

Protesting Scientology's Campaign of Harassment March 9th, 1996, Worldwide

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Harassment, onerous litigation, intimidating investigations, threats, dirty tricks—the written policy of Scientology is to silence or ruin those who question it. L. Ron Hubbard, founder of Scientology, wrote on how to handle church critics “the law can be used very easily to harass, and enough harassment on somebody... will generally be sufficient to cause his professional decease. If possible, of course, ruin him utterly.” (Magazine Articles on Level 0 Checksheet, p.55)

To protest these abuses, peaceful protests—with a central event in Clearwater Florida—will take place on Saturday, March 9, 1996, in cities around the world. The theme of the protests is “stop the harassment, Scientology.”

Largely due to the exposure of Scientology's public abuses on the Internet, as well as the group's ongoing harassment, litigation, investigation, and attempts to silence Internet critics of Scientology, the protest is being organized by concerned individuals over the worldwide computer network.

Scientology's abuses against the Internet and Internetters include: attempting to remove alt.religion.scientology (a Usenet discussion group); raiding four Internet users, seizing their computers, and suing them; sending an investigator employed by Scientology to gather information on Scientology critics, and suing four Internet service providers and one individual in Holland, among many other affronts.

Clearwater, as one of the main organizational headquarters for Scientology and the training ground for many of the higher officials, is a natural centerpiece for the international protest. Unfortunately, the city has also seen its share of harassment at the hands of Scientology, including an attempted frame-up of former-mayor Gabe Cazares and harassment of Clearwater journalist Bette Orsini.

The “Stop the Harassment” protests are not intended as criticism of the religious practices of Scientology, nor of the religious beliefs of Scientologists. The focus of these protests is to encourage Scientology to stop its harassment and to draw attention to the ongoing abuses committed by Scientology.

For further information on the world wide web see the following pages:

Jeff Jacobsen: <http://www.primenet.com/~cultxpt/demo.htm>

Ron Newman: <http://www.cybercom.net/~rnewman/scientology/home.html>

Modemac: <http://home.pacific.net.sg/~marina/modemac/cos.htm>