

MINORITY REPORT: CONVERSION PROGRAM/WATCH-LIST PROGRESS

by Rev. Minister and Church Director Angela Smith

This is an anecdotal progress report on the Conversion Program/Watch-List. Due to outcry, by those involuntarily enrolled in the Conversion Program and/or placed on the watch-list, where said asked, requested, or felt otherwise entitled to additional opportunities for advancement or release even without graduation, I decided it was time to consult the enrolled and clarify terms of advancement (graduation by meeting the Honesty In Marketing Standards (HIMS)), release, or providing feedback. I sent an offer to all of those populating the watch-list stating if they met the HIMS requirements they would graduate and be placed on the virtual "white list". In the same offer, I invited Feedback and an opportunity to further discuss placement. Very few responded to the offer and/or refused to provide feedback which suggests resistance to conversion to HIMS.

In order to be as fair as possible and understanding the enrolled being resistant to conversion, I thought about other ways in which I might assist with their advancement even without their active participation or in light of some of their active protesting of the Conversion Program/Watch-List. This is where other program directors will likely say, "See, she is a co-dependent. She shouldn't be caving in to the demands of those resistant to conversion. Rookie mistake." So, I tried to find other ways out of empathy, where seeing the watch-list as a conversion program of sorts and then feeling like no one should have to be forced into such a thing and realizing I was kind of doing that too even though artfully and virtually, and decided to do a three part statistical analysis comparing results from polls/votes covering three sets of demographics with some crossover. Consider this anecdotal market research if you wish.

Prior to initiating the polls/votes, I needed to determine how many people I should get results from in order to get 95% probability with a 5% margin for error. So, I needed a population number and went with 55,916 because that is the total population of youth in segregated congregate care in the USA right now according to WikiPedia. The minimum number of votes needed to apply that probability and margin for error with that population number according to <https://www.hotjar.com/poll-survey-sample-size-calculator/> is 382 votes or persons polled/surveyed. And, if solely going off the number of Sponsors populating the listservs it would be 28,000 for which 379 participants would get the 95% probability with a 5% margin for error. However, I polled three sets of demographics and the Sponsor listservs were just the first round of voting.

Sponsors are victims, survivors, and/or staff whistleblowers who enrolled their entity on the watch-list for meeting the criteria for placement.

The first question as sent to the Sponsors was: Should [Sponsor's Program/Entity Name Here] continue to be involuntarily enrolled in The HEAL Mission Conversion Program (on the HEAL watch-list)?

YES VOTES: 93.27%

NO VOTES: 6.73%

The second question was sent to the HEAL Mission e-newsletter recipient list which is a more diverse demographic than the Sponsors. This same question was used in a Twitter Poll which was made available for 24 hours and many of those populating the Conversion Program/Watch-List were notified via Twitter mention regarding the opportunity to participate. The question for both the newsletter recipients and Twitter population was: Do you believe COPE's HEAL Mission Conversion Program (<http://www.churchofphilosophicalexploration.church/conversion.htm>) Watch-List (<http://www.heal-online.org/thelist.htm>) should continue to exist?

Newsletter Recipient Results:

YES VOTES: 85.71%

NO VOTES: 14.29%

Twitter Poll Results:

YES VOTES: 80%

NO VOTES: 20%

Even though far more people participated in the Sponsor vote than the other two votes, I'm going to be very generous and do the math as a simple average where I add all three results and then divide that result by three to determine the overall statistic regarding support for or opposition to the Conversion Program/Watch-List assuming that perhaps that would be more objective or accurate if more people had participated rather than resisted conversion and/or participation. So, that would mean based on these three votes that 86.32% are overall in favor of the Conversion Program/Watch-List and 13.68% oppose it.

Whether you feel this firmly establishes there is some market demand in the nonprofit sector for Conversion Program/Watch-Lists is your opinion. But, it is mine that there is a demand and like my fellows in the business of behavior modification and/or conversion I'm simply responding to it. While I empathize and find it very uncomfortable myself, I recognize the need for COPE and the HEAL Mission even if you don't and would prefer we just didn't exist. You have the luxury of ignoring this artful and virtual response or effort, those involuntarily subjected to your bullshit without a court order or even with one do not. Appreciate the privileges you do have and if you'd like the privilege of graduating, meet the HIMS requirements or pray your Sponsors vote for your release should there be another opportunity to do so. And, in the event you fail to meet the HIMS requirements or your Sponsors believe continued enrollment is warranted, then you will likely end up in the virtual cemetery. Do you think meeting the HIMS requirements would be career suicide? What does that say about you? Jeff Bezos and Amazon.com welcome feedback and publicly post complimentary and critical reviews of their products. So do I as far as church and mission services. Until you understand you are accountable too, and if you refuse to act responsibly there are those of us who will be

keeping an eye on you and holding you accountable, progress will be stymied. If the Justice System doesn't get you, the court of public opinion just might. And, if you don't believe the "you" in some of this paragraph is about "you", you are probably right unless enrolled in the COPE HEAL Mission Conversion Program/Watch-List. But, in context, you understand, right?

See, when you do something controversial or get involved in controversy you must realize that when considering the potential for vocal opposition regardless of which position you are taking on a controversial matter. And, before (and briefly after) becoming ordained I was involved with PETA-style animal rights activities and beyond. In my time with animal rights, I experienced what we referred to as "anti-protest protesters" because we'd show up to protest an animal circus and there would be supporters of the circus with signs protesting us as well as the consumers attending the show who protested simply by purchasing tickets from some perspectives. And, according to a 2018 Gallup Poll 5% of Americans consider themselves to be vegetarian and 0.5% vegan. Source: <https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-percentage-of-americans-are-vegetarians.html> So, any reporting by PETA could be considered a minority report. 95% of the country holds another perspective, 5% may agree with PETA at times, but, not necessarily as many are vegetarian reportedly for health reasons but are confused if you look into sources of B12 and how vital B12 is for health.

Whether you consider this a minority report is up to you. As part of my efforts to welcome feedback from those enrolled in the Conversion Program, I asked David Bolthouse as marketing rep for many of those placed on the Watch-List if he would be so kind as to initiate a survey of all of those enrolled and send me the results as long as it was done through an independent third-party provider such as Gallup Poll, Harris Poll, Survey Monkey, or the like. I offered to pay for all if it was under a certain amount and half if over that amount to do such a survey. I said I'd post the results to the mission website even if extremely critical. He declined and suggested I morph into an accreditation agency like CARF or COA. So, instead I did the offer, welcomed feedback even more expressly and directly, and the polls/votes I did and those are the results.

From my perspective, it shows overwhelming support for the church and mission. But, I also recognize an arguable blind-spot that exists solely because some people are resistant to participate. And, I recognize the right to or not to do so without further penalty for refusal and resistance. God Bless America!

For more information on the Conversion Program and Church, visit:

<http://www.churchofphilosophicalexploration.church/conversion.htm> and

<http://www.churchofphilosophicalexploration.church>