

Germany today and what happened there sixty years ago. In so doing, we do not indulge in name calling. When today's behavior is reminiscent of the behavior of the Nazi era, it is not because a label has been affixed, but because the conduct has evoked the comparison. We are offering the facts for the world to judge.

PRACTICING ARTISTIC DISCRIMINATION

GERMANY, 1936: The Nazi propaganda ministry announced that composer Felix Mendelssohn, who had been Jewish but converted to Christianity, was no longer to be considered Christian but instead treated as a Jew — and thus any performance of his works was to be prohibited.

GERMANY, 1996: The Bavarian Minister of Culture announced that jazz musician Chick Corea would not be allowed to perform at the Burgbhausen Jazz Festival because he is a Scientologist.

In the 1930s, the Nazis crafted an atmosphere of loathing and intolerance for the Jewish community through propaganda. In so doing, they sought to sanctify their persecution and persuade the German people to accept their crimes against Jewish people as right and proper. The success of that propaganda campaign was exceeded only by the infamy of the acts the government sought to justify.

A prominent component of the Nazis' propaganda campaign was its sustained, relentless effort to isolate and ostracize Jewish art and Jewish artists.

Today, some German government officials have attempted to boycott, to blacklist and even to censor artists who are Scientologists and films and concerts which feature Scientologists solely because of their religion. Concerts have been disrupted and cancelled. Scientologists such as jazz great Chick Corea have been barred from performing. The folk group Golden Bough has been refused the right to perform concerts in Germany because they are Scientologists.

Local newspapers have fanned the fires of intolerance by joining governmental and political party calls for boycotts and blackballing.

Some German politicians have tried to boycott the movie *Mission: Impossible* because the lead actor, Tom Cruise, is a Scientologist. Federal Member of Parliament Renate Rennebach tried to even block distribution of the movie *Phenomenon* because it stars John Travolta, also a Scientologist.

While these politicians' frenzied outbursts of censorship drew a backlash from



German Member of Parliament Renate Rennebach has been one of the most vocal senior politicians in Germany to try to censor art or performances by Scientologists.

the United States and other countries, they also revealed the true depths of their prejudice, and how low certain German bureaucrats are willing to stoop to express their hate-tinged fanaticism.

Another misuse of art — as a weapon of propaganda — has also resurfaced in today's Germany. The religious intolerance that fueled efforts to deprive Scientologists of their artistic freedom also creeps to the surface in depictions of Scientologists as insects, bats, octopuses and assorted vermin. Those images are disturbing beyond the disrespect that is so transparent in them. They are disturbing because they are nearly identical to those the Nazis used to degrade the Jewish people in the 1930s in the pages of *Der Sturmer* and other hate publications.

In the view of one eminent Holocaust scholar and professor of history in the United States, "many of the attacks and representations of Scientology bear more than a slight resemblance to the misuse of art during the Third Reich in the anti-Semitic campaigns against the Jews."

Since 1993, the United States State Department, the United Nations, the Helsinki Commission, U.S. Congressmen and Senators, religious scholars and historians have cited Germany for human rights abuses against Scientologists.

Why are German officials discriminating against Scientologists? There is no legitimate reason, just as there was none for the persecution of the Jewish people. And, let us not forget, Germany has no tradition of religious freedom as does the United States.

German officials have refused every request to engage in dialogue to resolve the discrimination occurring in their country.

"Never again" must not be an idle slogan. It must be a promise we keep. True, no one has been killed or hauled off to death camps. But history has taught us that we would be at fault if we stood by and did not point out the alarming similarities between the 1930s and today. German officials protesting these comparisons should stop recreating the past and they will remind no one of it.

Germany Then: As part of their campaign of discrimination against the Jewish people, Nazis prohibited films and other art which was deemed "Jewish," "Zionist" or which merely featured a Jewish actor.

"Due to demonstrations at the premiere of *Catherine the Great* in Berlin, the president of the Reich Film Chambers has banned this film which stars Jewish actor Elisabeth Bergner."

— Fraenkische Tageszeitung (Fraenken Daily Paper)
March 10, 1934

"With the agreement of the City Administration, the student union has launched demonstrations and has succeeded in stopping any further showing of the movie *Path to a Good Marriage* as the movie contains 'badly disguised propaganda for the ideas of Van de Velde.'" (Hendrik van de Velde was a doctor whose books were banned by the Nazis in May 1933.)

— Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung
(German General Newspaper) July 5, 1933

"The attitude of the Minister of Propaganda Goebbels toward the film industry is known throughout the world. He has decreed that no film may be shown in Germany in the production of which a single Jew has been involved as director, stage-manager, actor, singer, dancer, scenario writer, composer, cutter, or sound director."

— The Economic Destruction of German Jewry by the Nazi Regime 1933-1937
(published November 1937 by the American Jewish Congress)

Germany Now: German officials have implemented measures to exclude art or films which were created by or with the contribution of Scientologists.

"We could put the film [*Phenomenon*, starring Scientologist John Travolta] on the index and prohibit it. I demand that the distributor reconsider putting the film on the market!"

— German Federal MP Renate Rennebach
August 25, 1996

"We are trying to prevent people from associating the success of Cruise with Scientology.... I got the idea after I saw the enthusiastic reception John Travolta received at the Berlin film festival, even though he openly admitted he is a Scientologist." [Remmers called for a boycott of the Tom Cruise movie, *Mission: Impossible*.]

— Burkhard Remmers,
CDU Young Union

"The State is providing funds for the cultural program. In the course of preparing for the cultural program, we had discussions with Mr. [Chick] Corea that were broken off when it was discovered that he is a Scientologist."

— Letter from Baden-Wuerttemberg
state government spokesman
July 2, 1993

German Officials Respond:

Just like the Nazis before them, German officials brush off well-documented criticisms with denials and excuses. In the 1930s and 1940s, those in charge ridiculed anyone who uttered a warning from abroad.

"American Jewry in particular is bent on creating a new platform from which it plans to step up its struggle, especially against Germany."

— Reich Security Directive
October 25, 1940

"Scientology runs disinformation campaigns in which U.S. senators are involved and spreads them worldwide with shrewd press agency."

— Federal Minister of Labor, Norbert Blum
August 29, 1996

If you don't agree with what is happening in Germany today, make your voice heard.
Write to GERMANY ALERT, 1701 20th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20009

THIS MESSAGE WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY A GRANT FROM THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTOLOGISTS
For more information call 1-202-667-6404 or write to the above address. Also check the Internet site: <http://batewatch.freedommag.org>

This advertisement is the product of need rather than desire. We expose the symmetry between events in Germany today and what happened there sixty years ago. In so doing, we do not indulge in name calling. When today's behavior is reminiscent of the behavior of the Nazi era, it is not because a label has been affixed, but because the conduct has evoked the comparison. We are offering the facts for the world to judge.

WHEN TEACHERS BECOME "UNFIT"

Germany, 1934: Students used firecrackers, stink bombs and tear gas to protest lectures by Jewish professors. University administrators expelled not the troublemakers but the professors.

Germany 1995: Using government propaganda against Scientology, a local priest incited the community against a teacher because of her religion, Scientology. Despite an excellent teaching record, the school authorities dismissed her from teaching and she will never hold another class.

The Nazi policy of excluding the Jewish people from German life in the 1930s had severe consequences. More than 10,000 public health and social workers were driven out of their jobs because they were Jewish; 1,000 lawyers were divested of their licenses to practice; 2,000 doctors were expelled from hospitals and clinics; 200 university professors and lecturers and 800 elementary and secondary school teachers were deprived of employment.

Today, expulsions of Scientologists follow the same pattern and are happening with growing frequency. It is now common for business, professional and social organizations to establish policy not to admit Scientologists as members, based on nothing whatsoever other than politically-sanctioned bigotry.

German Federal Labor Minister Norbert Blum, a senior official of the ruling political party, the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), is at the forefront of the drive to exclude Scientologists from employment. He has vowed to prevent Scientologists from obtaining jobs in schools, the government, or businesses. Mr. Blum decreed that Scientologists cannot operate employment agencies. True to style, Blum ignores his country's own courts. His order has twice been subjected to judicial scrutiny. Twice it has been declared illegal. Mr. Blum, however, has not rescinded the decree.

For a country currently facing a job crisis — Germany's unemployment rate is the highest since World War II — one would think it could ill afford to be denying jobs to



German Federal Labor Minister Norbert Blum [far right, smiling for cameras] with "skin-heads" and other Christian Democratic Union members at a propaganda rally against a Church of Scientology in December 1996.

capable, industrious people. One would also think if Labor Minister would be offering leadership, but instead he uses his office as a platform for prejudice.

When, in 1994, we ran a series of advertisements this newspaper to draw attention to the discrimination Minister Blum agreed to meet with us to discuss our concerns — if we stopped the ads. As a sign of good faith, we did so. But Mr. Blum never did meet. He flatly refused. Instead, he stepped up his propaganda efforts and attacks on Scientologists in Germany. His prejudice has driven him so far as to band together with a small group of extremists and demonstrate personally in front of two of our churches in Germany — most recently, in December 1996, at the Church of Scientology in Hamburg.

Yet, when we recount these alarming incidents to German government officials, many of them simply deny that a problem exists. After all, they think, persecution on a major scale could not happen again because Hitler isn't around any more and nobody has written a book calling for the extermination of minorities.

The world, however, thinks otherwise, and has promised never to forget the lessons the Holocaust taught. Too many German officials are practicing the slogan, "Never Remember." If they were not so blind, they would see the historical parallels and cringe at the reprise of history's crimes.

Like Mr. Blum, other German officials have refused every request to engage in dialogue to resolve the discrimination occurring in their country.

"Never again" must not be an idle slogan, it must be a promise we keep. True, no one has been killed or hauled off to death camps. But history has taught us that we would be at fault if we stood by and did not point out the alarming similarities between the 1930s and today. German officials protesting these comparisons should stop recreating the past and they will remind no one of it.

Germany Then: Nazis barred Jews from the field of education as part of their systematic exclusion of the Jewish people from public and professional life in Germany.

"All public offices, whether national, state or municipal, salaried or honorary, are closed to Jews. ...The occupation of lawyer and teacher is closed to them..."

— From legislative proposal by Heinrich Class, 1933

"Jewish teachers may not give private instruction to German children."

— Order of Nuremberg legislation of the Nazi Party
October 15, 1936

"In the coming summer term it will be the duty of every German student to refuse to put his name down for a course of lectures by a Jewish lecturer or to attend one."

— Director of Deutsche Studentenschaft, Berlin 1933

Germany Now: German officials have implemented measures to exclude Scientologists from teaching positions as part of their campaign to exclude members of the Scientology religion from public and professional life in Germany.

"...the CDU wants ... to ensure that 'members of Scientology are excluded from activities in the public sector, especially... teachers, educators and similar.'"

— Christian Democratic Union Regional Chief
Johannes Gerster, August 8, 1996

"Members of the Church of Scientology are considered not sufficiently reliable by the Federal Employment Agency [to serve as teachers]."

— President, State Employment Office, Saarland
March 17, 1999

"Membership or support of the Scientology organization by a teacher is highly unsuitable."

— Dr. Hirsch, president, Karlsruhe Education Office, 1999

German Officials Respond:

Just like the Nazis before them, German officials brush off well-documented criticisms with denials and excuses. In the 1930s, those in charge ridiculed anyone who uttered a warning from abroad.

"With only a few exceptions ... the outrageous foreign propaganda has been stopped."

— Joseph Goebbels, Reichminister of Propaganda
1933

"[T]he alleged discrimination against the Scientology organization cannot be confirmed."

— Statement from Federal Republic of Germany in response to the Report of the Special Rapporteur for the United Nations Human Rights Commission
1990

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Close to the Machine

The DAT, the Net and the Dead

It happens every time a new means of communicating emerges: somewhere, in some hall or chamber, some international rotunda, a mess of mostly men, mostly in suits, convenes to decide what to do with it. In 1934, U.S. legislators passed the Communications Act, presumably banning obscene phone calls, but forgetting that, as a polis, we'd rather defend privacy with a few moral glitches than morph into the Republic of Singapore. In 1984, the Supreme Court defended privacy again, this time to avert a law that would have made it a felony to tape a movie for your own personal enjoyment. In 1992, the recording industry's fear that average citizens could make high-quality audio copies on their newly acquired digital audio tape (DAT) recorders led to the Audio Home Recording Act, which added a royalty surcharge to digital audio equipment and required that it contain encoded copy-protection systems. (DAT machines have since been declared a market flop: not only are they prohibitively expensive, but only tapers have anything to play on them.)

Late in 1996, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is meeting in Geneva, updating the 1971 Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works to suit the peculiarities of the Internet in all its multimedia manifestations. Certain lobbyists — law professors, scientists and Internet service providers — would have you believe that the WIPO's draft proposals are scary in the extreme, but, as much as I support their vigilance, so far there's little that's new to worry about. No one's likely to arrest you for downloading a Web page for your personal enjoyment, and you'll always be able to quote batting averages without paying dues to Major League Baseball. None of which means that the law professors and librarians should quiet down, but that the rest of us shouldn't get distracted from more palpable threats.

Take, for instance, the Church of Scientology, which has racked up so many copyright-infringement lawsuits that it's earned the eternal scorn of the truly wired and a Web page detailing its sins, "Church of Scientology v. the Net" (<http://www.cybercom.net/~rnew>

[man/scientology/home.html](http://www.scientology/home.html)), and an archive of its legal activities maintained by the Electronic Frontier Foundation (http://www.eff.org/pub/Censorship/CoS_v_the_Net/). Or EMI Publishing, which threatened the creators of the Online Guitar Archive (OLGA), a collection of 15,000 songs with chords and lyrics, with a lawsuit serious enough to cause the site administrators at the University of Nevada Las Vegas to shut it down (read about it at <http://www.olga.net/closed.html>). Or the Fox Network, which in October began harassing *X-Files* and *Millennium* fans for using publicity shots on their pages, resulting in the disappearance of several Web pages and the cancellation of at least one fan's account (the story's at <http://members.aol.com/capslockjr/protest.htm>).

Leaving aside whether Rupert Murdoch finds the provision of copyright law known as "fair use" useful these days, it should be important to him — and to any church or music publisher — that the *X-Files* got so hot precisely because its incredibly well-wired culty kid audience plastered the Internet with fan sites full of pictures and trivia. Lately, though, postings in alt.tv.x-files carry sigs quoting Al Gore ("Fear of chaos cannot justify unwarranted censorship of free speech") and imploring readers to "Save the Fan Websites — FREE SPEECH IS OUT THERE!" The former OLGA site calls for a boycott of EMI, and nobody familiar with Scientology's war on the free flow of information is likely to invest the money to get clear in this lifetime.

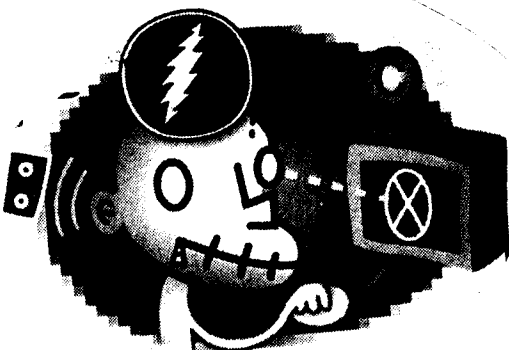
While Scientologists undoubtedly have more complicated reasons for squelching heresy on the Internet, Fox and EMI are proceeding on the assumption that the Internet is a great place to make tons and tons of money. It's an unlikely, if not dangerous, assumption, not so much because information wants to be free but because so much of the best information simply *is* free. When you think about it — really think about it — the Web doesn't have much to offer that existing technology doesn't already. You don't need it for online banking or home shopping, live TV is hardly unusual, and those KFWB ads are right — instant news isn't exactly a new idea. The only verifiable and unique value of the Internet is that it's a haven of freedom, from cost and from censorship. As such, it's a poor medium for commercial publishing. But it's a great place to propagate a reputation that can make money in the real world.

That lesson lies in the legacy of the Grateful Dead: had Jerry Garcia — a former taper himself — treated the fans who taped and traded DAT recordings the way Fox treats its Webbed fans, the band would never have survived. On Seth Greenstein's Web page for the Home Recording Rights Coalition, there are daily updates of the WIPO convention, a comprehensive history of home-recording-rights legislation, and advice about how to be a free-speech activist. There is also, appropriately enough, a tribute to Jerry Garcia. "Whenever the record industry complained that private taping hurt recording artists," it reads, "the Home Recording Rights Coalition pulled out its


BY JUDITH LEWIS

LA WEEKLY

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ace in the hole: the Grateful Dead. Concert tapes brought music to the fans and brought fans together. Deadheads traded tapes from hundreds of concerts. Individual shows became legendary and were shared with thousands worldwide. Years later, the Dead released some of those shows on compact disc — spawned by the popularity of the traded tapes." It was, in essence, a Web of tapes.

A whole year after Garcia's death, I'm listening to the Dead more than ever, for reasons I fully recognize have less to do with music than with the band's spirit. Significantly, though, I can't watch the *X-Files* anymore. It's not that the show has changed, or the personnel; David Duchovny is still a babe, I still love Scully's unusually voluptuous lips, I'm still drawn to the grisly imagination of the show's creator, Chris Carter. But I can't watch it anymore for the same reason I haven't watched Major League Baseball since the strike: once they've exposed the corporate machinery, the magic is gone. 

THE TAMPA TRIBUNE

DEATH/Questions remain on death of
Church of Scientology member

Sunday
December 15, 1996

The Tampa Tribune-Times, Sunday, December 15, 1996

of Church of Scientology member

erson said such infections can come on quickly, cause skin discoloration that looks like bruising and can dehydrate a victim. Johnson said Minkoff found the infection through a blood test.

Larry Bedore of the Pasco-Pinellas Medical Examiner's Office, which conducted the autopsy, said he was not aware of any blood tests being done, or even of McPherson's blood being drawn at the hospital.

He was not aware of any strep infection.

NEWS OF McPherson's death stunned her mother, Fannie McPherson. "It's just been awful," she said. "She was the last of my family."

All she knew was her daughter had been under pressure in her work as a salesperson for AMC Publishing in Clearwater. Andrews said the company is owned by Scientologists and has Scientology as one of its customers.

"She called me three weeks before she died and she was crying," Fannie McPherson said. "She said she was having trouble with her sales. She said, 'Mother, I've let my

group down.'"

No one with AMC returned telephone calls for comment.

After her daughter's death, Fannie McPherson came to Clearwater, where she learned of the traffic accident and the odd behavior.

She said her daughter's Scientology friends told her that, upon arrival at the Fort Harrison on Nov. 18, Lisa McPherson was put in "baby watch," which an ex-church member says is Scientology terminology for solitary confinement.

Ex-church members say such confinement is used when a member has a "psychotic break" or is threatening to flee the church.

"They are put in a room with no one and nothing," said Dennis Erlich, a former Scientologist who now is an activist against the church.

Police say they cannot confirm or deny the "baby watch" allegations.

Anderson said there is no such thing as "baby watch," and that McPherson was never held in such a fashion. "That's completely false and there is liability if you print that," Anderson said. "It's not true."

Johnson and Anderson say Erlich is not reliable. Johnson said Erlich "has a big ax to grind." Anderson said Erlich was thrown out of the church.

MCPHERSON'S BODY was returned to Dallas. At the visitation, Scientologists "hovered" around, said friend Kelly Davis.

"Ms. Mac couldn't breathe without them on top of her," Davis said. "They came to the funeral home in Dallas and they were checking us out and hovering and listening."

Davis said Scientologists asked to stay with Fannie McPherson at her home, but she refused. They also insisted that Lisa McPherson wished to be cremated.

"I never heard her say that's what she wanted, and I never would have done it, but they convinced me that's what she wanted," Fannie McPherson said.

Anderson said those claims are false.

"I was there," Anderson said. "Church members were not hovering around. I was concerned about Lisa. She had a lot of friends and we wanted to go and pay our respects."

Los Angeles Times

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1996

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A26 MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1996

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Bankrupt Anti-Cult Group Gets Reprieve

■ **Courts: Former Pentecostalist who sued organization has dropped effort to shut it down, will instead pursue settlement.**

By LAURIE GOODSTEIN
THE WASHINGTON POST

The man whose lawsuit has pushed the Cult Awareness Network into bankruptcy has done an about-face and is no longer moving toward putting the group out of business.

He has abruptly dismissed his lawyer, a prominent member of the Church of Scientology, the anti-cult group's nemesis, and hired an attorney who has battled the church in the past.

The sudden shift by Jason Scott, 24, has raised the possibility that the Cult Awareness Network will be able to emerge from bankruptcy and resume its work. The group is a once-influential clearinghouse that for two decades has counseled families and others to beware of new and unconventional religions.

CAN declared bankruptcy after Scott won a \$1.8-million lawsuit against the group. His previous attorney, Kendrick Moxon, often represents the Church of Scientology. By contrast, Scott's new law-

yer, Graham Berry, has assisted CAN members in the past. Berry said he will seek a cash settlement that will let CAN keep its files and return to its original mission.

The CAN name, logo and telephone number were sold in bankruptcy court last month to a member of the Church of Scientology, whose members are also trying to buy the files that CAN kept on Scientology and other groups.

CAN's hotline in Chicago, dormant for six months, is operating again. The people answering say CAN has been "taken over" by "a new corporation," but "we would be happy to help you with information about religious groups you have an interest in," said Steven L. Hayes, the Los Angeles attorney and Scientologist who bought the rights to use CAN's phone number. CAN has filed an appeal objecting to the sale of its name and phone.

Scott, of Bellevue, Wash., was 18 when he was kidnapped and held for five days in 1991 by a "deprogrammer" and two assistants in an attempt to persuade him to renounce his loyalty to the United Pentecostal Church International.

"Jason Scott has no interest in being part of Scientology's campaign against the Cult Awareness Network," said Berry. "His only concern is to be compensated for what happened to him."

Moxon has filed motions in two

states alleging that Scott has been coerced by CAN supporters to switch attorneys and settle for far less than he won in court.

The legal battle began when Scott successfully sued the deprogrammers and CAN in Seattle. Scott's mother had hired the deprogrammer, Rick Ross, after a referral by a CAN volunteer.

A jury awarded Scott more than \$5 million in October 1995; CAN owed Scott as much as \$1.8 million; Ross owed him as much as \$3.4 million. The attorney who represented Scott in the lawsuit was Moxon, a longtime Scientologist prominent in the church. For many years the Church of Scientology has denounced CAN and the activities of deprogrammers.

Scott later left the Pentecostal Church of his own accord. He has been unemployed lately, and Moxon said Scott "hasn't collected anything" because both CAN and Ross declared bankruptcy.

Scott has decided to reconcile with his mother and settle with Ross, according to the confidential settlement agreement.

Berry said he wants to negotiate a settlement in which CAN would provide Scott with "some immediate money and further installments over a period of time" and allow CAN to continue operating in order to "generate" funds to pay Scott.