

Last week I was invited by a prominent representative of FLDS to San Angelo and the FLDS Ranch. He was asking for some specific assistance to their problems there and asked that I search for a “global solution” also. I agreed but also communicated I would need to coordinate with both Texas law officials and Child Protective Services there. I and attorney Roger Hoole went and met with these three entities. Our conclusion is that at least two very important things need to occur quickly to facilitate the process of a sooner quality partial resolution and so that even a later more complete global solution to the Texas FLDS issue can occur:

1. **ALL** FLDS men who have children who are in the custody of the state of Texas need to step up, identify their children, submit to DNA sampling and let appropriate “due process” occur. It appears that some or all of the adult men of multiple ages who have had sex with a minor (even though claimed as a “spiritual wife”) are not coming forward. This is a big mistake.

First it slows the necessary process of identification for these children which pushes back in time the ability to begin next phases, the most important of which could be the reuniting of mothers with children. Every child born in the US is an American citizen. Every child deserves to know who their parents are. Every child needs to be accounted for complete with legal birth certificates. The US and all the individual states have the responsibility to protect the rights of citizens and residents, especially those who are most vulnerable, especially children. Such cannot occur if government has no way of knowing that a child even exists. Governments need to know who both of the parents are.

Secondly, hiding could cause the issue to escalate if law enforcement feels they must search for these men in other FLDS enclaves including the homes.

Third, it will look very bad for these men and FLDS in general if there are a significant number of children who simply can't be identified and accounted for. CPS should be entitled to determine who both their fathers and mothers are.

Fourth, it will appear to the world that these fathers are abandoning their children to protect their own hide. There already is significant evidence of fathers (and in some cases mothers) who have actively expelled and/or abandoned minor children as what we have seen over the last several years with many of the “Lost Boys” from FLDS families. We know this occurs as per the direction and even mandate of the FLDS sick leader and prophet Warren Jeffs. This continued activity by him and his lieutenants needs to stop. Everyone loses as this goofiness continues.

2. The state of Texas needs to bring children back together with their mothers as soon as they determine such is safe for the child. Such should occur within a reasonable time. Albeit there can be justifiable concern of mothers continuing to entrench their children with teachings that

could potentially propagate this problem, it is still important they be reunited with their children. Children need parents but especially their mothers in this case. These mothers need to be with their children. There are unique aspects of their lifestyles that contribute further to this need:

Most of these mothers have had limited quality interaction with their husbands. Even for something as basic as sex, it should occur only when needed to “make a baby” and no more. Any meaningful husband-wife relationship as may be known elsewhere complete with healthy strong disagreements and problem solving is virtually absent. There are many reasons in this society that little to no time is available for a husband with only one of his wives to spend significant quality time together.

These mothers had no connection to the outside world. There was no chance for friendships to develop between these mothers and people outside of the FLDS society. There is no entertainment allowed from outside the FLDS society, no television. The mothers all work hard in the communal garden and living quarters daily, starting early each day. They all stare at bare walls with no pictures save that of principally Warren, even when in their bedrooms! The mother’s bedroom and the bedroom for their multiple children is one and the same. They are taught from when they are babies that their life’s mission is to bring forth children. In many significant ways, their whole life is their children. This is now all gone. Such could bring even catastrophic results to many of them. They need to learn soon that it is possible to realize a “bright vision of future” when it comes to the subject of being reunited with their children.

For sure these mothers and children will need a significant amount of psychological counseling. For sure both mothers and children will need a significant amount of education.

Another important subject: Warren Jeffs has previously confessed to several of his lieutenants that he never was the prophet. He has shared with them that he seized it wrongfully. He has confessed he is not now the prophet. This is documented via a video recording made during a visit between him and them when he was in prison in Utah. Unfortunately these “lieutenants” choose to support him as their “prophet” in spite of this.

Warren: Your crazy extreme requirements complete with crazy enforcements have gone on way too long. You have destroyed literally around 250 families, expelling the fathers and marrying off the mothers within days. Masses of children wake up the next day to a new father and additional new mothers plus new non genetic “brothers and sisters”. This has most probably affected thousands of children to date. No critical “due process” via the laws of our country came into play for these children complete with the very important duty of a legal judge to determine “what’s in the best interest of the children”. About 1000 boys, many of them in their low to mid teens have been expelled or made to be unwelcome, totally cut off from their families, many struggling for life on their own and with very little education. Many of these will continue to require psychological counseling. Most will continue to face the challenges of being

robbed of an education beyond 6th to 8th grade being put to work in construction instead. This is child abuse.

The craziness of child abuse via these underage marriages has occurred via your teaching, requirements and/or sanction. It is past time that you come forth in ways your members understand and tell them what you told your lieutenants, namely that you are not and never have been their rightful leader. They need to be able to regain some level of sanity and safety in their lives. You need to find the courage to stand up with determination to make this happen. It appears that your attorneys have kept you from doing this to date. Thousands of FLDS members including numerous innocent children victims and even adult victims deserve you do this. This is very important even to start them towards any level of peace. Stand up. Speak out. Make it happen. Do the right thing!

I do believe there are some opportunities for a mid to longer term "global solution". This can move forward faster if **ALL** fathers come forward soon. Yes, for any adult fathers who may have had sex with a minor, there will most probably be a price to pay. But, America has one of the best court systems in the world and there are thousands of talented attorneys in this country who would be willing and wanting to represent these men (and as well their wives should it be needed).

From the FLDS side, and as shared with us from the FLDS representative we met with, they believe that undue force and disregard to due process occurred in this raid. From the side of Texas law enforcement, they believe the matter was handled in a very gentle and kind way considering the magnitude of the operation and the unique issues and circumstances they had to deal with. Regardless of who is most right or even if the truth is proven to be somewhere in between, it is history, it cannot be changed. Only the courts and/or legal law enforcement panels can sort this out.

Once again: First, FLDS fathers who have not come forward to help identify their children held by the court need to do so. Even though you may not trust government, your best hope for sooner and long term solutions is by helping the legal system work. And second, Texas Child Protection Services do please work to do all you can to get these children back with their mothers as soon as you've proven it safe to do so. Then, please initiate and/or continue serious psychological counseling and education for both children and mothers.

Thank you,

Dan Fischer