

Angela Smith

From: "HEAL" <heal@heal-online.org>
To: <admin@safety.org>
Sent: Monday, March 07, 2011 6:26 PM
Subject: Concerns and Complaints Re: CAFETY
 Dear CAFETY Administrators and Board Members:

As you may know, HEAL is an abolitionist organization. We believe there is ample evidence of RICO (organized crime) violations, human rights abuses, civil rights abuses, fraud, and other serious issues that support the abolitionist position. We did not intend to go public regarding our concerns about CAFETY. But, due to the seriousness of the fight between justice for victims and survival of the industry, we felt we had to take public action. Below, we are explaining in detail our concerns about CAFETY and our reasons for choosing to boycott your organization at this time. Should you choose to address the issues below effectively, we will consider removing the action alert to boycott CAFETY now on our website at www.heal-online.org/teen.htm#action.

1. Credibility

In speaking with various members of CAFETY, HEAL's concerns are often met with an attack on HEAL's credibility. This is a tactic the programs use to avoid addressing complaints raised against their practices. And, the attacks are generalized in nature and content. For instance, "HEAL doesn't have a lot of credibility either" and a suggestion that we are being unreasonable in not setting aside our concerns about CAFETY's apparent agenda. Secrecy and the bold lack of transparency in regards to CAFETY bring CAFETY's credibility into question. Other issues include CAFETY's partnership with AACRC.

Today, an Aspen survivor and member of CAFETY, e-mailed a parent we are assisting in protecting his/her child from institutionalization. This CAFETY member claimed that "wilderness programs are wonderful" and that once a child is enrolled in the program it is detrimental to remove him/her from that program prior to "graduation".

CAFETY has also historically breached the confidentiality of survivors and survivor organizations. And, CAFETY has historically lied to and about HEAL and other survivor networks.

In recent communications, HEAL explained to various CAFETY representatives that CAFETY was partnered with AACRC. We were initially told there was no such partnership. We then provided the link on the CAFETY website that showed an acknowledgement and celebration of the partnership. When we brought this fact to CAFETY representatives, we were met with dismissive attitudes and a request to "set aside" these issues and focus on stopping institutionalized abuse. How can you possibly stop institutionalized abuse when you partner with abusive programs?

CAFETY's partnership with ASTART has always raised serious concerns as well. ASTART appears to be little more than apologists for the industry and a safeguard for the industry. ASTART fails to acknowledge that institutionalized abuse has been occurring for at least 40 years (not only since the 1990s). And, last year HEAL was working with a parent trying to rescue his/her child from New Leaf Academy in NC. This parent also contacted ASTART for help. This parent reported that ASTART breached his/her confidence, alerted New Leaf Academy to an open investigation, and gave Aspen the opportunity to shut down and re-open under a new name prior to the authorities completing their investigation. So, this also brings CAFETY's agenda and credibility into serious question.

2. Confidentiality

In 2007, CAFETY published confidential information shared by HEAL with CAFETY under the restriction of confidentiality that CAFETY published on your front page. This happened repeatedly. And, due to this, we can't trust you with confidential information.

In 2011, CAFETY representatives asked HEAL to leak the court papers for the Provo Canyon School lawsuit. We have repeatedly stated that the case was filed under seal and that we are under court order

not to distribute or share the court papers with anyone except our attorney and fact witnesses for the case. In asking for this information, you are requesting confidential information and information that if we shared would put HEAL in violation of the court ordered seal. Instead of respecting the facts at hand, we are met with more vague attacks and insinuations.

3. Integrity

HEAL cannot afford to trust CAFETY at this time. What CAFETY needs to do in order to resolve the issues involved, includes:

1. Stop using psycho-babble and other jargon to confuse and/or pacify the survivor networks. Be honest, open, and direct regarding your agenda.
2. Discontinue any and/or all partnerships with behavior modification industry.
3. Discontinue advocating for programs and/or advocating that children not be rescued from programs once enrolled.
4. Discontinue any and/or all attempts to gain access to HEAL's files, confidential reports, or other sensitive data (i.e. court papers).
5. Discontinue your attitude of superiority in regards to other survivor networks including HEAL, fornits.com, FICA, ISAC, and Teen Advocates USA. It is wholly disrespectful and part of an ongoing concern regarding who is controlling things at CAFETY.

We will be posting this e-mail message on our website. HEAL believes in being honest and transparent. This allows people to make informed choices regarding with whom they wish to work. We are willing to have an honest discussion based on the facts. We do not have time for rhetoric or nonsense. Please see www.heal-online.org/brianchurch.pdf for how we deal with nonsensical, psycho-babble, pacifying messages with no substance or value in honest discussion.

Democracy will not survive without free speech and honest and open debate no matter how difficult the topics of the day may be. HEAL has to make judgment calls based on the facts available and the reasonableness of the parties involved. We cannot in good conscience continue to ignore the issues raised about CAFETY in this message. We hope everyone will respect the confidentiality of those referenced in anecdotal examples. We will not be revealing the identities of the individuals and families referenced. We can prove everything we are saying in this message is true and we hope CAFETY will address our concerns directly and effectively without more disrespect and dismissal.

Sincerely,

Angela & The HEAL Team