

HUBBARD COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE
Saint Hill Manor, East Grinstead, Sussex

HCO POLICY LETTER OF 12 JULY 1980R

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

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

(Revised to include in the references additional early works on the subject of Ethics, to provide some added data on the subject and to correct a section of the issue which in its wording seemed to infer that by starting an ethics cycle on himself a person begins going downhill - which is not the case.)

THE BASICS OF ETHICS

References:

Dianetic Auditor's Bulletin Vol I, No. 12, June 1951	PREVENTIVE DIANETICS (Section on Morals & Ethics) Tech Vol I, Page 113
PAB No. 40 26 Nov 1954	THE CODE OF HONOUR Tech Vol II, Page 104
Book: SCIENCE OF SURVIVAL HCO PL 9 Jul 80	Chapter 21, ETHIC LEVEL ETHICS, JUSTICE AND THE DYNAMICS
ETHICS AND JUSTICE PACK IN VOLUNTEER MINISTER'S HANDBOOK	
HCO PL 1 Sep 65	ETHICS PROTECTION
HCO PL 29 Apr 65	ETHICS 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 THE ETHICS OFFICER, HIS CHARACTER
HCO PL 7 Dec 69 II	JUSTICE
HCO PL 24 Feb 69	COMMITTEES OF EVIDENCE
HCO PL 7 Sep AD13	SCIENTOLOGY JURISPRUDENCE, ADMINISTRATION OF ADMINISTERING JUSTICE
HCO PL 17 Mar 65	INJUSTICE
HCO PL 24 Feb 72	

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.

All philosophies from time immemorial have involved themselves with these subjects. And they never solved them.

That they have been solved in Dianetics and Scientology is a breakthrough of magnitude. The solution lay, first, in their separation. From there it could go forward to a workable technology for each.

ETHICS consists simply of the actions an individual takes on himself. It is a personal thing. When one is ethical or "has his ethics in" it is by his own determinism and is done by himself.

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

HISTORY

These subjects are, actually, the basis of all philosophy. But in any study of the history of philosophy it is plain that they 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, which 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 when it goes off the rails he will always seek to overcome his own lack of Ethics.

He knows he has an Ethics blind spot the moment he develops it. At that moment he starts trying to put Ethics in on himself and, to the degree that he can envision long-term survival concepts, he may be successful, even though lacking the actual tech of Ethics.

All too often, however, the bank is triggered by an out-ethics situation and, if the individual has no tech with which to handle it analytically, his "handling" is to mock up motivators. In other words, he tends to believe or pretend that something was done to him that prompted or justified his out-ethics action, and at that point he starts down hill.

It is not his attempt to get his Ethics in that does him in. It is the automaticity of the bank which kicks in on him and his use of a bank mechanism at this point which sends him down the chute. When that happens, nobody puts him down the chute harder, really, than he does himself.

And, once on the way down 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 who lacks any Ethics technology 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 wreaks 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.

When the tech of Ethics isn't known, Justice becomes an end-all in itself. And that just degenerates into a sadism. Governments, because they don't understand Ethics, have "Ethics Committees" but these are all worded in the framework of Justice. They are even violating the derivation of the word Ethics. They write Justice over into Ethics continuously with medical ethics committees, psychological ethics committees, Congressional committees, etc. These are all on the basis of Justice because they don't really know what Ethics is. They call it Ethics but they initiate 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

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