"Committed" to being heard

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A voice indefinitely
"Committed" to being heard

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TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS

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Minnesota's Secure Overpriced Prison

By Terry Branson

Just this past month there was a tremendous amount of effort put forth by MSOP's administration to disrupt the population at Minnesota's Secure Overpriced Prison system; otherwise known as the Minnesota Sex Offender Program. I've been here ten (10) years now and have never witnessed such disruptive behavior.

There was a few cells searched after the 9:45 p.m. switch in; for the night. Apparently this administrations actions is an acknowledgment that there is a major problem throughout the facility.

It is important for the public to comprehend that prior to anything entering into this facility it goes through an x-ray scanner. The only exception to this rule where something doesn't go through these scanners is MSOP employees and whatever they choose to bring into the facility. Course the same could be said for when they leave the facility too. There is evidence that there have been a multitude of MSOP employees who've brought cell phones and other contraband into the facility. Yet this administration continuously throws the blame onto those they detain. And everyone swallows this bullshit based upon the stigmatization they continuously brand "sex offenders" with.

Evidence supports that there have been a rather large number of MSOP employees who've appropriated patients personal property solely based upon their ability to designate whatever they want as contraband.

MSOP is the <u>most</u> secure treatment facility in the state of Minnesota. In fact as far as security goes, I personally believe it would rank up there with Minnesota's maximum security prison - Oak Park Heights (OPH). I'm quite sure that camera coverage is more than equivalent to that of OPH.

In examining articles written by others, I've noticed that the number one methodology for introducing contraband into any facility is the employee. Whenever you hear about major contraband being introduced into any facility classified as long term penal systems (like MSOP) then it's typically an employee of the facility who is the culprit.

It is obvious that the administration believes that there is contraband entering be-

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"Committed" to being heard

This newsletter has the full intent and purpose of presenting a continuous uncensored, thought provoking informative service within the space it resides in. Its functions are to spread a message which offers a better understanding of what transpires within the Minnesota Sex Offender Program ("MSOP"). We believe every individual ultimately possess a natural ability to overcome every negative force which impacts their daily life. Through understanding and obedience of Universal Law we are afforded a more informed "freedom of choice". Freedom of choice allows each of us to encircle ourselves with those who share the same interests and values. Freedom of choice is making decisions for yourself; decisions which does not inflict harm upon another human being.

Disclaimer:

Statements, viewpoints and opinions expressed in articles, letters to the editor, or from other writers, are those of that individual author; and **do not** reflect the position/opinion of this newsletter. All submissions become the property of "Committed" to being heard and may be eligible for reprint without that authors consent.

Guidelines: This newsletter will attempt to perform research, conduct interviews and gather information in an effort to create content that will inform and educate its readers about activities, events of interest which transpire throughout the M\$OP's detention facility. We possess the right to not publish any submitted materials. As editor(s), We may edit any submitted materials to bring the material into conformance with acceptable journalistic standards to the best of our knowledge, ability, and/or available space. This newsletter reserve the right to publish employees name based upon their relevant involvement to the circumstances pertaining to identified articles. All articles submitted for publication must include the authors first and last name. The editor(s) reserve the right to submit questions for reader's views and comments on any subject matter published within these pages.

Minnesota Constitution ARTICLE I - BILL OF RIGHTS

Sec. 3. **Liberty of the press**. The liberty of the press shall forever remain inviolate, and all persons may freely speak, write and publish their sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of such right.

Thought for the Month

The Receptive in its riches carries all things. Its nature is in harmony with the boundless. It embraces everything in its breadth and illumines everything in its greatness. Through it, all individual beings attain success...

The Receptive pg. 385 of the "Book of Changes" by Wilhelm/Baynes



Commentaries

- 100 inmates at the Stillwater prison took control of unit B-East. Although the situation was resolved rather quickly, it still brought attention to how that administration was mistreating prisoners who have less rights that those civilly committed.
- Did everyone see where Mitch McConnell was being interviewed on television. While being asked a question he became unresponsive for several minutes. He was completely unaware of his surroundings. Hmmm! That seems somewhat reminiscent of those in MOSP's administration. Completely unaware of their surroundings.
- Marshall E. Smith Health System Chief Executive Officer & Kylee Ann Stevens Executive Medical Director are in the office of Direct Care and Treatment and a part of the Department of Human Services. Both are also writing policies which effect MSOP's patient population in conjunction with Nancy A. Johnston Executive Director of MSOP.
- MSOP continues levying controlled movement over the entire population, except tier 5 patients.—forced conformity and indoctrination to be "compliant."

"Clinically significant distress or impairments ..."

By Sixx | R & Terry Branson

Clinically significant distress or impairments in social, occupation or other important areas of functioning of a sexual disorder. We see what this looks like in this controlled environment. Detainees who verbally assault other detainees or staff, detainees who sexually harass and abuse female clinicians. But the reality is these occurrences are rare. And yet the entire population is treated as that one person who makes an impulsive choice to aggressively approach a female staff and tell her to "suck my dick." There is no intensive treatment for these high risk individuals.

It is fascinating to me how the psychologist throughout this facility continues diagnosing that patients have mental disorders that cause them to sexually act out, and yet this treatment has absolutely nothing to do with treating those disorders.

Although the patient must comprehend that (s)he has a problem, in the first place, it is up to this administration to provide proper care and treatment, best adapted, according to contemporary professional standards, to rendering further supervision unnecessary.

What I do hear is excuses made by those who alter the type of programming being offered at MSOP. When you no longer take a medical model approach to treat diagnosed **psychiatric** mental illnesses, then you fail to adhere to the letter of the law. Of course this is also Jannine Hebert excuse when a patient seeks release after 5-10 years of treatment. Administration with the support of the attorney general's office states on record that the patient needs "more treatment." You fail to tell the courts that the type of treatment required is not being provided at any MSOP facility. All this administration wants to do is continue punishing American citizens.

Have you finished reading your copy of "Committed" to being heard?

Why don't you give it to someone you know; let them read it; and keep sharing it. Leave it behind at the laundry mat, grocery store, bulletin board, or courthouse. Why not mail it to a friend. If you are interested in getting your own copy you can leave me a voice message at 218-351-1900 ext. 97666 or you can write me at the address listed on the front page. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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yond the secure perimeter of this facility. Otherwise they wouldn't have had individuals dressed up in riot gear rousing people out of bed after 10:20 pm. nearly 40 minutes after switch-in to search their cells. This demonstrates that the issue isn't the patients of the facility, but the staff who work here.

It was reported to me that here on unit 1-E these individuals were dressed in riot gear, mace in hands, barking threats of physical force to patients who were already in bed. They kept two of the patients out of their cell from 10:20 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. searching for contraband.

I would like to comment that while patients are given 15 minutes to have all their property packed into 3 storage bins, MSOP employees can take however long they want to disrespectfully tear through his property. And at the end of this search, what did they find? Absolutely nothing!! But they also typically leave the cell in complete disarray out of disrespect for the patients.

Let me not forget to mention that they also had a K9 in the units entering and searching the cells. I do not know if the dog was wearing riot gear. Some of the patients who had been searched said that they seen a member of the sheriffs' department on the unit. There were no arrest, but this officer was reported to be carrying his weapon.

I think it important to see how this administration has turned a treatment facility into an environment where they have maliciously instilled a sense of hopelessness.

This administration continuously portrays to the public and the courts that they are housing the most dangerous "sex offenders" in the state of Minnesota and serving a legitimate interest. How is it that if a citizen wants to be a positive support person for anyone detained at the MSOP they must undergo a criminal background check? They also perform background checks on anyone seeking employment at the MSOP.

While they portray to those who seek employment that they are providing comprehensive treatment to sex offenders; There is a multitude of staff who have come to accept that the treatment serves no true benefit beyond occupying ones time. It's no secret that those at the administrative level have circumvented the law in order to obtained variances. These variances support their objective to continuously detain those who've completed their prison sentences.

Yet here we are in an environment where the only avenue of escape is attempting to obtain substances which will obscure ones reality. It is apparent that patients have become tired from continuously suffering a lifetime of detention under this administrations false pretext of providing meaningful treatment.

(Minnesota's Secure Overpriced Prison continued on page 5)

Looking For Help

By Terry Branson

I know this newsletter is being circulated in a lot of different directions. I am searching for some legal assistance from someone who believes it's time to put an end to civil commitment - in the state of Minnesota. Like many others I believe I have an idea worth considering, and I know that it never hurts anyone to consider whether an argument is worthy of representing.

So, if you are a law firm willing to take a complaint in a pro bono capacity, then I'd surely like to hear from you. I will mail you a rough draft of the complaint upon receiving your address. Thank you for your time and consideration.

(Continued from page 4 Minnesota's Secure Overpriced Prison)

I am going to do what others have done in the past. I'm going to predict the future. This administration may as well start making some major adjustments towards seeing what the future holds for them. While you have won one battle through our judicial system demonstrating their own biasness; it's also becoming more apparent that you are losing other battles. Your continuous actions while attempting to completely control every aspect of life, at this facility, is starting to falter. There is an ever growing number of us, along with members of society who are starting to make challenges from all directions. Even your own labor force has started opening their eyes seeing how your decision making is negatively impacting their lives.

I'm wondering if administration has patterned their own behaviors after behaviors previously communicated by sex offenders during the course of participating in this cognitive treatment program? How many of those in authoritative positions groom us into believing that they have our best interest at hand? How many of them continuously express that keeping us locked up with no release date in sight is acceptable? How many of us have been convinced that participating in MSOP's cognitive treatment programming is the only method available for release? How many of us see the carrot of freedom dangled before us fully understanding that it takes 20 + years to "complete" the program?

I am blessed with having a really good friend who I feel truly has my best interest at heart. She encourages me to do what is right and supports my attempts to succeed in life regardless of the obstacles placed before me by MSOP. When a person has a friend that wants to see them prosper even in an environment more orientated on deterring prosperity; then we have hope of something brighter and better.

At this point I think I'll parrot what others have said about MSOP. Instills a sense of hopelessness, draconian, shadow prison, uncompletable, dark, gloomy, dirty environment, patients don't suffer from a mental illness that requires medical treatment, acknowledgment that there are a large number of patients who could be safely released back into the community, but (MSOP) unwilling to do so.

In society people are allowed to reward themselves for demonstrating that they can be responsible. Here at MSOP an individual receives punishment based upon the negative behavior of other patients. Is it any wonder why this environment continues becoming more and more like a penal institution - less of a treatment facility?

I wonder how much more money was spent gathering all the staff and other resources to search individual's cells? Consider the riot gear that staff had to put on, all the overtime for each staff, having a dog brought into the facility, having a sheriff come into the facility, and who knows what other additional costs was incurred during this special event.

My suggestion is as follows. If you want to stop all contraband from entering the facility strip search every staff who enters into the secure perimeter. Scan each piece of property that every staff brings into the secure perimeter. I really hope that you implement my idea! Course we all know that you'll also be looking for a bunch of new staff as most of those working here now will not tolerate you abusing *their* rights the way you abuse ours on a daily basis. They got a choice of whether they will tolerate being abused or not.

When MSOP's administration was asked questions about this incident, they denied any such activity occurred. This has become the standard practice involving anyone in a position of decision making or accountability.

I've said it before and I'll say it again. You can't teach someone to do what's right when you're own actions/behaviors demonstrate that you don't know right from wrong.

Administration Imposes Limitations on what Staff have Internet Access By: Terry Branson

I question why Security counselors no longer have access to the internet? I've recently discovered that if you are an MSOP employee who does not work in an enclosed office area/cubicle, then you no longer have access to the internet.

What this means is that anyone who is in a position of unit directors or above still retain their access to the internet.

It is my belief that the reasoning behind these individuals holding these positions continue having internet access is based upon their unwillingness to provide patients with information pertaining to product availability. Now patients are completely in the blind as to what they can safely purchase from these specially approved vendors.

I've also found out that MSOP's administration has entered into a contract with a new package carrier. I'm wondering if this contract includes a kickback to the MSOP facility? This is something we will be investigating.

This would justify the increasing number of packages property staff are alleging is contraband. If the facility is getting a kickback from their new carrier and their profit margin is based upon the number of packages being deemed contraband, then this would mean they'd be able to have more staff appreciation days at the expense of MSOP patients.

This is my own thinking, and I can only base my suspicion upon speculation and knowledge of how MSOP's administration willingly and intentionally circumvents the law on a regular basis.

There were a few staff who were willing to assist (as most caring individuals would) with ensuring that a product being ordered would be allowed into the facility and not construed as contraband.

Now without these individuals having access to the internet we are completely blind on what would be authorized and what isn't.

Seems kind of selfish and counter therapeutic to me that those in position of authority would take away an avenue which demonstrates what they identify as prosocial problem solving.

Not even the Client Resource Coordinator (CRC) Meg McCauley can come onto the unit, log onto the computer behind the desk and check on a product a client wants to purchase.

What I find somewhat troubling is that patients being detained within the MSOP's treatment facility is subjected to greater restrictions than inmates serving criminal sentences.

Here is something else I don't understand. If inmates serving criminal sentences has access to tablets which includes video visits from family and friends; then why don't inmates who are still under duo commitment (criminal/civil) denied the same access.

I sure wish I could find someone who had the authority and willingness to start an investigation pertaining to all avenues surrounding the decision making of MSOP's administrative staff. I believe that it would be discovered that they fail to utilize professional judgment when they make a majority of the decisions they are making. I also believe it will be discovered that the majority of the decisions that they make is out of their personal hatred of anyone they can continue stigmatizing as a sex offender whom they want to continue punishing.

MSOP Clients are Expected to Watch Child Porn to "Progress' through "Treatment"

By Sixx | R

Whoever approved of the use of pictures of underage children, including babies in diapers, to be used in the penile-plythesmograph (PPG) should be arrested and charged for the production and distribution of child pornography—including the parents of the children involved.

Child porn is defined by Minnesota statute as using a person under the age of 18 to issue sexual performance for purposes to depict actual or simulated sexual conduct. It is unlawful for a person to permit a minor to engage in posing or modeling in any sexual performance if the person knows that the conduct intended is sexual. Any person who violates this subdivision is guilty of a felony.

Neither consent to sexual performance by a minor or the minor's parent, guardian, or custodian nor mistake as the minor's age is a defense to a charge of violation of this section. The purpose of the law is to protect minors from the physical and psychological damage caused by their being used in pornographic work.

Although MSOP has immunity for them built into this law, which does not stop such material from hurting children in the photos. Nor does it stop the mental damage this inflicts on the client forced to endure it.

Keep in mind, the PPG is required for MSOP clients to "move forward" in the MSOP program. It is used allegedly to try to detect pedophilic thoughts by using a stretchable band with mercury inside which is fitted around the subject's penis and the band is connected to a machine with a video screen and data recorder.

Any changes in the penis size, even those not felt by the subject, are recorded while the subject views sexually suggested or pornographic pictures and listens to audiotapes with descriptions of children being molested and raped, as well as other disgusting variations of images and audio descriptions.

OCEAN Co-Founder Daniel A. Wilson-Raj has taken the PPG. Here is what he had to say about it:

I wish I knew what I was getting myself into before I took it. This was a modern day *Clockwork Orange*. I'd rather stay locked up the rest of my life than to witness those children being abused again.

I pose this questions to the MSOP Clinical Assessor's Dr. Elizabeth Peterson and Lauren Herbert. What are the ethical and moral alternatives that do not violate a person integrity and due process rights?

 See Minn. Stat. § 617.246 "Use of minors in sexual performance prohibited" and Minn. Stat § 617.247 "Possession of pornographic work involving minors"

Three Shadow Prison Detainees Speak to KBJR-6

By Russell John Hatton, Daniel Leland Larsen and Daniel Aaron Wilson

Monday, September 11, 2023

On Monday, September 11, 2023 everything began like every other repetitious ground hogs day in the Minnesota Gulag. Shadow Prisoners woke up, meandered out of their cells and waited at the front of the cell block for the boring call out for the same rotated breakfast. Many complain about "having to" go to another group room for another wasted two hours of their lives where they will continue the rants they started the week before about their decades-old criminal conduct.

Overcoming Corruption Empowering All Nations founders Daniel Aaron Wilson, RAJ and Russell John Hatton, RAJ and Daniel Leland Larsen were doing something different – getting ready for another opportunity to be a voice for the many who are being exploited through the new form of human trafficking called "civil commitment." On this day, Larsen, Wilson and Hatton would meet with KBJR 6 to share their expertise on what they've come to understand about the Shadow Prison (SP).

In 1998, Wie Jingshen said, "I think there are few opportunities for one person to really influence history. The opportunity is very rare. But if you give people a new, important way of thinking, this thought itself can change the world." When Moose Lake Shadow Prison, Clinical Director Nancy Stacken censored Wilson and Hatton from educating the masses, she gave them a stern directive: "Stop introducing thought," she said. Hatton and Wilson were actually impressed that she understood their strategy: Wilson and Hatton's agenda is in fact to "introduce thought" to an intellectually dead population. However, her own intellect failed her when she assumed she could silence them – bless her heart. Wie Jingsen also said: "In a world filled with ignorance, thinking becomes a crime." The facts are the facts and the Truth is the Truth. Overcoming Corruption Empowering All Nations is here to speak the Truth because there is power in Truth. Hatton calls it Debwe.

Mahatma Gandhi said, "Manliness... consists in daring to do the right thing and facing the consequences." Larsen, Hatton and Wilson are men intent on speaking the Truth—regardless of the consequences. It has been proven repeatedly: the SP has yet to silence them.

KBJR first interviewed Russell John Hatton. The reporter was respectful as Hatton entered the visiting room. She shook his hand as the camera guy set up the microphone. Hatton asked what the topics were and the reporter said she would guide him with the questions. She informed him that DHS had limited the interview to twenty minutes and that she had wanted it to be longer, and therefore more open-ended, but that it is what it is.

Hatton tried to concentrate his thinking. He asked himself: "How do I get everything I want to say within twenty minutes?" There are so many problems here that Hatton wants the public to know. As they began, he did his best to answer the questions she posed. There was so much going on in his mind. He knew he had to focus on the biggest problems. Hatton's mind was spinning so much that he couldn't even remember if there were introductions or if they just went right into the questions. The first question threw him off, and he struggled to answer it. He wanted to give information that anyone could fact check the answer by going online.

Hatton does remember talking about the duration he and others have been in the SP. He spoke about staff not being properly trained or qualified to work in this system and the several clinical who are not licensed. He touched on the variances, and the absence of psychiatric services. He spoke about the hopelessness and the Nicolas Aaron Jones incident.

When the reporter asked if there was anything Hatton wanted the public to know, he paused and then said: "We're sorry to the victims for the harm we have caused. Because of the work we have done working through the shame, remorse and guilt, we are healthier individuals."

Hatton left the interview feeling worse. He shared with a couple guys immediately after the interview that he felt like he didn't get the message across that he intended to. Others have told him not to be frustrated about it — not to second guess himself. But that's hard not to. Until we all get the chance to see the interview, which will be edited down for time, the above is what Hatton recalls.

Daniel Aaron Wilson was next. Wilson spent many weeks preparing for this 20 minute conversation with KBJR 6. He wanted to cover so many issues, but knew he had to focus on the most important items. Also, whatever he planned for was ultimately limited by the questions of the reporter and the time constraints by DHS. The issues Wilson covered included the very low standard it takes to get committed and how that puts all Minnesotans at risk of being captured by this system. Wilson made a point to repeatedly clarify that a sex offense conviction is NOT necessary to get committed. He made the reporter aware of some of the statements made by the drafters of the law as well. For instance, Senator Neville said:

All we have to do is take the word 'sexual' out of this statute, and we could be committing people for any kind of harmful conduct... now we're starting to confine people for what they might do in the future... we could be putting lots of people into this kind of confinement just because we're afraid of them...

Continued on page 10

Even though he knew Larsen would be talking about his own case, Wilson could not help but bring it up as well. Larsen has been committed since 1976 without a criminal conviction. Wilson defended his radical position to abolish the entire program, calling it a Passive Eugenics Program – a term coined by our friend, Duncan Brainard. Wilson told the reporter that the public should be asking one simple question: is the program effective? That is, does it prevent sexual violence? Wilson gave the answer to that question: the studies are clear:

The MSOP has prevented less than 1% of sex crimes and yet Minnesota taxpayers are paying over \$129 million a year on it. He then quotes Representative Dave Bishop, who claimed to be talking about the mentally ill when he said, "... we do not let mountain lions roam around our cities... We don't' let bears even roam around when they come down from the woods into the cities... These people are animals. I don't believe they have the same civil rights anymore...". Wilson spoke about the Death Room (infirmary) where people are sent to die and how it is the exact same thing that the Russians did under the Soviet Union. Wilson said, "I can extrapolate from the 39 deaths I have witnessed that I will likely die alone, in the Death Room, from a preventable illness without medical care like so many others." Wilson spoke about the Nicolas Aron-Jones incident too. He said that Aaron-Jones is not the first person to go to great lengths to get away from the abuse of the SP and go to prison. He gave George Mack as one example and said that we may be seeing the beginning of a mass exodus to prison if things do not change. Wilson ended by plugging the 3rd Annual Overcoming Corruption Empowering All Nations conference which will happen online on September 23, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Daniel Leland Larsen was interviewed next. Larsen talked about being locked up for the past 47 years with no criminal record. He spoke about the events leading up to his incarceration. On July 28th 1971 he witnessed his mother being murdered. The person shot her point blank. Daniel was only 10 years old. He was sent to live with his grandparents. He was angry, sad, lonely and confused. He didn't know how to process the murder of his mother. He needed help, but he had no one. In 1976, Larsen was evaluated at the Security Hospital in St. Peter, Minnesota. He was 15 years old. On September 27, 1977 Judge James Knutson ordered that he be committed indefinitely. He was never allowed to go to court to defend himself. He was committed to a facility with grown men at the vulnerable age of 16.



"I've always thought that the best solution for those who feel helpless is for them to help others."

Aung San Suu Kyi, 1996

Debwewiin

By Sixx | R

In *Minnesota's Shadow Prison*. It's hard to write about the truth, when it sound so much like complaining. I'd been incarcerated for the past 16 years of my life. I'd been demonstrating, genuinely, that I am the healthiest version of myself since 23. But it's like performing in front of a mirror, the only one who seems to see it is me.

Whose to convince? I lay my head down at night and wonder, how much more do I have to do? What am I not doing right? Is anybody even listening? I feel like this repetition, day after day, is getting to me. No matter the good that I do, I'm still treated as a criminal, follow every rule, switch in for body count to make sure I'm still incarcerated, indefinitely, lock-in at 9:45 p.m. They wanna convince me that I'm here because I'm "sexually dangerous", a "psychopath". But read my records and you'll read the "worst" I'd ever done, was to become an activist for human rights over the last 16 years.

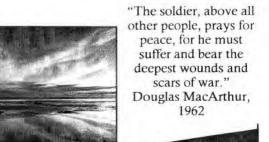
I'm denied freedom of speech, freedom to associate, freedom of my Anishinaabeg Identity, and mandated to assimilate to a false narrative "the worst of the worst." Is this going to be my legacy? Even though I show you all that I am the healthiest I'll ever be, mentally, emotionally, physically and spiritually. Still . . . it's not enough.

I had a deep conversation with my oldest daughter, about all the work I am doing, she stopped me and said "dad, you don't have to convince me. You're not crazy." I swallowed the lump in my throat and thanked her for being so sincere. My heart sank for how much I've missed and continue to. I don't know if anyone who reads or hears my words, will really ever understand how much guilt, shame and remorse I've worked through over the years. I know I cannot change the past, but I'd worked the hardest I ever had, to change who I was.

Approximately 105,120 hours in the *Shadow Prison*, and 124,830 hours total of disciplined work since 2004. Learning and understanding the harm and hurt my actions have caused so many. That's 19 years of looking at, talking about and analyzing every aspect of my life, from my childhood up to now, to then becoming the healthiest version of me – and the M\$OP expectation is perfection "in their image", before they even consider support for anything. But most importantly, for my freedom.

Every morning and night, I return to the same set of questions that I find myself asking every day: Whose to convince? I lay my head down at night and wonder, how much more do I have to do? What am I not doing right? Is anybody even listening? The reality is, I'm not the only one!

Manliness consist not in the bluff, bravado or loneliness. It consist in daring to do the right thing and facing the consequences. Mahatma Gandhi theyoicesofocean net





"Society can be enriched and cultivated only through self-knowledge, and the main instrument of society's self-knowledge is its culture. Where total control over society is sought, the first thing to be suppressed is its culture. Václav Havel, 1975

"When I liberate others, I liberate myself." Fannie Lou Hamer, 1969

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