



It's time to do your 2008 tax returns...
**HAVE YOU EXPLOITED YOUR SPECIAL
TAX-EXEMPT STATUS FOR MILLIONS
OF DOLLARS OF PROFIT YET?**

Scientologists have.

Scientology's Business Structure

"The way to make a million dollars is to start a religion."
- L. Ron Hubbard, Founder of the Church of Scientology

Scientology charges its members large fees for information about their own religion, requiring that they pay for classes and books in order to advance within the organization.

Germany, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Israel, Mexico, the United Kingdom and Belgium view Scientology purely as a business entity and do not afford it any special treatment, tax-related or otherwise.

Scientology's Special Exemption

The Church of Scientology's tax status was overturned in 1993 after the church filed more than 2,000 lawsuits against the IRS and Scientology's leader, David Miscavige, met with IRS officials in a secret meeting. The IRS has refused to disclose the terms of this agreement or any details outlining why the Church of Scientology was suddenly eligible for religious and tax-exempt status.

This agreement is clearly superior to those of all other religious organizations in the United States, despite the fact that Scientology charges members for courses and information about their own religion, generating massive profits for the organization.

Scientology's Tax History

The Church of Scientology was founded in the early 1950s, and quickly gained and lost its tax-exempt status as a religion. For 25 years, IRS agents had branded Scientology a commercial enterprise and refused to give it the tax exemption granted to churches. The refusals had been upheld in every court. In 1973 the church embarked on a program code named 'Snow White'. Under the supervision of Hubbard's wife, Mary Sue, Scientologists infiltrated the Department of Justice and the IRS. They broke into offices at night and copied mountains of documents and bugged an IRS conference room the day before a meeting about Scientology.

The conspiracy was uncovered in 1977, and Mrs. Hubbard and 10 others were eventually sentenced to prison. L. Ron Hubbard died a fugitive from justice.

Violation of the Establishment Clause

The Church of Scientology's tax-exempt status is in direct violation of the 'Establishment Clause'. This clause, which is part of the First Amendment to the US Constitution, states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion." One of the vital aspects to this clause's interpretation includes an explicit prohibition against the establishment of any law giving preference to one religion over another. In other words, if one specific church is going to receive a specific benefit, then that same benefit must be freely given to all other faiths as well. If that can't be achieved, then no individual church should receive such preferential treatment, lest the law or governmental agency find itself in violation of the Constitution.

Court Rulings

In 2004, a suit was filed on behalf of Michael and Marla Sklar, a Jewish couple who attempted to claim \$15,000, which they claim was the cost associated with the religious component of their children's education. The foundation of the case was the Church of Scientology's religious education tax-exemption, which served as precedent for the Sklar's deduction. Inevitably, the court's decision hinged on an investigation tax-exemption that allows each individual Scientologist to deduct very large sums of money spent on auditing and religious education. The Sklars lost the case and three judges of the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the ruling, stating in essence that two wrongs don't make a right.

What Can Be Done?

- Write your congressman, senators and the President voicing your concern and outrage regarding this issue.
- Sign the petition seeking to reverse the Church of Scientology's tax-exempt status.

The goal is to bring a bill before congress to remove Scientology's tax-exemption and to investigate the secret deal that was made with the IRS and make the terms of that agreement available to the public.

Sign the Online Petition
<http://tinyurl.com/ctcaaj>

Make 'Em Pay
<http://www.mnraid.org/page.php?id=114>

Unjust and Unconstitutional

It is the belief of thousands of Americans that the Church of Scientology is a dangerous, for-profit organization. Thousands of accusations of abuse have been leveled against the church, both domestically and internationally, and the organization has been convicted of fraud and manslaughter in some countries. Such an organization does not deserve the same tax breaks as other religions, and it certainly does not deserve better ones.

Scientology's tax-exempt status directly violates the U.S. Constitution and its organizational structure as a business by definition excludes it from any special treatment.

Other Resources

The Shadowy Story Behind Scientology's Tax-Exempt Status

<http://tinyurl.com/qebbw>

Scientologists' Tax Break Cited in Suit Against IRS

<http://tinyurl.com/bjja2v>

Couple Seeks Same Tax Break as Scientologists

<http://tinyurl.com/aqj8nq>

Couple Lose Bid for Tax Refund Tied to Tuition

<http://tinyurl.com/alg3mk>

Court Case Poses Challenge to Scientology Tax Break

<http://tinyurl.com/cguwr7>

Change.gov: Revoke Scientology' Tax-Exempt Status

<http://tinyurl.com/884uca>



RELIGION SHOULD BE FREE. SCIENTOLOGY IS NEITHER.

Learn more about the history and dangers of the Church of Scientology at:

xenu.net whyweprotest.net whyaretheydead.net

exscientologykids.com scientology-kills.org scientology-lies.com

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