

# Medical/Psychological Dangers of Narconon

Interfaith and inter-religious organizations across America are being approached by the Church of Scientology, through its subsidiary groups Narconon, Drug Free Marshals, and Applied Scholastics, offering programs addressing issues such as substance abuse and illiteracy. It is imperative that interfaith organizations evaluate the great number of responses by professionals in these fields advising **caution** before consenting to consider or promote Scientology's materials or methodology. It is also necessary to seek independent verification of the statistics Scientology uses in marketing its programs rather than relying only on Scientology's own publicity materials. Many have claimed to have been led (pressured?) into taking Scientology courses through their Narconon experience. Here are some things Narconon won't tell you:

- ▶ Narconon is a \$20,000 residential drug and alcohol rehab program **heavily advertised** on the Internet (over 150 web sites). In addition, Narconon **targets minority communities** via drug education programs offered to public schools.
- ▶ The Narconon program is **not eligible for third party insurance reimbursement** because it is not accredited by JCAHO, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. [Source: United Behavioral Health, Inc., and JCAHO.org]
- ▶ Narconon's **medically unsound “detoxification” regimen** poses a significant risk of **liver damage** due to high doses of niacin coupled with long sauna sessions to “sweat out toxins”. This is especially dangerous for drug users, who may already exhibit compromised liver function. [Source: Dr. L. J. West, Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry, Medical School, University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA); “Scientology II: CCHR and Narconon”, The Southern California Psychiatrist, May, 1991, pp. 6-13.]
- ▶ Although the Narconon program has been in existence for nearly 40 years, there have been **no properly controlled, peer-reviewed studies** of the effectiveness of its unorthodox methods.
- ▶ Narconon **falsely claims** that over 70 percent of its graduates remain drug-free. Narconon's **actual success rates** are below those of more established programs. [Source: Narconon-Exposed.org/studies.htm]
- ▶ While Narconon claims to be nondenominational, the actual treatment program is made up of **Scientology religious courses** that have been re-labeled as secular. [Source: Narconon-Exposed.org/lifeimprovement.htm]
- ▶ Recent participants in the Narconon program have reported instances of **physical and mental abuse** at the flagship Narconon Arrowhead facility in Canadian, Oklahoma. [Source: <http://Stop-Narconon.org/Personal>]
- ▶ Narconon representatives often **deny any relationship to Scientology**, but Scientology's own publications show Narconon as a **branch of the Scientology church**. (See graphic on back.)
- ▶ While Scientology publicly claims compatibility with all religions in its desire to be recognized by the religious community, in truth, “mixing of practices” is forbidden. All avenues to advancement are closed to those who continue to practice their faith once they enter Scientology's advanced courses. [Source: Scientology's own 501(c)(3) IRS filing from 1993, quoted at [http://ezlink.com/~perry/Co\\$/Christian](http://ezlink.com/~perry/Co$/Christian)]

To learn more, visit these web sites:

<http://Stop-Narconon.org>  
<http://StudyTech.org>

<http://Narconon-Exposed.org>  
<http://Xenu.net>

This flyer was prepared by Professor David S. Touretzky, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.

# Scientology's Control of Narconon



Narconon Logo

The figure above is taken from the May, 2004 issue of *International Scientology News*, p. 20. The Narconon logo is circled. The "Central Org" is Scientology's term for a Scientology church. The other logos depicted are Applied Scholastics (the open book), the World Institute of Scientology Enterprises (the lion), Scientology Missions International (the SMI icon), the Way to Happiness Foundation (circle with sunrise), Scientology Volunteer Ministers (the eight-pointed cross), and various Dianetics organizations (the pyramid icon).

The figure caption clearly states that Narconon is a Scientology activity.