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26 Mar 76

WILLIS E. ELLIOTT, Dean
Exploratory Programs

A Declaration

to the U.S. District Court
District of New Jersey

re
Civil Action No. 76-341

I, WILLIS E. ELLIOTT, declare as follows:

1. I am a resident of the County of Westchester, State of New York.
2. I am currently employed by New York Theological Seminary and hold the position of Dean of Exploratory Programs.
3. I am qualified by academic training and professional experience to define "religion" and to identify its presence in human experience, movements, and institutions. My qualifications are set forth in my "Roles-Profile" [Exhibit A], my "Courses Taught" [Exhibit B], and my "Bibliography" [Exhibit C], all three being attached hereto and each incorporated herewith by this reference as though fully set forth herein.
4. My knowledge of Hindu meditation, both in experimentation and in guided and private study, stretches over this past 40 years. My knowledge of transcendental meditation [TM] is both direct and indirect; and for reasons both of conscience and of strategy I refuse to detail this assertion.
5. I taught Hinduism at the University of Hawaii, where I had many Far Eastern students and had opportunity for dialog both with them and with leaders of Indian and other Far Eastern religions. I never found there, or anywhere else, anyone knowledgeable about Hinduism who didn't snort disgust at the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi's 1959 decision to improve the marketability of his Hindu mission in the West by the deception of eliding religious words from his propaganda and then claiming that TM is a science and not a religion. I have extensive tapes in which, driven to the wall on this by me, a principal pusher of TM in New Jersey virtually admits the deception, and even in conscience says that he is considering converting to Catholicism, presumably to escape continuing the fraud.
6. My intervention in a New York State Public School/TM situation resulted in keeping TM out of that school system, and my writings in connection with that instance are available as thinksheets #327, #327A, #403, #424, #428, #429, #433, and #434--especially #428 and #434.
7. From the initiation onward, TM is in direct violation of the vows Jews and Christians take, and represents the religious tradition which more than any other in the world undercuts the biblical way of seeing and living in the world. The Brahmanic-Vedic-advaitic-Upanishadic-Shankaric stream in Hinduism wipes out all of the basic teachings of Judaism and Christianity. TM is a direct guru-stream from that form of Hindu spirit-

uarity. We are dealing here not with an innocent sharing of good news, but with a deliberate Hindu missionary movement which has every right to operate in America and no right at all to invade the American public school system. [I have rare, valuable documentary evidence of the 1893 plan of this movement to invade the West by calling itself "science" instead of "religion."] 8. I find sound all of the evidence and argument against TM's fraud in the affidavits of Bellah, Duffy, Leggio, Larson, Randolph, and in "Complaint" and "Plaintiffs' Memorandum of Law," and in Jn. E. Patton's "Rel. Mah. Style."