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BlackSDA _ 3ABN _ Asi Mediation Fails!

Posted by: Observer Jan 5 2007, 01:08 PM

It is with deep regret that I have to announce that the three month attempt of ASI to mediate the issues that involve Danny Shelton, Linda Shelton, and 3-ABN have failed. Yesterday, the ASI Executive Board took an official action in which ASI withdrew from any further attempts to resolve the issues that have troubled us for several years.

I was one of the few people directly involved in these discussion. As would be obvious, Mr. Joy was another. As to others involved, I will let them identify themselves, if they wish to do so.

Everyone involved in these discussions worked very hard, and devoted considerable effort to this task. But, the task has failed. I will publicly thank the representative of ASI for the work that he did. Honest and sincere people may differ. They may fail to reach agreement and perhaps understanding. But their integrity and sincerity should not be questioned. I say publicly that I appreciate the spirit in which the representative of ASI was involved in these discussions.

As I understand it, the action of the ASI Executive Board was simply to determine that further involvement in these attempts would be inappropriate. In one sense, any further comment would be speculation. However, I think that it is in the interests of all for me, as an involved person to comment on what I see as major difficulties. I will do so from that standpoint of a person directly involved in the discussions. There are probably more reasons for the decision of ASI. Perhaps some are more important than what I list. But, ASI did not specify their reasons in their communication with me. I suspect that they will read my statement, and they can add anything to it that they wish.

I personally believe that there were two major issues that prevented agreement:

1) Linda has been so publicly trashed that she, and we, believe that there should be full disclosure of the testimony, findings, and proceedings of any mediation panel. In fact, she wanted that full disclosure to be published in a manner that people around the world could access it, and reach their own conclusions as to whether or not she had given Danny Biblical grounds for a divorce. During the discussions, the respective parties could not come to agreement on public disclosure of the testimony, findings, and process of the mediation attempt.

2) The respective parties could not agree on the procedures for taking testimony from witnesses. The issue here revolved around who would question the witnesses, and the bounds of the questioning. Some wanted a restrictive process, to sum it up, and others wanted a more free process. Frankly, I am perplexed by this issue. I could propose situations in which Danny, Linda, and 3-ABN would benefit by a free process for questioning. But, I could also propose situations in which it might be claimed that Danny, Linda, and 3-ABN would not benefit by a more free process. In some ways, I suspect that ASI wanted a restrictive process. If I am wrong, they can correct me.

Well folks, the attempt to mediate has failed. What happens next? I cannot predict what will happen. But, I suspect that it will be along the following lines:

1) More of this will reach the secular media. Some, I believe, have been approached by the media and asked to cooperate in articles. Some, I believe have refused to cooperate in order to give this attempt to mediate a chance to work. I am not certain that they will continue to refuse to cooperate with the secular medial.

2) It is likely that some will take their issues to civil courts. Frankly, some of the issues, in my mind can only be resolved with fairness to all by the civil courts. Therefore, I do not believe that any one who does so should be criticized for doing so.

3) I have been told that there are currently some civil investigations going on now. If so, they will continue.

4) I expect that one or more books will be published on these events.

Folks, the bottom line is: I believe that it will get worse before it gets better.

I am sincerely sorry that the ASI attempt to mediated failed. I clearly believe that such an attempt could only have had limited success, and that ultimately some issues would have needed to have been resolved in the civil realm. But, I did believe that ASI could have been of some help. With this failure, I do not believe that any other denominational agency can succeed. Any further resolution will come by personal agreement, or in the civil realm.

We tried! We failed!

Posted by: Clay Jan 5 2007, 01:23 PM

I don't believe that Danny would ever totally cooperate with a process in which the results would make him look bad.... so we have what we have... people will believe what they believe...

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Jan 5 2007, 01:24 PM

I, for one, am personally outraged that the sins of one man and his family can cast such bad light on a ministry that is supposed to spread the Gospel. I have stood by and watched this saga unfold and hoped that 3ABN would retain its reputation at least. Now, with people and organizations around the world pulling their support from the ministry, it can only mean that this mess has struck at the heart.

It is no secret that 3ABN has had little support from its neighboring communities and is looked at with disapproving eyes. I have always felt that the sins of man were not important enough to remove myself from 3ABN, looking toward those people who have been uplifted and saved as a result. Now, with the added exposure that will be given, how can I and other employees continue to feel this way?

I truly hope that the Shelton gang and friends feel that all they have gained was worth the sacrifice of 3ABN, for it is a sad day for Christian people everywhere.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 5 2007, 02:28 PM

Gregory,

As a member of the group trying to put together a process agreeable to all, I will add two thoughts.

First of all, Gailon Joy raised the issue prior to our entering into a confidentiality agreement of whether ASI could truly be impartial, since they had counseled Danny and Walt to not answer questions, according the Danny and Walt. Their statement that it was "inappropriate" for ASI to be further involved could be an acknowledgement that it would be difficult to be impartial, and if that was really the case, then of course it was the right thing to do for them to back out.

And they should be commended for this decision if this was what they intended to mean by the word "inappropriate."

Secondly, Danny has made it quite clear outside of our group's discussions that he intended for the ASI panel to review only his divorce and remarriage. He then stated that positive findings by an ASI panel in that matter would be used to convince everyone that all the other allegations against him were false.

It would not be hard to assume that this was also a major empasse between the two sides, but I am at a loss to know for sure. Thus far, though you and I and Gailon sent our communications to Danny and the ASI people involved, I have yet to receive a single communication from the "other" side. Not one. The only one I ever received anything from was the ASI representative chosen to oversee the process development process.

We weren't supposed to make any statement about the process except what was mutually agreed upon, but without any coommunication from the "other" side, what do you do?

Posted by: Observer Jan 5 2007, 02:40 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 5 2007, 01:28 PM) □

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Bob:

My use of the word "inappropriate" was of my own choosing, and it was not a direct quote. So, we cannot make anything of that word.

As to the issue that you raise in regard to Danny wanting to only discuss marital issues. I am well aware of that. I did not list that as a reason as I believe that we could have come to agreement on that issue. Or, at least, we could have come to an agreement as to what to do in regard to that issue.

I also considered that issue to be unresolved. As such, I did not want to list it as a major issue.

As to confidentiality of communication: There were some gray areas here. But I believe that all knew that once a decision was reached, public announcements would have been made.

I have attempted to abide by the spirit of the discussions in what I have posted. One major example of that is in my not naming the person who was our primary contact in ASI, or any other person who was a part of that process.

I have sent a copy of my post to the primary contact in ASI. I have informed him that if he wants to comment on any aspect of my post, he can send it to me, and I will post it wherever I have posted my main comment.

So, if he thinks I have violated any agreement, he can say so, and I will post it.

While I do so "gray" areas in the agreement--we did not spend much time in talking about it, I do believe that I have generally kept to what was appropriate to post.

Posted by: Panama_Pete Jan 5 2007, 02:50 PM

QUOTE(Observer @ Jan 5 2007, 01:08 PM) □

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Just a lingering thought I had:

I felt it would be politically difficult - to say the least - for the ASI executive board to ask the ASI membership to give \$100,000 to 3ABN, only to tell the membership, later, that they were investigating the recipient of that donation.

<http://www.asiministries.org/article.php?id=33>

ASI Project Offering 2006

THREE ANGELS BROADCASTING NETWORK \$100,000

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Jan 5 2007, 04:08 PM

I believe that when you look at the big picture here, it isn't hard to see that it was almost impossible from the beginning to believe ASI to be an impartial participant.

Think of the OJ Simpson trial. No matter if he was guilty or innocent, from the beginning, it was plain that he would be found innocent simply because of the botched-up investigation and mind-numbing amount of details. I'm not saying that the investigatin was not done thoroughly into the Shelton marriage. But the amount of information and he-said-she-said information coupled with the fact of 3ABN being an independent ministry made it pretty obvious from the beginning that this wouldn't go very far with ASI.

Posted by: Daryl Fawcett Jan 5 2007, 04:34 PM

From what I read, the ASI spokesperson said, "It now appears that it is not appropriate for ASI to be involved."

They used the words "not appropriate" in their email.

Posted by: gracetoyou Jan 5 2007, 04:49 PM

What's the chance of the 3ABN board's opening their eyes, seeing the handwriting on the wall, convincing Danny and his Pentecostal posse to develop "health" problems and "resign" in order to save 3ABN from public disgrace and possible ruin?

Has the information that is available on BSDA been sent to 3ABN's board members?

Posted by: Pickle Jan 5 2007, 04:50 PM

It is fairly apparent that the email we received was meant for public release. Here it is:

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

Subject: ASI action

Date: Fri, 05 Jan 2007 08:04:54 -0800

From: Harold Lance

Greetings each one:

Last evening the ASI Executive Committee met to review ASIs' involvement in issues involving 3ABN, Linda and Danny Shelton including our progress in the process we initiated. ASI, in relevant part, took the following action:

"For approximately three months ASI has deeply considered its' involvement in issues involving 3ABN in three special Executive Committee meetings called for that purpose and multiple other contacts. On October 25, 2006 the ASI Executive Committee took an action authorizing the exploration of the possibility of its' involvement and asked Harold Lance to lead out in that process. It now appears that it is not appropriate for ASI to be involved."

Harold Lance

Posted by: sonshineonme Jan 5 2007, 06:53 PM

QUOTE(Panama_Pete @ Jan 5 2007, 12:50 PM)

Just a lingering thought I had:

I felt it would be politically difficult - to say the least - for the ASI executive board to ask the ASI membership to give \$100,000 to 3ABN, only to tell the membership, later, that they were investigating the recipient of that donation.

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I know there are most likely SEVERAL uneasy reasons why ASI says "It now appears that it is not appropriate for ASI to be involved" and I would have to surmise that what Pete stated here has got to have some bearing on their reasons. I think they would end up in the mud with the other mess. But like GM says, we tried, we failed - only I don't look at it as failure - I think it would never have come to pass thru ASI. So, lets look for the open window. It's here.

Posted by: roxe Jan 5 2007, 07:39 PM

does this mean that Mr. Joy will now go public with his investigation results?

Posted by: Pickle Jan 5 2007, 07:50 PM

QUOTE(roxe @ Jan 5 2007, 07:39 PM)

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I had a pastor call me and say that Gailon's giving the board two weeks to act.

Not sure I know what that means. Before he does what? What will he be doing in the meantime?

I can tell you what I'll be doing in the meantime.

Posted by: sonshineonme Jan 5 2007, 08:02 PM

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Is this the "3abn" board you are referring to? Has Gailon stipulated what kind of "actions" need to

take place?

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jan 5 2007, 08:07 PM

It's 'bout to be on and poppin'....

Posted by: Pickle Jan 5 2007, 08:16 PM

QUOTE(sonshineonme @ Jan 5 2007, 08:02 PM)

Is this the "3abn" board you are referring to? Has Gailon stipulated what kind of "actions" need to take place?

1) Yes. 2) I don't know.

Weetbix on Maritime complained on December 5 that all this was going at a snail's pace. So we shifted gears from snail's pace to freight train. It seems like the freight train has picked up speed.

Weetbix, Fallible, Joe, and whoever else has tried to play apologist, I think the best thing they can do now is try to find a good way to bring resolution and end this sordid affair. I fully welcome whatever efforts they might make to end the corruption at 3ABN. If they feel a bit embarrassed and that they have lost face, well, I for one am not about to ridicule anyone.

For the good of the cause of God, the three angels' messages, present truth, the 10 Commandments, the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and 3ABN, we need a swift, speedy, and effective end to all of this. And I welcome whatever constructive suggestions they might bring to this discussion, and whatever lobbying they can do behind the scenes with the officers and directors of 3ABN.

Posted by: Observer Jan 5 2007, 08:55 PM

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I believe that this is going to get much worse, and much more public before it gets better, if someone does not take decided action.

Time is very short.

Posted by: Pickle Jan 5 2007, 09:31 PM

QUOTE(Observer @ Jan 5 2007, 08:55 PM) □

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Time is very short.

Okay, everybody. Without getting excitable, talk to those you know who are in positions of influence of any sort, and share your concerns in a logical, coherent fashion. And then ask them what they think should be done.

"I'm really concerned Elder/Pastor/Dr. So and So. There's this Church of God church where Tommy Shelton, Danny's brother used to pastor out in Virginia. Tommy's had child molestation allegations hanging over his head for decades. Just last December 3 the pastor at that church issued a statement saying that there were three new allegations of sexual misconduct, one of which was concerning someone who was a minor at the time. And some of his alleged victims in Illinois have been giving public, written statements about what happened to them.

"It gets really sticky. The 3ABN board chairman admitted in writing the Monday after Thanksgiving that Danny in 2003 gave him clearly bogus information about all these allegations of child molestation against Tommy. And yet last Sunday, 3ABN had a special televised tribute to Tommy as he retired a little early, with the promise that he would be back from time to time. He's been working in Kids Time, and he replaced Linda as the head of production two and a half years ago. They said that in things had tremendously improved since he had been in charge, and it came across as if that might have been a slam against Linda, right there on global TV.

"Elder/Pastor/Dr., I just don't get it. If they treat an alleged pedophile so wonderfully when they leave 3ABN, promising that they will return, why did Linda have to leave in such disgrace, to return no more? It's almost as if she couldn't have been let go for moral reasons, because it's like they just don't care about that kind of thing. And so far every piece of evidence that they've claimed proves Linda's guilt just vaporizes when anyone tries to verify anything.

"What can we do? Should we say anything at all? If we don't, will people think that Adventists condone this kind of thing? In the past our pastors and leaders have taken stands about Prophecy Countdown, Hope International, Hartland Institute, and Steps to Life. Should we be less inclined to take a stand about applauding an alleged pedophile on a global TV ministry that so many non-Adventists think is a Seventh-day Adventist ministry? Or should we just do and say nothing? What do you think?

"What will all our members say when this really comes out into the open? It's not as if this is the only issue. There's a lot more, and it's all so bizarre.

"All I can say is that we must be near the end of the world. Christ must be coming soon."

Posted by: Johann Jan 5 2007, 09:48 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 6 2007, 05:31 AM)

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It's almost too obvious to state it here, but this could be used as a model letter to send to people in leadership in our Church and churches.

Posted by: Ralph Jan 5 2007, 10:48 PM

QUOTE(husbandoftheyear @ Jan 5 2007, 12:24 PM)

Now, with people and organizations around the world pulling their support from the ministry, it can only mean that this mess has struck at the heart.

To listen to Danny you would think that support is very good. What indications do you see that people and organizations are truly taking this mess seriously?

Our prayers are with you folk who are caught in the middle of of it all.

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Jan 5 2007, 11:01 PM

QUOTE(Ralph @ Jan 5 2007, 11:48 PM)

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He says that support is higher than it's ever been, but so is the viewing audience. 3ABN expanded into a lot of areas over the last couple of years.

I have been approached by many local people who have heard of the allegations against Dan. I have yet to have one say that the claims are unfounded. You can read on the boards here where organizations are no longer advertising 3ABN...

Posted by: Panama_Pete Jan 6 2007, 02:12 AM

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The Rise and Fall of the 3ABN Empire.

Many people know about a site called Alexa. Alexa keeps track of Web site traffic.

If more people were watching 3ABN, it would seem reasonable that more people would be going to the 3ABN Web site to get TV schedules, etc. Therefore, my premise is that more 3ABN TV viewers results in more 3ABN Web site visitors.

No doubt, the 3ABN Board members are being told optimistic stories about increased potential viewership and expanding markets. I believe they are kept in the dark on most subjects, so this will come as another big surprise to them.

However, it seems that 3ABN's Web site traffic has actually been going down since its high point in 2003, when Linda Shelton and Fluffy were giving their little talks from the "front porch" at 3ABN.

Unfortunately, Danny -- being an insider -- could see the writing on the wall, that Linda was becoming the face of 3ABN. That is when - I believe - he began to set the wheels in motion.

To date, I think 3ABN Web traffic has never recovered from the loss of Linda Shelton.

Linda was gone June 1, 2004. Later in 2004, everyone was going to the 3ABN Web site to figure out what happened to her. You can see that reflected in the chart, below

Now with this, you also have to acknowledge that with the loss of Sky Angel, many people gained access to 3ABN thought the Web site, so total transfer of streaming bits may be up, but total usage by unique individuals seems to be going down -- way down.

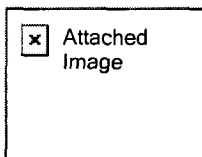
Once again, I have suspected that Linda was tarred and feathered, in part, to make her unacceptable to any other Christian TV network, where she might pick up where she left off and that Danny probably knew that she drew more viewers. Perhaps, she was receiving more mail, too.

So, being a competitor who plays to win, perhaps Danny sought to wreck Linda's image in the eyes of the public to make sure competition for TV viewers didn't happen at some point in the future. And, perhaps, John Lomacang, "Mr. *House Calls* on 3ABN," had been making his calls to conferences to make sure Linda received no invitations to speak for the exact, same reason, to make sure Linda Shelton did not get a foothold or get back on her feet again. Perhaps, Lomacang's job was to keep the woman down.

Here's the chart showing 3ABN's dismal year in 2006. On the chart being Number 1 is best, (They say it is like being Number 1 on the New York Times Bestseller list) and being at the 50,000 level means there are 50,000 Web sites in the world that are more popular than your's. 3ABN seems to be well below 100,000, on average.

It is sad to think about what could have been.

Click it to enlarge it.



Posted by: Fran Jan 6 2007, 04:27 AM

Thank you so much Pete! This is right up my alley!

You are right, the handwriting is on the wall! The Shelton Gang no longer has Goldie to bail them out as she had always done before.

That chart is really great! It speaks volumns. Well. OK, it does to me!



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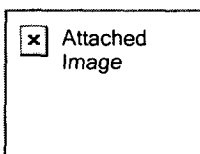
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Posted by: Observer Jan 6 2007, 05:51 AM

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Alexa is an interesting site. Formore information in regard to 3-ABN, from Alexia, I suggest that you visit the following URL:

http://www.alexa.com/data/details/traffic_details?url=3abn.org

However, it is also interesting to look at the information that Alexa has available on other websites of interest to us, and see how that they are doing:

maritime-sda-online.org Rated 71,375

3abn.org Rated 165,947

blacksda.com Rated 277,715

adventistforum.com Not Rated

NOTE: In the above, smaller numbers have more traffic.

One of the intereting bits of information that one can learn from Alexa is the trend. Alexa rates in Traffic, Reach per million users, and page views per user.

Here are the trends:

Maritime: Down: 1,956, 2% & 13%

3-ABN: Down: 44,682, 24% & 6%

Blacksda: Down: 108,981, 29% & 42%

Folks, in fairness to all, if we are to rate 3-ABN by Alexa, we ought to compare that rating with some other Alexa ratings. That, I have done above.

Alexa is vaulable. But, what does the above mean? Are we going to say that 3-ABN trumps Black SDA? I don't think so!

Posted by: Daryl Fawcett Jan 6 2007, 06:24 AM

According to Alexa 3ABN definitely doesn't trump Maritime SDA OnLine! □

Posted by: lurker Jan 6 2007, 07:39 AM

Hey, I have been checking 3ABN's website regularly to see what they were up to. What was I thinking?

Posted by: Pickle Jan 6 2007, 08:12 AM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 5 2007, 08:16 PM)

Weetbix, Fallible, Joe, and whoever else has tried to play apologist, I think the best thing they can do now is try to find a good way to bring resolution and end this sordid affair. I fully welcome whatever efforts they might make to end the corruption at 3ABN. If they feel a bit embarassed and that they have lost face, well, I for one am not about to ridicule anyone.

I got a lengthy reply from Fallible. here's just a tad from it:

QUOTE(Fallible)

I can not believe you would once again resort to bold faced lies.

"The 3ABN board chairman admitted in writing the Monday after Thanksgiving that Danny in 2003 gave him clearly bogus information about all these allegations of child molestation against Tommy."

It is so obvious that you have no desire to tell the truth, rather you are looking for a way to spin your tale into a story much like the work of fiction known as the "Televangelist."

I have done my own calling and discovered that many of the lies that are presented as truth here originate from Linda herself. ...

Your quote above that Dr. Thompson "admitted" something is so blatantly false.

Walt admitted he got that information from Danny, and that information is clearly bogus.

May the scales fall from your eyes, Fallible!

Posted by: Johann Jan 6 2007, 08:58 AM

It is interesting how Fallible claims that the information comes from Linda. I have never heard Linda tell about those things. Neither has Linda told me most of the things you find in the "Televangelist." I first read it there soon after it was written, but I know Linda never read that document for months after it was written. All of that material came from an entirely different source.

Danny has often claimed that I wrote the Televangelist from material I gathered from Linda, but both is absolutely false.

Posted by: fallible humanbeing Jan 6 2007, 09:33 AM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 6 2007, 10:12 AM)

I got a lengthy reply from Fallible. here's just a tad from it:
Walt admitted he got that information from Danny, and that information is clearly bogus.
May the scales fall from your eyes, Fallible!

Bob Pickle,

Your claim:

"The 3ABN board chairman admitted in writing the Monday after Thanksgiving that Danny in 2003 gave him clearly bogus information about all these allegations of child molestation against Tommy."

The truth of the matter is this, you are taking Dr. Thompson's response to you explaining the events that occurred, then by extrapolating information out of other emails you have received and weaving them together you are claiming that Danny lied to Dr. Thompson. From there you make a gigantic leap in your language above.

The truth of the emails is that Dr. Thompson never said he "admits", "believes", is "concerned that maybe" Danny lied to him. In fact in another email Dr. Thompson makes it clear that he believes Danny has been honest with him in all communications.

This isn't an issue of semantics or even a poor choice of words. It is an issue of you distorting what has been written to you to serve your own purposes. The end result being that any reasoned consideration of what you "share" here must be filtered through the reality that you are willing to attribute claims to individuals that are patently false. This is not a small issue! You purport to be after the truth, claim to be presenting the truth - yet this glaring evidence of misappropriating your thoughts to someone else is more than a questionable method, it is dishonest. You can attempt to minimize my contention as possibly coming from some grey-haired English teacher picking nits - but it isn't (and by the way isn't the nit of the placement of a comma what has led the world to believe there are billions of ethereal souls walking around in heaven waiting for us to get there?). I am not an English teacher, but do have grey hair. My contention here is not grammatical in nature, but speaks to the lack of veracity in your claims that it foreshadows. This is not the only situation, nor the only person, where you have done this kind of manipulation and we have discussed that at length over on the Maritime forum.

You are the one who claims Danny lied to Dr. Thompson. In fact you are the one who originated that claim and then attributed it to Dr. Thompson. It is simple to see. After you engaged in your communications you began to form your own, that would be YOUR own, idea of what is truth. You tried to lay your case before the readers here, and in so doing subtly slipped in the idea that Dr. Thompson admitted that Danny was a liar. You did this because it becomes a very powerful tool for you to use. If you can convince your readership that you got the Board Chairman to "admit" that Danny was a liar - you must be the Mighty and Powerful Oz. Additionally, if in fact you could coax an "admission" such as that from the Board Chairman then you just might have an "in" to force changes at 3ABN. And, finally, if you received an "admission" from the Board Chair that Danny lied - then by extenuation all claims against Danny must be true.

But! You didn't receive an admission. Anyone reading the communications between you and Dr. Thompson can see this (and quite frankly I don't care if you had done this with Danny, Mollie, or even Greg or Linda! I'd still be making this point!). He shared with you the reality of the events. You believed before this communication that Danny was guilty of lying so you took the honest portrayal of things said by Dr. Thompson whipped in your own disbelief of Danny and voila you have a Danny lied souffle - sorry to slam the oven door.

- fhb

(I am going to go ahead and respond to Johann here since the software will put my response together with the one to Bob Pickle anyway because of the closeness in timing of my posts)

QUOTE

It is interesting how Fallible claims that the information comes from Linda. I have never heard Linda tell about those things. Neither has Linda told me most of the things you find in the "Televangelist." I first read it there soon after it was written, but I know Linda never read that document for months after it was written. All of that material came from an entirely different source.

Danny has often claimed that I wrote the Televangelist from material I gathered from Linda, but both is absolutely false.

Johann,

You will notice that comment about Linda is in a separate paragraph from the one about the "Televangelist" novel. That is because the reference to that tome was tied to comments to Bob Pickle's publishing here. I don't believe that Linda wrote that work. I also believe you when you say she didn't read it until it had been in the public domain for awhile.

However, the "fact" that you claim Linda had not told you the things contained in that work doesn't mean she didn't dictate or share it with someone else who ghost wrote it for her or because they wished to defend her - thus my statement that the story came from Linda. We don't know who the author is as they have chosen to write under a pseudonym (sp?), this makes establishing its authenticity, its truthfulness difficult outside of just accepting it because the author claims it is based on true events.

I also do not believe you wrote it, if that makes you feel any better.

- fhb

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jan 6 2007, 10:16 AM

I'mma put this in e'ry thread I go to that mentions Tommy Shelton's name....

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

Can anyone realize that it's now going beyond this church (SDA's/Sunday Churches) - but to the innocents? CHILDREN?

sigh

Someone's child is in danger.... my LORD!

Posted by: Johann Jan 6 2007, 10:51 AM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 6 2007, 06:16 PM) □

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

sigh

Someone's child is in danger.... my LORD!

You remind us to be serious - thank you. Several people are trying now to sidestep the real issue so our attention is somewhere else.

Posted by: Panama_Pete Jan 6 2007, 02:12 PM

QUOTE(Observer @ Jan 6 2007, 05:51 AM)

Alexa is an interesting site. Formore information in regard to 3-ABN, from Alexia, I suggest that you visit the following URL:

http://www.alexa.com/data/details/traffic_details?url=3abn.org

However, it is also interesting to look at the information that Alexa has available on other websites of interest to us, and see how that they are doing:

maritime-sda-online.org Rated 71,375

3abn.org Rated 165,947

blacksda.com Rated 277,715

adventistforum.com Not Rated

NOTE: In the above, smaller numbers have more traffic.

One of the intereting bits of information that one can learn from Alexa is the trend. Alexa rates in Traffic, Reach per million users, and page views per user.

Here are the trends:

Maritime: Down: 1,956, 2% & 13%

3-ABN: Down: 44,682, 24% & 6%

Blacksda: Down: 108,981, 29% & 42%

Folks, in fairness to all, if we are to rate 3-ABN by Alexa, we ought to compare that rating with some other Alexa ratings. That, I have done above.

Alexa is vaulable. **But, what does the above mean?** Are we going to say that 3-ABN trumps Black SDA? I don't think so!

Knowing what things mean is the \$60 question.

Gregory,

I can't answer your question about 3ABN trumping Blacksda, because you are only posting 3-month moving averages for the Christmas season, and it just confuses more than clarifies.

However, I can say this: Over the past two years, Alexa has indicated that BlackSDA has steadily gained more Web traffic.

Danny says **Danny's** network is expanding, **not** Adventistform. Danny makes **no claims** about the success of any other entities other than his own network.

It would **not** seem logical to me that if Danny mentions 3ABN, that we must consider all other Web sites, to be fair to all.

One issue, that I did not even touch upon, is that we now have a proliferation of new cable TV networks. Let me illustrate:

Ten years ago, there was only one Trinity Broadcasting Network. Now Trinity has 4 separate networks and is growing. With this comes segmentation and fractionalization of the TV audience.

For the sake of my illustration, if you just add Loma Linda and Hope networks to those Trinity Broadcasting channels mentioned -- and maybe SafeTV -- you quickly have seven networks where there was once one or two national networks.

1. Hope
2. Loma Linda
3. Trinity
4. Church Channel
5. JCTV
6. Smile of a Child
7. SafeTV

In cable TV, this numerical growth is happening across the board in all types of networks. I have read press releases during months when there were as many as 14 new cable networks either being launched, scheduled to be launched, or in the planning stages.


The playing field for cable channels is getting **so crowded** that it may be very difficult for 3ABN to stumble into a big public relations fiasco -- with public media involved -- and still make a meaningful recovery when there are so many alternative TV networks out there to choose from.

All indications, as I interpret them, is that 3ABN has been in a slow, long-term decline in actual viewership. They've lost Sky Angel carriage. They're now off the air in India. I don't see any reason for optimism with the current problems hanging over them.

Pete

Posted by: howdy Jan 6 2007, 07:34 PM

QUOTE(Panama_Pete @ Jan 6 2007, 03:12 PM)

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Pete

Re ASI mediation fails!...Of course it failed. No way ASI could be considered neutral and that was obvious from the start. And who wanted "mediation" anyway? Most of us just want verified facts.

Mr Joy is supposed to have them, Johann is supposed to have them, as well as others who claim to have them. It's way past time for full disclosure so that the matter can be put to rest.

I have no love for 3ABN as such but I have to question the validity of those people who continue to

make claims and wont produce the evidence.

howdy

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jan 7 2007, 12:32 AM

...and who is gonna let Tommy Shelton babysit their kids? That's what I want to know. That way when it happens again (and it will) the words will wash their faces.

...and sadly - the face of their children/grandchildren/nieces & nephews...



Posted by: Johann Jan 7 2007, 09:15 AM

QUOTE(fallible humanbeing @ Jan 7 2007, 10:47 AM)

Calvin,

Here is the only other email Bob Pickle has posted that would fit within the time frame he references (both postings I have provided are completely unedited and appear in their entirety so that readers can arrive at their own reasoned conclusions. The only difference is that I bolded the lines -in this posting- that substantiate my claims in my earlier post about Dr. Thompson's comments).

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

Subject: Re: Possible way to win 3ABN critics.

Date: Mon, 27 Nov 2006 09:04:53 -0600

From: Walt Thompson

Dear Bob,

(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 durhoseh ting 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.)

Sincerely,

Walt

A beautiful statement of solidarity by you, Walt! It is your privilege to disagree with those of us who have experienced Danny Shelton in a different light than you have. As I communicated with Linda on

several occasions during her trials in 2004, and I also spoke with you on the phone, I discovered clearly where your bias was. You decided it was more expedient to side with Danny than to believe anything Linda would tell you. Danny made it clear to you that Linda was a liar, and you trusted him explicitly.

As you know, it was Elder Owen Troy, a friend since we worked together in mission service in West Africa, who got me involved with 3ABN after I retired from serving the Seventh-day Adventist Church for about half a century. (Exposing my age!) I trusted Owen, and was therefore convinced the work of 3ABN was honorable and a great service to our Church, and with great enthusiasm I travelled through Europe promoting 3ABN and communicating with Church leaders, several of whom I had known through my previous work.

At first it amazed me to discover with what reluctance several of the Church leaders would have any dealings with 3ABN. When I questioned these good brethren, they told me it was due to questionable dealings of Mr. Danny Shelton.

At one point I wanted to introduce 3ABN to the Church in Norway, and I spoke with President Tor Tjeransen (whose father was a schoolmate of mine). He told me of the reluctance of the Brethren, and he even posted to me the official minutes of the Trans European Division, which were the basis of why this Division refused to have anything to do with 3ABN.

I studied these minutes with the scrutiny of Mr. Fallible, discovered some loopholes, and I confronted the Brethren with these. I lobbied faithfully with leaders in conferences, unions, divisions, and the General Conference. Somehow I managed to get their unofficial consent. They said to me verbally, but not in writing, Go ahead with your work for 3ABN, but don't let it interfere with our mission, and never state that we have given you an official approval! (You notice I got nothing in writing, so I am here merely giving the gist of what some of these men said to me verbally.) I thought, Fair enough, with Divine help I will work under these conditions. And I fought to convince everybody that Mr. Danny Shelton was a trustworthy person, just like you, Walt, Mr. Fallible, and certain others, are still doing.

What forced me to change my mind? It was when Danny insisted that Dr. Arild Ahrhamsen was in Florida together with Linda at a time when my wife, Irmgard, and I were staying with him in Norway, and she was getting daily treatments from him for her cancer. I knew that it was impossible for him to be in Florida and Norway at the same time. So when Danny kept insisting I knew that the Brethren had a reason why they did not trust Mr. Danny Shelton. It merely strengthened my conviction when Danny then started speaking of 'spiritual adultery', and used all kinds of other ridiculous inventions to prove Linda's guilt, and it has been amazing to see how he with his fabulous salesmanship has been able to convince both you, Walt, and several others, that he is still trustworthy. May God have mercy! How will you be able to stand in the final day of accountability?

I have made a vow with my Lord to stand for the TRUTH and nothing but the truth. It would have been much easier for me personally to support my boss, Mr. Danny Shelton. But that is not what counts in Heaven. The Lord does not want me merely to take the easy way out of this.

There was a time I felt the best way for me was to withdraw from this messy case. I pleaded with the Lord in prayer. Towards morning I fell asleep, and I heard a clear voice speaking to me, If you withdraw and refuse to testify what you have experienced, you will be counted guilty of the crime committed!

So hear I stand - and help me my Lord!!!

Give me a solid proof that I am wrong, and I will support Danny.

Posted by: Ed White Jan 7 2007, 10:07 AM

No sure which poster it was that mentioned these "yes men" as part of the problem, not only at 3ABN but a few others up a few rungs on the corporate ladder may have a few things to unlearn

as well in order to be changed into "no" men when "no" should have been on their lips from the very start.

"But now time is almost finished, and what we have been years learning, they will have to learn in a few months. They will also have much to unlearn and much to learn again. Those who would not receive the mark of the beast and his image when the decree goes forth, must have decision now to say, Nay , we will not regard the institution of the beast." EW 67

=====

This definition given in the post above using the word "sham" is a good word & does apply, but it should not be used on the innocent being fed bogus information if they were just honestly mistaken, as it is getting to late in the day for such to remain under this cloud.

Posted by: Johann Jan 7 2007, 10:19 AM

There is a clarion call to be true and honest and to cleanse all filth and lucre from the church before the final events transpire and we see the small cloud of glory in the sky showing us that Jesus is approaching. Who will be true and faithful and give up their cherished darling sins?

Posted by: Pickle Jan 7 2007, 10:20 AM

Ed, I recommend that you make your points in a way that kindly invites folks to take a stand. There is no need to make people defensive when another course is possible.

People all over have honestly believed that Danny was in the right. Whenever possible we should give them the benefit of the doubt.

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

Child molestation people....**CHILD MOLESTATION.**

I will say that every now and then to remind people..... could it be your child or one of your loved one's next?

Posted by: Johann Jan 7 2007, 10:50 AM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 7 2007, 06:31 PM)

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You have posted some intersting mottoes for the past 3 years. What will it be for 2007?

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jan 7 2007, 04:04 PM

QUOTE(Johann @ Jan 7 2007, 12:50 PM) □

You have posted some interesting mottoes for the past 3 years. What will it be for 2007?

I know it's off topic...but you know Johann... I'm actually working on one right now....

Gimmie till mid-month - end of January.... I want to put some thought into it...

I got one tho'..... I been meaning to say it.... but it won't be the only one....

"Droppin' rocks since 1971..."

Meaning? Not sinless am I (Yoda speak) - therefore I can't be tossing stones at glass houses, trying to pull toothpicks outta my brother's eye, etc. I've been slowly dropping my rocks since I was born...how many others are droppin' their rocks? How many folks are making it about "protecting the innocents" and not themselves?

end rant

Sorry....I got sidetracked.....



Posted by: roxe Jan 7 2007, 04:32 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 7 2007, 03:04 PM) □

I know it's off topic...

How many folks are making it about "protecting the innocents" and not themselves?

end rant

Sorry....I got sidetracked.....



you're not off topic... nor sidetracked... cuz thats exactly what its all about

remember what Jesus said in Luke 17, that its gonna be like sodom in the days when He comes back...

when you think about it, if "those people" would do that to strangers, what in the world were they doing to their own children behind closed doors??

now that don't mean that we haveta sit back and let it happen just cuz Jesus said it would...

what needs to be done about two brothers who appear to use and abuse underage children?? lets start walkin the talk...

Posted by: Ed White Jan 7 2007, 05:20 PM

QUOTE(Pickle @ Jan 7 2007, 10:20 AM) □

Ed, I recommend that you make your points in a way that kindly invites folks to take a stand. There is no need to make people defensive when another course is possible.

People all over have honestly believed that Danny was in the right. Whenever possible we should give them the benefit of the doubt.

Pickle what part of my post above in your opinion should be toned down, was it the SOP I used that cut the chase & did the cutting? There is no nice way to tell "yes men" that they made a bad mistake and should have said "no" at the right time to nip some of this mess in the bud. We are talking about conference presidents knowing most of the things you now know long before you knew it. Are they not appointed by God to be a watchmen on the walls of Zion to tell the innocent when the enemy is approaching? If they are not true watchmen then we elected the wrong people.

Posted by: awesumtenor Jan 7 2007, 05:25 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 7 2007, 05:04 PM) □

How many folks are making it about "protecting the innocents" and not themselves?

end rant

Sorry....I got sidetracked.....



Dunno about innocents... but there seem to be more than few of the johnny-come-lately crew seeking to protect the not-so-innocent... even if it is at the expense of the innocent...

In His service,
Mr. J

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 7 2007, 06:56 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 6 2007, 09:16 AM) □

I'mma put this in e'ry thread I go to that mentions Tommy Shelton's name....

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

Can anyone realize that it's now going beyond this church (SDA's/Sunday Churches) - but to the innocents? CHILDREN?

sigh

Someone's child is in danger.... my LORD!

PrincessDrRe

I nominate you to be the official "Would You Let Tommy Babysit Your Loved One" Reminderer. Do I hear a second?

Posted by: roxe Jan 7 2007, 07:03 PM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ Jan 7 2007, 05:56 PM)

PrincessDrRe

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second!

Posted by: Johann Jan 7 2007, 07:32 PM

QUOTE(roxe @ Jan 8 2007, 03:03 AM)

second!

All in favor say Aye -- OOOOppsss! I'm not the BOSS

Posted by: Fran Jan 7 2007, 09:45 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 7 2007, 10:31 AM)

Child molestation people....**CHILD MOLESTATION.**

I will say that every now and then to remind people..... could it be your child or one of your loved one's next?

I understand and appreciate your jogging our memories. Yes, it could be my child, and it was!

There are so many diverse problems, that each must be dealt with in a very **NON-CONFUSING MANNER**. I give Bob a hands up for bring out this information through his investigation. Thank you Bob!

In my opinion it is a right decision to clear up the mess with Tommy Shelton. There are many supporters of 3ABN. They will back Danny 100%. However, a non-Adventist, as an employee of 3ABN, being forced to retire, makes Danny's action acceptable by those supporters. It will also bring the public into other information about 3ABN. We all want Tommy & Danny away from all the children.

I believe this will happen in time.

I also believe if we address the peripheral problems, one at a time, they will all lead us to the center

of the problem. One by one, each will point straight to the source of all of the problems. Exposure will not overwhelm those reading.

Let us remember also the Danny has like allegations against him. Thought has to be given to make sure it is all taken care of. As in a maze, sometimes going backwards is the best solution.

Like I said, I agree with you 199%. I would never want Tommy or Danny near my children, however, one day in July, 2004, 3ABN landed in the church I used to belong to. I chose not to go see the man that was an alleged sexual deviant. However, my grand-daughter did go. She is a show girl from her birth. She moves like a model. Why, because my daughter does. She is a bombshell, and her child is a clone.

Danny took and gave very special attention to her. I heard all about it. She is the kiss and tell type. I was furious. He fed her some of his food and told her she was a very pretty little girl. My friend that was watching her for the day became very uncomfortable, but couldn't put her finger on what it was.

I understand about our children, believe me.

If I believed that putting it all out there at one time, I would be screaming to the investigators to get it done. However, by putting one issue out at a time, we have been able to stop the Voltaire wanna be's and answer every question until it is settled.

If it all hits at once, we will be bombarded with accusations and confusion about all of the problems, which are many, all at once. The presentation must be in a logical sequence, in its own time. God is not the author of confusion.

Does this make sense?

I place my trust in the investigators of these problems. I whole heartedly approve of the way everything I am aware of has taken place. Soon we will see more and then more and then more until the desired affect is achieved. This is one heavy responsibility for the investigators. I solicit your prayers for them. They need it.

Posted by: Skyhook Jan 8 2007, 01:20 PM

Concerning mediation or whatever might need to be involved in resolving the 3abn situation, I would nominate A. Leroy Moore to be involved. He is probably retired but is still active. IMHO, his books are a must read for anyone concerned about the conflicts within the church. His books "Advenitism in Conflict" and "Questions on Doctrine Revisited" are excellent and provide insights as to how we ought to deal with some of the serious problems that have been and are in the church.

As I understand it he mentored Doug Batchelor early on and had something to do with his call into the ministry. He also was involved in helping 2 young men return to the church after leaving and getting involved in an offshoot. They now have thier own independant, supportive ministry that is making a positive impact in many places around the world.

I met pastor Moore briefly, a few months ago and he seems like truly a Spirit filled Christian man.

Anyway, he would get my vote, for what its worth, to have some role in any mediation, or whatever.

Posted by: inga Jan 8 2007, 08:39 PM

QUOTE(Skyhook @ Jan 8 2007, 02:20 PM)

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I agree with everyting you've said about Pastor Moore. If anyone could mediate, Pastor Moore probably could. By the grace of God, he has been able to bring together sides that were *both* earnestly trying to serve God, while focusing on different aspects of truth and being convinced that the *other* side is wrong.

I wish this were all that is wrong with 3ABN. However, I don't believe we are just dealing with different (perhaps extreme) aspects of truth, but likely with deep corruption that requires a different sort of approach. **If** the Shelton's were willing to accept Pastor Moore as a counselor, that would be a whole different story.

Posted by: Observer Jan 9 2007, 05:22 AM

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I agree with everyting you've said about Pastor Moore. If anyone could mediate, Pastor Moore probably could. By the grace of God, he has been able to bring together sides that were *both* earnestly trying to serve God, while focusing on different aspects of truth and being convinced that the *other* side is wrong.

I wish this were all that is wrong with 3ABN. However, I don't believe we are just dealing with different (perhaps extreme) aspects of truth, but likely with deep corruption that requires a different sort of approach. **If** the Shelton's were willing to accept Pastor Moore as a counselor, that would be a whole different story.

I believe that the only resolution of these issues that can take place will need to be done in other venues. I expect that will happen in the civil realm. I expect that this will take time, but that some movement will take place this month. And for some of these issues, I believe that this is the only venue that can be fair to all parties.

Resolution has to be fair to all. Otherwise there will be no resolution. People will continue to claim a lack of fairness. Resolution must not only be fair, but appear to be fair.

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jan 9 2007, 03:50 PM

QUOTE(Fran @ Jan 7 2007, 11:45 PM) □

I understand and appreciate your jogging our memories. Yes, it could be my child, and it was!

There are so many diverse problems, that each must be dealt with in a very NON-CONFUSING MANNER. I give Bob a hands up for bring out this information through his investigation. Thank you Bob!

In my opinion it is a right decision to clear up the mess with Tommy Shelton. There are many supporters of 3ABN. They will back Danny 100%. However, a non-Adventist, as an employee of 3ABN, being forced to retire, makes Danny's action acceptable by those supporters. It will also bring the public into other information about 3ABN. We all want Tommy & Danny away from all the children.

I believe this will happen in time.

I also believe if we address the peripheral problems, one at a time, they will all lead us to the center of the problem. One by one, each will point straight to the source of all of the problems. Exposure will not overwhelm those reading.

Let us remember also the Danny has like allegations against him. Thought has to be given to make sure it is all taken care of. As in a maze, sometimes going backwards is the best solution.

Like I said, I agree with you 199%. I would never want Tommy or Danny near my children, however, one day in July, 2004, 3ABN landed in the church I used to belong to. I chose not to go see the man that was an alleged sexual deviant. However, my grand-daughter did go. She is a show girl from her birth. She moves like a model. Why, because my daughter does. She is a bombshell, and her child is a clone.

Danny took and gave very special attention to her. I heard all about it. She is the kiss and tell type. I was furious. He fed her some of his food and told her she was a very pretty little girl. My friend that was watching her for the day became very uncomfortable, but couldn't put her finger on what it was.

I understand about our children, believe me.

If I believed that putting it all out there at one time, I would be screaming to the investigators to get it done. However, by putting one issue out at a time, we have been able to stop the Voltaire wanna be's and answer every question until it is settled.

If it all hits at once, we will be bombarded with accusations and confusion about all of the problems, which are many, all at once. The presentation must be in a logical sequence, in its own time. God is not the author of confusion.

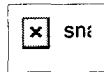
Does this make sense?

I place my trust in the investigators of these problems. I whole heartedly approve of the way everything I am aware of has taken place. Soon we will see more and then more and then more until the desired affect is achieved. This is one heavy responsibility for the investigators. I solicit your prayers for them. They need it.


I appreciate your response to the question....and the fact that you can relate. Prayers for your child also.....

So far I got one for NO (besides myself).....

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



Posted by: simplysaved Jan 9 2007, 03:56 PM

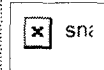
I'm old school...there are not too many people that I would allow to babysit for my children (when I have them) anyway....and then only certain members of my family (like my mom)--and while we are in this ballpark, no Michael Jackson sleepovers either!!! (Just keepin' it real!) 

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 9 2007, 04:50 PM)

I appreciate your response to the question....and the fact that you can relate. Prayers for your child also.....

So far I got one for NO (besides myself).....

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



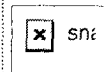
Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 9 2007, 04:15 PM

QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jan 9 2007, 02:50 PM)

I appreciate your response to the question....and the fact that you can relate. Prayers for your child also.....

So far I got one for NO (besides myself).....

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



PrincessDrRe, I was sure I had voted "no" as well. Hey, why don't you start a poll and see what develops there? I'll be right over to vote if ya do!

PB

Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jan 9 2007, 04:27 PM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ Jan 9 2007, 06:15 PM)

PrincessDrRe, I was sure I had voted "no" as well. Hey, why don't you start a poll and see what develops there? I'll be right over to vote if ya do!

PB

Consider it done!



Posted by: Aunt B Jan 9 2007, 09:40 PM

QUOTE(Observer @ Jan 9 2007, 06:22 AM)

Resolution has to be fair to all. Otherwise there will be no resolution. People will continue to claim a lack of fairness. Resolution must not only be fair, but appear to be fair.

I agree that there are many issues that have to be addressed in civil court. Certainly the criminal behaviors that have allegedly occurred. The victims of these crimes have a right to legal protection.

I appreciate what is being said here about fairness. It would be nice to think that there can be a "fair" resolution to the Shelton issues and allegations. However, I fear that may never happen. In discussion last week in Sabbath school, several brought up the issue of "fairness." It was concluded that rarely, if ever, are things fair in life, not even with God's people in the Bible. It is something that we always want, but how often is it a reality?

While I would like to see Linda completely vindicated, because I think she deserves vindication, I wonder if that will happen. It seems to me that the bigger issue is vindication of God and the way He is being misrepresented by the problems at 3abn. Many of us reading/posting here have suffered unfairly in life, and we always long for vindication. In the bigger picture though, this isn't about us, or our vindication. Maybe not even Linda's. It seems to me that it is all about God and how He is represented by those who claim to be working in His name. If there is vindication, it will be His. Maybe the individuals who stand nearest to Him will be vindicated as well.

Just some thoughts...

Aunt B

Posted by: inga Jan 9 2007, 10:47 PM

QUOTE(Aunt B @ Jan 9 2007, 10:40 PM)

It seems to me that the bigger issue is vindication of God and the way He is being misrepresented by the problems at 3abn. Many of us reading/posting here have suffered unfairly in life, and we always long for vindication. In the bigger picture though, this isn't about us, or our vindication. Maybe not even Linda's. It seems to me that it is all about God and how He is represented by those who claim to be working in His name.

Well said, Aunt B!

Posted by: Johann Jan 24 2007, 11:52 PM

QUOTE(Aunt B @ Jan 10 2007, 05:40 AM)

I agree that there are many issues that have to be addressed in civil court. Certainly the criminal behaviors that have allegedly occurred. The victims of these crimes have a right to legal protection.

Aunt B

How could this have been handled by ASI? A civil court in an option now.

Posted by: Ozzie Jan 27 2007, 05:10 AM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ Jan 10 2007, 08:15 AM)

PrincessDrRe, I was sure I had voted "no" as well. Hey, why don't you start a poll and see what develops there? I'll be right over to vote if ya do!

PB

I thought that I had voted **NO** also. I'm rather fussy about who takes care of my kids and grand kids. Most people don't qualify!

Posted by: JustTana Jan 27 2007, 03:22 PM

Dear PrincessDrRe:

NO, a THOUSAND TIMES NO!!! I would NOT let Tommy Shelton anywhere near my two beautiful grandchildren, or Danny Shelton either for that matter!! My oldest is a precious boy of four years old who is ver-r-ry cute and is loving and kind and extremely shy and would be a

perfect candidate for some sicko like TS. His little sister, one and a half is very pretty, and knows it! But I think Danny might have a harder time because she is very aware, even at this young age, of her personal space. She just might scratch him!!

However, I have a personal experience I would like to share. Because of a family member who was extremely jealous of me and who teased me from the day I was born, I grew up in a constant state of trying to find people who would validate my very existence.

I was accosted by a man who all of you SDA's of many years would know immediately. I was 14 and did housecleaning for his wife one afternoon a week. Because of my early life I 'wore my heart on my sleeve' so to speak and one afternoon, this man reached for my blouse and said at the same time, "You're a warm little sister, aren't you?!" I quickly moved to avoid his hand and finished my work. I don't remember whether I ever went back there again. But my heart was broken because I had held him in such high esteem and I loved him as a man of God. I could listen to him preach no matter how long past 12:00 he talked. He was so warm in the pulpit, but I found out he was 'warm' outside of the pulpit too! This man was well known throughout the world having started a radio ministry which is now a television ministry, although he has been dead now for many years. I never said anything about it until years later when I was having a lot of trouble in my marriage. It also makes me wonder how many other girls he accosted in that manner during his life?

One day I told my sister about the early childhood memories of this family member teasing me and making my life miserable. When I mentioned that he had also raped me when I was nine years old, she exclaimed, "Well, that explains a lot. Now I understand a lot better why you have had such a hard time growing up." (There is much more to my story but suffice it to say will not go into it now.) I am still trying to deal with this family member who is always involved in family get togethers at various times during the years. I have gone the route of trying to 'forgive' him and go on with my life, but there was so much controversy surrounding me that I didn't know what to do with as a hurting teenager. My parents tried to protect me from him, but he would tease me when they were not around. I was so sensitive to their long hours of working hard just to put food on the table and a roof over our heads that I tried to become "perfect." As it is now, I am a frustrated, 65 year old perfectionist who wants everything to look nice, but wants someone else to do it. I struggle with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia and the weakness which allows other diseases to grow into very difficult health issues.

My sister tried to talk to this family member, but he denies that he EVER did ANYTHING to me, not to mention rape, or to other family members. His behavior toward me made me an extremely sensitive little child, and she says that while I was a happy little girl when he was not around I would be totally different when he came home from school every afternoon.

I have finally begun to realize that most of his behavior was due to his being a classic case of ADHD which no one had ever heard of in the forties and fifties. He was always in trouble. I could make good grades while he could not even get the information -- which he knew in his head! -- down on paper to PROVE that he knew it. He never got anything other than an "F"s during his whole school life. But he is the only one in the family who can make money!

rofl So while I understand his behavior from a psychological standpoint, it doesn't help me to know how to change my own thinking patterns today. I'm really screwed up, yanno? I can put up a pretty good front but it doesn't really cut it. sc

Please pray for me? Thanks!

P.S. Calvin, Princess or Clay, if this belongs somewhere else please move it.

JT

Posted by: PeacefullyBewildered Jan 27 2007, 03:44 PM

QUOTE(JustTana @ Jan 27 2007, 02:22 PM)

Dear PrincessDrRe:

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Please pray for me? Thanks!

P.S. Calvin, Princess or Clay, if this belongs somewhere else please move it.

JT

JustTana, yes I will pray for you!!! Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.

PB

Posted by: JustTana Jan 27 2007, 03:54 PM

QUOTE(PeacefullyBewildered @ Jan 27 2007, 04:44 PM)

JustTana, yes I will pray for you!!! Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.

PB

Thank you PB.

Posted by: Richard Sherwin Jan 27 2007, 03:59 PM

JT what you wrote took courage. Thanks. You will be in many prayers.

Richard

QUOTE(JustTana @ Jan 27 2007, 04:22 PM)

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Please pray for me? Thanks!

P.S. Calvin, Princess or Clay, if this belongs somewhere else please move it.

JT

Posted by: husbandoftheyear Jan 27 2007, 04:20 PM

JustTana,

I can't say how sorry and disgusted I am that you have been abused in such a way. And from a person in "authority", it makes it even worse. Please know that there was nothing you did to provoke such an action. A person took advantage of you and you've been hurt by it all these years. *So many in your situation blame themselves or question themselves wondering what the abuser saw in you to think that they could harm you in such a way. I want to tell you that it was him, not you!*





Now that you are older, we should expect for those things to be a distant memory, right? Wrong! I have said before that my wife was abused by a family member when she was young and carried the shame with her for years. After she was able to tell me about it, something she wasn't able to do with her own family, we talked to a lovely counselor who helped my wife understand that she was the victim, not the aggressor. Through prayer and counseling...and prayer, my wife was able to let Jesus come in and take all that pain and guilt and shame away.

And JT, He'll do the same thing for you! It doesn't matter if you're 16 or 61, you are a child of God and He loves you as His own flesh and blood. Because of that, He wants you to be a healthy, happy, and loving person. He's there with you, I know it. Do all you can to stop living as a victim! *Reach out and let God take it from you. Start living today!*

Much love and blessings to you, JT!

Posted by: inga Jan 27 2007, 08:14 PM

QUOTE(JustTana @ Jan 27 2007, 04:22 PM) □

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Please pray for me? Thanks!

Dear JT, I'm praying for you right now -- that our loving Father will wrap His arms of love around you and let you feel (for you know by intellect) that you are loved, that you are important to Him. God would rather empty heaven of all the angels than let you be lost!

I believe you have taken a step towards healing by writing about your experience. You know that the family member who abused you did so from his own sense of powerlessness and feelings of worthlessness. You were just an easy victim within his circle of influence. That he picked on you **had nothing to do with you!** If someone else would have been easier to abuse, he would abused that one. You just happened to be there. *And, remember, that you did nothing to deserve to be demeaned through rape. And the rape took nothing away from your intrinsic worth. You are still precious to God!* You are still beautiful to Him!

That you are "screwed up" in your thinking patterns today is probably a result of the lies implanted in your heart through the abuse. While you intellectually know that you are important, that you are precious to God, **you don't feel it.** When next you experience those negative emotions, ask the Lord

to take you back to the first time you felt those emotions and show you the truth about that event. Ask Jesus to take the lies away from your heart. And don't try to suppress your feelings and thoughts about the matter. They will just try to come through in another way. It's best to face them head-on, in the light. Keep talking to God about this.

May He bless you and keep you and be graciout to you!



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