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*ALSO ADMITTED IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

April 6, 1993

Hillary Rodham-Clinton
Health Care Task Force
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

I am writing to supplement statements previously submitted to the Health Care Task Force by Margaret T. Singer, Ph.D. and Herbert L. Rosedale, Esquire, President of the American Family Foundation, pertaining to the particular health needs of former members of cults and authoritarian groups. I write to you from the perspective of an attorney who has frequently represented individuals after they have come out of such groups, and who has seen the tremendous difficulty they have in obtaining medical and psychological care and treatment.

Before proceeding, I wish to be clear that when I use the term "cult," I do not intend a pejorative connotation. Rather, by this term, I am referring to any group or organization which has a great or excessive devotion to a single ideal, person, or thing. It is my experience that the single minded devotion which is the defining characteristic of a cult can be, and frequently is, employed by unscrupulous, dishonest, or insane group leaders to subjugate the cult's individual members. While this certainly does not happen in every cult, or even most cults, it does happen in a good many of them. The results can be tragic.

The ex-members who come to me for professional assistance have generally been relieved of all of their worldly goods by the group. As an attorney I can frequently undertake their legal representation on a contingent fee basis, thereby providing them legal services without requiring them to pay up front. There is no such thing, however, as "contingent fee medical services." My clients generally have to wait years before they can get enough money out of a case to pay for badly needed medical or psychological care or treatment.

An example which should strike close to home -- your home, that is -- can be found in the case of *Robert A. Miller, et al. vs. The Tony and Susan Alamo Foundation, et al.*, Civil Action Number 88-2206 (W.D.Ark., 1990). I filed that action in Fort Smith, Arkansas on behalf of six former members of the Tony and

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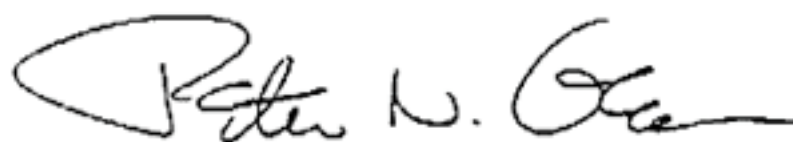
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Susan Alamo Foundation, all of whom had been abused by Tony Alamo. It took over two years to get the case to judgment, and we have been working ever since to collect on that judgment. Only now are we realizing success in the liquidation of assets formerly held by Mr. Alamo, through sham corporations. This means that for five years none of my clients, including two minor children who were beaten and psychologically abused by Mr. Alamo and others at his direction, have been able to afford the care and treatment they have needed to recover and make a healthy adjustment to life outside of the group.

It is ironic that my clients, the beneficiaries of a multi-million dollar judgment, have gone for years unable to pay for even rudimentary psychological counseling and treatment.

It appears that my clients will now be taken care of. Those who obtain redress through the legal system are, however, only a tiny, tiny fraction of all those who come out of these cults in need of care and treatment. I urge the Task Force to consider these people, including thousands of children, when putting together your recommendations and proposals.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter N. Georgiades". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Peter N. Georgiades

PNG/trt