

Background for Science & Spirituality presentations

First Part [pages 1-6] "Health Fraud Conference" Retyped; published in Townsend Letter, 1987

Second Part [pages 6-11] Expose' refused for publication by Townsend Letter

Added resources who recognize the situation [page 11]

The Health Fraud Conference: Of Quacks, Missionaries and Flat Earth Medicine

I attended the Seattle presentation of the "Health Fraud Conference and Fair" [1986] and witnessed a program that your readers should be aware of. For me it was an eye-opener, first because of the speakers' obvious total belief in what they are doing. Second, I found a surprising undercurrent of religious crusading which angered me because I didn't expect it, and because it was so pervasive. They are sadly and dangerously misdirecting, pushing listeners away from many valuable, life-saving approaches to health care.

I see that we have got some work to do, to educate the public and public officials about what this program represents.

1. The Health Fraud Conference--A Rigged Debate

The announced content was promising enough--anyone would be interested in such topics as "Arthritis Cures", "AIDS and Sexually-Transmitted Diseases", "Cancer", "Weight Loss", "Vitamins", "Evaluating Advertising". Speakers included an oncologist, rheumatologist, surgeon, pharmacist, nutrition doctorate, and FDA/FTC/Better Business Bureau representatives. I expected to hear outlines of various approaches and how the AMA differed and felt theirs was the best approach, as well as hearing out outright impossible health schemes. But, the presentations were one-sided and no material was given from those whose therapies were being condemned. The therapies that were mentioned were sketched broadly and incompletely, compared to the literature I have read from their proponents. One reader even belittled the example of the healthy Hunza mountain people, saying they had nothing to teach us because their children and older people have the "usual" degenerative diseases (but he did not mention that this is true now only after the Chinese put in a road and brought in refined flour, sweets and automobile pollution).

I felt like I was at a rigged debate, with half-truths presented as the opponent's argument, and then dismissed as "unproven" or "well-meaning but not scientific" (ignoring studies already done, or often extensive clinical successes). There was enough truth in what they said to grab at one's interest, but all they delivered to the audience was a message of how they were the only ones to be trusted to know the truth in a terrifying and complex world.

Their material on cancer was especially frightening; not in what they said, but what they did not say. The work of Harold Manners, Michio Kushi, Ann Wigmore, the Simontons, the Gersons, Emanuel Revici, etc., were named only and classed as unproven or dangerous without any explanation of the work itself. The use of cancer statistics by the speakers is revealing: three charts were shown, one of patients spontaneously recovering, one of illness and periodic remission, one of steady decline and death. They said that this was the way "the disease of cancer" acts. I don't think any of us in alternative health care thinks of cancer as a "disease" but is more correctly called a condition of a body with a weakened immune system, in reaction to influences on it. The speakers' flat dismissal of the first chart as simply cases in which cancer

spontaneously goes away shows their total blindness to the fact that this chart represents THE MOST IMPORTANT PEOPLE--those who for various reasons have been able to recover from the condition. Instead of studying these people in detail, they ignore them and spend time using drugs, surgery and radiation to manipulate the health responses of those who are not able to throw off the cancerous condition.

Speakers repeatedly said that theirs was a scientific approach, and that the "unproven" therapies have not done valid double-blind studies in an acceptable scientific way. They said "we'll accept proof", but today the "Prove-It Game" takes millions of dollars, discounts clinical successes as "anecdotal" and also ignores concepts important to the wholistic approach such as biochemical individuality.

While ridiculing nutritional and psychosomatic approaches, they made only tangential reference to the ravages of chemotherapy and other drastic approaches. They warned against methods they don't use; one slide showed supplements I recognized as those sometimes given by kinesiology practitioners. The speaker stated "These were prescribed by a bizarre technique."

All through the day I watched the speakers cultivate an attitude of fear and crisis. It was almost palpable. I felt they purposely evoked the "panic response"--desperate, uncritical dependence upon their proclaimed expertise--and several in the crowd repeatedly asked "What can we do?"

2. The Quacks--"Ones who Deceive"

"Attack the quacks!", this was the aim of the Health Fraud Conference. They were encouraging the audience to file complaints, targeting the "unorthodox" practitioners and approaches they disagreed with. One pamphlet stated "Broadly speaking, quackery is misinformation about health" (FDA Consumer Memo). Several speakers also said that "economic fraud" was another danger, because people spend money on "quack" methods rather than supporting "legitimate" research and therapies. They warned about people who claim their approach is new, a breakthrough, or of being "persecuted by the Establishment".

One slide showed a dazzling array of quack approaches including as I recall--megavitamins, gerovital, laetrile, hypnotherapy, naturopathy, homeopathy, herbal therapy, reflexology, Therapeutic Touch, EAV, SOT, DMSO, iridology, chelation, hair analysis, Toftness device, applied kinesiology, and more. They spent a long time showing slides of a plastic disposable colonic irrigation tube (the long uncounted variety) and drawing gasps from the crowd as they described colon irrigation in uncomfortable detail. They specifically targeted naturopathic physicians, showing a Winnie-The-Pooh doll holding a "My Doctor is a Naturopathic Physician" bumper sticker, and telling derisive stories about the casual, unscientific appearance and inappropriate enthusiasm of some naturopaths the speaker had met. Naturopaths and other "quacks" were condemned as being "deceivers". This was the point at which I felt a distinct shift into a religious crusade.

An encouraging note I want to interject at this point is that one speaker admitted that "Health fraud is on the rise, the quacks are gaining. Fraud will continue to grow; more and more well-known people with impressive credentials are coming out and supporting unproven or fraudulent therapies." To me, this is encouraging. They know something is wrong, something they stand

for is not being accepted any longer. I ask you, why are there more "quacks"? I think the nation's vital question at this point should be "Who decides what constitutes quackery?"

3. The Missionaries--Sending the Deceivers to Hell

I was surprised to find attacks on therapies associated with "eastern" thought. One speaker seemed almost smug when he showed that slide of Pooh-Bear promoting naturopath, and later showed that same slide and remarked "And some say Winnie-The-Pooh is a Taoist" referring to a fanciful book using eastern philosophy to analyze this make-believe character, The Tao of Pooh. This remark struck a resonant chord in some of the conference organizers, and a few in the audience also nodded, as if possible association with eastern thinking and health approaches were some kind of evil pathway. I then recalled that one of the radio announcements about the Fraud Conference warned the public about health treatments which were Oriental or Eastern.

I discovered that the most vocal of the anti-quack organizations, The National Council Against Health Fraud, is based in Loma Linda, and is largely a missionary outreach of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, supported by church members. A friend of mine once attended a conference featuring their most outspoken member William Jarvis, Ph.D., and he described this as almost a prayer meeting, calling people to rally against the influence of the devil in the holistic health care field. It is the NCAHF which created the "Quack-Buster" T-shirt; at the Health Fraud Conference I found these T-shirts being worn by the video camera crew and others on the support staff. They responded enthusiastically whenever a speaker mentioned how God's order should be followed, or condemned or ridiculed some eastern-related therapy. I was startled when a speaker talked about naturopaths and others as being "deceivers" of the public with their false information, and then flashed onto the screen illustrations from Dante's Inferno and the place Dante said God reserved in Hell for deceivers--a fiery cavern with pits in the floor in which the evil ones were interred head-first for an eternity of punishment. The laughter, nodding heads, and even a few handclaps gave me the impression that this was a reality that they would hasten to bring about!!

I feel the NCAHF is hiding their key controlling role; the official government-printed flyer did not include them as participants, but at the Conference they were listed (as the Washington Council Against Health Fraud) in the packet handed to us.

The impact of the NCAHF on freedom of information and access to health care cannot be over-estimated. They spend a lot of money to defeat health alternatives which threaten their beliefs. They have had members take part in the Consumer Reports Expert Panel on Unproven Health Remedies. Their presence was clearly seen in the Health Fraud Conference presentations.

The NCAHF has a "hidden agenda" behind their protestations and the confusion and fear they are creating; the public and public officials need to know of their extreme bias in statements attacking health care methods. They state they want to protect us from "fraud", but then define this as basically anything which is contrary to their beliefs. I feel that in "protecting" people, they are actually holding us all as "health care hostages", denying effective health care to a majority of people because of their own religious-based fears and short-sighted world view.

4. How Their Fears are Killing Themselves--And Us

The NCAHF reminds me of a sad incident I read about--from around the time of Stanley Livingston, a group of British adventurers became lost in the African bush. They wandered for several weeks amid the harsh landscape, wild animals, and furtive heathens, who sometimes came near with magic concoctions and ritual artifacts. Rations gone, delirious, they lay huddled together, their weapons driving away the "cunning black pagans". Their log book tells of the ways the enemy tried to tempt them and poison them, and how their faith remained unwavering. Months later, their graves were found by a team of explorers, led there--by the gentle pygmies who had tried so hard to heal their diseases and offer the holiest food they had.

I think fears of alternative approaches are needless. Religious crusaders--whether they hold scientific credentials or are trusting parishioners funding a mission to save the world from "deceivers"--who condemn methods which are different from their current beliefs about health and medical care are hurting us all. They mislead and misinform the public about important health and life approaches which we in alternative fields believe are necessary for the survival of our planet. Fear of the philosophy of users of a valid therapy should not keep health care practitioners and researchers from studying it. There will be plenty of room for religion in the developing, expanded view of health care.

5. "Flat Earth Medicine"--The Fundamentalist Legacy

The Health Fraud Conference disclosed the "tunnel vision" of the doctors who spoke, and the refusal-to-see of the religious crusaders who slanted the conference so dramatically. I propose we use a new term to graphically depict what their restrictions would do to health care in the future; these would force us to practice "Flat Earth Medicine". This denies anything which challenges current medical theory in the west, and especially those approaches which rely on the interactive approach to health and life which is also inherent in eastern medicines and models of existence.

Flat Earth Medicine restricts the explorations of medical, biological, psychological researchers in the same way scientists were bound a few centuries ago. Just as with the daring navigators who sailed the oceans against the currents of conventional "wisdom", so it is with many of today's most brilliant thinkers about life and health. Publications such as yours are beacons of light within the darkness of denial that threatens us. The health methods attacked by the Health Fraud Conference are not all eastern, but in my own studies, the expanded vision of an interactive universe (energy flow, give-and-take, etc.) explains how so many methods currently labeled "unproven" all fit together so well.

I have examined many of the "unproven" therapies, and found connections when I integrated them with the knowledge of energy flow originally described by the Chinese as the basis for their acupuncture meridian theory and the yin/yang flow between life and the elements. It falls into place beautifully--Acupuncture Medicine, the meridian stimulation of Reflexology, muscle testing of Applied Kinesiology (changing when meridians are stimulated), chiropractic reflex points correlating with acupuncture areas, the energy in the percussed dilutions of Homeopathy (which makes changes in kinesiology tests when brought near the body), electrodiagnosis (EAV) measurement of energy at the acupuncture points (also using homeopathic preparations in testing), fiber changes in the iris of the eye with changes in energy flow, the effects of

electromagnetic radiations on health (magnetic, light, color, sound, microwaves, low frequency vibrations, etc.), radial pulse changes revealing stressors near the body, Toftness device detection of body radiation imbalances, Kirlian photograph of energy, the effect of vitamins and psychological states on kinesiology tests, cancer cures by metabolic balancing, Therapeutic Touch transferring body energies, Polarity, and much more. To me, it all fits. And, it is all being denied as "quackery," or "Eastern" (ignoring the facts that homeopathy and electrodiagnosis were discovered by German medical doctors and chiropractic and applied kinesiology were developed by Americans).

6. Looking to the Future--Supporting Diversity in Healthcare

The Health Fraud Conference was more valuable for the assumptions and viewpoints it disclosed and the insights we can gain from exposing them, than for the "Flat Earth Medicine" it promoted. Humanity made it past the olden days when we feared the edges of a flat earth. Science and religion have flourished and the change in world view didn't destroy them. A similar kind of change is happening today, reflected in the observation that "The quacks are gaining...more and more well-known people with impressive credentials are coming out and supporting unproven or fraudulent therapies..." That wording reflects fear of change, but change won't destroy science or religion this time either.

In science, Quantum Physics has brought new ways to understand energy interactions, and scientists are looking at the world in a new light (even homeopathy's percussed dilutions are being considered as energy storage solutions). The subtleties of personal, nutritional balance, environmental energetics, and even psychological "vibrations" are inducing a new dimension of research, literature and clinical experience. "Energy Medicine" is a term sometimes used to describe health care applications of these new insights.

For Religion, I think fears of alternative approaches are needless. I read a paper by a minister who is also a Touch For Health (kinesiology) practitioner, Dr. Jim Reid, who says that kinesiological science allows the practitioner to function like an "electrician", and that there can be Buddhist electricians, Christian electricians, etc. Touch For Health isn't from the Devil just because some practitioners aren't evangelical Christians. Fear of the philosophy of users of a valid therapy should not keep compassionate health care practitioners from studying it; there will be plenty of room for religion in the developing, expanded view of health care.

7. Heresy--One Who Saw the Future

Dr. Reid also tells a wonderful story I want to give you. He answers a book attacking holistic health (The Holistic Healers, written in part by an instructor at the San Diego School of Evangelism): "Dr. Reisser makes one other statement to which I would like to respond. He says 'You will never see muscle testing written up in Scientific American or recognized by the National Institutes of Health.' I would like to respond to Dr. Reisser that yesterday's heresy often becomes tomorrow's orthodoxy. It wasn't too long ago that doctors used to bleed people to 'make them well'. Now they give them blood transfusions. In 1870, at a Methodist College, an educator said that in 50 years men would fly like birds. A Methodist bishop was present with his pregnant wife and 3-year-old son. He said 'Flight is strictly reserved for the angels and I beg you not to repeat that statement lest you be guilty of blasphemy.' That bishop's name was Milton

Wright. He took his wife and son, Orville home. His second son Wilbur was born and 33 years later, his sons did what only angels were supposed to do."

Looking at the restrictions Flat Earth Medicine would place on our world, I turn to the Townsend Letter and applaud your "explorers" in health care. You are all like the Wright Brothers or a Christopher Columbus in daring to investigate where others refuse to go. You may be facing opposition and adversity, but for all of us, the message is clear : "Sail on. Sail on!"

8. Beyond Rhetoric

Let's go past the one-sided debate the Health Fraud Conference represents, and even my reaction to it here as well. The public and public officials have a key role in the future of health care. They need to look with open eyes, at a much broader view than they have been allowed to see so far and consider these elements: 1. The economic monopoly of health care by vested interests; 2. Separation of church and state in health care; and 3. Freedom of choice for health care. These are all issues that need further discussion as we move forward.

---Ralph Wilson, medical student, Bastyr College of Naturopathic Medicine. Published 1987.

End of article

[Ref, 2011: Ralph Wilson, N.D., Washington DC - www.NaturalConnectionsHealthcare.com]

Part Two:

Following is a draft of a proposed expose' submitted to the Townsend Letter.

It was refused for publication because it was too inflammatory, threatening the NCAHF.

Significant sections to follow:

Proposed Web Site:

Health Fraud & Our Future: Of Quacks, Missionaries and Flat Earth Medicine

Christians permeate the structure of the NIH Office of Alternative Medicine

Christians censured Vibrational Medicine Seminar [1989]

Christians persecuted food cures for illness [1930s]

Other religions and ideologies also destroyed knowledge

How their fears are killing themselves--and us [a story of Africa]

Heresy--Ones who saw the future then gave it to us [a story of spirits that soar]

Kangaroo Court Ambushes Dentists in Washington state

Room enough for all [hopes to make peace]

Retype of original 1987 article:

The Health Fraud Conference: Of Quacks, Missionaries and Flat Earth Medicine

Web design notes:

[C] The Health Fraud Conference: Shock of a "Rigged Debate"

[Q] Quacks = The Deceivers: Who gives the label?

[M] Missionaries: They're so sincere...

[A] Agendas: Get the Deceivers, stifle awareness of alternatives

[H] Hell--The place they want to send the Deceivers

[F] Flat Earth Medicine--The Sad Legacy of the NCAHF

[O] Many other religions and ideologies also destroyed knowledge

[S] Science: The hope that was co-opted by special interests

[D] Diversity: Protection from Mono-Culture's dangers

[R] Room for both science and religion

[B] Bibliography, References, Biographies of Quack Hunters and their kinds of attacks.

Submitted prior to September 11, 2001:

Prepared to submit on: March 12, 1997

To: Townsend Letter [subsequently refused, as too blatant an attack on NCAHF]

LET'S DEMAND HONESTY ABOUT AGENDAS

Dear Editor:

I appreciate what the Townsend Letter has become over the years. You have given a voice to people committed to increasing the public's options for health care. Jonathan Colin's article and Dr. Gaby's column point out the dilemma faced by the public and open-minded health care professionals--how do we sort through the hyperbole and true-believer testimonials about alternative devices, theories and therapies? A critical question we also must face at the same time is: Who is **opposing** the various advances used by health practitioners? I believe what I have to say will affect legislators, health policy makers, judges and juries, and the public.

Over my years in the health care field I have supported careful research of promising discoveries and theories. I have met and listened to some of the pioneers in the field of biological science and health care and am convinced that there is a lot more research and documentation going on than is being acknowledged in the dominant media. Searching for answers I discovered that information desperately needed for decision-making by the public, legislators, health policy makers, and health care practitioners is being manipulated or obscured. To make wise decisions we need to know all the forces involved--hidden agendas can cause disasters for the unsuspecting. I want to uncover a hidden force I found behind the scenes, one I think is dangerous to ignore.

A way to solve other puzzles affecting the public has been to "**Follow the Money Trail,**" and see who financed opposing sides. It is an eye-opener to apply that approach to the health care field. On the surface it is easy to recognize the financial incentives for corporations owning pharmaceuticals, herbals, medical devices, licensure predominance, and decision makers can weigh the self-interest of the different parties involved in issues. But when it comes to the issue of freedom of choice and medical alternatives there are ferocious attacks mounted by "Quack Hunters". These are exemplified by the self-proclaimed NCAHF (a private, not governmental, group that called itself the National Council Against Health Fraud). These perennial crusaders have a perseverance that is mystifying until you discover the origin of their crusade.

The NCAHF was founded by a group including people from Loma Linda and the religious university there (as exposed in the article below). Many of them are on what could be called a religious mission, and their energetic campaign against medical alternatives is driven by this hidden agenda. **Public policy makers need to know about this behind-the-scenes fundamentalist religious motivation so that informed decisions can be made based on the interests of all concerned and not just the most vocal and well-orchestrated.**

Your transcript of the FSMB meeting on prosecuting the "Fraudulent Medical Practices" of alternative health care practitioners shows the same catch-words and tactics Quack Hunters have

used for years. These crusaders are still there, stirring up good-hearted physicians in the AMA to a fever pitch against what they choose to label "fraud". **It might help take the sting out of their diatribes if people knew many of the "Quackbusters" believe they are fighting the devil when they oppose alternative health practitioners.** They want to send them to hell as deceivers of the public. I am convinced they would rather have someone die (and go to heaven) than to see them benefit from a "healing from the devil" and end up "going to hell." They will stall as long as they can and stifle advancement as much as possible. Even though they are sincere, I believe their agenda would force upon us an impotent, Dark-Ages healthcare system, what I have called "**Flat Earth Medicine**".

I will declare the public and alternative doctors have gained because of the situation. Hearing about the Quack Hunters, many practitioners of medical alternatives are "cleaning up their acts". They are involving patients more and more in their own care. They are informing patients when a technique is experimental. They are contacting legislators to support patients' freedom of choice in health care. Many are taking training in well-established systems of health care such as acupuncture, Ayurvedic medicine and homeopathy (which, although they have only recently passed a relatively limited number of well-designed scientific tests and do not yet have complete explanations in terms of modern physics and biology, do have long histories of successful relief of illnesses). They are joining in clinical research. They are gathering outcomes-based data on different therapies. They are forming professional associations which address the issue of standards of care.

There is evidence enough for legislators and judges to side with the practitioners who prudently offer most alternative health care techniques. The main problem I see is the diversion of their attention by incessant cries of alarm by those backed by the fundamentalists. Following are some observations about how a religiously sectarian agenda is threatening the future of health care and freedom of choice.

Name withheld by request. Communications will be forwarded. ["Please withhold my name. There have been so many violent acts by religious fundamentalists that I believe this would be safer. They should have to face the public response by the many they torment rather than have an individual to focus on. Many practitioners I know have been fed up with their diabolic meddling and you should get a good response to this information."]

Proposed Web Site:

Health Fraud & Our Future: Of Quacks, Missionaries and Flat Earth Medicine

This is an outline of information I think would be helpful to have someone develop for the Internet, with buttons for access to in-depth sections. I include some sections but it is too extensive to condense for an article in linear printed format.

- [C] The Health Fraud Conference: Shock of a "Rigged Debate"
- [Q] Quacks = The Deceivers: Who gives the label?
- [M] Missionaries: They're so sincere...
- [A] Agendas: Get the Deceivers, stifle awareness of alternatives
- [H] Hell--The place they want to send the Deceivers
- [F] Flat Earth Medicine--The Sad Legacy of the NCAHF
- [O] Many other religions and ideologies also destroyed knowledge

- [S] Science: The hope that was co-opted by special interests
- [D] Diversity: Protection from Mono-Culture's dangers
- [R] Room for both science and religion
- [B] Bibliography, References, Biographies of Quack Hunters and their kinds of attacks.

Christians permeate the structure of the NIH Office of Alternative Medicine:

I went to one of the meetings scheduled around the country, advertised as a forum for public input and request for alternative healthcare practitioners to help the NIH's new OAM. It was purported to be a meeting on how to give our input to the research. But there were very few pieces of literature, the talks were given quickly with rapid presentation of slides. It seemed they were just going through the motions and were not committed to getting input from alternative practitioners and giving us power to direct the development of the program. In conversations during breaks and in response to a few well-phrased questions by attendees, I discovered that a majority of the staff were Christians, some born-again, or Baptist. This leads me to suspect that they will continue a program using "benign neglect" as one of the tools to try and shut down the information exchange among those of us who are dedicated to researching medical alternatives.

Christians censured Vibrational Medicine Seminar: I helped put on a seminar in 1989, including Jacques Benveniste, M.D., a researcher in France, who described his work with homeopathic preparations affecting white cell immune attack responses. The audio taping was done by what we soon sadly discovered was a christian company, because they refused to duplicate the tape of his talk. Why? Dr. Benveniste had said that he was a scientist and did not let himself be swayed by belief systems. He stated that he worked with what he could see and measure, he did not need God to explain things, he did not need that "crutch". The owner of the taping company declared this was anti-christian and they wouldn't help disseminate his words. I count these fundamentalists as a major force against progress in healthcare.

Christians persecuted food cures for illness: A book from the 1930s by a natural healing doctor recounted the attacks of Christian clergy on a clinic that used diet therapy for disease. These ministers from New York City joined together to run the clinic out of town, because the Bible said that all foods are acceptable. They said that God had made all foods for Man's use, and nothing was to be considered unclean. They would not let the clinic continue with the claims that cutting out certain "bad" foods from the diet would help people heal. If clinics like this had been allowed to flourish, our current practice would have been accepted sooner, and people such as my father would be alive today. I count his death as being caused by these fundamentalists.

Other religions and ideologies also destroyed knowledge: I am not attacking Christianity. Humanity needs protection from closed minds of many kinds. Historically other groups have destroyed progress: Russian communism killed millions by starvation when crops failed because they demanded agriculture reflect communist theory (the Lysenko affair). The "Islamic Galileo" had his work destroyed when (centuries ago) the Calif believed his work dimmed the glory of Allah. The first emperor who united all of China had all books from before his time destroyed so he could be the source of all knowledge and power of the nation. We are currently witnessing the "Double-Blind God of Science" silencing the voices of those whose vision shows pathways of healing that cannot be mapped using the current model of how the world works.

How their fears are killing themselves--and us [a story of Africa]: The NCAHF "quackbuster" movement reminds me of a sad incident I read about--from around the time of Stanley Livingston, a group of British adventurers became lost in the African bush. They wandered for several weeks amid the harsh landscape, wild animals, and furtive heathens, who sometimes came near with magic concoctions and ritual artifacts. Rations gone, delirious, they lay huddled together, their weapons driving away the cunning black pagans. Their log book tells of the ways the enemy tried to tempt them and poison them, and how their faith remained unwavering. Months later, their graves were found by a team of explorers, led there--by the gentle pygmies who had tried so hard to heal their diseases and offer the holiest food they had.

Heresy--Ones who saw the future then gave it to us [a story of spirits that soar]: Dr. Jim Reid, a minister who is also a Touch For Health (kinesiology) practitioner, tells a wonderful story. He answers a book attacking holistic health (The Holistic Healers, written in part by an instructor at the San Diego School of Evangelism): "Dr. Reisser makes one other statement to which I would like to respond. He says 'You will never see muscle testing written up in Scientific American or recognized by the National Institutes of Health.' I would like to respond to Dr. Reisser that yesterday's heresy often becomes tomorrow's orthodoxy. It wasn't too long ago that doctors used to bleed people to 'make them well'. Now they give them blood transfusions. In 1870, at a Methodist College, an educator said that in 50 years men would fly like birds. A Methodist bishop was present with his pregnant wife and 3-year-old son. He said 'Flight is strictly reserved for the angels and I beg you not to repeat that statement lest you be guilty of blasphemy.' That bishop's name was Milton Wright. He took his wife and son, Orville home. His second son Wilbur was born and 33 years later, his sons did what only angels were supposed to do."

Kangaroo Court Ambushes Dentists in Washington state: The words and tactics of the NCAHF were evident once again during hearings in Washington state a few years ago. The Dental Disciplinary board announced public hearings on their choice about suspending the licenses of dentists who removed mercury silver amalgam dental fillings. When around 100 patients, dentists and other health care professionals showed up to testify how people had been helped by removing amalgams, we witnessed a distressing spectacle. At the start of the day it was announced that the pro-amalgam dentists would show a movie supporting their case and then have a half-hour presentation by an expert witness (flown in from out-of-state). We were told that an opposing expert witness would be allowed to speak. **But there had been no prior notice we could have an expert witness.** There was outrage and quick discussion. I volunteered to speak as an expert witness from the acupuncture community, and was granted double the time given to the dentists and the public (I had a total of 6 minutes). After my talk with illustrations of bioelectrical connections between teeth and internal organs via acupuncture meridians, and many patients talking about relief from things such as facial tics, and an electrical taste in their mouth, and instant recovery from symptoms as if "a light switch had been turned off", many people testified of illness related to their dental work. The board decided to postpone their plans to lift licenses and reschedule for another date. The next meeting also had signs of being planned to maximize discomfort for those who opposed dental mercury, but the entire story of how we in Washington state **defended our freedom to choose removal of amalgams** is too long for this article. Words from the NCAHF literature attacking "dental quackery" were used freely during the presentations of those who wanted to stop dental freedom of choice. The NCAHF's techniques have caused untold anguish and expense to the citizens of this state, and of our nation. They should be exposed for the vested-interest group they are.

Room enough for all: Fears of alternative approaches are blocking access to precious health care resources. Religious crusaders who condemn methods different from their current beliefs about health and medical care (whether they hold scientific credentials or are trusting parishioners funding a mission to save the world from "deceivers") are closing their minds to other healthcare cultures. What is worse, they are misinforming the public about approaches necessary for the survival of our planet. Their fear of the philosophy of users of a successful therapy should not keep health care practitioners and researchers from studying it. There will be plenty of room for religion in the developing, expanded view of health care.

End of submitted text

Of note: Since that time, others have recognized the NCAHF and related endeavors.

The Bolen Report: www.BolenReport.com

Quackpot Watch: www.QuackpotWatch.org

Tim Bolen is an advocate for health care freedom of choice, specifically exposing the NCAHF and others for their harsh and inflammatory wording of their objections to things that threaten their worldview. He himself is a showman and uses similar phrasing to describe their efforts to silence CAM proponents.

Joseph Mercola, D.O. is also a very savvy presenter of alternatives: www.Mercola.com

Dr. Mercola recently interviewed cancer treatment specialist Nicholas Gonzalez, M.D.:
<http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2011/04/23/dr-nicholas-gonzalez-on-alternative-cancer-treatments.aspx>