



# SCIENTOLOGY Orlando

P. O. BOX 14045 / ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32807 / PHONE (305) 277-7561

## Press Release

JULY 10, 1970  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

5827 DAHLIA DRIVE,  
DOROTHY L. SWANSON

---

ORIGINAL PRESS RELEASE BY  
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER, MAX PRUDENTE  
FOR  
CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY OF CALIFORNIA  
2005 W. 9TH STREET (TEL: 385-9051)  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90006

---

### PSYCHIATRIST RECEIVES SCIENTOLOGY FREEDOM AWARD

CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY OF CALIFORNIA OFFICIALS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT DIANA HUBBARD, DAUGHTER OF DIANETICS AND SCIENTOLOGY FOUNDER L. RON HUBBARD, WILL PRESENT THE "SPIRITUAL FREEDOM AWARD - 1970" TO DR. THOMAS S. SZASZ, AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIST AND AUTHOR, AT THE "GRAND NATIONAL CONVENTION", JULY 3-5 IN LONG BEACH ARENA.

THE PRESENTATION WILL BE MADE ON JULY 4TH WHICH HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS "HUMAN RIGHTS DAY" BY CHURCH OFFICIALS.

DR. SZASZ, PROFESSOR OF PSYCHIATRY AT STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK IN SYRACUSE, WILL FLY TO LOS ANGELES TO RECEIVE THE AWARD AND DELIVER A MAJOR ADDRESS TO CONVENTION ATTENDEES.

IN ADVANCE COPIES OF HIS ACCEPTANCE SPEECH TO CHURCH OFFICIALS, DR. SZASZ STATES, "INDIVIDUAL DIGNITY AND FREEDOM ARE...NOT WITHOUT THEIR ENEMIES. THE MOST IMPORTANT AMONG THEM ARE COMMUNISM IN THE EAST AND INSTITUTIONAL PSYCHIATRY IN THE WEST."

DR. SZASZ RECEIVES THE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE FIELD OF MENTAL HEALTH REFORM. THE WORLDWIDE CHURCHES OF SCIENTOLOGY HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THIS FIELD FOR NEARLY 20 YEARS.

IN TESTIMONY TO A MUTUAL ENDEAVOR, DR. SZASZ STATES FURTHER THAT, "...WE ARE UNITED IN OUR CONVICTION THAT, JUST AS IN THE PAST THE CAUSE OF HUMAN DIGNITY, AND LIBERTY REQUIRED THE WAR ON WITCHCRAFT BE TURNED INTO A WAR ON THE INQUISITION, SO IT NOW REQUIRES THAT THE WAR ON MENTAL ILLNESS BE TURNED INTO A WAR ON INSTITUTIONAL PSYCHIATRY."

TODAY'S FOREMOST CRITIC OF CONTEMPORARY INSTITUTIONAL PSYCHIATRY, DR. SZASZ' BEST SELLING BOOKS INCLUDE "MYTH OF MENTAL ILLNESS" AND "THE MANUFACTURE OF MADNESS." THE LATTER IS A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE INQUISITION AND THE 20TH CENTURY MENTAL HEALTH MOVEMENT.

THE COMPLETE TEXT OF DR. THOMAS S. SZASZ' ACCEPTANCE SPEECH WHEN HE RECEIVED THE "SPIRITUAL FREEDOM AWARD - 1970" FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE FIELD OF MENTAL HEALTH REFORM AT THE "GRAND NATIONAL CONVENTION" OF DIANETICS AND SCIENTOLOGY, JULY 4TH, 1970.

---

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

I THANK YOU FOR THE HONOR YOU HAVE BESTOWED ON ME. I ACCEPT IT WITH GRATITUDE AND WITH PLEASURE.

ALL OF US HERE ARE UNITED BY AN UNCOMPROMISING COMMITMENT TO DISTINGUISHING MORAL VALUES FROM HEALTH VALUES, AND TO PLACING THE FORMER OVER THE LATTER. IN SO DOING WE MAY BE -- INDEED, I FERVENTLY HOPE WE ARE, BREAKING A PATH THAT OTHERS MIGHT BE INCLINED TO FOLLOW. IN ANY CASE, WE HAVE DRAWN THE LINES: A PERSON MAY CHOOSE TO SUPPORT THOSE WHO FIGHT FOR OR AGAINST THERAPEUTIC TYRANNY BUT, GIVEN THE NATURE OF STRUGGLE, HE CAN HARDLY CHOOSE TO REMAIN NEUTRAL. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE MORE CLEARLY THIS CONFLICT IS DEFINED, AND THE MORE FORCEFULLY THE ALTERNATIVES ARE PRESENTED -- THE MORE READILY WILL PEOPLE RECOGNIZE, AS WE DO, THAT THE ALLIANCE BETWEEN ORGANIZED MEDICINE AND THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IS EVIL, NOT GOOD; AND, MORE PARTICULARLY, THAT THE ALLIANCE BETWEEN ORGANIZED PSYCHIATRY (OR INSTITUTIONAL PSYCHIATRY) AND THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HAS, UNDER THE GUISE OF "TREATING MENTAL ILLNESS," ACTUALLY PRODUCED A POLITICAL APPARATUS FOR CREATING AND PERSECUTING DEVIANCE. IN SHORT, WE ARE UNITED IN OUR CONVICTION THAT, JUST AS IN THE PAST THE CAUSE OF HUMAN DIGNITY AND LIBERTY REQUIRED THAT THE WAR ON WITCHCRAFT BE TURNED INTO A WAR ON THE INQUISITION, SO IT NOW REQUIRES THAT THE WAR ON MENTAL ILLNESS BE TURNED INTO A WAR ON INSTITUTIONAL PSYCHIATRY. AND, IF I MAY PARAPHRASE MARX, WE MIGHT ADDRESS THE WORLD THUS: "POTENTIAL VICTIMS OF PSYCHIATRY UNITE: YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR COMMITMENT PAPERS!"

THE CONTEST BETWEEN THOSE WHO ADVOCATE THE EVER-INCREASING USE OF PSYCHIATRIC FORCE AND FRAUD (BY SEEKING TO EXPAND INDEFINITELY THE CONCEPT OF "MENTAL ILLNESS," AND BY USING IT TO JUSTIFY THE INVOLUNTARY "TREATMENT" OF PERSONS INVOLUNTARILY DIAGNOSED AS SUFFERING FROM SUCH ILLNESS), AND THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE USE OF ANY AND ALL PSYCHIATRIC FORCE OR FRAUD (BY SEEKING TO RESTRICT THE CONCEPT OF ILLNESS TO PUBLICLY DEMONSTRABLE ANATOMICAL AND PHYSIOLOGICAL DISORDERS OF THE BODY, AND BY LIMITING ASSISTANCE FOR PROBLEMS IN LIVING TO VOLUNTARY INTERVENTIONS) IS, AS I SEE IT, AN OLD CONFLICT IN NEW FORM; IT IS THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN INDIVIDUALISM AND COLLECTIVISM THAT HAS RIVEN WESTERN SOCIETY FOR PAST FOUR CENTURIES. DESPITE OCCASIONAL REVERSES,

SOME OF MONUMENTAL PROPORTIONS, I BELIEVE THAT INDIVIDUALISM IS GAINING IN THIS BATTLE. INDEED, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT INDIVIDUALISM IS AN IRRESISTIBLE MORAL FORCE WHOSE EFFECTS, VAST THOUGH THEY HAVE ALREADY BEEN, ARE LIKELY TO BE BEYOND OUR WILDEST IMAGINATIONS. INDIVIDUAL DIGNITY AND FREEDOM ARE, HOWEVER, NOT WITHOUT THEIR ENEMIES. THE MOST IMPORTANT AMONG THEM ARE COMMUNISM IN THE EAST, AND INSTITUTIONAL PSYCHIATRY IN THE WEST.

CONSIDER, IN THIS CONNECTION A PARTIAL LIST OF NOTABLE AMERICANS WHOM INSTITUTIONAL PSYCHIATRY HAS STIGMATIZED AS INSANE, LOCKED UP IN THE MADHOUSE AND THUS HELPED TO DESTROY: JAMES FORRESTAL, ZELDA FITZGERALD, MARILYN MONROE ERNEST HEMINGWAY, EZRA POUND, JOE LOUIS. BENEATH THESE NAMES IN THE HEADLINES, LIKE BENEATH THE PROTRUDING TIP OF AN ICEBERG, LIE THE NAMES OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF UNKNOWN MEN AND WOMEN WHOSE PSYCHIATRIC DESTRUCTION IS A PRIVATE RATHER THAN A PUBLIC EVENT.

CONSIDER, NEXT, THE SORTS OF THINGS FOR WHICH INSTITUTIONAL PSYCHIATRY PUNISHES THE INDIVIDUALS BY MEANS OF STIGMATIZATION, INCARCERATION, AND THE DESTRUCTION OF PARTS OR ALL OF HIS BODY: OLD AGE ESPECIALLY WHEN COUPLED WITH POVERTY; THIS IS CALLED "SENILE PSYCHOSIS" (OR SOME OTHER FRAUDULENT PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSTIC LABEL); ASSUMING THE SOCIAL ROLE OF THE OTHER SEX: THIS IS CALLED "HOMOSEXUALITY" OR "TRANVESTISM," AND IS CONSIDERED BOTH A DISEASE AND A CRIME; INGESTING OR INJECTING CERTAIN DRUGS PROHIBITED BY LAW: THIS IS CALLED "ADDICTION" AND IS ALSO CONSIDERED BOTH A DISEASE AND A CRIME; BEING TIRED OF LIFE AND CONTEMPLATING PUTTING AN END TO IT: THIS IS CALLED "PSYCHOTIC DEPRESSION" AND IS ESPECIALLY SEVERELY PUNISHED BY PSYCHIATRISTS; MAKING CERTAIN FALSE STATEMENTS (LIKE ASSERTING THAT ONE IS JESUS): THIS IS CALLED "SCHIZOPHRENIA," THE MOST SEVERE MENTAL DISEASE KNOWN TO MAN.

IN SHORT, INSTITUTIONAL PSYCHIATRY EITHER CRASSLY DEFENDS THE STATUS QUO, OR RUTHLESSLY PROMOTES ITS OWN POWER AND PRESTIGE. IT IS HARDLY SURPRISING, THEN, THAT WHEN THE STATE LIES, IT IS CALLED "MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION"; WHEN THE INDIVIDUAL LIES, IT IS CALLED "SCHIZOPHRENIA." WHEN THE STATE ADMINISTERS METHADONE TO PRISONERS WHO DO NOT WANT IT, IT IS CALLED "REHABILITATION" AND "TREATMENT"; WHEN THE INDIVIDUAL TAKES METHADONE ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE, IT IS CALLED "ADDICTION" AND "DRUG ABUSE." WHEN THE STATE OPERATES A LOTTERY WITH VERY POOR ODDS FOR THOSE WHO WAGER, IT IS CONSIDERED A "LIBERAL" POLICY FOR ENHANCING THE PUBLIC WELFARE; WHEN AN INDIVIDUAL OPERATES A GAMBLING ENTERPRISE WITH FAR BETTER ODDS FOR THOSE WHO WAGE HE IS CONSIDERED A CRIMINAL, AND THOSE WHO GAMBLE ARE CONSIDERED INFANTILE PSYCHOPATHS. AND SO ON, DOWN TO THE MINUTEST NOOK AND CRANNY OF OUR CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY.

TO BE SURE, SOMEONE MIGHT OBJECT THAT INCONSISTENCIES AND HYPOCRISIES SUCH AS THESE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN WITH US; THAT SUCH IS HUMAN NATURE. TRUE ENOUGH BUT THEY HAVE NOT ALWAYS BEEN PROMOTED AND ENFORCED BY A PROFESSION RECOGNIZED AS A MEDICAL SPECIALTY, NAMELY, INSTITUTIONAL PSYCHIATRY.

PERHAPS THE TIME HAS COME WHEN MEN AND WOMEN OF GOOD WILL FROM MANY DISCIPLINES, MANY RELIGIONS, MANY WALKS OF LIFE WILL SAY: ENOUGH! THE OBSCENITIES OF INSTITUTIONAL PSYCHIATRY -- OF INVOLUNTARY PSYCHIATRY, OF PSYCHIATRY SUPPORTED BY TAX MONIES, OF WHAT IS NOW CALLED "COMMUNITY PSYCHIATRY" BUT SHOULD REALLY BE CALLED "COMMUNIST PSYCHIATRY" -- MUST STOP. I SAY TO ALL THOSE WHO FEEL THIS WAY: LET US UNITE IN DENOUNCING, DISMANTLING, AND DESTROYING THE PSYCHIATRIC INQUISITION -- THIS INSTITUTION THAT IS SO ADMIRABLY SUITED TO THE COMMUNIST SYSTEM, BUT IS SO IRRECONCILABLE WITH OUR OWN SYSTEMS OF GOVERNMENT DEVOTED TO PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE DIGNITY AND LIBERTY OF THE INDIVIDUAL.

LET US, IN THIS CONNECTION, RECALL THAT THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION BEGINS WITH THESE WORDS: "CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW RESPECTING AN ESTABLISHMENT OF RELIGION, OR PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE THEREOF..." HENCE WE ENJOY FREEDOM OF RELIGION IN AMERICA, AND FREEDOM FOR ATHEISM AS WELL.

BUT RELIGION IS NOT THE DANGER THAT THREATENS INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY IN AMERICA TODAY. IT IS MEDICINE. IN OTHER WORDS, THE THREAT IS NOT AN ALLIANCE BETWEEN CHURCH AND STATE, BUT AN ALLIANCE BETWEEN MEDICINE AND THE STATE. HENCE IF WE ARE TO PRESERVE, AND EXTEND, TRADITIONAL AMERICAN LIBERTIES, OUR AIM CAN BE NOTHING LESS THAN A CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTION FOR THE PRINCIPLE THAT "CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW RESPECTING AN ESTABLISHMENT OF MEDICINE, OR PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE THEREOF..."

AS TO THOSE, WHO, BECAUSE THEY FEAR FOR THEIR HEALTH, LOOK TO THE STATE TO PROTECT THEM FROM "INCOMPETENT" PRACTITIONERS, -- WHETHER IN MEDICINE OR THE SO-CALLED MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONS -- THEY DO NOT DESERVE, AND IN FACT, WILL NOT HAVE, EITHER INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY OR GOOD HEALTH.

IN THE MEANTIME, LET US CONTINUE TO PROMOTE HUMAN WELFARE THROUGH THE ONLY MEANS ACCEPTABLE TO HONORABLE MEN: THE GOOD EXAMPLE OF OUR OWN CONDUCT, AND HELP PROFFERED, BUT NEVER COERCED.

THOMAS S. SZASZ, M.D.  
PROFESSOR OF PSYCHIATRY  
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
UPSTATE MEDICAL CENTER  
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

JULY 4, 1970