

## Exhibit 7

**St. Petersburg Times, Monday, December 28, 1981**  
**Narconon - Anti-drug program with roots in Scientology**  
**Doesn't live up to claims of support, success**  
**by Craig Robertson, Staff Writer**

1. Just part of this story is included here, to point out that Narconon units have been in trouble, or have been closed down in California, Delaware, Connecticut, Minnesota, Michigan, Colorado, West Berlin, and Florida.

2. Other reports are available showing the same situation in Texas, Italy, and Spain.

3. It occurs to us that a program with an 86% cure rate, worldwide success and broad public acceptance such as Narconon claims would still be in operation if that were true. Unless, of course, there are no more drug addicts left to cure in those states and countries.

4. Old article? Yes. And notice that the tactics remain the same today as they were then: In 1981, Narconon's Gary Smith was saying they "made mistakes", just as he has been saying in 1989 in Newkirk since the connection to Scientology became known.

# NARCONON

## Anti-drug program with roots in Scientology doesn't live up to claims of support, success

A booklet published by Narconon and submitted to Florida authorities makes several claims that are untrue. Narconon officials don't deny that the booklet contains inaccurate and outdated material, but say it was not intended to mislead officials, who granted Narconon a license to conduct anti-drug educational lectures.

BY CRAIG ROBERTSON  
St. Petersburg Times Staff Writer  
1981, St. Petersburg Times

**CLEARWATER** — Narconon, an anti-drug program based on tenets of the Church of Scientology and now setting up shop in Clearwater, isn't all it claims to be. It claims high success rates in rehabilitating drug users and wide acceptance by government agencies around the world.

But a *St. Petersburg Times* investigation has turned up evidence to the contrary. For example:

- ✓ A Michigan prison psychologist charged that Narconon is a "con" to gain money and recruits for the Church of Scientology. A former Narconon consultant with the church agrees.
- ✓ A California report done for that state's Department of Health said Narconon's use of megavitamins to detoxify addicts is a "hazardous" and "in some cases lethal" practice.

✓ In Delaware, Connecticut and Minnesota, Narconon prison programs were terminated after questions were raised about the program's effectiveness and its ties to the Church of Scientology.

✓ A 63-page promotional booklet published by Narconon and submitted to the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services (HRS) makes several claims that are untrue.

Despite these findings, Narconon still claims to be an effective anti-drug program that, one Narconon official wrote, "has literally saved the lives of countless addicts and drug users around the world, restoring them to their families and communities."

The 63-page Narconon booklet, submitted to HRS in support of Narconon's application for a local operating license, makes a variety of claims, among them:

- ✓ That Narconon still has a prison program in Connecticut. In fact, the program was terminated five years ago.
- ✓ That Narconon has a treatment

program at a juvenile detention facility in Colorado. In fact, Narconon pulled out of the facility more than a year ago.

✓ That Narconon runs a successful government-financed drug treatment program in West Berlin. In fact, the Berlin government severed its contract with Narconon two years ago.

✓ That officials of a youth training school in California issued a glowing evaluation of Narconon. In fact, the evaluation was done by Narconon's own staff.

The Narconon booklet also contains several written endorsements on stationery bearing the letterhead of various government agencies. In at least three cases, the endorsements were made by minor officials without authorization of the departments involved.

Narconon officials don't deny that the booklet contains inaccurate and outdated material.

"Granted, there are out-points (mistakes) in the book," said Gary Smith, Narconon's national director in Los Angeles. "But there are out-points in every program."

Smith said the publication, copyrighted by Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard in 1979, is a "promotional piece" that is no longer used on the Pacific Coast.

He said the booklet was not intended to mislead Florida officials, who granted Narconon a license to conduct anti-drug educational lectures last May.

**THOSE OFFICIALS** said the promotional booklet had no bearing on their approval of Narconon's license.

Charles Britt, district administrator of the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, said the book was submitted voluntarily and was considered irrelevant to Narconon's license application.

"It was not required as a condition precedent to licensure," said Florida HRS attorney Barbara McPherson.

See NARCONON, 4-B  
NOT CONTINUED

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1981

**WARCOWY!** Does it have a group in YOUR area? Copies of the complete article on Narconon are available on request. Do your part to educate your neighbors with some of the facts concerning Narconon.

FROM - FREE KINDS -  
NEWSLETTER -  
AFFILIATE of Cult Awareness  
in Minneapolis, MN  
Feb. 1982

ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

### 'Climate' hinders Narconon here, spokesman says

For example, Fine recently tried to convince Charles Felton, director of the Pinellas County jails, to let Narconon give anti-drug lectures to inmates and officers at the maximum security center near Largo.

Felton said he turned down the offer, citing reports questioning the effectiveness of the Narconon program in other states.

Fine said he has also met with representatives of anti-drug groups around the state and hopes to start an anti-drug group for parents in Clearwater.

range of courses on recognizing, preventing and handling drug abuse" will be available at the Clearwater center.

Tampa Bay Narconon, acknowledged that Narconon has made mistakes in the past, but said all large organizations have made mistakes.

"Just remember," Lerner said, "all we are trying to do is help kids, to get them off drugs."

Fine said he has also met with representatives of anti-drug groups around the state and hopes to start an anti-drug group for parents in Clearwater.

LERNER SAID he does not know why his two predecessors left Tampa Bay Narconon.

TAMPA BAY Narconon has established a "training center" at a house at 300 S. Saturn Ave. in Clearwater and said in a recent press release that it plans to open similar centers in St. Petersburg and Tampa.

The press release said "a whole

Tampa Bay Narconon is not incorporated in Florida, although its local license application said incorporation procedures were in progress.

Through church spokesman Laura Wolfe, Fine said that, as far as he knows, the group does not plan to pursue incorporation.

### Critic

*"They are phony, a front for the Church of Scientology. We found out in Michigan that most of the money that we were paying Narconon was laundered back into the Church of Scientology."*

— John Hand, Michigan prison psychologist.

### Defender

*"It's just a basic technology whereby a person can get off drugs, back into life and be happy. We don't push it (Scientology) on anybody. We never have."*

— Gary Smith, Narconon's national director, who branded Hand's assertion that money in Michigan was "laundered"

# Lorain firm declines; cult members now run it

The recent acquisition of the Lorain Electronics, Corp. of Lorain, Ohio, by members of the Church of Scientology is a matter of interest to the business community. The progress of the new management will be watched carefully. Copies of a comprehensive article outlining the history of the company and the present situation are available on request for cost of printing and postage.