



POLYGAMY

January 2008

News and Views from the Child Protection Project

New FLDS Prophet Ordained in a Twist of Fate Changed name from Timpson to Jessop

Warren Jeffs, prophet of the Colorado City FLDS, and the Canadian bishop of the FLDS in British Columbia, Winston Blackmore, had been close. They entered into a feud. Warren ousted Blackmore which split up the B.C. community leaving some defying Jeffs.

Ordaining a new Canadian bishop was one of the rare instances when things backfired on Warren Jeffs. Rulon T. Jeffs, prophet in Colorado City at the time, was so incapacitated that he had no real power. The power had all been ceded to Warren—except for Rulon’s mistaken ordination of the successor.

The bishop of the Colorado City FLDS, Fred Jessop, at 93, was on oxygen suffering from hypertension and diabetes. Since he could not have children of his own he seized thirty wives and their 100 children from other heads of polygamous families.

Warren found Blackmore in total defiance and appointed the bishop’s half brother William Edson Timpson as his successor. Timpson refused to accept the position. Warren bullied him until he finally relented and came to be ordained.

The story that circulated around the compound was that when it

came time to ordain Timpson, ‘Uncle’ Rulon, who was so demented that he didn’t even recognize the man, put his hands on the man’s head and did far more than make him a bishop. He made him a high priest, apostle, patriarch, first counselor and finally bishop. Then he topped it off by giving him the keys to the priesthood and in his final blessing making him the prophet of God.

This made him more powerful than Warren, which of course Warren could not stand. He told the new bishop to forget about everything he’d been ordained beyond that of bishop. The new bishop retaliated and told Warren he was a complete fraud.

The bishop of the Colorado City FLDS was Fred Jessop. In late 2003 he held a meeting of his family and told them it was time to stand up and protect their families from Warren’s rampant destruction. William E. Timpson was one of the 100 children. After the family meeting, Timpson left and ran to Warren letting him know of Fred Jessop’s edict to his people.

That night someone came to

(continued on page 6)

Lost Boys’ Lawsuit Paying educational expenses

An emergency fund for youth cast out of a polygamous sect based on the Utah-Arizona border has helped about a dozen young men and women so far. The Lost Boys Fund was set up in August 2007.

The \$250,000 Lost Boys Fund was part of a settlement of lawsuits filed by seven young men against the United Effort Plan (UEP) Trust. The trust was the financial arm of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

To date the fund has paid out \$6600 for school tuition, books, a desk, appliances, car insurance and utility bills.

The United Effort Plan was taken over by the Utah courts in 2005 after allegations of mismanagement.

More than 400 males, age 13 and older, have banished from the FLDS community since Jeffs came into power in 2002. According to child advocates their real sin is being surplus males in a polygamous community. ▲

Timpson ordained for all FLDS roles by mistake

Timpson assumes Fred Jessop’s identity for 15 months

The real Fred Jessop turns up in a Lone Tree, Colorado hospital

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Safe Passage Grant Declined for Renewal Too many applications, little funding cited

A federal grant that provided services for women and children dealing with abuse and neglect in closed polygamous societies has dried up. The U.S. Justice Department will not renew the Safe Passage Grant to do outreach within the polygamous communities.

“Too many applications and too little funding” was cited by Judy Kasten Bell, the Executive Director of the Utah Domestic Violence Council. The Council applied for the grant along with the Utah Coalition

Against Sexual Assault. The grant application sought \$900,000 to help victims of domestic violence in plural families.

The Safe Passage Grant had funded social services including case management, emergency housing, food, legal representation and counseling to 1300 people in three years.

The CPP believes that much of the grant money was spent on

(continued on page 4)



Child Protection Project

The Child Protection Project is dedicated to raising awareness about institutionalized child abuse. This abuse occurs when laws to protect children are ignored, even covered up and abusers are protected by the institution while victim/survivors fend for themselves, or are sometimes even vilified.

The most serious civil and human rights offenses are carried out by doomsday sects. Many of these practice polygamy, incest and sexual abuse. In these cults, members often become slave laborers. Polygamists are designated as supremacy hate groups. These extremists indoctrinate members using a contorted religious rationalization for their crimes. The abuses of women and children are deeply embedded.

We advocate the criminal and civil prosecution of polygamy and the secret crimes that accompany it. The CPP reaches out to the child brides and families who suffer from these practices. The CPP finds civil attorneys for the boys kicked out of the cult. The CPP provides education about their civil rights and encourages others to stand up to these groups and fight for their rights.

We also advocate educating polygamists and their descendants about the genetic dangers of the practice of endogamous polygamy—breeding within the group. Virtually all other polygamists practice exogamy—breeding outside the group to avoid the genetic disaster the public now faces from this unprecedented human breeding experiment. Early polygamists attempted to create an Aryan super race, to literally re-create themselves or their favorite wives by breeding with first degree relatives. Uncles married nieces and half siblings intermarried. Forced marriages among relatives are now common.

Genetic diseases such as fumarase deficiency, tourette’s syndrome and kidney failure, now occur at alarming rates inside polygamy. The CPP reaches out to those suffering from these practices. The human cost of this inbreeding and the tax subsidized healthcare of affected individuals are staggering.

The high infant death rates inside polygamy were researched by the CPP in 2004. Death statistics from gravesites in Babyland Cemetery in Colorado City were compared with state vital records. These findings and a call to action were documented in a letter to the FBI.

In 2007 more data was gathered and is under analysis. Preliminary results are alarming. ▲

From the Executive Director

Happy new year. While I am pleased with the sentence Warren Jeffs received from Utah we are looking forward to him standing trial in Arizona.

Having Warren Jeffs in prison while a good start in no way protects thousands of children both in the FLDS and other polygamous groups from forced under-aged marriages.

This new year I will continue to advocate for all victims of abuse as well as promote legislation and education to offer better protection and resources for children throughout Arizona and the United States.

The Women’s Entertainment Channel will be airing an expose on my efforts in the Child Protection Project. Check our web site for broadcast time.

Flora Jessop

From the Editor

Reading Carolyn Jessop’s recently released book ESCAPE exposed me to the oppression of a polygamous husband and sister-wives.

She writes that fewer young people were chosen for higher education after Leroy Johnson passed on. She continues “this left a population that was more isolated from its lack of reading, critical thinking and the arts”.

Over time this lack of education leaves the polygamists more dependent on a ruling figure.

I urge you to press for legislation favorable to survivors of polygamy. Please use the link (bottom on page 6) to find your legislators and contact them about your views.

Credits are due to *The Arizona Republic*, the *Deseret News*, the *Salt Lake Tribune*, *The Spectrum* and the *El Dorado Success*.

Doris Miller

Letter to the Editor

... A few years ago when the polygamous children were allowed to attend the public schools there was a special needs class held for those children.

According to a mother whose child attended that class it was the largest in

the entire state of Arizona.

Intermarriage has been such a common occurrence in polygamy it’s no wonder they have so many retarded children or children born with serious birth defects.

...

Jenny Larson

“The greatest menace to freedom is an inert people.” - Louis D. Brandeis



Child Protection Project's Suggested Reading

Brainwash to Hogwash

Escaping and Exposing Polygamy

By Jenny Jessop Larson

Jenco Publishing Co., St. George, UT 84770

c. 2004

ISBN: 0-9658112-2-0

Order toll-free: 1.877.536.6999

\$19.95 plus \$3.50 for shipping and handling

Escape

By Carolyn Jessop and Laura Palmer

Publisher: Broadway Books

432 pages

Pub date: October 2007

ISBN: 9780767927567

\$24.95

Under the Banner of Heaven

A Story of Violent Faith

By Jon Krakauer

Doubleday, Anchor Books

c. 2003

372 pages

ISBN-10: 0385509510

\$27.50

God vs. the Gavel

Religion and the Rule of Law

By Marci A. Hamilton

Cambridge University Press

ISBN-10: 0521853044

September 2005

428 pages

\$20.00

Film:

"Damned to Heaven"

Filmmaker: Thomas Elliott

Cinematographer: Pawel Gula

Publicist: Wendi Epps, redpress@ophilia.com

2006

Carolyn Jessop's ESCAPE With Laura Palmer—Excerpt

In the chapter "Harrison Gets a Port", Jessop tells of an experience with a hospital surgeon.

One of the sister-wives 'Ruth' has a son named Luke. He was seriously injured in an accident and taken to the St. George hospital. The attending surgeon needed the approval of a legal parent to proceed with treatment.

Ruth wanted to approve the treatment. Her polygamous husband Merrill, also married to Carolyn, has 53 children. Another son visited Luke in the hospital reporting to Ruth that Luke was OK. Merrill would not allow Ruth to get involved. He stated emphatically that the wife's duty was to obey her husband who receives the word of God.

Meanwhile Luke was on an IV waiting for surgery. He became very hungry. When another brother visited him, he disconnected Luke's IV. They managed to leave the hospital and go out for a big dinner. When they discovered a patient had disappeared, the hospital went into a panic.

Luke and his brother re-

turned. Neither parent responded to the hospital for two days. The hospital shortly thereafter discharged Luke without the signature of a legal parent.

Meanwhile Carolyn's son Harrison, a toddler at the time, had been treated by the same surgeon. Carolyn and the surgeon were on good terms. After the situation with Luke, the surgeon said that she would not insert another port into Harrison. He had no veins left for inserting an IV. At that point Carolyn believed the surgeon suspected herself as well as those involved with Luke were living under polygamy.

Fearing the outside world, Carolyn had not informed the surgeon that she was part of a polygamous family. She did not fully trust the surgeon.

The surgeon and the hospital had dealt with polygamous families many times before. The surgeon had become disgusted with the parents who did not care about the health of their children, particularly male.

The surgeon finally gave Carolyn the cold shoulder and told her that she would in effect no longer treat Harrison. ▲





New Cemetery Markers Questionable burials

Grave markers have been affixed to new and existing graves in the Isaac Carling and Babyland cemeteries in Colorado City. The number of new markers is disturbing to the CPP.

Linda Walker, founder of the Child Protection Project, states that “we are wondering how they got this information and if there is a plot map. The new markers leave unanswered questions as the amount of reported deaths do not match the amount of grave markers.”

In 2004 Walker researched in depth gravesite data with vital records. All gravesites in the two cemeteries were documented and video taped.

Some new graves give burial dates prior to 2004 but were not found in the study that year.

Two graves with a burial date of 1931 were added since 2004. For 1932 one grave added. For 1935 one grave added. The markers were not commemorative as there were mounds of fresh dirt at the gravesite. There are 11 burials without death records. The CPP is still searching for records to support gravesite information.

Access to vital records for deaths after 1950 is prohibited by HIPPA law.

With more consistent burial data the CPP would be able to track who is alive and who is deceased in these polygamous compounds. ▲

Grant Application Denied (continued from page 1)

meetings, flyers and billboards. However women and children in Colorado City did not receive the materials.

Advocates have vowed to press forward. “It means that we’re going to have to scramble to try to help people with the resource we had before, which was not enough,” said Paul Murphy, the Utah Attorney General’s Safety Net coordinator.

The Safety Net Committee was made up of government bureaucrats, advocates and members of polygamous groups.

With the previous grant exhausted, anyone from a plural family seeking assistance must deal directly with state agencies. Advocates hope that these agencies will become more aware of the unique issues of those fleeing polygamy.

Fall at the Healing Circle Ground improvements add to its enchantment

This fall the directors of the Healing Circle conducted a Medicine Ceremony. Their purpose was to bless the land. The rites were led by an older Dine (Navajo) and a younger Apache who traveled from New York and Texas. The Navajo works full time in this field, the Apache as a psychiatrist.

The ceremony began in the evening and concluded the next morning with a sacred meal. About 20 participants remained overnight.

One director said “it was a celebration of what we’re engaged in doing”.

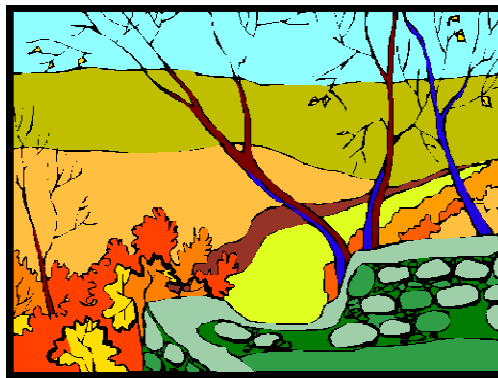
A second highlight of the

fall was erecting a teepee. Its installation brought a special energy to the Healing Circle. Neither the teepee nor their land are intended as a shelter or safe house.

This fall flood control work was carried out by creating berms, leveling, and stone work. A small meditative labyrinth pathway is to be laid.

The City of Hildale has con-

structed an all-weather gravel road leading up to the property. The facilitators would like to see additional improvements to this road.



During the winter, work on the property will proceed as weather permits. The facilitators continue

to focus on brainstorming, writing and crafting materials for workshops. When someone arrives in need, they are

greeted and met as a priority.

In 2006 a Healing Circle meeting was held for survivors of polygamy. A ‘talking stick’ was passed for each participant to speak uninterrupted about their own suffering .

Their offerings are limited due to few overnight accommodations on the property. They have limited indoor sleeping and camping spaces on the property.

The situation will not change in the near future until an independent water system, sanitation, and a power upgrade are added.

P.O. Box 840752
Hildale, UT 84784 ▲



To Be Free...

Dedicated to Ruby Jessop

Heart racing, sight dimming
As footsteps near the door
Trembling beneath the covers
No escaping from the horror.

Brutal words, stunning blows
Nothing I can do
My husband has the priesthood's blessing
To beat me black and blue.

Blood oozing, torn flesh
So cold, so hot, so sore
Fourteen years old and forever changed
A virgin never more.

Heart racing, they're coming
The men are hunting me
Safety is finally within my sight
Run faster, Oh God, help me get free.

White hot fear, blinding pain
Blood flowing down my face
No memory, just shadows, running for life
Knowing now I've lost the race.

Five years passed, still I'm chained
I've babies now to free
Must listen closely, keep them safe
Protect them, protect me.

My sister fights the evil here
No backing down, she shows no fear
My dimming dream, barely alive
Cries only my sister can hear.

The nightmare will soon be over
Freedom, light, and peace abound
My sister's voice I long to hear
Freedom comes from that one sound.

Give me strength, my mind grows weak
Just hold on little ones
The pain is nearly over
Darkness turns to light, she comes.

Freedom, a foreign word
I chant inside my head
Freedom, I dream, I wait
Freedom, please come before I'm dead.

*Flora Jessop
April 2005*

Yearn for Zion New FLDS Headquarters Private secluded compound

A corporate hunting grounds' in Texas was the smokescreen for acquiring and building a Zion for the Fundamentalist Latter Day Saints. There is increasing evidence that the property is becoming 'ground zero' for a world headquarters of the FLDS theological kingdom.

The property consists of 1691 acres north of El Dorado, Texas in Schleicher County. The YFZ Land Corporation was formed and the property acquired in November 2003. This private compound includes a public water system large enough to support roughly 3000 people. A sewer system has been completed. Fire and garbage trucks have been placed on the property. A pivot irrigation system is up.

Three log cabins and eight other dwellings have been built. The largest dwelling consists of more than 29,000 square feet of living area. An equally impressive meeting hall has been erected along with a storehouse and several metal shop buildings. A mammoth first-ever temple has been constructed.

Beginning in 2004 women and children from Colorado City were transported to and settled in the Texas compound.

The one-mile distance from the interior of the property to its outskirts

makes escaping nearly impossible. The state highway running through Colorado City makes fleeing there less difficult.

Warren Jeffs, former FLDS prophet in Colorado City believed like his predecessors that the world headquarters for the FLDS would be situated in Jackson County, Missouri. There the Mormon founder Joseph Smith was tried in the 1830s. He failed to establish a Zion.

Before becoming prophet, Warren Jeffs wrote and recorded a song titled 'Yearn for Zion'. Many FLDS followers believe the song title was the inspiration for the name given to the legal entities formed.

The sect has kept up with its taxes, paid in cash, a relief for local officials.

Aerial photos depict women dressed in traditional pioneer-style garb working in vast green fields. Long-sleeved clad men are shown working in various construction projects.

According to Randy Man-kin, editor of the El Dorado Success: "They're industrious but so are fire ants". ▲



One mile to the compound's interior makes escaping nearly impossible.



Child Protection Project

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- Write the editor
- Write your legislators

Like the tiger we fight turning sexual predators into prey.

William E. Jessop (continued from page 1)

Fred Jessop's door and abducted him. He disappeared which was totally uncharacteristic of him. Then Warren Jeffs told the people in Colorado City that Jessop was on 'a mission for God'. One month later Flora Jessop, the only legal heir to Fred Jessop's estate, along with her brothers filed a missing person's report.

In 2004 Timpson officially petitioned the St. George court to change his last name to Jessop. The change was granted. He then assumed Fred Jessop's identity, position, home, family and wealth in the FLDS.

Fifteen months after Fred

Jessop disappeared he was found in a Lone Tree, Colorado hospital. It was William E. Jessop who drove Fred to the hospital. One week later he died. The death was not in question. Flora Jessop and her brothers wanted to know where Fred was for the 15 months. William E. Jessop was under suspicion of identity theft but the St. George FBI agent would not file charges.

The funeral for Fred Jessop was announced by the Colorado City FLDS to be by invitation only. Flora Jessop threatened the FLDS authorities that she would attend flanked by television cameras. She attended without the media.

Her brothers attended and were searched beforehand.

In January of 2007 from the Purgatory jail, Warren Jeffs told family and select followers he had been "deceived by the power of evil" and had never been the prophet of the FLDS. The real prophet, Jeffs said, was William E. Jessop, now age 38.

However Uncle Rulon believed that Second Coming was imminent. He repeatedly preached that there would be no apostles after him. Thus there was no succession plan in place—except for the alleged identity thief and accidental apostle William E. Jessop. ▲



Was there ever wrongdoing in the Colorado City Post Office?

In the eighties Flora Jessop filed an affidavit with the U.S. Post Office about the postmistress who was taking mail home to censor it from bad influences on Colorado City residents.

Magazine and catalogs were automatically discarded. The postmistress managed to open the letters. Some of the mail she tossed. Mail clearing the censorship was placed into the post office boxes.

At one time a federal postmaster independent of the

FLDS was in charge. A postal worker hired by the FLDS would toss property tax notices on the floor. The Utah State special fiduciary Bruce Wisan finally posted the notices directly on doors of the houses.

How would the high school graduation rates in Colorado City compared to other high schools?

In 2002 the graduation rate of Mohave County's Kingman High School was 77.2 percent. The graduation rate was 27.1 percent for Colorado City High School (CCHS) in the same year.

These statistics represent a poor comparison as the curriculum of CCHS has historically lagged behind other high schools in Arizona.

How do the FLDS compare with the Amish in Pennsylvania in obeying laws?

The Mormon fundamentalists live outside the law, violat-

ing bigamy, welfare and in some case statutory rape laws.

The Mormon polygamists have been historically left alone, provided they remain within geographic limits and stay out of public view.

The Amish, although reputed as a quiet people, have consistently dodged many of the U.S. laws scrupulously adhered to by other Americans, specifically labor, Social Security and education. The Amish have won, in a sense, that the laws they violate have been changed or left unenforced. ▲



To find your federal, state and local officials:

<http://www.congress.org/congressorg/directory/congdir.tt>