

31 March 2010

Re: "News" story by Anderson Cooper

Dear Anderson Cooper,

I am stunned that you are doing a special on Scientology...

When I saw this I was amazed. I've been a Scientologist for 32 years and worked in the Sea Organization for 15 of those years as a staff member of Golden Era Productions, at the very location your show describes... I looked up some of the people referred to in order to find out what they were claiming. Again, I'm amazed.

I worked in conjunction with some of those who are making their allegations... It was a pretty tight knit community and it would have been pretty difficult to hide such a thing. I know of many friends who also worked there and none of them experienced anything like what is being portrayed. I checked.

...I worked for and with David Miscavige and I personally witnessed the incredible professional excellence that he instilled in the various production lines. I worked along side many others in a number of different production areas and witnessed a very high level of production and professional excellence that we all strived for. This was a culture instilled by David Miscavige and it resulted in all of us rising to levels of professional skills and production unlike any I saw before or since leaving the Sea Organization.

I decided to check into this "investigation" further and called friends I have who still work for the Church to find out about the interviews that you and/or your producers did with Church executives and other parishioners as part of this investigation. I learned that you turned down many offers of access to Church executives, parishioners and even friends of those making the allegations. Basically, you didn't investigate at all!

It is outrageous that you would call yourself an investigative reporter when the only "investigation" done is to find those making outrageous claims and take the whole story from those sources without checking for verification or even trying to allow "the other side" to have a say.

Obviously, this "investigation" is just a hatchet job and a way for you and CNN to attract traffic and sell some ads by attacking Scientology. It is not true investigative reporting and drops CNN to the level of the scandal mags that will write anything to sell copies.

You can be sure that I will no longer use CNN or Anderson Cooper as a source for true news ever in the future. I intend to spread the word to friends about how ridiculous this report is and to call, through various blogs I'm part of, for readers to find alternative sources for news.

R.M.