

HUBBARD COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE
Saint Hill Manor, East Grinstead, Sussex

HCO POLICY LETTER OF 12 JULY 1980

Remimeo
All HCOs
Tech Sec
Qual Sec
Ds of T
Supervisors
Ethics Officers
Cramming Officers
Students
All Hats

(Also issued as HCOB,
same date, same title.)

THE BASICS OF ETHICS

References: HCO PL 9 Jul 80 ETHICS, JUSTICE AND THE DYNAMICS
ETHICS AND JUSTICE PACK IN VOLUNTEER MINISTER'S HANDBOOK
HCO PL 1 Sep 65 ETHICS PROTECTION
HCO PL 27 Apr 65 ETHICS AND REVIEW
HCO PL 27 May 60 DEAR SCIENTOLOGIST
HCO PL 12 Apr 65 JUSTICE
HCO PL 11 May 65 ETHICS OFFICER HAT
HCO PL 6 Mar 66 REWARDS AND PENALTIES, HOW TO HANDLE PERSONNEL AND ETHICS MATTERS
HCO PL 29 Dec 66 MATTERS JUDICIAL HISTORICAL PRECEDENCE OF ETHICS
HCO PL 18 Jun 68 ETHICS
HCO PL 4 Oct 68 ETHICS PRESENCE
Rev. 8.7.80
HCO PL 7 Dec 69 ETHICS, THE DESIGN OF
HCO PL 7 Dec 69 II THE ETHICS OFFICER, HIS CHARACTER
HCO PL 24 Feb 69 JUSTICE
HCO PL 7 Sep AD13 COMMITTEES OF EVIDENCE SCIENTOLOGY JURISPRUDENCE, ADMINISTRATION OF
HCO PL 17 Mar 65 ADMINISTERING JUSTICE

Throughout the ages, man has struggled with the subjects of right and wrong and Ethics and Justice.

The dictionary defines Ethics as: "The study of the general nature of morals and of the specific moral choices to be made by the individual in his relationship with others."

The same dictionary defines Justice as: "Conformity to moral right, or to reason, truth or fact," or: "The administration of law."

As you can see, these terms have become confused.

Ethics consists simply of the actions an individual takes on himself.

Justice is the action taken on the individual by the group when he fails to take these actions himself.

HISTORY

These subjects have puzzled philosophers for a long time. The early Greek followers of Pythagoras (Greek philosopher of the sixth century B.C.) tried to apply their mathematical

theories to the subject of human conduct and Ethics. Some time later, Socrates (Greek philosopher and teacher 470? - 399 B.C.) tackled the subject. He demonstrated that all those who were claiming to show people how to live were unable to defend their views or even define the terms they were using. He argued that we must know what courage, and justice, law and government are before we can be brave or good citizens or just or good rulers. This was fine but he then refused to provide definitions. He said that all sin was ignorance but did not take the necessary actions to rid Man of his ignorance.

Socrates' pupil, Plato (Greek philosopher, 427? - 347 B.C.) adhered to his master's theories but insisted that these definitions could only be defined by pure reason. This meant that one had to isolate oneself from life in some ivory tower and figure it all out - not very useful to the man in the street.

Aristotle (Greek philosopher 384 - 322 B.C.) also got involved with Ethics. He explained unethical behaviour by saying that Man's rationality became overruled by his desire.

This chain continued down the ages. Philosopher after philosopher tried to resolve the subjects of Ethics and Justice.

Unfortunately, until now, there has been no workable solution, as evidenced by the declining ethical level of society.

So you see it is no small breakthrough that has been made in this subject in the last 30 years or so. We have defined the terms that Socrates omitted to do and we have a workable technology that anyone can use to help get himself out of the mud. The natural laws behind this subject have been found and made available for all to use.

ETHICS

Ethics is so native to the individual that his downfall and his total aberration is based on the fact that he is seeking to overcome his own lack of Ethics.

He knows he has an Ethics blind spot the moment he develops it, and at that moment he starts trying to put Ethics in on himself and goes down the chute. Nobody puts him down the chute harder, really, than he does himself.

Without the basic technology of Ethics he has no way of climbing back up the chute - he just caves himself in directly and deliberately. And even though he has a lot of complexities in his life, and he has other people doing him in, it all starts with his lack of knowledge of the technology of Ethics.

This, basically, is one of the primary tools he uses to dig himself out.

BASIC NATURE OF MAN

No matter how criminal an individual is, he will be trying, one way or another, to put Ethics in on himself.

This explains why Hitler invited the world to destroy Germany. He had the whole war won before September, 1939, before he declared war. The allies were giving him everything he wanted; he had one of the finest intelligence organizations that ever walked; he had Germany well on the way to getting her colonies back and the idiot declared war! And he just caved himself and Germany right in. His brilliance was going at a

mad rate in one direction and his native sense of Ethics was causing him to cave himself in at a mad rate in the other direction.

The individual is unable to put in Ethics on himself and restrain himself from contra-survival actions so he caves himself in. And the individual is not going to come alive unless he gets hold of the basic tech of Ethics and applies it to himself and others. He may find it a little unpalatable at first, but when you're dying of malaria you don't usually complain about the taste of the quinine: you may not like it, but you sure drink it.

JUSTICE

When the individual fails to put in his own Ethics, the group takes action against him and this is called Justice.

I have found that Man cannot be trusted with Justice. The truth is, Man cannot really be trusted with "punishment". With it he does not really seek discipline, he wrecks injustice. He dramatizes his inability to get his own Ethics in by trying to get others to get their Ethics in: I invite you to examine what laughingly passes for "Justice" in our current society. Many governments are so touchy about their divine rightness in judicial matters that you hardly open your mouth before they burst into uncontrolled violence. Getting into police hands is a catastrophe in its own right in many places, even when one is merely the plaintiff, much less the accused. Thus, social disturbance is at maximum in such areas. It has become an end-all in itself and has degenerated into a sadism. They call it Ethics - medical ethics committees, psychological ethics committees, Congressional committees, etc. - they are actually all justice actions and they punish people and make it harder for them to get their own Ethics in.

Proper Justice is expected and has definite use. When a state of discipline does not exist the whole group caves in. It has been noted continually that the failure of a group began with a lack of or loss of discipline. Without it the group and its members die. But you must understand Ethics and Justice.

The individual can be trusted with Ethics, and when he is taught to put his own Ethics in, Justice no longer becomes the all-important subject that it is made out to be.

BREAKTHROUGH

The breakthrough in Scientology is that we do have the basic technology of Ethics. For the first time Man can learn how to put his own Ethics in and climb back up the chute.

This is a brand new discovery; before Scientology it had never before seen the light of day, anywhere. It marks a turning point in the history of philosophy. The individual can learn this technology, learn to apply it to his life and can then put his own Ethics in, change conditions and start heading upwards toward survival under his own steam.

I hope you will learn to use this technology very well for your own sake, for the sake of those around you and for the sake of the future of this culture as a whole.

L. RON HUBBARD
FOUNDER

LRH:dr
Copyright © 1980
by L. Ron Hubbard
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

This is Reproduced and issued to you by
The Publications Organization, U. S.