at like this. I have questioned are any of these really just homosexuals, they don't have a case in the courts because they are known in the community as homosexuals.

...

Have you thought about how many of those sort of burdened people that have peverted ways get on this forum and get their statisfaction from reading about this gore. Their minds work differently than ours and they can find the content exciting, arousing.

You, "eye witness," are despicable and perverted to further assault the victims with your innuendo!!!    

Posted by: Hersheys99 Feb 2 2007, 01:03 AM

You are right seraph|m that sure does answer a lot & its right on target no wonder they picked the name they did. 

Posted by: ex3ABNemployee Feb 2 2007, 01:15 AM

QUOTE(eye witness @ Feb 1 2007, 01:12 PM)

Sister what Pickle has posted, what Pickle has investigated and brought forward to the people are statements that are unfounded. Where are these people? Why have they not went to the authorities? One statement I read said that the person went to the authorities and there was nothing done? Why? Was there no evidence? How can you on someone draw a conclusion and find that because someone said it that it is truth.

Do you not know that their are people whom this is the only way they can get attention. It is with such methods at like this. I have questioned are any of these really just homosexuals, they don't have a case in the courts because they are known in the community as homosexuals. I don't know, but none of this without court proceedings, convictions is justified. If its court facts then weigh it, wallow in it, To do so without, well it just doesn't make since, not for what is suppose to be "christians".

Have you thought about how many of those sort of burdened people that have peverted ways get on this forum and get their statisfaction from reading about this gore. Their minds work differently than ours and they can find the content exciting, arousing. You and all those who have over and over and over went through this stuff are giving them more and more satisfaction. Have you ever thought about it? Give it some thought. This stuff is unhealthy for the poster for the readers and for the perverted as well. Posting the example of this incident and that incident this only helps those with the sickness to picture in their minds exactly the act they have either committed or would like to commit. This could be an asset to some child or whatever to become a victim today. Please I beg you, for those who this gore could hurt, stop giving Satan tools.

Ted Bundy was all about written material and pictures and so on. Please stop it folks you are enhancing what could be death for some who fall victim to the perversion.

Questioning the sexual orientation of myself and other victims does nothing but make you look like a fool. It WILL NOT shut us down. The more of these posts I read, the more determined I am to see that justice is finally done.

Keep talking. I'm just getting started.

Duane Clem

Posted by: inga Feb 2 2007, 01:59 AM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 2 2007, 02:15 AM)

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Duane Clem

Go, Duane, go!!

Sometimes anger is a positive emotion. It provides the push to do something that needs to be done.

Posted by: Fran Feb 2 2007, 02:24 AM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 2 2007, 12:01 AM)

I was just thinking the same about you hoty. By the way, your info that Tommy was coming back on weeks ago never happened.

Why?

Posted by: ex3ABNemployee Feb 2 2007, 03:43 AM

QUOTE(inga @ Feb 2 2007, 01:59 AM)

Go, Duane, go!!

Sometimes anger is a positive emotion. It provides the push to do something that needs to be done.

Each and every post that attacks me or another victim just gives me more resolve to see this through. Danny, Tommy nor any of their apologists will deter me.

Have you noticed the tone of their posts? There is not one scrap of evidence to vindicate Tommy. All they can do is call names and question motives. That's the mark of someone who knows that they're fighting a losing battle.

I'm in this for the duration. I'm not going anywhere. Count on it.

Duane Clem

Posted by: Observer Feb 2 2007, 08:39 AM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 2 2007, 02:43 AM)

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I'm in this for the duration. I'm not going anywhere. Count on it.

Duane Clem

Duane:

I hope that you do not associate those who attack you with Seventd-day Adventists. We are behind you, friend. We support you. Thanks for your courage in the face of great adversity.

Posted by: caribbean sda Feb 2 2007, 08:47 AM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 2 2007, 05:43 AM)

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Have you noticed the tone of their posts? There is not one scrap of evidence to vindicate Tommy. All they can do is call names and question motives. That's the mark of someone who knows that they're fighting a losing battle.

I'm in this for the duration. I'm not going anywhere. Count on it.

Duane Clem

Their tactic is to discredit the victims and remove the scrutiny from the abuser. It's not a new strategy...yet they employ it nevertheless...

To quote someone we all know..."how tiresome they are"

Posted by: Nuggie Feb 2 2007, 08:52 AM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 2 2007, 02:15 AM)

Questioning the sexual orientation of myself and other victims does nothing but make you look like a fool. It WILL NOT shut us down. The more of these posts I read, the more determined I am to see that justice is finally done.

Keep talking. I'm just getting started.

Duane Clem

Smoke and mirrors...that's what the Danny apologists are all about...all talk, no substance...don't worry, truth **ALWAYS, ALWAYS**, prevails.

Posted by: awesumtenor Feb 2 2007, 09:05 AM

QUOTE(seraph|m @ Feb 2 2007, 01:47 AM)

I ran across this site, and thought it might help answer a few questions.

<http://www.bullyonline.org/workbully/bystand.htm>

Sad that this word, and others, is used by aggressors...

The serial bully:

- * is a **convincing, practised liar** and when called to account, will make up anything spontaneously to fit their needs at that moment
- * has a **Jekyll and Hyde nature** - is vile, vicious and vindictive in private, but innocent and charming in front of witnesses; no-one can (or wants to) believe this individual has a vindictive nature - only the current target of the serial bully's aggression sees both sides; whilst the Jekyll side is described as "charming" and convincing enough to deceive personnel, management and a tribunal, the Hyde side is frequently described as "evil"; Hyde is the real person, Jekyll is an act
- * excels at **deception** and should never be underestimated in their capacity to deceive
- * uses excessive **charm** and is always plausible and convincing when peers, superiors or others are present (charm can be used to deceive as well as to cover for lack of empathy)
- * is **glib, shallow and superficial** with plenty of fine words and lots of form - but there's no substance
- * is possessed of an **exceptional verbal facility** and will outmanoeuvre most people in verbal interaction, especially at times of conflict
- * is often described as **smooth, slippery, slimy, ingratiating, fawning, toadying, obsequious, sycophantic**
- * relies on **mimicry, repetition and regurgitation** to convince others that he or she is both a "normal" human being and a tough dynamic manager, as in extolling the virtues of the latest management fads and pouring forth the accompanying jargon

- * is unusually skilled in **being able to anticipate** what people want to hear and then saying it plausibly
http://www.blacksda.com/forums/style_images/blue-glass/folder_rte_images/bold.gif
Bold
- * **cannot be trusted or relied upon**
- * **fails to fulfil commitments**
- * is **emotionally retarded** with an **arrested level of emotional development**; whilst language and intellect may appear to be that of an adult, the bully displays the emotional age of a five-year-old
- * is **emotionally immature and emotionally untrustworthy**
- * exhibits **unusual and inappropriate attitudes to sexual matters, sexual behaviour and bodily functions**; underneath the charming exterior there are often suspicions or hints of sex discrimination and sexual harassment, perhaps also sexual dysfunction, sexual inadequacy, sexual perversion, sexual violence or sexual abuse
- * in a relationship, is **incapable of initiating or sustaining intimacy**
- * **holds deep prejudices** (eg against the opposite gender, people of a different sexual orientation, other cultures and religious beliefs, foreigners, etc - prejudiced people are unvaryingly unimaginative) but goes to great lengths to keep this prejudicial aspect of their personality secret
- * is **self-opinionated and displays arrogance, audacity, a superior sense of entitlement and sense of invulnerability and untouchability**
- * has a **deep-seated contempt** of clients in contrast to his or her professed compassion
- * is a **control freak** and has a **compulsive need to control everyone and everything you say, do, think and believe**; for example, will launch an immediate personal attack attempting to restrict what you are permitted to say if you start talking knowledgeably about psychopathic personality or antisocial personality disorder in their presence - but aggressively maintains the right to talk (usually unknowledgeably) about anything they choose; serial bullies despise anyone who enables others to see through their deception and their mask of sanity
- * displays a **compulsive need to criticise** whilst simultaneously **refusing to value, praise and acknowledge others, their achievements, or their existence**
- * **shows a lack of joined-up thinking with conversation that doesn't flow and arguments that don't hold water**
- * **[/b]**flits from topic to topic so that you come away feeling you've never had a proper conversation
- * **refuses to be specific and never gives a straight answer**
- * **is evasive and has a Houdini-like ability to escape accountability**
- * **undermines and destroys anyone who the bully perceives to be an adversary, a potential threat, or who can see through the bully's mask**
- * **is** adept at creating conflict between those who would otherwise collate incriminating information about them
- * is **quick to discredit** and neutralise anyone who can talk knowledgeably about antisocial or sociopathic behaviors
- * **may pursue a vindictive vendetta against anyone who dares to hold them accountable, perhaps using others' resources and contemptuous of the damage caused to other people and organisations in pursuance of the vendetta**
- * **is also quick to belittle, undermine, denigrate and discredit anyone who calls, attempts to call, or might call the bully to account**
- * **gains gratification from denying people what they are entitled to**
- * **is highly manipulative**, especially of people's perceptions and emotions (eg guilt)
- * **poisons peoples' minds by manipulating their perceptions**
- * when called upon to share or address the needs and concerns of others, **responds with impatience, irritability and aggression**
- * **is arrogant, haughty, high-handed, and a know-all**
- * **often has an overwhelming, unhealthy and narcissistic attention-seeking need to portray themselves as a wonderful, kind, caring and compassionate person, in contrast to their behaviour and treatment of others**; the bully sees nothing wrong with their behavior and chooses to remain oblivious to the discrepancy between how they like to be seen and how they are seen by others
- * **is spiritually dead although may loudly profess some religious belief or affiliation**
- * **is mean-spirited, officious, and often unbelievably petty**
- * **is mean, stingy, and financially untrustworthy**
- * **is greedy, selfish, a parasite and an emotional vampire**
- * **is always a taker and never a giver**

- * is **convinced of their superiority** and has an overbearing belief in their qualities of leadership but cannot distinguish between leadership (maturity, decisiveness, assertiveness, co-operation, trust, integrity) and bullying (immaturity, impulsiveness, aggression, manipulation, distrust, deceitfulness)
- * **often fraudulently claims qualifications, experience, titles, entitlements or affiliations which are ambiguous, misleading, or bogus**
- * **often misses the semantic meaning of language, misinterprets what is said, sometimes wrongly thinking that comments of a satirical, ironic or general negative nature apply to him or herself**
- * **knows the words but not the song**
- * **is constantly imposing on others a false reality made up of distortion and fabrication**
- * **sometimes displays a seemingly limitless demonic energy especially when engaged in attention-seeking activities or evasion of accountability** and is often a committeeaholic or apparent workaholic

Responsibility

The serial bully appears to lack insight into his or her behaviour and seems to be oblivious to the crassness and inappropriateness thereof; however, it is more likely that the bully knows what they are doing but elects to switch off the moral and ethical considerations by which normal people are bound. **If the bully knows what they are doing, they are responsible for their behaviour and thus liable for its consequences to other people. If the bully doesn't know what they are doing, they should be suspended from duty on the grounds of diminished responsibility** and the provisions of the Mental Health Act should apply.

Hmmm... sound like anyone we know?

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: västergötland Feb 2 2007, 09:51 AM

Wonders how this list would differ from a definition of a psychopath(however that is spelled...)?

Posted by: watchbird Feb 2 2007, 09:58 AM

QUOTE(västergötland @ Feb 2 2007, 10:51 AM)

Wonders how this list would differ from a definition of a psychopath(however that is spelled...)?

I think the word you want is actually sociopath.... and if so, the answer is... not much.

Posted by: Clay Feb 2 2007, 10:00 AM

QUOTE(watchbird @ Feb 2 2007, 09:58 AM)

I think the word you want is actually sociopath.... and if so, the answer is... not much.

however they use to use the term psychopath...

Posted by: ex3ABNemployee Feb 2 2007, 11:38 AM

QUOTE(Observer @ Feb 2 2007, 08:39 AM)

Duane:

I hope that you do not associate those who attack you with Seventd-day Adventists. We are behind you, friend. We support you. Thanks for your courage in the face of great adversity.

Absolutely not. I have many friends in the SDA church. I know I'm among friends here for the most part. I appreciate everyone's support and I don't take it for granted.

Danny Shelton doesn't scare me, nor do any of his apologists. The smear and run tactics of the past are drawing to a close. It just won't work anymore.

BTW, dewayneholden, if you read this, and if you're who I think you are, I believe you may be hiding something that happened to you in the past as well. I know I reacted the same way when I realized I was going to have to face it. NOW is the time to come forward while there are people to stand with you.

Duane Clem

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Feb 2 2007, 12:00 PM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 2 2007, 10:38 AM)

Absolutely not. I have many friends in the SDA church. **I know I'm among friends here** for the most part. I appreciate everyone's support and I don't take it for granted.

Yes you are! Friends who think of you as a brother in Christ and will continue to support you no matter how strong the threats and intimidation become!

QUOTE

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QUOTE

BTW, dewayneholden, if you read this, and if you're who I think you are, I believe you may be hiding something that happened to you in the past as well. I know I reacted the same way when I realized I was going to have to face it. NOW is the time to come forward while there are people to stand with you.

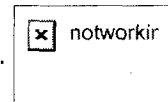
Duane Clem

hope he is listening.

Posted by: princessdi Feb 2 2007, 12:59 PM

Nope you are as wrong as two left shoes. There is sufficient evidence that Tommy is, indeed, a sex offender. Sorry, victim's testimonies work for me, also for Fran, or she would not have made such a statement. Perhaps, her comments were a bit over the top, but I believe them to out of frustration of no action being taken at all, and those like you here trying to see that non ever is taken. Besides, even you all not denying it and are convinced something happened, you are just trying to make it consensual(as if that is better, but I guess you are just trying to keep Tommy out of prison)Eye witness' "gaydar" does not work for me, and may not even work for her, we don't know. Fact is we would not being here having this discussion had not Tommy approached this young man for sex. Oh yes, also by trying to say that these were consensual homosexual encounters, you are also admitting that Tommy is at the very least bi-sexual.

Now, once again, you are here just asking us to trust you that first hand testimonies of the victim is not even a lie, but that you are just trying to discredit it in some way.



QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 1 2007, 10:10 PM)

Now how can we shut up when the administrators play favorites. Maybe you missed the post by Fran last night that said Texas might pass a law to give the death penalty to 3 time sex offenders. She then said come on down to Texas Tommy but please wait until the law is passed. Now that is hideous, unchristian, spiteful and unfeeling. Yet I never saw anyone warn or reprimand her on that post.

Now really di, how could you take off eyewitness for hinting at something but not take off Fran for this terrible remark? We might be of differing opinions here but no one can say that something like that should be allowed here.
Am I right?

*****Let me add this, just one more time. Your post to me consists of questions for the admins about action taken or not taken in specific instances. Please, and this is my last time asking, PM Calvin or Clay or myself with any questions you have in this area.*****

Posted by: Clay Feb 2 2007, 01:31 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 2 2007, 12:10 AM)

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 Am I right?

avorites? You are my favorite Bystander.... I like to take every opportunity to remind you that you are wrong.... oh and that you don't keep your word, even though you couch it in language i.e. "I changed my mind...." you keep posting, and I will keep reminding you of how tenuous your position is....

Posted by: Bystander Feb 2 2007, 02:25 PM

[quote name='princessdi' date='Feb 2 2007, 11:59 AM' post='174692']
 Nope you are as wrong as two left shoes. There is sufficient evidence that Tommy is, indeed, a sex offender. Sorry, victim's testimonies work for me, also for Fran, or she would not have made such a statement. Perhaps, her comments were a bit over the top, but I believe them to out of frustration of no action being taken at all, and those like you here trying to see that non ever is taken. Besides, even you all not denying it and are convinced something happened, you are just trying to make it consensual(as if that is better, but I guess you are just trying to keep Tommy out of prison)Eye witness' "gaydar" does not work for me, and may not even work for her, we don't know. Fact is we would not being here having this discussion had not Tommy approached this young man for sex. Oh [color=#FF6666]yes, also by trying to say that these were consensual homosexual encounters, you are also admitting that Tommy is at the very least bi-sexual.

Wrong on all counts. I am speculating on what could have been or not. I am asking questions, could it be that way or not. So many of the comments on this forum are "speculation" so do not put words into my mouth. I question your decision making when you make a statement as fact: "[b]Tommy approached this young man for sex" without even saying "It appears he did, or he might have or even, if he did. To state that type of accusation as a fact might be against the law. I don't know, I am not a lawyer, but I would think you would be more careful.

QUOTE(Clay @ Feb 2 2007, 12:31 PM)
 favorites? You are my favorite Bystander.... I like to take every opportunity to remind you that you are wrong.... oh and that you don't keep your word, even though you couch it in language i.e. "I changed my mind...." you keep posting, and I will keep reminding you of how tenuous your position is....

Why thank you Clay, I feel all warm inside.....

Posted by: roxe Feb 2 2007, 02:30 PM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 2 2007, 02:43 AM)
 Each and every post that attacks me or another victim just gives me more resolve to see this through. Danny, Tommy nor any of their apologists will deter me.
 Have you noticed the tone of their posts? There is not one scrap of evidence to vindicate Tommy. All

they can do is call names and question motives. That's the mark of someone who knows that they're fighting a losing battle.

I'm in this for the duration. I'm not going anywhere. Count on it.

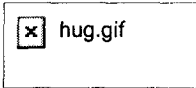
Duane Clem

Duane, please watch your back...

pull your friends around you and watch your back, OK??

truly don't want you "going anywhere"...

much prayers for your safety



love your spunky courage!!



Posted by: Bystander Feb 2 2007, 02:32 PM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 2 2007, 12:15 AM)

Questioning the sexual orientation of myself and other victims does nothing but make you look like a fool. It WILL NOT shut us down. The more of these posts I read, the more determined I am to see that justice is finally done.

Keep talking. I'm just getting started.

Duane Clem

Duane, if that is your burden, then do it, in a court of law, where it belongs. Justice is not being done on this forum and you know that. It is accomplishing nothing here because bsda doesn't have the authority or power to see that any "justice" is done. You are coming here to get friendship, and I can understand that, but nothing else is being accomplished.

Posted by: Clay Feb 2 2007, 02:36 PM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 2 2007, 02:32 PM)

Duane, if that is your burden, then do it, in a court of law, where it belongs. Justice is not being done on this forum and you know that. It is accomplishing nothing here because bsda doesn't have the authority or power to see that any "justice" is done. You are coming here to get friendship, and I can understand that, but nothing else is being accomplished.

and you would know this how? You don't know why Duane would come here, likewise who are you to tell him what he needs to do?? Standing in the corner would be a good activity for you at this moment....

Posted by: Bystander Feb 2 2007, 02:38 PM

[quote name='princessdi' date='Feb 2 2007, 11:59 AM' post='174692']
[color=#993399]

Frans statement was "a little over the top?" She invited Tommy S to Texas to receive the "death penalty." Calling that "a little over the top" speaks for itself.

QUOTE(Clay @ Feb 2 2007, 01:36 PM) □

and you would know this how? You don't know why Duane would come here, likewise who are you to tell him what he needs to do?? Standing in the corner would be a good activity for you at this moment....

I could....but it wouldn't change the truth of what I said

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 2 2007, 03:08 PM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 2 2007, 02:15 AM) □

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Keep talking. I'm just getting started.

Duane Clem

Duane,

I do not know if this is a question that you can or are willing to answer. I have not seen it asked of you but maybe I have missed something.

Can you tell us whether you have sought legal counsel as to what your civil and criminal legal rights are when considering your personal set of facts?

I am so weary of post after post of people ignoring the signed statements of those such as yourself who have claimed they or a relative were victimized. (Please understand I am not questioning the validity of your statements or those of the others because the number of them and the independent recollections do a great deal to support your credibility IMHO).

I think you could deflect some of the TS apologists barbs regarding the lack of documented legal proceedings if you could tell us, if you can or want to, that you have discussed this with someone who could, with knowledge, advise you of your legal rights. I am not asking that you tell us what they advised you or if you are pursuing legal action, I just would like to be assured that you know your civil and legal rights.

nw

Posted by: princessdi Feb 2 2007, 03:10 PM

Ok, I can go with you on that one....fair enough. I am not an unreasonable woman.

Rephrase:

"Fact is we would not be here having this discussion, if according to the victims letter, Tommy had not approached this young man for sex".

Feel better now.

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 2 2007, 12:25 PM)

Wrong on all counts. I am speculating on what could have been or not. I am asking questions, could it be that way or not. So many of the comments on this forum are "speculation" so do not put words into my mouth. I question your decision making when you make a statement as fact: "[b] Tommy approached this young man for sex" without even saying "It appears he did, or he might have or even, if he did. To state that type of accusation as a fact might be against the law. I don't know, I am not a lawyer, but I would think you would be more careful.

Posted by: ex3ABNemployee Feb 2 2007, 04:12 PM

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You want to give me advice, and won't even identify yourself?

I have asked you numerous times to explain a couple of statements you made about me. I even sent you a PM asking you for an answer. You have STILL not responded.

I don't think I need any advice from you.

QUOTE(Noahswife @ Feb 2 2007, 03:08 PM)

Duane,

I do not know if this is a question that you can or are willing to answer. I have not seen it asked of you but maybe I have missed something.

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nw

can't comment on that right now. I will say that I know I have certain rights, and I am acquainted with those who can help me understand my options.

hope this helps make you feel better.

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 2 2007, 06:44 PM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 2 2007, 05:12 PM)

I can't comment on that right now. I will say that I know I have certain rights, and I am acquainted with those who can help me understand my options.

I hope this helps make you feel better.

Thank you Duane for answering my question. And yes, it does make me feel better. I am always concerned that competent legal advice is obtained. I have spent too many years seeing Christians accept the advice of laymen rather than seeking legal counsel resulting in destroyed families, friendships, and businesses and in divided churches. As you can see from many posts on these topics many think they know what the law means but clearly do not.

Like you, I get frustrated when I ask specific questions that generally seem to be ignored. I do not claim to have any personal knowledge of any facts at issue but I do know how to distinguish between speculation, subterfuge, red herrings, hearsay evidence, BS and facts that can be verified.

How I would love to take a sworn deposition of each and every one that has posted statements they claim to have first hand knowledge of....

1w

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Feb 3 2007, 01:06 AM

QUOTE(Bystander @ Feb 2 2007, 01:01 AM)

I was just thinking the same about you hoty. By the way, your info that Tommy was coming back on weeks ago never happened.

but I bet he's still drawing a paycheck from 3ABN

Posted by: Pickle Feb 18 2007, 01:12 PM

I received this open letter last night anonymously. This is the very type of thing I asked Danny for last November, and I wish so much that it had been sent to me back then. Why has it taken so long to get it?

Hopefully it will answer some of our questions.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Letter from Tommy Shelton to CCOG, Dunn Loring, VA

Date: Sat, 17 Feb 2007 17:47:14 -0800 (PST)

From: No One You Know

An Open Letter

To the many I have loved through the years. I am sending you this letter in response to an open letter that was sent to many, if not all, of you from Pastor Glenn Dryden. This letter is not meant as revenge, but so that you might be informed of the other side of the story.

From my first hearing of allegations against me at the Community Church of God I determined to say as little as possible in order to keep as much harmony among the congregation as possible. In the very beginning, I determined not to even express my guilt or innocence fearing people may tend to choose sides and be divided. I wanted to go through proper channels and wait to see how it would all be handled. I should mention that I was not contacted by the church to let me know that allegations had been made against me. In fact, for those who don't know, I first found out about allegations from someone who had seen it posted on the internet with Glenn Dryden's name signed to it. Upon checking into it, I found that the allegations against me had been put on the internet for the world to see at least two weeks before the church body was even informed. Not only were allegations from the Community Church of God posted, but postings of letters, accusations and copies of personal documents going back more than 20 years - all signed by Pastor Glenn Dryden.

Realizing that this issue had become public over the internet and then taken before the church, without my knowing it, I decided to write to the board expressing my position. A number of other lay people and pastors also began writing to the board expressing their disagreement, if not outrage, that a pastor would handle this situation in such an unbiblical way. To my knowledge these letters, mine or others, have not been read to the congregation or even at the meeting of the church staff.

Since no one has contacted me to advise, inform or let us know what the purpose is of the meetings which are being held, and since there have been more postings on the internet, as recent as January 16, and since Pastor Glenn Dryden has written an open letter to the congregation (and sent it to some outside the church as well) I find it necessary to write an open letter myself. I would in no way have been the first to write an open letter, but his actions have now compelled me to give another side.

My letter will basically be an answer to his "rationale" for handling this situation as he has. It is lengthy but I beg a few minutes of your time to hear the other side of the story.

I will begin with the opening paragraph of his cover sheet where he admits to "cooperating with certain Seventh Day Adventist "ecclesiastical investigators" who were looking into Tommy Shelton's conduct while he pastored in Illinois as well as presently in his employment at the 3ABN Seventh Day Adventist television ministry in Illinois."

These men are **not** "ecclesiastical investigators" for the Seventh Day Adventist. They hold no official position, and have no authority in the Seventh Day Adventist Church to investigate anything or anybody. By next week I will have in hand an official statement from the Illinois Conference President

of SDA, stating that these men do not work for the Seventh-Day-Adventist church and were not authorized to investigate anyone. Gailon Joy, one of the "self appointed investigators" was convicted of embezzlement in the 80's. Although one may get the impression after talking with him that he is a lawyer, he is not. His conviction was appealed 3 times but the conviction remained. We have evidence of his unscrupulous dealings in recent months and years and you will also hear in the near future that he is being held accountable for his slander in a court of law.

The web site that your pastor was cooperating with is a garbage dump whose purpose is to destroy my brother and Three Angels broadcasting Network. This is how I got into the mix. In endeavoring to bring down my brother, his ex-wife gathered a group together to bring down all Board Members and Executives of the network.

The mentality of many of those who actively post on the web sites that Pastor Dryden gave information to can be seen in a few excerpts taken from the sites.

(highlights are mine)

"Unless Danny can prove otherwise that he did not kill his first wife we should probably believe that Fran and Johann are correct that Danny is a murderer. They have also said that he is a child molester, adulterer, liar, thief, conman, burglar, vandal, and almost every other crime in the book. Almost like Hitler, except Hitler did it a lot more times. **If Danny has not done all this then obviously blacksda and the people who have provided this information can later apologize.** (same posting) The fact that they **actually witnessed these things**, including murder attempts, with physicality adds another dimension for those who are weaker who **require both faith and sight. But those who are pure can go based on faith that Danny did these things alone** based on the word of testimony and **without the need** for worldly evidence."

Danny's first wife was killed in a car accident. She was hit head on by an oncoming car. Any suggestion of ANYTHING else is a black lie. Notice the mentality – If Danny has not done all of thiscan later apologize. In other words, put it out there, do the damage and apologize later if it is not true. Notice the scary statement – but those who are "pure" can go based on **"faith" that Danny did these things**. This is typical of the numerous postings on the sight. Many things we have viewed on the site do not even have an element of truth.

For example, Gailon Joy posted an article that stated that 3ABN gave me a check for \$10,000 to get me out of a child molestation case while I lived in Manassas, VA. No check was produced (because it doesn't exist) and I challenge anyone to check every county in Virginia and see if such a case ever existed.

These are the kinds of people that Pastor Dryden has been comfortable "cooperating with." Following is an excerpt from one of his conversations posted on the internet. I quote:

(highlights are mine)

" I am sure we share similar emotions regarding this matter. Perhaps an argument may be made for the criticism you have received regarding the e-mail postings, but I should tell you that they have **served to make me comfortable communicating with both you and Mr. Joy and if they serve to put pressure on Danny and Tommy, you may carry the criticism as a badge of commendation.**"

How sad that he would welcome pressure be put on my brother. He knows absolutely nothing about my brother's situation except what he has been told by the "self appointed investigators" The truth is, no statement against my brother, or 3ABN, has been made by the General Conference of the Seventh Day Adventist Church or by any of it's top leadership. To the contrary, ASI, one of the most prestigious organizations in the Adventist denomination just came out with a statement in support of Danny and 3ABN - and in the same statement revealed much about Gailon Joy.

In paragraph five of his cover letter, Pastor Dryden next points you to two web sites to read a number of letters from those who came forward against me.

He fails to mention that he is the one who supplied the names of these people to "the self appointed investigators" who called these people asking for statements to be published on the internet. We can only guess as to what kind of pressure these people were put under (I've been told - I can't confirm) that one was told by the " self appointed investigators" that he had better say something quickly because I intended a lawsuit and was planning to drag him into it, which of course, is not true.

Pressure would certainly seem to explain a lot concerning one person who came forward against me, because just days prior to his posting about me, he wrote (copied from the internet)

"Your "informant", Glenn Dryden, is not a credible source of information. ... accusations the same reason as the ones he is leveling against Tommy Shelton: JEALOUSY. Glenn Dryden is a spiteful, vindictive backstabber when someone crosses him. He has done this with numerous people over the past several years I had to threaten him with legal action myself to get him to shut his mouth."

Sad to say, some of the people whose names Pastor Dryden released to the internet group, are now going through character assassination themselves because of their statements, by people who knew them "way back when" and have reason to doubt their testimony. His actions of hurt are far more reaching than just "bringing me down."

In the next to the last paragraph of his cover page, Pastor Dryden says: "Please know Sister Judy and I have in no way sought to be placed in the position we are in. We must, however, be conscientious to do what we can to protect young people."

In 2001 he made a similar statement to the Ezra Church of God in a meeting that he taped and sent out to various churches. He said, "**I never hunted out information, it seemed to drop into my lap.**" These statements are not convincing, in light of the fact that just last week he called a former member of the Dunn Loring congregation to ask if I had ever spent time alone with his sons and said that he was calling others who had sons to ask the same question. I am also aware of a phone call that was made in 2003, from Illinois to Virginia, asking similar questions.

Secondly, he states that he is doing what he can to protect young people. What young people?

I have worked for the last 6 years in an environment where there are NO young people.

(I understand that you pastor has mentioned the 3ABN Kids Time program - that these children could possibly be in danger. Kids Time hasn't even been taped in two years, - It's all reruns - and when it was being taped, it was in a studio two miles from where I worked and when I did go over to accompany a guest, it was in a studio filled with parents and camera people for an hour or so two or three times per season). I attend a church where there are NO young people. I live in a rural area where there are NO young people for miles. I have not preached a campmeeting where there were young people for over five years. I live 800 miles from the young people at Community Church of God. How could this be his real motive?

Now, on to the **Open Letter** - I will give my opinion on certain things, but I will also point out **definite discrepancies**. As you will see, although Pastor Dryden's letter sounds as though he knows all the details of my life for the past 20 plus years, he was NOT in Illinois 20 yrs. ago and has had to rely on what he has been told, and I will prove that much of it is not accurate.

Early on in his open letter, Pastor Dryden quotes from a book by Marie M. Fortune apparently as an important guide for his drastic actions against me thus far. He quotes her before he quotes scripture. It is interesting that he quotes from a book **whose author is a feminist and lesbian**. The following taken from this web site. <http://www.faithandfeminism.org/stories>.

"I have been an ordained Christian pastor for 30 years. I have been a feminist even longer. I have always had a love-hate relationship with my church. (later in the article she says) My own denomination, the United Church of Christ, has come a long way in the past 30 years. It has always supported me from my ordination without a job to these years of my ministry at FaithTrust Institute. Moreover it has more recently supported me as a lesbian in my ministry and in my right to marry. So

this is a faith community where I can go and be loved and not have to fight all the time for acceptance. I can spend that energy at work in the world trying to live the Gospel as I see it." (notice – as she sees it)

Marie Fortune quotes Willard Gaylin. In my search on the internet, although I found dozens and dozens of articles about him, and by him, I found nothing that expressed a personal Christian experience. Following is a short bio:

Willard Gaylin, MD

Clinical professor of psychiatry at Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons, specializing in the private practice of psychiatry and psychoanalysis. He is presently serving on the board of directors of several organizations including: Planned Parenthood..

Planned Parenthood – an organization promoting abortion rights etc.

So in his opening remarks, Pastor Dryden quotes from a feminist, lesbian minister and a man who is not a theologian but a psychiatrist. And based on statements from their books that declare "we must dignify him (the offender) by making him pay for the evil actions he commits"- and that "negative consequence may be the most direct route to repentance," he then states in bold: **"Tommy Shelton deserves the opportunity to repent and to amend his life according to the will of God."**

II Cor. 7:10 says, "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death." True repentance comes from God – it's a gift - not consequences or having to "pay." Negative consequences may cause one to try to change behavior for a time, but true repentance only comes from God through godly sorrow - As the verse says, "...but the sorrow of the world – (getting caught – consequences etc) worketh death.

If Pastor Dryden believes that I need to repent, repentance will not be brought about by shaming me before the whole world on the internet – humiliating my wife and children by those very actions. He concludes that I am an unbeliever.... What lost man, me or anyone else, would listen to a man that is trying to destroy him in the eyes of everyone he has ever known. If his efforts are to bring repentance and win me to Jesus, he certainly has missed the mark.

I will move now to the Boy Scouts of America "analogy." I'm not sure of the purpose of the analogy since intelligent people can easily understand the facts (as Pastor Dryden sees them)

without an analogy. But if I were a member of Ezra Church of God or Community Church of God, I would probably take exception to a couple of points in the analogy.

First the insult to parents at Ezra: Quote: "Subsequently, inexplicably, certain Boy Scout troop parents determine this scoutmaster's charisma, gifts and abilities outweigh any potential risk and they ask him to lead their sons in scouting activities." Implication – certain parents at Ezra were so captivated by my charm that they could not make intelligent decisions concerning their children. That is a slap in the face to those loving parent who attend Ezra in those days.

Second, the implication of irresponsibility on the part of Community Church of God leaders – foremost, Bro. and Sis. Wood.: "The scoutmaster learns the BSA has need of scoutmasters in his new venue. He approaches this state's Area Council, his offer of assistance is accepted and he takes the helm of another scout troop, astonishingly, without any representative of this state's Area Council confirming his character with a representative of the former state's Area Council." He makes a similar statement on the internet for the world to see – I quote: **"Also in the late 1980s there was mention of "allegations" at the time of his receiving ministerial credentials from the Ministerial Council of the Church of God, Inc., but assurance was given by Council leadership that there was no substance to these allegations. No indication of their nature was given either - not to me at any rate."**

This statement could mean no other than Bro. and Sis. Wood who headed up the Ministerial Council of the Church of God, Inc., at the time. These two statements imply either irresponsibility, or cover-up on the part of the Woods. Let me set the record straight. Bro. and Sis. Wood was neither

irresponsible nor were they part of a cover-up. They acted in good faith both in my ordination with the Ministerial Council of the Church of God and in the call to be pastor of the Community Church of God.

They called me in the middle 80's after hearing of allegations to offer prayer and support and yes, years later called me to come to Dunn Loring knowing of the allegations. They based their decision on information they had. For example they knew of a police investigation that yielded no evidence and resulted in no charges. They were aware that my chairman of the board was a well respected State Patrolman and would have known the details of the investigation, and supported me fully. They also knew people that they respected who were supporting me like Ben Jordan who was part of the congregation at the time and actually went to the police to testify in my behalf. Things like the above caused them to be confident in calling me to come to Dunn Loring. NO FAULT can be laid at the feet of Bro. and Sis. Wood.

Pastor Dryden titles the next portion of his letter "**Following are Facts.**" They are **NOT** facts! Quote:

"a disciplinary process following the principle given in Matthew 18:15-17 was initiated by the Illinois General Assembly (IGA). Rather than submit to this disciplinary process, Tommy and his supporters stymied it and divided the congregation of the Ezra Church of God from the Anderson Church of God movement of which they had been a part for sixty-five years. The directive of Matthew 18:15-17 was followed by IGA and accordingly Tommy was "treated like an unbeliever"

I can disprove these statements with excerpts from a letter dated Dec. 13, 1987. This letter was written to George L. Newton and the Credentials Committee (IGA), and was written by A.J. Mitchell, Chairman of the Board, Ezra Church of God. A.J. was Chairman of the Board at Ezra for many years. He was one of the most respected men in W. Frankfort, an Illinois State Patrolman, a member of civic organizations in the community – Bus director at Ezra, Sunday School teacher and a respected Christian in our community. I had the privilege of leading A.J. to the Lord. He is now deceased. Some of you may remember him coming to Gerri Lynn's wedding in 1999.

Was Matthew 18 followed by the (IGA) - Quote from A.J. Mitchell's letter:

".....Since you said your suspension of Tommy was done "...pending the results of the official police investigation....", what were the results of the investigation? Was he found guilty? If so, guilty of what? Who judged him guilty? I must assume that you feel that he was found guilty of something or you would not have decided to revoke his ordination. If he was found guilty of something, whatever you feel that might be, you gave him no room for repentance. You do feel that a person can repent, don't you?"

In the same letter he talks about a letter from the (IGA) that never reached our church but was sent to area churches registered.....A.J. says, : "I am very disturbed that we learned of such a letter through a teenager who honestly had no business knowing of the contents of the letter. **This action exemplifies the methods typically used throughout the entire ordeal which we have tolerated for the past several months.**" (highlights mine)

The facts are, the first allegation was made in September of 1985 and my credentials were suspended on October 25, 1985 without anyone contacting me (IGA did not follow Matt. 18) The next correspondence I have with the committee in my records is dated January 29, 1987 – over a year later.

On a tape previously mentioned taped at Ezra Church of God in 2001, Pastor Dryden states that

I erred in not resigning when accusations were first made. He says my sin was the sin of division because of not resigning.

I did resign immediately upon hearing of accusations. I resigned the church and a pastor from the First Church of God who had just resigned that church, came to be the interim pastor.

I Quote from a letter dated Nov. 1, 1985 from one of the pillars of the church to the General

Assembly of the Church of God in Illinois**"I might bring to your attention, now, that Brother Tommy resigned as Pastor from the Ezra Church of God , Sept. 15, 1985. This should have been a major influence in your decision, and, it is all the more reason that the action your committee has taken is completely out of order!"**

For at least the next 9 months I did not preach and I ceased activities in the Church of God as instructed. I worked at 3ABN during that time, in construction, as it was just being built at the time. I never contacted the church – never asked about being reinstated – had no aspirations of returning – did no preaching etc. About 9 months after leaving the church, A.J Mitchell, representing Ezra Church of God, came to our home and asked me to come back as pastor. I told him that it was useless to try to minister if the church was divided. He assured me that those who chose to leave were already gone and that the church was united in wanting me to come back.

At that point, with there still being no decision made by the credential committee, I decided to go back and pastor a group of people who loved me whether the committee said I could or not. (God had called me there, they did not) Pastor Dryden makes it appear that a "small group of supporters" and I divided the church – that a small minority made the decision for the church . Not True! We lost less than one fourth of the congregation and as already stated, that happened in the very beginning. 9 months later, the church was totally united in asking me to come back.

As to the statement that we : "divided the congregation of the Ezra Church of God from the Anderson Church of God movement of which they had been a part for sixty-five years."

Quoting from a letter to Arthur Tucker from A.J. Mitchell dated Feb. 8, 1988, A.J. writes:

"I'm sure that you know by now that on October 29, 1987 the Ministerial Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of God in Illinois decided to disfellowship the Ezra Church of God. We were literally kicked out or "excommunicated" from the Anderson movement because we refused to fire our pastor, Tommy Shelton. "

In his previous letter dated Dec. 13, 1987 A.J. writes.....**" On October 25, 1985, you advised Brother Tommy to "...cease all activities related to ministries of the Church of God until you are further advised by this committee." As if that were not enough, you now have told the Ezra Church of God to get rid of our preacher or no longer be on the "approved list", whatever that means. The most recent letter of November 3, 1987 implies that the General Assemblies of the Church of God in Illinois and Anderson, Indiana will no longer "associate" with the people of the Ezra Church of God. That statement smacks strongly of denominationalism, which is totally uncharacteristic of the Church of God."**

(This was two years after it all began)

Pastor Dryden speaks as if a the congregation blindly followed me without thought to the past, or to the future. Hear from A.J.'s heart – again from the letter of Dec. 13, 1987 to the Credential Committee – Quote:

"If it were possible (and it is not) I would attempt to convey to you the hurt, embarrassment and disappointment that we feel. Mere words could never do that. You would have to be on the receiving end of the situation. The Ezra Church of God was established on October 13, 1919. Since that time it has been a part of the Anderson based Church of God Reformation movement. Our parents and grandparaents attended the church and were saved under the preaching of great men and women of the Church of God. Because of that fact, the Church of God is the only church many of us have ever known. Tommy Shelton has been the only pastor that many of our congregation have ever had. We were saved under his preaching and he has been a friend, a brother and pastor. Webster states that the word "pastor" is derived from the word "pascere" which means "to feed." Brother Tommy has fed his flock the word of God for many years. A pastor is likened to the pastor of a flock. In that capacity, Brother Tommy has cared for our people. He has married our young and buried our dead. He has faithfully followed the leadership of the Holy Spirit. He has laughed with us and cried with us, sharing our joy and our misfortune. He has

measured out the appropriate proportions of love and discipline, holding true to the Word of God when many Church of God preachers became extremely liberal in their preaching and teaching."

As a congregation we had considered leaving the Anderson movement long before any of this came up for some of the same reasons that the Community Church of God is not part of the Anderson movement. We never took the final step, but it was made for us when the church was ordered to fire me after my credentials were revoked in 1987 (almost two years after it all began).

Pastor Dryden also maintains that I refused to meet with Church of God authorities. I have a letter dated May 26, 1987 from Foster C. Brock, Jr. Chairperson, States Credential's Committee. He writes:

Dear Mr. Shelton:

On June 2, we will be having a State Credential's Committee Meeting at 10:00 AM. Your situation will be discussed again at this meeting. Your presence at this meeting is required so that we might hopefully make some final decision to clear up this matter.

I cannot emphasize enough the importance of your presence at this meeting and I thank you for making the effort to be there and in this act we appreciate your cooperation with us.

Sincerely,

Foster Brock

I did attend that meeting. The proof of that can be verified by two sources. First, Bro. James Darden my associate pastor went with me. Secondly I have a letter from my mother dated June 16, 1987 (fourteen days after the meeting) in which she wrote to the Committee. An excerpt from her letter is as follows:

"My son, Tommy Shelton, has just recently returned from a meeting he had with your committee, and told me of the letter you read him saying his father brought charges against him concerning his behavior, and I want to tell you this is the most disgusting lie that has ever been told on anyone?"..... She continued by asking for the name of the person so that that person could be confronted. She never received a response to her letter. - The point being, she states that I had recently returned from a meeting with the committee.

Pastor Dryden mentions three occasions where he invited me to meet with him and his board/committee and I did not respond. That's true, but none of the invitations had to do with allegations.

All three invitations had to do with a letter of apology that the church at Ezra deemed necessary to write to the (IGA) and if I understand right, to be read also at the local campmeeting.

My understanding is that it was a letter from the church apologizing for attitudes/actions during the time, and following the suspension of my credentials.

I had no interest in contributing anything to that action as I believed, and still do, that if an apology was necessary, it should have been from individuals who felt they needed to apologize, not an apology from the church at large. My reasoning? Numbers of people in the congregation NEVER wrote letters of any kind to the (IGA), never mistreated anyone in the other churches and remained Christian throughout the entire ordeal. If a few individuals, who in hindsight, felt they acted unchristian, in my opinion, they should have written their individual apologies.

Far from the need of an apology, the memories of my family and me are the ungodly and unholy things that were committed against our church, and us personally, in the name of God by other "Christians." We remember how our church signs on the Highway were sprayed with black paint - how our church was broken into - how our church bus was written all over calling my wife and daughters whores, and the word queer written not only on the church bus, but our house. We

remember (check with my children) the nights that we received phone calls in the middle of the night with bomb threats and we had to leave our home, drive down the road and wait for our home to blow up – we remember Gerri Lynn receiving a phone call (she was 9 ½ years old) that she was dead meat – we remember the letters that frequently came trashing our whole family and the church. We also remember how that after I resigned, how that not one minister or church with the exception of Sis. Lucy and Bro. Joe Daniels, ever called Carol to see if we had food, to offer comfort to the kids and her.....nothing!

Quoting again from the letter that A.J. wrote to Arthur Tucker**"It is difficult to comprehend what has happened to our church in the last two years. One of the most disheartening aspects of the entire matter is that few pastors and Christians in the Church of God movement have extended a hand to our church or our pastor.Support from the Church of God pastors in Illinois was virtually non-existent.....Most of us at Ezra have suffered tremendously simply because it seemed that no one cared about our pastor, our people or the future of our church....."**

A.J.'s words do not sound like the words of someone who needed to repent for his discord, division, ought and strife – as stated in the "apology" statement. I did not respond to Glenn's letters because I was not interested in any written apology drafted by him, a man who was not there when it happened, who did not suffer the pain that many suffered, which apology was drafted more than 15 years after the fact – after many of the Godly men and women who played major rolls in it all, were already deceased.

Many of those voting to send the apology to (IGA) did not attend Ezra Church of God in the 80's and knew nothing about any of it until the meeting that was held by Pastor Dryden in 2001.

In that meeting he said that he envisioned revival breaking out when the apology was extended. Instead as a result of the 2001 meeting, some left the church (this is undeniable), others told us personally that "they would not leave – they were there before Pastor Dryden came, and they would be there afterwards and would anxiously awaited his leaving." There was no revival that broke out, only more hurt over the past, and discord among many in the congregation.

So no, I did not respond to his three invitations to meet with him/committee for reasons stated above. He failed (as far as I know) to tell you, that after an accuser came forward that had not done so in the 80's that I called Pastor Glenn and ask to read a statement that I had written. The statement was not intended to be an "end all" it was only a first move to open the door for talks. He immediately cut me off and said that if I wanted to talk it would be face to face and in the presence of board members.

My wife can verify the conversation which lasted less than two minutes – even when I said, please, I'm begging you to listen, this is just a beginning.....he uncompassionately cut me off and reaffirmed his earlier position. From that moment I decided I would never be involved in dialogue with anyone in his presence.

Pastor Dryden further states in his letter: " I will reiterate here that in the case of Tommy Shelton it is my opinion, though there are different congregations in different states, leaders of one "organization" or entity, the corporate church of God, have attempted to bring him to accountability. As a pastor of the church of God I am one of those leaders who have been involved in this attempt. Tommy Shelton has been approached by leaders of the church of God over an almost twenty year period. Incomprehensibly, he has succeeded in circumventing church discipline."

The above paragraph is simply not true. If there have been any efforts since 1987 to bring me to accountability by the Church of God or it's leadership (other than Glenn Dryden) I nor my wife or children are aware of it, and we demand names and dates to refresh our memory, if it is possible to forget something of that magnitude.

To the contrary, when I surrendered my credentials in 2001 to the Ministerial Council in Virginia, it appeared that no one cared. I didn't receive an acknowledgement, and neither my family nor I received any phone calls from anyone on the Council offering Gal. 6:1 restoration, or help of any

kind. Glenn's statement that I have been approached by leaders of the Church of God over a 20 year period is absolutely not true. I was a very visible person in the Church of God. I spoke at numerous revivals and campmeetings each year – or song director or musician at large endeavors – my Bible studies and videos were being used by churches in many states. If I were being sought for 20 years to be brought into accountability, I wouldn't have been hard to find me and I certainly would not have been offered the speaking opportunities that were afforded me, as news travels fast in Church of God circles.

The only leadership trying to do whatever it is he is trying to do, is Glenn Dryden. And my question is, does the Church of God allow a leader, acting on his own, to do all that Pastor Dryden has done to "bring me to accountability?" Has he followed Church of God example?

Has the Church of God, Anderson or Independent, ever put what they believe to be another man's sins on the internet?

Is there precedence in the Church of God for giving negative information to someone of another denomination without checking to know who they are?

Does the Church of God condone a leader sending a letter to the General Conference of the Seventh Day Adventist revealing scandal in the Church of God?

Pastor Dryden not only sent a letter to the General Conference of SDA, but to the Chairman of the Board of 3ABN and to the head of the Hope Channel – another SDA television network. The leaders of the General Conference didn't even know me – I have never been to the Hope Channel and don't know its leader – and the letter to the chairman of the board could only have been to try to take my job. **The Church of God does not operate this way**, and one of it's leaders should not either. In truth, many pastors I have spoken with feel he should be disqualified as a leader for following such an unbiblical path.

I will now show you a couple of letters that Pastor Dryden allowed to be published on the internet for the world to see. While reading them, ask yourself, would I want this published about my loved one – husband – child – wife – dad, **even if it were all true**? In my opinion a godly, compassionate man would have handled all of this within the confines of the church, if for no other reasons, than for the sake of Carol, Valerie and Brad, Gerri Lynn and Jason and Rick – people you all know and love. Their lives will never be the same.

If it were all true, think of what they would have already gone through – then for each of them to have to face more humiliation everyday as they meet people who have been on the internet and read Pastor Dryden's letters – no matter how far from home they go.

May 14, 2003

Dr. Walter Thompson

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Dear Dr. Thompson:

Greetings in the holy name of our Lord Jesus!

It is my understanding that you serve as chairman of the board of directors of Three Angels Broadcasting Network. From 3ABN's web site it appears an invitation to minister has been extended to this congregation's former pastor, Tommy Ray Shelton.

Constrained by an ethical, if not legal, obligation, I am compelled to advise you that Tommy Ray Shelton is not in good standing with either of the two associations by which he was first presented with ministerial credentials. At least six boys in our community were sexually abused by Tommy Ray Shelton during the periods he served as pastor of this congregation.

Some of these young men and some parents are willing to corroborate the information I am giving you, if necessary. Please contact me for their phone numbers that I may alert them to a pending call.

I also will put you in touch with the two associations referenced above. Either I or members of this congregation's leadership will answer any questions you may have regarding this correspondence. In our Lord's service,

Pastor Glenn Dryden

ACTION ITEMS SUGGESTED FOR TOMMY SHELTON

Expediency recommended :

Senate Bill 1035 extending statute of limitations goes into effect as soon as signed by Governor Blagojevich. This could be within the next thirty days.

Note <http://www.legis.state.il.us>

Tommy should retain an attorney to represent him as well as to serve him in contacting victims and their families, all at Tommy's expense.

A full disclosure of all victims and details should be made to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office (Investigator Kevin Skurat, 618-435-8187). This disclosure should include pertinent incidences in other states as well as in other jurisdictions in Illinois in addition to Franklin County.

Tommy should cooperate in the placement of his name and pertinent information on appropriate sex offenders lists, as the law may require in the state of his residence or in Illinois.

Tommy should agree to reimburse any of the victims or their family members for the expenses of counseling they have received. He should further agree to pay for any future counseling required by any of the victims or their family members. Contact should be made by his attorney with the victims through their parents if necessary. Pastor Glenn Dryden of the Ezra Church of God (***_***_***) should be consulted as to the victims of whom he is aware and as to which of these may be contacted directly. Other victims may wish to maintain anonymity. Apart from necessary contact by law enforcement personnel, their wishes should be respected.

Tommy should issue written apologies over his signature to all victims and to their parents. Again, contact with victims should be made through their parents if necessary.

Tommy also should issue written apologies over his signature for his deceit, as well as inappropriate behavior, etc., to the congregation of the Ezra Church of God, West Frankfort, Illinois, the congregation of the Community Church of God, Dunn Loring, Virginia, the state office of the General Assembly Of The Church Of God In Illinois and to the Ministerial Council of the Church of God headquartered in Virginia.

Subject: FROM PASTOR DRYDEN

Date: **Sun, 3 Dec 2006** 21:03:14 -0500

From: Glenn Dryden

Statement of Pastor Glenn Dryden

Three instances of misconduct on the part of Tommy Shelton while he served as pastor at the Community Church of God, Dunn Loring, Virginia, have been reported to me in the brief time I have served as pastor of this congregation.

The most egregious of these instances involved a male who was a minor at the time.

In another correspondence with the "investigators" he says: You may make public my 2003 letter to Dr. Thompson and action items (which were compiled by the congregation of the Ezra Church of God) and may note that the action items were also sent to Mike Riva, Tommy's attorney, with my reply to his letter of June 13, 2003. **You may note that I gave you my permission to do so.**

Now to my last comment about Pastor Dryden's open letter. **"It is my assertion as well that years ago the church [in the corporate sense of our understanding of the church] complied with the principle set forth in Matthew 18:15-17 and concluded Tommy Shelton "be treated like**

an unbeliever" (Contemporary English Version), a "sexually immoral" person (I Corinthians 5)." (his underlining)

"Indeed Tommy Shelton is a sexually immoral individual such as the one the Apostle Paul spoke of in I Corinthians 5 and, like that man, is worthy of expulsion from fellowship with the church of God."

How can a man who has not seen or talked to me in over 6 years say that Tommy Shelton "IS" a sexually immoral individual? For argument sake let's say that every charge against me is true, how can he know that in the last 6 years I have not repented? The CCOG board has numbers of letters from people at 3ABN who worked with me every day who have testified to my Christian experience and walk with the Lord over these last many years. There has not been one rumor of any kind – sexual immorality, dishonesty, deceit or any other of the sins Glenn accuses me of. How can any man of God say with certainty that I "am" a sexually immoral person. I repeat, if it were all true – do we not believe in repentance and forgiveness? For six years no one has questioned my Christian experience and actually for the six years prior, when I was with you all, you didn't question it either.

In fact, the vast majority of you sensed the presence of the Holy Spirit in our services, you told me that you learned and were drawn closer to God through our ministry there. I'm not saying that I wasn't human – not saying that I didn't have issues that I struggled with – not saying that I didn't make mistakes – or never miscommunicated something etc. but I was not a sexually immoral person. Check back to what you felt in your own spirit while we were there. Glenn's statement in this regard is judging and the Bible condemns it. This statement will also make him liable in a court of law as he cannot say I "am" a sexually immoral person without present proof.

O.K., so where do we go from here? Pastor Dryden says since I am a sexually immoral person like Paul talked about in I Cor. 5, I should be expelled from the Church of God.

Does he not realize that already happened 1987 – expelled from the Anderson movement. Then, fellowship was broken with the independent Church of God when I returned my credentials in 2001. Now if that is not enough expulsion, my ministry, name and character was assassinated on the internet by the hand of one man, Glenn Dryden.

In addition to my ruination in the Church of God, I have also been ruined in the Seventh-Day-Adventist Church (world wide, as I ministered in music around the world). Not only is my music ministry ruined among the Adventist, but my two daughter's ministry is ruined as well.

I can never preach, teach, sing or play in the Church of God or Adventist church again at this point.

In addition, because of the pressure (that your pastor hoped for, **by his own admission**) from the scandalizing on the internet, it was necessary for me to leave my job because of the stress to my heart due to constant high blood pressure. So on top of all of the other expulsions I am expelled from my job, and not able to draw social security until April. If all of this is not **expulsion**, I don't know what is. But he must want something more for he continues to seek "new evidence" even as late as last week. Although he has stated in 2001 everything "seemed to drop into my lap" he continues seeking. For what purpose??? I AM ALREADY EXPULSED!

As I see it, The Church at Dunn Loring has only one biblical avenue to pursue. The church cannot bring reconciliation between my accusers and me. That can only be accomplished between them and me, and both parties have to want it.

If the Church wants to be the Church, the avenue it must take is to continue beyond

1 Corinthians 5, **to it's completion** in II Corinthians, chapter 2. In I Corinthians 5, your Pastor has already pointed out that the incestuous (sexually immoral) person should be expelled or as the Amplified Bible calls it, censured. That has already happened.

What the Pastor has failed to point out is that Paul does not leave the sexually immoral person expelled. He tells the church what their responsibility is to that person, and his instructions are clear and found in II Corinthians 2:6-8. Clark's commentary tie the two passages together beautifully and I

give the passage from the Amplified Bible because it so understandable.

Verse 6 – For such a one this censure by the majority (which he has received is) sufficient (punishment). 7. So (instead of further rebuke, now) you should rather turn and (graciously) forgive and comfort and encourage (him), to keep him from being overwhelmed by excessive sorrow and despair. 8. I therefore beg you to reinstate him in your affections and assure him of your love for him; Verse 11 says, "To keep Satan from getting the advantage over us

There you have the Bible path at this point. Glenn says I should be rebuked before all – I have been (before the whole world) – he says I should be treated as an unbeliever – I have been, by him - he says I should be expelled – I have been and much, much more. The only biblical avenue for the church to take is, II Corinthians 2:6-8, and that is where it must end – now – not months down the road as Pastor Dryden suggested in his letter.

Just as Glenn Dryden gave a list of action items for me which included registering as a sex offender and making apologies to Ezra and Dunn Loring etc. I would suggest that there should be some apologies on his part. He should start with my wife and children for the "unnecessary" hurt by his actions on the internet. It would have been painful enough for them had it been handled within the church, but the internet was cruel and unreasonable punishment for them. And it is not over for my family either. An Adventist magazine with thousands of subscribers is planning, and may already have, published an article about me in the coming issue – it's source of information – Gailon Joy – Gailon's source, Glenn Dryden. My family has yet to face that humiliation.

He should apologize to the Seventh-day-Adventist church for the confusion and disharmony it has created in its congregations, and to the Churches of God where he has sent letters that have set people against people. This is not to say that if he were convicted by God to handle this issue that he should not have gotten involved. It is to say that there was a Bible way – the internet was not the Bible way – letters to people of other denominations was not the Bible way – calling people on the phone looking for accusations was not the Bible way. Had the Bible way been followed who knows what God might have done. As it is, the brokenness and hurt which has now reached around the world will never all be mended.

One last thought, let's say I'm innocent, or I am forgiven.....at whose hand will the blood of those souls that may have been saved under my continued ministry, be required? I would fear to be the one who shut down the ministry of one whose fruit in the past 20 years show he was used of God in some measure whether great or small.

I love all of you at the Community Church of God. You know that... I was with you six years. My family's and my life are richer and fuller because of our time with you. I am so sorry for all of the pain that this has caused.

Our prayer is that each of you will decide in your heart to follow II Corinthians 2.

Don't wrestle with guilty or innocent, just determine to follow I Corinthians 5 **to it's completion** in

II Corinthians 2:6-8 – not just in this matter but in every situation that you may face in the future.

God Bless you individually and the Community Church of God as a whole,

Tommy Shelton

Posted by: sister Feb 18 2007, 02:28 PM

QUOTE

One last thought, let's say I'm innocent, or I am forgiven.....at whose hand will the blood of those souls that may have been saved under my continued ministry, be required? I would fear to be the one who shut down the ministry of one whose fruit in the past 20 years show he was used of God in some measure whether great or small.

The line quoted above is a strange statement for one to make who claims to be innocent: "**One last thought, let's say I'm innocent, or I am forgiven.**" For Tommy to end his letter this way can certainly bring doubt to the minds of the readers concerning Tommy's own conviction whether he is innocent or has repented of his sins and is forgiven.

Compare the above statement from Tommy Shelton with the statements of Linda Shelton from her letter poster on BSDA, quoted below:

QUOTE

The most devastating blow a televangelist can get is the false accusation of adultery. Although I have already made this statement on my website I want to address those of you who have loved and valued my Christianity, integrity and my ministry for the 19 years that I was at 3ABN. **I want to clearly emphasize that I was 100% faithful to my husband.**

QUOTE

It was the false accusation of adultery which caused the loss of my marriage, my reputation, my employment, and everything else. I challenge the 3ABN Board to produce the "irrefutable evidence" which caused a co-founder, a life-time Board member, Vice-President and Secretary of the Board to be removed in that May, 2004 meeting! **I am asking, no demanding, that the information is made public, at my request!** Cast aside these pretended desires to "spare me"! The world is waiting with baited breath!

Linda calls for all evidence to be publically produced. And Tommy? Just something to consider...

Sister

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 18 2007, 02:53 PM


I don't recall reading anywhere that anyone has denied that the email labeled as a confession from Tommy is not in fact written by him.

see: <http://www.save3abn.com/tommy-shelton-confession.htm>

There is nothing in this letter that would cause me to conclude that Tommy has not done what has been alleged. Failure to out right deny the allegations when given the opportunity to do so I find significant.

Tommy again uses conversational terrorism to blame his accusers for the pain caused his family and the loss of any souls who learn of the allegations.

I wonder if Tommy ever blames Danny for this new public awareness of Tommy's past that may have gone entirely unnoticed if Danny had handled Linda's removal at 3abn and their divorce differently?

I wonder if Tommy sent this letter after talking to his legal representative? 

nw

Posted by: Grace Feb 18 2007, 03:16 PM



QUOTE(Noahswife @ Feb 18 2007, 09:53 PM) 


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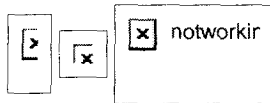
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I wonder if Tommy ever blames Danny for this new public awareness of Tommy's past that may have gone entirely unnoticed if Danny had handled Linda's removal at 3abn and their divorce differently?

I wonder if Tommy sent this letter after talking to his legal representative? 

nw

Very true, NW. I see conversational terrorism (thanks for your post on that, NW!) all over TS's letter, especially accusing others of having done such unfair and abusive things to him (and his family), playing the "poor me" and the "I'm such a nice guy"... His game is blaming his accusers of all sort of evil things, discrediting them... but never addressing the real issue: Is he guilty or is he not? He must know by now that he can't play "innocent", so he tries to play "victim".



Posted by: Lenni Feb 18 2007, 04:20 PM

[quote name='Pickle' date='Feb 18 2007, 01:12 PM' post='179087']

I received this open letter last night anonymously. This is the very type of thing I asked Danny for last November, and I wish so much that it had been sent to me back then. Why has it taken so long to get it?

Hopefully it will answer some of our questions.

Tommy's wife, Carol, also wrote an "open letter" addressed to the church at Dunn Loring. When I read it, I wanted to scream. I don't have it in front of me right now but she states that she believes all of us have been victimized in one way or another and, basically, states that it is our own responsibility to get the help we need and essentially get over it. I reread it again last night and I'm still fuming over it!

Posted by: Noahswife Feb 18 2007, 05:07 PM

Can you say ENABLER?

nw

Posted by: dedication Feb 18 2007, 05:19 PM

QUOTE(sister @ Jan 3 2007, 10:22 PM)

Personally I know that the Mundalls wrote out a statement and signed it and it was given to the Illinois Conference President at the time. How do I know this is true? Directly from the mouth of the Mundall source. Are allegations of child molestation against Tommy Shelton included in this document, YES. How do I know, from the same Mundall source. When will the document be released? At the appropriate time and place.

..... **Since the Illinois Conference President was also a sitting member of the 3ABN board, it appears that the Mundalls gave their evidence to an official** whom they believed would both have influence and be above reproach since he was not controlled financially by 3ABN. Also, keep in mind that Tommy Shelton was not then, nor has he been since, a member of the SDA church. Thus SDA church has no authority over Tommy. But since Danny Shelton publically claims not to be independent, but rather a supporting ministry of the SDA church, it should have influence with him in regard to these matters.

Sister

I have lots of Questions-- concerning things that don't quite add up.

The statement has been made that Danny misled the 3ABN board into thinking Tommy's perverse activities were 30 years old.

The statement has been made that Elder Thompson accepted this to be true because Danny lied to him.

But NOW I read that in 1991 the board was made fully aware of Tommy's propensities to sin -- (that's only 15 years ago) so they were NOT ignorant at all. They KNEW!

A statement was also made that Danny put 3ABN and the Illinois conference in financial jeopardy by lying to them about Tommy, but now I find out that the 3ABN board and the Illinois conference already knew about the problem.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Feb 18 2007, 05:41 PM

lenni,
Do you have access to the letter from Carol? If so, could you post it?

PB

Posted by: Pickle Feb 18 2007, 06:02 PM

I agree, Dedication, it doesn't quite make sense.

Now if we look at Tommy's open letter, he claims in it that the first allegations were raised in September 1985, which doesn't jive with either Brad Dunning's recollections (1982-1983) or Walt Thompson's statements (30 years ago).

One thing that puts it possibly in a different light is to look at who was on the board in 1991 compared with 2003. Whoever was not on the board in 1991 would not necessarily know in 2003 what happened back then.

And how much the current conference administration knew about 1991 is uncertain to me at this point.

Yet a plaintiff might argue that they should have known more than they did (Danny's statements to Walt in 2003 do not help), and would a jury agree?

Dedication,

I just looked and Walt Thompson, according to the December 2005 issue of *3ABN World*, had been on the board at that time nearly 20 years.

Unfortunately, that raises questions about the truthfulness of Dr. Thompson when he said the allegations were about 30 years old. How could he say that if he was present at the board meetings that took up the issue in 1991?

Or are we missing something?

Bob

Posted by: dedication Feb 18 2007, 06:15 PM

QUOTE(Ralph @ Jan 6 2007, 12:42 AM) □

I am proud of Brad and proud of his relatives. He had trust enough in them to speak up and they believed him and took the appropriate action. When a youth has that kind of support, he can meet up with unfortunate incidents, and yet come out on top. Brad has demonstrated this in his life.

It is a delicate task to caution a child and yet not make him/her suspicious of everyone.

Excellent thoughts!!

Yes, justice should be served to perpetrators, and I'm still wondering why action wasn't taken in 1991 and why the board and the Illinois Conference are depicted as "unknowing" when it was just shown that they KNEW....

But your thoughts are right on target, for the only real safety for our young people in a world gone crazy with sexual perversions, pornography, and exploitation is to train our young people to recognize and resist danger.

Personally I find the governments rather hypocritical -- on the one hand they are tough on "perpetrators" -- which they should be, --- but on the other hand they allow more and more outright provocative material to float around in every public place (and even invading uninvited into private space) that only feeds the beastly propensities that make up the drives of the perpetrators.

We do need to teach our young people to recognize and resist evil, even if it comes from a "respected" source. And yes, that is an important and delicate task!!!

This world will never be a safe place prior to the new earth.

What I find even more disturbing about Tommy's approach -- much more disturbing than any assumed medical condition is how he brings GOD into the mess, and actually uses the name of the Holy Righteous God to promote sin.

QUOTE

QUOTE

"He said that he had prayed about it, and God showed him how that he could be healed. He told me that God showed him that....."

That is taking the name of the Lord in vain in the most hideous way.

Posted by: dedication Feb 18 2007, 07:22 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Feb 18 2007, 06:02 PM)

I agree, Dedication, it doesn't quite make sense.

Now if we look at Tommy's open letter, he claims in it that the first allegations were raised in September 1985, which doesn't jive with either Brad Dunning's recollections (1982-1983) or Walt Thompson's statements (30 years ago).

Well -- Brad may be referring to the time he was actually experiencing the problem.

Tommy may be reporting the time allegations were actually raised. Which of course would be later than the actual time the activity took place.

And W. Thompson was probably speaking in rounded figures pushing the 80's as far into the past as rounding would allow. After all -- the emphases meant by his statement was "it was a looong time

ago".

QUOTE

One thing that puts it possibly in a different light is to look at who was on the board in 1991 compared with 2003. Whoever was not on the board in 1991 would not necessarily know in 2003 what happened back then.

And how much the current conference administration knew about 1991 is uncertain to me at this point.

Though there are probably new members -- things like that usually are not forgotten by those who were there earlier, and one of the function of a board is to "discuss" matters and enlighten new members on the particulars.

QUOTE

Yet a plaintiff might argue that they should have known more than they did (Danny's statements to Walt in 2003 do not help), and would a jury agree?

I just looked and Walt Thompson, according to the December 2005 issue of *3ABN World*, had been on the board at that time nearly 20 years.

Unfortunately, that raises questions about the truthfulness of Dr. Thompson when he said the allegations were about 30 years old. How could he say that if he was present at the board meetings that took up the issue in 1991?

I think the point of Danny lying to the board isn't totally true. It may well have been all the "older" members justifying their hiring of Tommy by saying -- "it was a loong time ago -- about 30 years." The board would have KNOWN.

"Or are we missing something?"

Bob

Probably -- life situations can be pretty complex with lots of angles.

Posted by: Whtz Happenin Feb 18 2007, 08:40 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Feb 18 2007, 02:12 PM)

...he states that he is doing what he can to protect young people. What young people?

I have worked for the last 6 years in an environment where there are NO young people.

... I attend a church where there are NO young people. I live in a rural area where there are NO young people for miles. **I have not preached a campmeeting where there were young people for over five years.** I live 800 miles from the young people at Community Church of God. How could this be his real motive?
... Tommy Shelton

<http://fbcoh.org/greet1.html>

October 15-18 we're having our Fall Revival with Rev. Tommy Shelton preaching. It will meet nightly at 6:30 p.m. ... great singing, preaching, and fellowship."

<http://www.fbcoh.org/oppimag/1oct06.pdf>
attachmentid=759]

Pray for our preaching evangelist, Tommy Shelton. Tommy has asked that we pray that the Holy Spirit would guide him in exactly what to preach in each specific service. Tommy's desire is to be emptied of himself and filled with the Holy Spirit.

<http://www.fbcoh.org/oppimag/8oct06.pdf>
Dear First Baptist Friends

As I look forward with anticipation to the upcoming Revival meetings, I am reminded that although we may set aside a time for revival, God must send it. He is not only willing to send revival, but longs to send it. The only thing that can hinder revival from coming to us is an unprepared heart. True revival comes to us when we, like Isaiah, catch a glimpse of the Lord high and lifted up, and in the light of His holiness, see our great need. R.A. Torrey gave a prescription for revival, which I quote: First, let a few Christians get thoroughly right with God. If this is not done, the rest will come to nothing. Second, let them bind them-selves together to pray for revival until God opens the windows of heaven and comes down. Third, let them put themselves at the disposal of God for His use as He sees fit in winning others to Christ. That is all. I have given this prescription around the world...and in no instance has it failed. It cannot fail.
Looking forward to being with you ...Tommy

<http://www.fbcoh.org/oppimag/15oct06.pdf>

WHAT BLESSING... to have Tommy and Carol Shelton with us this week, as Tommy preaches our revival. They live in Marion, Kentucky, and have been married for 43 years. They have three grown children. Tommy pastored two churches over a twenty-five year span, one in Kentucky and the other in the Washington D.C. area.

<http://www.fbcoh.org/oppimag/22oct06.pdf>

...I was reminded of Tommy Shelton's message on Wednesday evening from Proverbs 4:23. "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." (KJV) If we are to become all God called us to be, we must guard our spiritual hearts. ...

Do you think this church has NO youth?

Posted by: roxe Feb 18 2007, 08:51 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Feb 18 2007, 12:12 PM) ☐

----- Original Message -----

<snip>

II Cor. 7:10 says, "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death." True repentance comes from God - it's a gift - not

consequences or having to "pay." Negative consequences may cause one to try to change behavior for a time, but true repentance only comes from God through godly sorrow - As the verse says, "... but the sorrow of the world - (getting caught - consequences etc) worketh death.
 <snip>
 Tommy Shelton

s his interpretation of this verse correct??

s he saying he should NOT have to suffer getting caught or any consequences??

vonder who helped him write this letter... or if someone else wrote it...

Posted by: sonshineonme Feb 18 2007, 09:15 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Feb 18 2007, 11:12 AM)

I received this open letter last night anonymously. This is the very type of thing I asked Danny for last November, and I wish so much that it had been sent to me back then. Why has it taken so long to get it?

Hopefully it will answer some of our questions.

----- Original Message -----
Subject: Letter from Tommy Shelton to CCOG, Dunn Loring, VA
Date: Sat, 17 Feb 2007 17:47:14 -0800 (PST)
From: No One You Know

An Open Letter

To the many I have loved through the years. I am sending you this letter in response to an open letter that was sent to many, if not all, of you from Pastor Glenn Dryden. This letter is not meant as revenge, but so that you might be informed of the other side of the story.....
 Tommy Shelton

Could this be what bystander and wwjd (and the gang) may have been up too the past few days they have not been here posting??



Posted by: Pickle Feb 18 2007, 10:00 PM

QUOTE(dedication @ Feb 18 2007, 07:22 PM)

Well -- Brad may be referring to the time he was actually experiencing the problem.

Tommy may be reporting the time allegations were actually raised. Which of course would be later than the actual time the activity took place.

We know for a fact, based on Brad's account, that this cannot be true. Immediately after being propositioned, Brad left the school and went home and told his family. Thus there is no room in his account for a delay of a couple years.

The only possibility would be that Brad got the date wrong. But then we'd have other people getting their dates wrong too. Sherry Avery's account has Tommy getting caught in October 1984, and that was after there were other allegations already floating around.

Is it even possible to have the allegations occur first in September 1985, with Tommy's resignation happening that soon afterwards, followed the next month by the suspension of his credentials, given all the accounts that have been collected thus far?

QUOTE(Whitz Happenin @ Feb 18 2007, 08:40 PM) □

<http://www.fbcch.org/oppimag/15oct06.pdf>

WHAT BLESSING... to have Tommy and Carol Shelton with us this week, as Tommy preaches our Revival. They live in Marion, Kentucky, and have been married for 43 years. They have three grown children. Tommy pastored two churches over a twenty-five year span, one in Kentucky and the other in the Washington D.C. area.

Could someone please explain why the Ezra Church of God in IL is not listed as a third church? Out of the three churches, was he not longer at Ezra than anywhere else? Or was he at Marion before he was at Ezra as well as at Marion for a year in the last half of the '80's?

Posted by: Pickle Feb 18 2007, 10:35 PM

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Tommy: Two questions about your open letter.

Date: Sun, 18 Feb 2007 11:58:27 -0600

To: Tommy Shelton

CC: Mollie Steenson, Pastor Lomacang, Fallible Human Being, Joe Smith, Danny Shelton, Elder Ken Denslow, Walt Thompson

Hello Tommy.

Last night someone forwarded to me your open letter to the Dunn Loring congregation. If there is any chance that this letter is not genuine, please let me know at your earliest convenience.

I haven't read it in its entirety yet, and will look forward to hopefully finding some information in it that will put things in a drastically different light. My only regret is that Danny did not send me anything along these lines in November as requested, as perhaps it could have prevented some misunderstanding, if there really have been any misunderstandings.

Here are two things that I did notice that caused me a little concern. You wrote (assuming that this letter is really genuine):

QUOTE(Tommy Shelton)

"In addition, because of the pressure (that your pastor hoped for, by his own admission) from the scandalizing on the internet, it was necessary for me to leave my job because of the stress to my heart due to constant high blood pressure."

And yet, contrary to the above, you and Danny on the air on New Year's Eve said that your health problems and your retirement were due to:

- Your tremendous schedule.
- Weekend traveling.
- Long commuting.
- And above everything else, a ferry.

Question: Are you admitting in your open letter that both you and Danny lied on the air as to the real reason you were retiring three months early from 3ABN, or do you have a way to explain this apparent discrepancy?

You also wrote:

QUOTE(Tommy Shelton)

"These men are not 'ecclesiastical investigators' for the Seventh Day Adventist. They hold no official position, and have no authority in the Seventh Day Adventist Church to investigate anything or anybody. By next week I will have in hand an official statement from the Illinois Conference President of SDA, stating that these men do not work for the Seventh-Day-Adventist church and were not authorized to investigate anyone."

Question: Isn't this a tad bit dishonest, given the facts that:

- It was an Adventist church pastor or administrator that got the 2003 Glenn Dryden letter to Gailon Joy for him to look at on August 15, 2006, after which he launched his investigation?
- It was an NAD or GC officer that arranged for the 3ABN board to ask ASI to review the various allegations and evidence uncovered by Gailon against Danny Shelton et. al., including the allegations raised in Glenn Dryden's 2003 letter?
- Some of the individuals involved in the "investigation" are retired pastors/administrators, and/or other individuals who currently hold credentials issued by the denomination?

It just seems like your statement may be splitting hairs and giving a distorted picture of what is really going on. While Gailon wasn't officially authorized to investigate, he was unofficially asked to investigate, etc. And I find it difficult to believe that a man like Elder Denslow would be helping to distort the picture of what has been going on.

I trust that I will not have to wait nearly three months to receive an open letter from an anonymous person that answers these simple questions.

Bob

Posted by: lurker Feb 19 2007, 07:34 AM

Here is new article on the 3ABN scandal that I just found this morning. Thought you all would like to read/share it. <http://tinyurl.com/2xlw3e>

Posted by: Grace Feb 19 2007, 07:46 AM

QUOTE(lurker @ Feb 19 2007, 02:34 PM)

Here is new article on the 3ABN scandal that I just found this morning. Thought you all would like to read/share it. <http://tinyurl.com/2xlw3e>

Thank you, Lurker! Very interesting. Seems that truth is getting more and more known.

QUOTE(Pickle @ Feb 19 2007, 05:35 AM) □

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Question: Isn't this a tad bit dishonest, given the facts that:

- It was an Adventist church pastor or administrator that got the 2003 Glenn Dryden letter to Gailon Joy for him to look at on August 15, 2006, after which he launched his investigation?
- It was an NAD or GC officer that arranged for the 3ABN board to ask ASI to review the various allegations and evidence uncovered by Gailon against Danny Shelton et. al., including the allegations raised in Glenn Dryden's 2003 letter?
- Some of the individuals involved in the "investigation" are retired pastors/administrators, and/or other individuals who currently hold credentials issued by the denomination?

It just seems like your statement may be splitting hairs and giving a distorted picture of what is really going on. While Gailon wasn't officially authorized to investigate, he was unofficially asked to investigate, etc. And I find it difficult to believe that a man like Elder Denslow would be helping to distort the picture of what has been going on.

I trust that I will not have to wait nearly three months to receive an open letter from an anonymous person that answers these simple questions.

Bob

And thank you, Pickel! Waiting for their answer...

Posted by: brother4life Feb 19 2007, 11:30 AM

QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Feb 3 2007, 01:06 AM)

But I bet he's still drawing a paycheck from 3ABN

Talk about speculation! You bet?

Posted by: brother4life Feb 19 2007, 02:07 PM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 2 2007, 03:43 AM)

I'm in this for the duration. I'm not going anywhere. Count on it.

Duane Clem

Just curious, Duane. To what end do you intend to see this through? How far are you willing to go to see that justice is served? Do you want to see your former Pastor and friend Tommy sitting in prison? Do you want Carol to be all alone there in that home across the river? Do you want those two grandchildren to have to do without their grandfather just so your desire for "justice" can be satisfied?

Personally, I don't know whether he's guilty or not guilty. But 1 Corinthians 10:31 comes to mind: "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." When and if he ends up in prison, will you be able to say that you helped put a man in prison, guilty or not, to the glory of God?

Posted by: sonshineonme Feb 19 2007, 02:27 PM

QUOTE(brother4life @ Feb 19 2007, 12:07 PM)

Just curious, Duane. To what end do you intend to see this through? How far are you willing to go to see that justice is served? Do you want to see your former Pastor and friend Tommy sitting in prison? Do you want Carol to be all alone there in that home across the river? Do you want those two grandchildren to have to do without their grandfather just so your desire for "justice" can be satisfied?

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Are you trying to say that if someone is guilty of breaking the law, has to go to jail/prison, that it's the victims/lawyers/judge or anyone that had to do with the justice coming about, fault for bringing about that justice? That they should feel guilty because they had a part in a criminal getting the punishment that the law requires for that person if they break the law? That those that the criminal leaves behind, THEIR pain is more important than the victim's pain? Surely you are not saying this. Very interesting thinking, as I only know a handful of people personally that think this dysfunctional.

Don't play that guilt trip here. No one here will take that trip with you.

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Feb 19 2007, 02:35 PM

QUOTE(Whtz Happenin @ Feb 18 2007, 07:40 PM)

<http://fbcoh.org/greet1.html>

"October 15-18 we're having our Fall Revival with Rev. Tommy Shelton preaching. It will meet nightly at 6:30 p.m. ... great singing, preaching, and fellowship."

<http://www.fbcoh.org/oppimag/1oct06.pdf>

[attachmentid=759]

Pray for our preaching evangelist, Tommy Shelton. Tommy has asked that we pray that the Holy Spirit would guide him in exactly what to preach in each specific service. Tommy's desire is to be emptied of himself and filled with the Holy Spirit.

<http://www.fbcoh.org/oppimag/8oct06.pdf>

Dear First Baptist Friends

As I look forward with anticipation to the upcoming Revival meetings, I am reminded that although we may set aside a time for revival, God must send it. He is not only willing to send revival, but longs to send it. The only thing that can hinder revival from coming to us is an unprepared heart. True revival comes to us when we, like Isaiah, catch a glimpse of the Lord high and lifted up, and in the light of His Holiness, see our great need. R.A. Torrey gave a prescription for revival, which I quote: First, let a few Christians get thor-oughly right with God. If this is not done, the rest will come to nothing. Second, let them bind them-selves together to pray for revival until God opens the windows of heaven and comes down. Third, let them put themselves at the disposal of God for His use as He sees fit in winning others to Christ. That is all. I have given this prescription around the world...and in no instance has it failed. It cannot fail.

Looking forward to being with you ...Tommy

<http://www.fbcoh.org/oppimag/15oct06.pdf>

WHAT BLESSING... to have Tommy and Carol Shelton with us this week, as Tommy preaches our Revival. They live in Marion, Kentucky, and have been married for 43 years. They have three grown children. Tommy pastored two churches over a twenty-five year span, one in Kentucky and the other in the Washington D.C. area.

<http://www.fbcoh.org/oppimag/22oct06.pdf>

....I was reminded of Tommy Shelton's message on Wednesday evening from Proverbs 4:23. "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." (KJV) If we are to become all God called us to be, we must guard our spiritual hearts. ...

Do you think this church has NO youth?

As I read Tommy's Open Letter, I thought of this instance as well. Does anyone know if this church is made up of only mature folk?

QUOTE(Pickle @ Feb 18 2007, 09:00 PM)

Could someone please explain why the Ezra Church of God in IL is not listed as a third church? Out of the three churches, was he not longer at Ezra than anywhere else? Or was he at Marion before he was at Ezra as well as at Marion for a year in the last half of the '80's?

This is certainly confusing. If it is an oversight, it certainly is a glaring one.

Posted by: Grace Feb 19 2007, 02:42 PM

QUOTE(sonshineonme @ Feb 19 2007, 09:27 PM)

Are you trying to say that if someone is guilty of breaking the law, has to go to jail/prison, that it's the victims/lawyers/judge or anyone that had to do with the justice coming about, fault for bringing about that justice? That they should feel guilty because they had a part in a criminal getting the punishment that the law requires for that person if they break the law? That those that the criminal leaves behind, THEIR pain is more important then the victim's pain? Surely you are not saying this. Very interesting thinking, as I only know a handful of people personally that think this dysfunctional.

Don't play that guilt trip here. No one here will take that trip with you.

totally agree.

brother4life, I'm sorry to say that I find your last intervention totally outrageous.

Posted by: Panama_Pete Feb 19 2007, 02:47 PM

QUOTE(brother4life @ Feb 19 2007, 02:07 PM)

Do you want Carol to be all alone there in that home across the river? Do you want those two grandchildren to have to do without their grandfather just so your desire for "justice" can be satisfied?

This is from one of the letters at Save3ABN.com, Broken-Hearted Mother #2. Here's the link and quote:

<http://www.save3abn.com/tommy-shelton-victims-family-mom-2.htm>

"I remember when things began to heat up for Tommy Shelton, he came by our home and asked my son to come outside and talk. Later, I learned that he had told my son that if he told anyone, Carol Shelton would kill herself. Not only did he use his wife, but also his daughter as a pawn. This was not his only threat against my son. I won't write what the other threats were that were made at this time, but they would make you sick!"

Brother4Life,

Do you see a theme in this quote from Broken-Hearted-2 that looks similar to what you just wrote?

Pete

Posted by: erik Feb 19 2007, 02:52 PM

QUOTE(brother4life @ Feb 19 2007, 12:07 PM)

Just curious, Duane. To what end to you intend to see this through? How far are you willing to go to see that justice is served? Do you want to see your former Pastor and friend Tommy sitting in prison? Do you want Carol to be all alone there in that home across the river? Do you want those two grandchildren to have to do without their grandfather just so your desire for "justice" can be satisfied?

Personally, I don't know whether he's guilty or not guilty. But 1 Corinthians 10:31 comes to mind: "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." When and if he lands in prison, will you be able to say that you helped put a man in prison, guilty or not, to the glory of God?

Brother4Life,

Can i ask why you would think that if tommy is guilty that the victims should not have the right to see justice done?

Also if someone shoot tommy, you say well i think we should not punish that person because of 1 cor. 10:31?

Erik

QUOTE(Panama_Pete @ Feb 19 2007, 12:47 PM)

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Brother4Life,

Do you see a theme in this quote from Broken-Hearted-2 that looks similar to what you just wrote?

Pete

P,

Now we are dancing on words, great question.

Erik

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Feb 19 2007, 03:15 PM

QUOTE(brother4life @ Feb 19 2007, 01:07 PM)

Just curious, Duane. To what end to you intend to see this through? How far are you willing to go to see that justice is served? Do you want to see your former Pastor and friend Tommy sitting in prison? Do you want Carol to be all alone there in that home across the river? Do you want those two grandchildren to have to do without their grandfather just so your desire for "justice" can be satisfied?

Personally, I don't know whether he's guilty or not guilty. But 1 Corinthians 10:31 comes to mind: "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." When and if he lands in prison, will you be able to say that you helped put a man in prison, guilty or not, to the glory of God?

brother4life,

Let's say, for the sake of argument, that all of the evidence written here and at save3abn.com about Tommy Shelton is true including the testimonies of several of the victims and the emailed confession by Tommy Shelton to one of the victims. Should he have a special dispensation to avoid justice because he has a wife that would be left alone or grandchildren that would miss their grandfather? Should he not be held accountable for his actions against those in his trust?

Our Lord was really clear when He told His disciples "Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's..."

QUOTE(Panama_Pete @ Feb 19 2007, 01:47 PM)

This is from one of the letters at Save3ABN.com, Broken-Hearted Mother #2. Here's the link and quote:

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Brother4Life,

Do you see a theme in this quote from Broken-Hearted-2 that looks similar to what you just wrote?

Pete

One has to wonder why he didn't consider the impact of his actions on his family but instead attempted to transfer that into the responsibility of his victims.

Posted by: lurker Feb 19 2007, 03:18 PM

Prisons would be empty if every that excuse worked in court. "But judge, I have a family."

Posted by: Pickle Feb 19 2007, 03:35 PM

The following is sent in regard to Tommy Shelton's recent open letter to the Dunn Loring congregation.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Open Letter to Dunn Loring: three discrepancies

Date: Mon, 19 Feb 2007 15:28:52 -0600

To: Tommy Shelton

CC: Mollie Steenson, Pastor Lomacang, Fallible Human Being, Joe Smith, Danny Shelton, Elder Ken Denslow, Walt Thompson

Hello Tommy.

I've taken a look at your letter now, and I can see that you have made some references to some documents that would be very helpful in potentially exonerating you. If you can forward these to me, I will see what I can do to get them posted.

I do see some additional spots in your letter that raise some questions. For example, you write:

QUOTE(Tommy Shelton)

"Not only were allegations from the Community Church of God posted, but postings of letters, accusations and copies of personal documents going back more than 20 years - all signed by Pastor Glenn Dryden."

Since Roger Clem's letter was posted back on December 6, 2006, and since it was never signed by Pastor Dryden, I'm unsure how you can make this claim. Was this just an example of an inadvertent slip?

You write:

QUOTE(Tommy Shelton)

"We can only guess as to what kind of pressure these people were put under (I've been told - I can't confirm) that one was told by the 'self appointed investigators' that he had better say something quickly because I intended a lawsuit and was planning to drag him into it, which of course, is not true."

Here are two simple reasons why you have not been able to confirm this:

1. You never contacted us to ask us about it, which is peculiar in light of your use of Matthew 18 in your letter. (Why spread unconfirmed rumors in a letter that appears to be against the spreading of unconfirmed rumors?)

2. It can't be confirmed because it simply isn't true. If you wish to know what was said, feel free to call Gailon or myself.

You write:

QUOTE(Tommy Shelton)

"The facts are, the first allegation was made in September of 1985"

If this is true,

- Why did Walt Thompson tell me at the end of November 2006 that the allegations were about 30 years old?
- Why does Brad Dunning say that the incident with him, after which he immediately blew the whistle, happened in 1982-1983? Was he mistaken?

That's it for now. Hope to hear from you soon.

Bob

Posted by: Whtz Happenin Feb 19 2007, 05:11 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Feb 18 2007, 11:00 PM)

Could someone please explain why the Ezra Church of God in IL is not listed as a third church? Out of the three churches, was he not longer at Ezra than anywhere else? Or was he at Marion before he was at Ezra as well as at Marion for a year in the last half of the '80's?

I assume that the Washington DC church is accounting for the church in Dunn Loring (I believe Dunn Loring is not too far from DC) and the KY church for Ezra. (I realize that Ezra is not in KY)

Someone either made a wrong assumption when creating the bulletin or they were given the wrong information. Whether it was intentional or not is an unknown.

Only assumptions

Posted by: Lenni Feb 19 2007, 05:42 PM

QUOTE(brother4life @ Feb 19 2007, 02:07 PM)

Just curious, Duane. To what end to you intend to see this through? How far are you willing to go to see that justice is served? Do you want to see your former Pastor and friend Tommy sitting in prison? Do you want Carol to be all alone there in that home across the river? Do you want those two grandchildren to have to do without their grandfather just so your desire for "justice" can be satisfied?

Personally, I don't know whether he's guilty or not guilty. But 1 Corinthians 10:31 comes to mind: "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." When and if he lands in prison, will you be able to say that you helped put a man in prison, guilty or not, to the glory of God?

f Tommy goes to prison, he didn't need any help from anybody.

hey Duane I have a few questions of my own:

Did you want to be molested?

Did you want to be taken advantage of by someone you trusted?

Did you want your brother to go through it too?

Did you want to live with this burden in silence for the last 20 years?

Did you want a bunch of strangers questioning your account of what happened, your motives for coming forward, your reason for not doing it sooner, etc.?

brother4life, maybe you should ponder this for awhile.

Posted by: andithomas1 Feb 19 2007, 05:46 PM

QUOTE(brother4life @ Feb 19 2007, 02:07 PM)

Just curious, Duane. To what end to you intend to see this through? How far are you willing to go to see that justice is served? Do you want to see your former Pastor and friend Tommy sitting in prison? Do you want Carol to be all alone there in that home across the river? Do you want those two grandchildren to have to do without their grandfather just so your desire for "justice" can be satisfied?

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This has got to be a joke because a no person in their right mind would come to this type of conclusion. Give me strength.

Posted by: awesumtenor Feb 19 2007, 07:03 PM

QUOTE(roxe @ Feb 18 2007, 09:51 PM)

is his interpretation of this verse correct??

is he saying he should NOT have to suffer getting caught or any consequences??

wonder who helped him write this letter... or if someone else wrote it...

o; his application of the verse is not correct. The incident Paul is alluding to in 2Cor 7 is the man in 1Cor 5 who was committing fornication with his father's wife. Taken together you see that the church's response swung from one extreme to another. In 1Cor 5, even though his sin was open and flagrant, the church did nothing. After receiving Paul's letter, the church undertook discipline on that member but did so in a manner that it was punitive and not redemptive and even after the man has manifested the fruits of repentance no forgiveness was being extended towards him. IOW, in 1Cor 5 the church thought themselves showing mercy with no thought of justice; in 2Cor 7 they have swung to the other end and are applying justice without mercy.


The text neither states nor implies that the guilty party should face no consequences; it merely points out that the purpose of church discipline is to elicit "godly sorrow" and fruits of repentance; the end result sought is the redemption of the erring member and that cannot be attained in the extremes where the action taken is punitive on the one hand or where a blind eye is turned to flagrant sin and no action is taken at all on the other.

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Feb 19 2007, 07:08 PM

QUOTE(andithomas1 @ Feb 19 2007, 06:46 PM)

This has got to be a joke because a no person in their right mind would come to this type of conclusion. Give me strength.

Unfortunately there are people who find this type of thinking normal. 

That is - until it happens to them!

Posted by: 2shine4Him Feb 19 2007, 07:58 PM

QUOTE(brother4life @ Feb 19 2007, 02:07 PM)

Just curious, Duane. To what end do you intend to see this through? How far are you willing to go to see that justice is served? Do you want to see your former Pastor and friend Tommy sitting in prison? Do you want Carol to be all alone there in that home across the river? Do you want those two grandchildren to have to do without their grandfather just so your desire for "justice" can be satisfied?

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glory of God?

I think most everyone missed the point brother4life is trying to make. I think he is saying that, as Christians, whether SDA, Baptist, or Church of God, etc., we are all called to take the high road; to forgive as we desire to be forgiven. Didn't Tommy write a letter to Duane asking forgiveness? What should be the Christian response? Yes, we are to render unto Ceasar what is Ceasar's, but even Peter in Acts 5:29 said "we ought to obey God rather than man", which says to me that God's law trumps man's law. By taking the high road, this does not mean that we are to sweep anything under the rug; and it is not a crime to want the person held accountable. Rightly so. But isn't there a right way and a wrong way to go about this? Airing dirty laundry, presumed or factual, all over the web is not the way to seek justice.

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Feb 19 2007, 08:06 PM

And since other ways of obtaining justice failed what would you suggest? It seems that these forums are getting results. It may not be pretty but it seems to be working. If there is a better way I'd like to hear what it is.

Richard

QUOTE(2shine4Him @ Feb 19 2007, 08:58 PM) □

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Posted by: seraph|m Feb 19 2007, 08:07 PM

QUOTE(2shine4Him @ Feb 19 2007, 08:58 PM) □

I think...

2shine, have you ever been sexually assaulted? Do you have any children who have ever been sexually assaulted? Yes or No?

Posted by: andithomas1 Feb 19 2007, 08:17 PM

QUOTE(2shine4Him @ Feb 19 2007, 07:58 PM)

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I do believe this type of thinking allowed priest to have a field day molesting young boys and girls in the Catholic church for so many years. Did this help that church-NO and this type of thinking will not help 3ABN. If the accusations against this man is true-get the shackles and leg-irons and off to the big house you go.

Posted by: roxe Feb 19 2007, 08:27 PM

QUOTE(awesumtenor @ Feb 19 2007, 06:03 PM)

No; his application of the verse is not correct. The incident Paul is alluding to in 2Cor 7 is the man in 1Cor 5 who was committing fornication with his father's wife. Taken together you see that the church's response swung from one extreme to another. In 1Cor 5, even though his sin was open and flagrant, the church did nothing. After receiving Paul's letter, the church undertook discipline on that member but did so in a manner that it was punitive and not redemptive and even after the man has manifest the fruits of repentance no forgiveness was being extended towards him. IOW, in 1Cor 5 the church thought themselves showing mercy with no thought of justice; in 2Cor 7 they have swung to the other end and are applying justice without mercy.

The text neither states nor implies that the guilty party should face no consequences; it merely points out that the purpose of church discipline is to elicit "godly sorrow" and fruits of repentance; the end result sought is the redemption of the erring member and that cannot be attained in the extremes where the action taken is punitive on the one hand or where a blind eye is turned to flagrant sin and no action is taken at all on the other.

In His service,
Mr. J

thank you , awesum, for your explanation... you a good teacher!

using scripture to justify oneself is fraught with danger.

cuz "It is God who justifies..." Rom 8:33

Posted by: calvin Feb 19 2007, 08:51 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Feb 19 2007, 03:35 PM)

The following is sent in regard to Tommy Shelton's recent open letter to the Dunn Loring congregation.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Open Letter to Dunn Loring: three discrepancies

Date: Mon, 19 Feb 2007 15:28:52 -0600

To: Tommy Shelton

CC: Mollie Steenson, Pastor Lomacang, Fallible Human Being, Joe Smith, Danny Shelton, Elder Ken Denslow, Walt Thompson

Hello Tommy.

I've taken a look at your letter now, and I can see that you have made some references to some documents that would be very helpful in potentially exonerating you. If you can forward these to me, I will see what I can do to get them posted.

I do see some additional spots in your letter that raise some questions. For example, you write: Since Roger Clem's letter was posted back on December 6, 2006, and since it was never signed by Pastor Dryden, I'm unsure how you can make this claim. Was this just an example of an inadvertent slip?

You write:

There are two simple reasons why you have not been able to confirm this:

1. You never contacted us to ask us about it, which is peculiar in light of your use of Matthew 18 in your letter. (Why spread unconfirmed rumors in a letter that appears to be against the spreading of unconfirmed rumors?)
2. It can't be confirmed because it simply isn't true. If you wish to know what was said, feel free to call Gailon or myself.

You write:

If this is true,

- Why did Walt Thompson tell me at the end of November 2006 that the allegations were about 30 years old?
- Why does Brad Dunning say that the incident with him, after which he immediately blew the whistle, happened in 1982-1983? Was he mistaken?

That's it for now. Hope to hear from you soon.

Bob

ust what is your point in sending these emails to DS and WT and posting them here? They have not responded in months. So why do you continue making yourself a nusiance?

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Feb 19 2007, 10:49 PM

QUOTE(andithomas1 @ Feb 19 2007, 04:46 PM)

This has got to be a joke because a no person in their right mind would come to this type of conclusion. Give me strength.

While we certainly need to respond with our own opinions, let's keep in mind that brother4life is quite

young so we need to cut him a little slack while his judgement matures, IMO.

It is good that he is here, flexing his muscles, learning about the issues and being exposed to how the majority of the public at large view this saga. This may even end up having an impact on how he views the situation.

Posted by: sonshineonme Feb 19 2007, 11:05 PM

QUOTE(2shine4Him @ Feb 19 2007, 05:58 PM) □

Didn't Tommy write a letter to Duane asking forgiveness?

Hi 2shine4him and welcome!

Can you tell me what you are referring to above? Where Tommy wrote this letter asking for forgiveness from Duane? Are you asking if he did, or alluding that he did? Could you show me this letter?

Posted by: Pickle Feb 19 2007, 11:26 PM

QUOTE(calvin @ Feb 19 2007, 08:51 PM) □

Just what is your point in sending these emails to DS and WT and posting them here? They have not responded in months. So why do you continue making yourself a nuisance?

It's a way to get the issues out into the open, without talking behind their back.

Note that the email in question was sent to Tommy. Of course, since Danny and Walt are involved, they have a right to get a CC of it. But the questions were directed to Tommy.

Posted by: ex3ABNemployee Feb 20 2007, 12:20 AM

QUOTE(brother4life @ Feb 19 2007, 02:07 PM) □

Just curious, Duane. To what end to you intend to see this through? How far are you willing to go to see that justice is served? Do you want to see your former Pastor and friend Tommy sitting in prison? Do you want Carol to be all alone there in that home across the river? Do you want those two grandchildren to have to do without their grandfather just so your desire for "justice" can be satisfied?

Personally, I don't know whether he's guilty or not guilty. But 1 Corinthians 10:31 comes to mind: "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." When and if he lands in prison, will you be able to say that you helped put a man in prison, guilty or not, to the glory of God?

You have a lot of nerve to write something like that to me. I have done NOTHING to contribute to whether Tommy spends time in prison or not. HE committed the acts, not me.

I don't need your sad stories or Scriptures taken out of context. To be blunt, this doesn't concern you, so butt out.

Posted by: erik Feb 20 2007, 02:06 AM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 19 2007, 10:20 PM)

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I don't need your sad stories or Scriptures taken out of context. To be blunt, this doesn't concern you, so butt out.

stand firm, Daune.

We are praying for you

Erik

Posted by: ex3ABNemployee Feb 20 2007, 02:23 AM

QUOTE(2shine4Him @ Feb 19 2007, 07:58 PM)

I think most everyone missed the point brother4life is trying to make. I think he is saying that, as Christians, whether SDA, Baptist, or Church of God, etc., we are all called to take the high road; to forgive as we desire to be forgiven. Didn't Tommy write a letter to Duane asking forgiveness? What should be the Christian response? Yes, we are to render unto Ceasar what is Ceasar's, but even Peter in Acts 5:29 said "we ought to obey God rather than man", which says to me that God's law trumps man's law. By taking the high road, this does not mean that we are to sweep anything under the rug; and it is not a crime to want the person held accountable. Rightly so. But isn't there a right way and a wrong way to go about this? Airing dirty laundry, presumed or factual, all over the web is not the way to seek justice.

On 2/7/07 in "A Suggested End To The Conflict" I posted the following:

QUOTE

Mystery man, thanks for your comments.

Speaking for myself, I do believe in my heart I have forgiven Tommy, but because of the very nature of what he did, he must be prevented from doing it again. It has happened over and over and over. Forgiveness does not include overlooking sin, especially when there is the potential of others being harmed.

I'd appreciate it if, in the future, you would read all the posts before insinuating that I haven't responded in a "Christian" manner.

Or, better yet, mind your own business.

Posted by: Grace Feb 20 2007, 02:38 AM

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 20 2007, 07:20 AM)

You have a lot of nerve to write something like that to me. **I have done NOTHING to contribute to whether Tommy spends time in prison or not. HE committed the acts, not me.**

I don't need your sad stories or Scriptures taken out of context. To be blunt, this doesn't concern you, so butt out.

I like your answer, Duane. It's true, straight and simple. I especially like the part that I've underlined here. And if somebody still doesn't understand, it's because he or she doesn't want to.

Praying for you, bro!



Posted by: Observer Feb 20 2007, 07:15 AM

QUOTE

Just curious, Duane. To what end to you intend to see this through? How far are you willing to go to see that justice is served? Do you want to see your former Pastor and friend Tommy sitting in prison? Do you want Carol to be all alone there in that home across the river? Do you want those two grandchildren to have to do without their grandfather just so your desire for "justice" can be satisfied?

Personally, I don't know whether he's guilty or not guilty. But 1 Corinthians 10:31 comes to mind: "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." When and if he lands in prison, will you be able to say that you helped put a man in prison, guilty or not, to the glory of God?

Forgiveness does not equate to a release from consequences.

If a church treasurer steals offerings, that person should never be a treasurer again. Their weakness has been revealed.

The Bible teaches consequences.

Life teaches consequences. I work in a hospital. I see every day the consequences of a person who has used tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs.

Recently someone ran into my automobile while I was stopped at a stop sign. I have forgiven the person who did it. The driver's spouse hassled me to the point where the local police came out to calm him down. He did not want me to call the State Police as they would ticket her--obviously I was seeking revenge. I have forgiven the woman who ran into me. But, her insurance company is going to pay for the repair of my car. As to what the State Police did when they arrived, that was up to them. My forgiveness did not require that I pay for the damage to my car, or that I take steps to prevent her from getting a ticket, points on her driving record, and a potential increase in her insurance premium.

A Christian should forgive the person who molested them. That is part of the healing process. But, that does not mean that the Christian is required to release that person from the consequences. It is O.K. to forgive and press charges in: criminal court, civil court, and/or the court of public opinion. That choice belongs to the molested person, and is Biblical.

QUOTE(ex3ABNemployee @ Feb 19 2007, 11:20 PM)

You have a lot of nerve to write something like that to me. I have done NOTHING to contribute to whether Tommy spends time in prison or not. HE committed the acts, not me.

I don't need your sad stories or Scriptures taken out of context. To be blunt, this doesn't concern you, so butt out.

Yes, you are not responsible. People are responsible for the acts that they commit, to include the consequences of those acts.

Posted by: Aletheia Feb 20 2007, 10:07 AM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Feb 18 2007, 11:00 PM)

QUOTE

dedication Feb 18 2007, 07:22 PM

Well -- Brad may be referring to the time he was actually experiencing the problem.

Tommy may be reporting the time allegations were actually raised. Which of course would be later than the actual time the activity took place.

We know for a fact, based on Brad's account, that this cannot be true. Immediately after being propositioned, Brad left the school and went home and told his family. Thus there is no room in his account for a delay of a couple years.

The only possibility would be that Brad got the date wrong. But then we'd have other people

getting their dates wrong too. Sherry Avery's account has Tommy getting caught in October 1984, and that was after there were other allegations already floating around.

Is it even possible to have the allegations occur first in September 1985, with Tommy's resignation happening that soon afterwards, followed the next month by the suspension of his credentials, given all the accounts that have been collected thus far?

It appears a bit too late to be acting so unsure of yourself, and what you have already published to the world. Bob. You've been telling everybody what's what, for months now, and it seems you are going to be sued because of it.

WFAIC your and GJ's investigation has been sloppy, and one sided from the beginning -- only seeking to find things to support the prosecution and allegations against 3ABN and all involved, instead of examining both sides and getting all the facts in a unbiased manner. The reporting is irresponsible and hyperbolic and yes, just as in another recent comparison, just like and having as much merit as articles in the National Enquirer.

I have had questions about these dates since you first posted all this dirty laundry and accusations.

William **Bradford** Dunning:

We then went to the West Frankfort Police Department and filed a formal complaint. To my knowledge, no charges were brought against Tommy." source: Save3ABN Not@2007

Did anyone else ever file a complaint? Not that you've reported. If that's the case then the letter of suspension in 1985 seems to be referring to Brad Dunning's complaint.

Letter of suspension October 25, 1985 **"The ordination of Tommy Shelton has been suspended immediately until further notice pending the results of the official police investigation concerning criminal sexual abuse charges against him.** This action is effective this day, October 25, 1985."

This action was taken for the following reasons: 3. **We have been advised that an investigation is underway by the West Frankfort Illinois Police Department concerning criminal sexual abuse charges against you.** source: Save3ABN Not@2007

As far as Sherry Avery's statement, it seems to me you already know Duane Clem said he was the young man of 20, she was talking about and he dates that in late 1985 early 1986, after the investigation. So why are you acting confused about her date?

He also says:

When the General Assembly of the Church of God in Illinois decided to suspend Tommy's ministerial credentials in 1985, I was one of several who wrote a letter in his defense. I was also questioned by a detective at the West Frankfort Police Department. I had been on a few overnight trips with him, and gave testimony that nothing had happened that would substantiate the allegations being made against him. At the time, this was true..." source: Save3ABN Not@2007

And, regarding Glen Dryden's actions and accusations after the problems in 1985, Duane Clem also wrote:

Your "informant", Glenn Dryden, is not a credible source of information. He also made some hideous accusations against me a few years back. They were for the same reason as the ones he is leveling against Tommy Shelton: JEALOUSY. Glenn Dryden is a spiteful, vindictive backstabber when someone crosses him. He has done this with numerous people over the past several years, and took the Ezra Church of God down nearly to the point of closure. I had to threaten him with legal action myself to

get him to shut his mouth." source: Save3ABN Not@2007

"To date, I have never spoken with Dr. Walt Thompson regarding this issue, nor at any other time as best I can recall. **I will say that I agree with what the unnamed individual from the Church of God reportedly told Dr. Thompson** but it was NOT me, and I can honestly say I have no idea who it was." source: Save3ABN Not@2007

QUOTE

Walt Thompson's letter to you Bob, as quoted on your save3abn not @ 2007 website:

As I recall the events of 2003, I received a call from Brad Thorp from the General Conference telling me of Pastor Dryden's accusations. Brad appropriately told me that it was not his concern, and that it was ours to handle. As I recall, I contacted pastor Dryden and heard his side of the story following which I received the letter that is circulating. I was at 3abn at the time and spoke at length with Danny about the matter. He shared with me the details as he understood them. Whether or not I was aware of what generated the letter at that time, I do not remember. Based upon my understanding that Dryden had had a long standing feud with Tommy over factors unrelated to the above accusations, it did not seem indicated to approach the boys in question directly, having been informed that no case had ever been filed with the courts or legal disposition made. We then discussed the situation with the full board. Given the alleged events had occurred many years before, attempts had been made to make things right, and no legal action had been taken, we did not see any reason to pursue the issue further nor to follow through with his recommendations. In my reply to pastor Dryden I merely thanked him for fulfilling his obligation to us. (I will make this one further comment. Whereas there are many accusations on the Internet alledging that Danny cannot be trusted, I disagree. I have known Danny now since the beginning of the ministry. Now more than 23 years. I have been fully appraised of many of the difficulties that he has faced during that time. While Danny sees things from his perspective, as we all do, he is honest and trustworthy. I have found no reason to distrust his reports to me. Yes, there are occasions when after having spoken with both sides of an issue it has been a matter of he said vs she said, but in all situations where I could know the facts, Danny has proven true.)

Subsequently, after this issue has been brought back to the forefront (**I think there is only one person who could have known about this and brought it to world wide attentionm, and that person was then on the board and voted with the concensus**) [Linda Shelton] **I contacted the only person from the Chruch of God that I could find that knew about the situation, and who had been present and witness to the events. (Accept for pastor Dryden's personal accounts, there are apparently no other records of the allegations)** The picture that was painted by that leader of the Church was exactly as portrayed earlier by Danny. Dryden was jealous of Tommy and was out to get him - a jealousy that has continued to the present. I was again informed that the DA knew about the allegations and not finding a basis, refused to act against Tommy. I have been informed that the Church of God is a congregational type or organization with different jurisdictions in different states and that there was no higher authority that I could speak with to resolve the issue further It was not entirely clear to me how that worked. I was also told that one leader pestered Tommy over and over again until Tommy voluntarily gave up his ministerial license. These are the facts as I have been able to sort them out.

Clearly as Duane first made his statements and accusations against Tommy on January 20, 2007, and said before that time he had never said this to anyone. He has nothing to do with your hyperbolic case and accusations against 3ABN, could have nothing to do with Danny's relating what he knew about past events, (unless in the role of a defender of Tommy) , or your false claim that Walt Thompson was irresponsible in checking it out, or your false claim that WT covered for DS.

QUOTE

"Here you can read the story of how 3ABN president Danny Shelton ended up in the present crisis. Based on the testimony of Dr. Walt Thompson, his own board chairman and staunch defender, Danny must have lied in a major way about the Tommy Shelton child molestation allegations in 2003. No other explanation has been forthcoming, and it is fairly clear that such a prevarication puts 3ABN in extreme financial jeopardy if yet another alleged incident takes place....all these things pale in significance when compared to the number of young lives that are put at risk when you lie in order to cover up child molestation allegations."

What was it exactly that you are claiming was known lied about and covered up, Bob?

You are in communication with Dryden, have access to all you claim that WT did from him, and claim DS knew and lied about, and you don't even have the details, or statements regarding any of the things you are finding fault with 3 ABN for, and how long and hard have you and Joy been working on this so called "investigation" of yours????

This? The only other statement with names which you have published from a woman who first made her statement in 2007, while her son has made none? A woman who accuses and says she blames Carol Shelton for covering for her husband while stating she and her son both lied to Carol about it:

Letter of Charlotte Hopper, Mother of Greg Houseworth:

"I, like many others in the beginning of this mess, believed Tommy Shelton.....When one of the boys came forward, I remember asking my son if it had happened to him. At that time he told me "no," but he said, "Mom, ***** is not lying about it!" As time went on, my son finally came to me and told me that it had happened to him.....As for Carol Shelton, all along she has covered up for Tommy. One time at church, she asked me to go down to the teenage girls' classroom. There **she asked me if Tommy had done anything to my son. I, not wanting to hurt her and her children, told her "no."** **At a later date she asked my son to meet her at McDonalds restaurant in West Frankfort. She asked him the same question. He, not wanting to hurt her, answered her in the same way.** It's funny how she never worried about all the boys in their hurts and fears! I wonder when Carol Shelton stands before the Lord, what will her answer be then!.....As far as Danny Shelton is concerned, he has always covered this up.....I am the mother who went to Pastor Dryden when I learned Tommy Shelton was going to Dunn Loring. Pastor Dryden listened to what I had to say, but at that time **he had no idea that my son was one of Tommy's victims.** " source: Save3ABN Not@2007

How can Danny and Carol be blamed for knowing about this, when it was never said till now, and Carol asked and was lied to?

How can you in all honesty use any of this to accuse Ds, WT, and 3ABN with and try to bring them down? How can you live with what you have done and are still doing?

The words "victims" are thrown about freely, by Dryden, you and Joy, here, there and everywhere, and **IF there are in fact "victims" then it needs to be dealt with, by the law and by the "CHURCH OF GOD"** I have said this repeatedly.

If, as it is now appearing, this has been dealt with in the past, Leave it there or at least have the honesty to report that.

I believe you have erred greatly and are guilty of grievous sin. And I hope and pray that you and all who have been misled by you in this rush to judgment and condemnation against 3ABN in this regard, can wake up and see that before it is too late.

~ Aletheia

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