

1330 N. Placentia Ave
Fullerton, CA 92831
714- 821-5965 / 714-821-5975 (fax)
eltowle@attglobal.net
May 16, 2001

Mr. Robert C. Hawkins
President
Harvest House Publishers
1075 Arrowsmith St.
Eugene, OR 97402-9121

FEDEX Overnight Letter

Re: *The Encyclopedia of Cults and New Religions* by John Ankerberg and John Weldon

Dear Mr. Hawkins,

In January we wrote to you on behalf of the group of Christian believers know as "The Local Church(es)" with a request to allow us come to meet with you and discuss our concerns regarding your book titled above. Our inclusion in this book is a grievous mistake that is extremely damaging to our people and our ministry.

According to the Bible's clear teaching we asked to meet as Christian brothers to resolve our differences in this matter (Matthew 5: 23-24; 18:15-17). To our disappointment we were answered, not by you, but by a letter from your attorney (citing the wrong book as the issue!). Instead of the Christian fellowship we sought, you answered by initiating the use of lawyers, which could well escalate this matter into much unnecessary complication and expense of time and money for both of us. We are preparing to answer you in that realm if you insist. As you are aware due to Mr. Weldon's close association with Spiritual Counterfeits Project, Mr. Alexander, and Mr. Duddy, a court of law concluded in 1985 that The Local Church is not a cult and that the many negative characteristics of cults, such as described in your book, are libelous when applied to The Local Church (see <http://www.contendingforthefaith.com/summary/judgement/completeTOC.html>).


However, after much consideration, we decided to try one last time to see if you will agree to meet in a Christian way to attempt to resolve the problem created by including us in Ankerberg's and Weldon's encyclopedia. We ask you to please reconsider your refusal to meet with us. And we renew our offer to meet with you at the place of your choice in the near future.

We ask for your consideration and timely reply.

Thank you,


Daniel Towle


Richard Taylor


Andrew Yu