

The Body of Elders
Beenleigh East Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses - Qld

16th August 1991

To Watchtower Bible and
Tract Society of Australia.
P.O.Box 280, Ingleburn
N.S.W. 2565

Your Ref. SD:SSA July 12, 1991

Dear Brothers:

In reply to your letter, with the above reference, regarding correspondence you received from BCH [redacted] we are happy to make this reply.

It is true some time has passed by since BCH [redacted] disfellowshipping from the congregation, on the grounds of "Loose Conduct and Lying". A further two grounds were added by an appeal committee, namely, Porneia and Malicious Slander".

Of the above grounds for which he was disfellowshipped, at this point in time, he still refuses to acknowledge the porneia he committed with his daughters, and still feels the lying charges are not valid. He says they are not valid on the basis, that he was forced into telling lies to the committee under pressure. He has maintained this stance all through the reinstatement hearings we have had with him.

Earlier pleas for reinstatement have been declined by the original committee in Mareeba, for the following reasons:

- 1. The first plea was too soon, and the case had some widespread notoriety.
- 2. The second plea was declined by the original committee on the basis that Mr BCH [redacted] was still having communications with the sister with which he committed the loose conduct. (This was very serious because both the original committee and the appeal committee, were convinced that this couple were conspiring to divorce their mates and marry each other.)

3. The last plea made in September last year was also declined for the above reasons.

Also, to add to the situation, both he and the sister involved have obtained their legal divorces from their mates. Both, it appears, on very tenuous scriptural grounds.

4. In her case, her husband committed a number of acts of adultery of which she knew, (This prior to their coming into the truth) but, there was one occasion, during that time, that she did know of which subsequently came to light, and this is the basis for the divorce.

Coincidentally, BCH [redacted] has obtained a divorce on the same tenuous grounds. For multiple acts of adultery performed some 16 years prior, and before coming into the truth.

In both cases their mates did not want to be divorced.

At this meeting (Late Jan, early Feb '91) he was also counseled for failing to inform the brothers that he is in a disfellowshipped state, especially when attending a strange congregation, as he was seen shaking the brothers hands, greeting them.

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You may be interested to know [BCH] has since acknowledged to us the mistake he made in writing to you brothers, in stating he had not received an answer to his September reinstatement plea. The emotional turmoil he is going through definitely seems to affect his memory.

Toward the end of April we had another meeting with him, at his request. Once again we discussed his situation. On this occasion we were aware that the Sister with whom he committed the loose conduct, who is in a neighbouring congregation to us, was being met by a judicial committee, for an allegation of lying.

(Information came to light via [BCH] son in Mareeba, that [BCH] his son and this sister spent the night together in a tent, with he and the sister sleeping beside each other, whereas, they told the original committee that they spent the night in different lodgings.) At this meeting, in April this year, she admitted lying to the original committee.

For this she received private reproof, alas, from a committee, who really, may have not been fully aware of the overall events that have taken place. Being aware of this we decided not to make a decision at this April Meeting.

Since our letter from you brothers, we have met with [BCH] again, and when questioned about this incident in the tent, he denied to us that he had slept alongside the sister. The very next morning he rang Bro. Bakers home and confessed to sleeping alongside her, although no immorality took place.

It appears, from where we stand now, that we have a person who is desperately trying to get back into Jehovah's organization, but who fails to accept some of the reasons for which he was disfellowshipped.

We hope that this information is enough for you Brothers to go on, but should you require any further information from us on this matter please don't hesitate to ask.

It heartens us to know that you brothers are working so diligently on our behalf, to the point that every person, disfellowshipped or not, you take the time to consider their situation. May Jehovah continue to bless your efforts.

Please be assured of our warm christian love,

Your Brothers
Beenliegh East Congregation.

P.S. As a reinstatement committee we are keen to establish his attitude toward the sins for which he was disfellowshipped. [BCH] is determined to maintain his innocence of the charge of perjury. Brushing that the charge was well established, and not a fabrication as [BCH] suggests, then his attitude is not that of a repentant person, hence we have decided to decline his reinstatement appeal. d 146 will be pure information.