

SCIENTOLOGY

History:

The Founder of the *Church of Scientology* was Lafayette Ronald Hubbard (1911-1986), born in Tilden, Nebraska on 1911-MAR-13. Hubbard traveled extensively during his youth, covering some quarter of a million miles by the time he was twenty years of age, including directing two expeditions to the Caribbean. On one expedition, he made the first mineralogical survey of Puerto Rico.

During the 1930's, he became a famous author. Although he was known mostly for his science fiction, he also worked in other genres including mystery, western and adventure. He was also successful as a screen writer. His lifetime output of published fiction was over 200 novels, novelettes and short stories.

In 1938, in an unpublished manuscript *Excalibur*, he delineated the common denominator of existence as "survive" and outlined the theory that "*life is composed of two things: the material universe and an X-factor...that can evidently organize and mobilize the material universe.*" This fundamental concept was to be the basis of his later researches for both *Dianetics* and *Scientology*.

The Second World War intervened and his first published work on Dianetics appeared in the Winter/Spring 1949-1950 issue of the *Explorers Club Journal* entitled "*Terra Incognita: The Mind*". At this time he offered his findings on the mind to both the *American Medical Association* and the *American Psychiatric Association*. Both organizations rejected them and later attempted to discredit his work and reputation. In 1950-MAY, "*Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*" was published; it has since sold over 17 million copies worldwide. In the fall of 1951, Hubbard formed the religious philosophy of *Scientology*, which is based on his discovery that man is most fundamentally a spiritual being -- the X-factor. The first *Church of Scientology* was formed in Los Angeles on 1954-FEB-18 by persons other than Hubbard. The *Founding Church of Scientology* was founded in Washington, DC in 1955-JUL.

The US *Food and Drug Administration* raided Scientology offices on 1963-JAN-4 and seized hundreds of the Church's E-meters as illegal medical devices. The devices are now required to carry a disclaimer saying that they are a purely religious artifact. They are used in a Scientology counseling technique known as "auditing".

During the 1970s, the Church and many other emerging religions came under increasing attack from the anti-cult movement. In 1977, as a result of an FBI raid, some senior people in the movement's *Guardian's Office* were convicted of stealing government documents. In 1965, the Australian government had banned Scientology. However in 1983, the High Court of Australia overturned the decision, contributing greatly to the scope of religious freedom in that country. From 1968 to 1980, the British government restricted people who wished to enter the country to pursue Scientology training.

In 1993-OCT, the Internal Revenue Service of the United States granted full religious recognition and tax exemption to all Scientology Churches, missions and social betterment groups in that country. The Church is also officially recognized in every province in Canada where it has an organization.

L. Ron Hubbard died in 1986. Unlike many emerging religions, the movement survived the transition to new leadership. Mr. David Miscavige, *Chairman of the Board of the Religious Technology Center*, now heads the organization. The St. Petersburg Times published an extensive interview of Mr. Miscavige in 1998-OCT-25.

Scientology is an applied religious philosophy that contains methodologies intended to improve life and achieve spiritual freedom for oneself and society. The Church states that its membership is 8 million. It currently has more than 3,000 churches, missions and groups in over 120 countries. Scientology continues its rapid growth worldwide.(2)

Views of God:

They believe that God exists, but do not have a specific belief about the nature of that deity.

Central Beliefs:

- Scientologists follow Mr. Hubbard's belief that a person is neither mind nor body, but a spiritual being - a soul. However, the word "soul" is an ambiguous term, which had been given many meanings by many religions. In order to avoid confusion, Mr. Hubbard selected the word "*thetan*" from the Greek letter "theta" which has traditionally meant "thought" or "life". A Thetan is the essence of a person, One does not have a Thetan, one is a Thetan. The brain, and the rest of the body, is looked upon as a mechanism, a communication center for the Thetan. The mind is perceived as a collection of pictures.
- Scientology recognizes "*Eight Dynamics*." A "dynamic" is an urge, drive or impulse. Understanding these dynamics help a person gain insight and harmonize all their life activities. The first four dynamics were initially described by Mr. Hubbard in *Dianetics*; the remaining four were added with the creation of Scientology:
 - The First Dynamic is the urge to survive as oneself.
 - The second the urge to survive through family and sex.
 - The third is to survive in various groups such as a company or with a group of friends.
 - The fourth is to survive as mankind.
 - The fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth are the urge to survive through other life forms such as animals, the physical universe, the spiritual universe and Infinity or God respectively.
- The human mind is divided into two components: the analytical mind and the reactive mind. The former resembles Freud's concept of the conscious mind; it senses, remembers, reasons and recalls. The reactive mind is somewhat similar to Freud's unconscious. It records physically and psychologically disturbing events in this life and prior lives. These

include perceived assaults in the womb, the birth process, assaults, injuries etc. They are recorded as engrams which are a form of psychic scar. These engrams are considered "*the single source of all man's insanities, psychosomatic illnesses and neuroses.*". They are not sensed by the analytical mind directly. However, they will degrade a person's life and keep an individual from reaching their full potential. By removing the engrams, one can progress from being "preclear" (PC) to "*clear*;" i.e. totally free of engrams.

- A person can progress beyond "clear" to becoming a "*OT*" or "*Operating Thetan.*" An OT is able to leave their body and mind. They can see, hear and feel without access to their normal senses.
- Great religious leaders like Buddha and Jesus Christ are regarded as being slightly above "*clear*".
- Their goal is to help sufficient numbers of people to become "clear" so that a significant impact can be felt in areas of crime, mental illness, warfare, drug addiction, physical illnesses etc.

Views of Scripture:

Their scriptures are the writings of L. Ron Hubbard:

L. Ron Hubbard, "*Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*", Bridge, Los Angeles (1950, 1978)

L. Ron Hubbard, "*Scientology: The Fundamentals of Thought*", The Church of Scientology of California Publications Organization, Los Angeles, (1973)

Other books are: *Science of Survival*; *Dianetics 55!*; *Self Analysis*; *A New Slant on Life*; *The Problems of Work*; *Have You Lived Before This Life?*; *The Phoenix Lectures*; *Clear Body, Clear Mind*; and *An Introduction to Scientology Ethics*.

Views of Salvation:

Scientologists reject the concept of eternal life in hell and heaven. They believe in reincarnation in which a person passes through a number of lifetimes. "*...personal salvation in one lifetime [is] freedom from the cycle of birth and death*".

Scientology Practices:

- Scientology "*auditing*" is a unique form of personal counseling intended to help an individual look at his own existence and improve their ability to confront what and where they are. It is a precise, thoroughly codified activity with exact procedures. A Scientology counselor is known as an "*auditor*". Auditing is assisted by use of a specially designed meter (E-Meter or Electro-psychometer) which they believe helps locate areas of spiritual distress or travail by measuring the mental state or change of state of the person being audited. It does this by continuously measuring the electrical resistance of the person's body. Variations of resistance are shown on an ammeter which are then interpreted by the trained auditor. The E-Meter was invented by Volny Mathieson who gave it to L.R. Hubbard. It is covered under US Patent 3,290,589 "*Device for Measuring and Indicating Changes in the Resistance of a Human Body*", issued on 1966-DEC-6.

- An equal part of the practice of Scientology is training in Scientology principles which includes the technology of the auditing process.
- The whole purpose of auditing and training is to graduate individuals to a higher state of spiritual existence or to cross "*The Bridge to Total Freedom*." The goal is to revive the individual as a spiritual being and free him from dependence on the material universe. The metaphor of a bridge has long been used in religious tradition to denote the route across the chasm from where we are now to a higher plateau of existence.
- Auditors are members of the clergy. They are ordained and wear clerical clothing.
- Not being an exclusive religion, members are welcomed to retain their church affiliation when they become Scientologists.
- Another Scientology symbol is an eight-pointed cross. The eight points represent the eight Dynamics, described above. The cross also represents the transition from materialism to spirituality and the crossing of that barrier.

What Many Distractors Say About Scientology:

What is Scientology?

[Norsk introduksjon tilgjengelig her.](#)

In the late 1940s, pulp writer L. Ron Hubbard declared:

"Writing for a penny a word is ridiculous. If a man really wants to make a million dollars, the best way would be to start his own religion"

[Reader's Digest reprint, May 1980, p.1](#)

Hubbard later created the Church of Scientology...

Based on a text by ex-Scientologist Roland Rashleigh-Berry. Roland wrote: "*This is my personal opinion. I grant permission to anyone to reproduce this material. This description has been tailored to people who have never been Scientologists and seek a simple and short explanation as to what it is and why it is surrounded by controversy.*"

</TD<< TR>

A. In a Nutshell

The Church of Scientology is a vicious and dangerous cult that masquerades as a religion. Its purpose is to make money. It practices a variety of mind-control techniques on people lured into its midst to gain control over their money and their lives. Its aim is to take from them every



penny that they have and can ever borrow and to also enslave them to further its wicked ends.

It was started in the 1950s by a science fiction writer named L. Ron Hubbard in fulfilment to his declared aim to start a religion to make money. It is an offshoot to a method of psychotherapy he concocted from various sources which he named "Dianetics". Dianetics is a form of regression therapy. It was then further expanded to appear more like a religion in order to enjoy tax benefits. He called it "Scientology".

Scientology is a confused concoction of crackpot, dangerously applied psychotherapy, oversimplified, idiotic and inapplicable rules and ideas and science-fiction drivel that is presented to its members (at the "advanced" levels) as profound spiritual truth.

B. The Harm it Does to a Person

The results of applying their crackpot psychotherapy (called "auditing") is to weaken the mind. The mind goes from a rational state to an irrational one as the delusional contents of the subconscious mind are brought to the surface and are assumed to be valid. It also makes a person more susceptible to suggestion since it submerges the critical thinking faculties of the mind into a partial subconscious state. It results in a permanent light hypnotic trance and so from thenceforth that person can be more easily controlled. The person will, to a much greater extent, believe and do whatever they are told. And of course this is used to the full in persuading them to hand over further money and dedicating themselves further to the cult.

The results of applying their oversimplified and inapplicable rules in life is to lose the ability to think rationally and logically. A person loses the ability to think for themselves and so they lose the ability to challenge incorrect ideas. This makes them easier to control. It also isolates and alienates the person from society so that they withdraw from normal society and into their "Scientology" society. This further increases their susceptibility to the influence of their group. They end up being afraid of society, believing all society to be controlled by a group of drug companies, psychiatrists and financiers all of whom report to more remote masters. In other words they are in a state of mass paranoia. They therefore avoid reading newspapers and the like since they fear it will disturb their safe Scientology world. It is a downward spiral into madness.

The science fiction content of Scientology is revealed to them after they have reached the state they call "Clear", meaning freed from the aberrations of the mind. However, perhaps "brainwashed" would be a more applicable word to describe the mental state of someone who has survived the near entire delusional contents of their subconscious mind brought to the surface and presented to them as "truth". On the "advanced" levels (called OT levels) above the state of "Clear" they encounter the story of Xenu. Xenu was supposed to have gathered up all the overpopulation in this sector of the galaxy, brought them to Earth and then exterminated them using hydrogen bombs. The souls of these murdered people

are then supposed to infest the body of everyone. They are called "body thetans". On the advanced levels of Scientology a person "audits out" these body thetans telepathically by getting them to re-experience their being exterminated by hydrogen bombs. So people on these levels assume all their bad thoughts and faulty memories are due to these body thetans infesting every part of their body and influencing them mentally. Many Scientologists go raving mad at this point if they have not done so already.

C. The "Ethics" Trap

On the surface the Church of Scientology seems reasonable. The insane content of it is only revealed to a person when the early stuff has done its work and made them more susceptible. After a short while a person "believes" that Scientology is doing them good. They are then persuaded to help their new-found group further by donating money and/or working for the organisation for almost no money. Many people do exactly that.

"Ethics" is used to good effect to trap a person. A person's natural tendency to do good is worked upon. Yes - they want to be more ethical, but what is ethical? This is where a clever trick is pulled! "Ethics" is redefined by Scientology in such a way that to be ethical is to be a better Scientologist and obey the "church". Young people, not yet made cynical through the machinations of life and politics, are very keen to contribute to the world and to be ethical. So the "ethics" trick works easily into persuading them to join the "church". Many of them join an elite group called the "Sea Org" where they become brainwashed slaves. There they work a hundred hour week for almost no pay. There they are subject to every cruel whim of their masters. It is a living hell that they endure because of the conditioning they have received and this now perverted sense of ethics that they have accepted. The "Sea Org" is the ultimate in brainwashed slavery. They are expected to work harder and harder to achieve ever higher targets of production. If they fail to meet their targets there are various penalties. One of them is to be put onto a diet of beans and rice and to miss sleep. Another is to be sentenced to a period on the RPF (Rehabilitation Project Force). This is the equivalent to "hard labour". Such is the extent of their brainwashing that they actually write "success stories" when they complete their sentences.

D. Brainwashing Bites Back

There is no doubt at all that L. Ron Hubbard incorporated brainwashing techniques into Scientology to put people under his control. He even wrote a "brainwashing manual" which is still in existence today. However there was a cruel twist in his scheme. He fell victim of it himself. In creating his devoted slaves, the Sea Org, he created an audience that believed every word he said. Now L. Ron Hubbard had an over-active imagination plus delusions of grandeur. The negative feedback he would obtain by being part of normal society was replaced by the positive feedback from his devoted followers. Through this his imagination got the better of him and combined with his delusions of grandeur, his thinking became increasingly bizarre which, on acceptance, led on to more bizarre thinking and the idea that he and Scientology had the job of saving the entire universe He

wanted to take over the world in order to further Scientology's aims to save the universe and so branches of Scientology were set up to try to influence governments and gain positions where they could influence to world to a high degree. So what started out as a mass confidence trick backed up with brainwashing became a monstrous and insane organisation with fantastic, fanatical ideals. Because of this change, the Church of Scientology survived the death of their founder. It is like a runaway monster machine that tramples on society and peoples lives that is very difficult to stop.

E. Stop the Monster

The whole machinery called the "Church of Scientology" needs to be jammed somehow so that more people do not get sucked in and the people already in it have a chance to get out. We must not forget the people already in this "church". Although they are the ones perpetrating this crime they are also the victims. They need our help as well.

And here we come to the "War on the Internet".

F. The War on the Internet

The "War on the Internet" is the war between the Church of Scientology and Internet users who copy their documents and post them on the Internet.

The people who are copying their material and webbing it are using the huge accessibility of the world-wide web to get information out to people to warn them of the insanity and danger of this cult. They are doing it for the public good. The hope is that if they can get this information out to the public and make it broadly known then people will be forewarned and will not join the cult. If they can starve the cult of new members in this way then the whole organisation may collapse and then the existing members can be helped to return to society. But of course the people within the cult believe only their own founders interpretation of things so they use every means they can to stop this. Usually the method they use is harassment through lengthy and expensive legal processes. Sometimes it is physical harassment. Sometimes worse!

The people who post and host the copyrighted and confidential works of Scientology are risking themselves to help warn the public about the dangers of Scientology. They have a strong sense of public duty and care for their fellow men. They are breaking copyright laws it is true but they are acting out of conscience and out of high human ideals. As they get broken down by legal or physical harassment more rise to take their place.

I hope this short piece of mine is a befitting and deserving introduction to these people, the "Warriors of the Internet".

In an article to alt.religion.scientology 6. September 1998, parkerbp@webtv.net wrote:

Here's a short summary of my experience with Scientology.
Staff was very friendly with me as a student and pc, as long as I kept forking over the dough for services and "fund raisers."

I joined staff at an org and the attitude of other staff toward me got a little less than friendly.

I joined the Sea Org and put up with a lot of **** from staff and LRH's policy because I thought I was helping myself and my fellow man.

I found out I was helping no one and hurting myself. I got out I began surfing the net and found many of my doubts and suspicions about the CO\$ were very well founded.

I had been lied to and deceived by the CO\$ in order to gain my trust, my money, my loyalty, and dedication to a lost and evil cause.

Now I am dedicated to voice my experiences and opinions of the cult of Scientology.

Bobby

Approaching Scientologists With The Gospel:

Works Consulted

- 1) Nummela, Tom: Editor, One God Many Gods, St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House,
1998
- 2) www.religioustolerance.org,
- 3) www.scientology.org
- 4) www.xenu.com