

[deletions]

2. The freedom of the press--the question of whether it is possible for a publisher to expose the truth about an organization--is at stake. If we give in to the Local Church, we are contributing to the general climate in which powerful groups--including various cults--can intimidate publishers.
3. The integrity of InterVarsity Press is at stake. We have announced the publication of the book, believing it to be a truthful and apt presentation of the truth. If we withdraw this from publication or announce that we are not going to publish the book, we will contribute to a lowering of the image of InterVarsity Press. For if we decline the publication of the book at the present time, there will be a great difficulty in explaining why we are doing this. If the book is true, then why aren't we publishing it? If we are threatened with litigation, but believe we are well within our rights, why did we not let the litigation come? Can we be trusted to handle other publications which contain negative analyses of other religious groups? Will anyone want to place their material with us? What will happen if, when we (say) bring out a book on EST and are threatened? If other groups know that we have once withdrawn a book from our lists, will they not use this as a good indication that intimidation will work again?

*Purposes of the movement are also involved here.*

4. The name of InterVarsity Press as a publisher adds credibility to the critique.

Comment: If we release the book back to Spiritual Counterfeits Project and it is published by them, then it will have less credibility among the American public than if it were published by us. That is one of the advantages that the SCP obviously is seeking in having us distribute their work.

5. Our staff and students are being challenged by the Local Church on campus.

Comment: It is also true that many people in the Local Church were once involved with Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. We have many letters on file that mention this. This would seem to me to mean that the Local Church has drawn away some of those students whom we have influenced positively in the Christian life. We need to counter this influence in the future and go on record with those who have once been in Inter-Varsity that we feel they have taken a wrong step.

6. The book has been announced in our catalog and the Logos bookstores and others are looking forward to it.