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Member: American Psychological Association  
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To: Current Board Members  
“Albert Ellis Institute”  
45 East 65<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, N.Y. 10021

November 16, 2006

To: Mr. Robert O’Connell  
President  
Albert Ellis Institute  
45 East 65th Street  
New York, N.Y. 10021

Please distribute a copy of this letter to all board members and send me a current list of addresses.

After careful examination and lengthy analysis of the circumstances that have developed at the “Albert Ellis Institute”, I have decided to terminate my association there. These circumstances include the removal of Albert Ellis from the Board of his Institute under various pretenses, and concurrent actions preventing him from conducting his Friday night workshop or using his therapy facilities. Funds were solicited by the Institute for a so-called Tribute Journal, before and after actions against Dr. Ellis. The “Journal” was never developed. The list of other problems is too lengthy to include, but well documented and archived. These will weigh in future legal actions.

I will be disadvantaged by this decision, no longer getting referrals from the “AEI” and giving up the title of Associate Fellow I have held for many years. Potential clients will be disadvantaged by being unable to find an experienced psychologist in my area via the Institute. Personal integrity requires that I discontinue my association until the Institute is restored to its former purpose and level of professionalism. That is unfortunate, but it pales in comparison to other circumstances referred to above.

For almost 45 years I have endeavored to learn about, seek professional training in, and employ the theories and practice of Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy. I have had over 30 years of experience as a California licensed clinical psychologist, worked in mental hospitals, clinics, and private practice, taught REBT and Rational Behavior Therapy at three universities, and done some professional writing.

The events leading to the current circumstances noted above are simply unacceptable to the general welfare of Albert Ellis, the Institute he began and nurtured for half a century, and the future of psychology. The treatment and abuse of Albert Ellis and his wife Debbie Joffe Ellis are of ethical and legal concern. All these conditions have greatly added to the stress of their daily living.

These actions follow, beginning in 1996, attacks by Institute staff members on major central tenets of REBT, without substantive evidence. The major figures in that attack are now benefiting financially by the present circumstances, conducting workshops, and spending down the hard earned funds that Dr. Ellis accumulated over several decades. The motives of the individuals involved are so apparent as to leave no reasonable doubt of the intent.

Over a year ago, after becoming aware of the hostile takeover of the Institute, I wrote a lengthy (7 page) letter to Michael Broder and others involved in the coup at that time. I discussed my concerns and offered a six point plan to reverse course and correct the obvious problems that existed there. Sadly, but not unexpectedly, given the nature of the takeover, I received no reply from any of the Board members to whom I addressed this correspondence. I also received no answer to my request to supply me with a copy of the Charter under which the Institute was operating, to which I believed I was entitled as an Associate Fellow and donor.

There are issues regarding my former donations totaling \$2,000, most of which was solicited for the "Ellis Tribute Journal". This appears to mark a trend of mismanagement by the Board. This issue of management of funds can only be resolved by an independent investigation and auditing.

I advise you, with all due respect, to stop the abuse of Dr. Ellis and Debbie Joffe Ellis and repair the 6th floor living quarters of the Institute without further delay. That means you provide an adequate and comfortable place for them to reside. I am quite familiar with how quickly the physical repairs can be done. Any delay will only add to the stress to which they have been subjected. It will further damage your credibility and add to the tensions already existing between the Institute and the hundreds of individuals, as a conservative estimate, who have expressed their concerns through various channels. It is to everyone's advantage that you make every effort to correct these problems with all due haste, and with the avoidance of further rancor.

Sincerely,

John R. Minor, PhD