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Fair Game: The Incredible Untold Story Of Scientology In Australia



Synopsis

FAIR GAME: a policy by which enemies of Scientology can be, according to L. Ron Hubbard, deprived of property or injured by any means by any Scientologist without any discipline of the Scientologist. May be tricked, sued or lied to or destroyed. From James Packer to Nicole Kidman to elite Rugby League players trying to improve their game, Scientology has recruited its share of famous Australians. Less known is that Australia was the first place to ban Scientology, or that Scientology spies helped expose the Chelmsford Deep Sleep Scandal. A number of Australians have held senior posts in the organisation only to fall foul of the top brass and lose their families as a result. Based on years of interviews and meticulous research, Walkley Award-winning journalist Steve Cannane tells for the first time the fascinating story of Australia's vital involvement with this powerful, secretive and punitive cult.

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Customer Reviews

'Cannane casts the entire Scientology story in a new light through a stunning feat of reporting and storytelling' Tony Ortega

Steve Cannane is an award-winning journalist and Europe Correspondent for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

Fair Game is very well researched. It belongs on the same bookshelf as "A Piece of Blue Sky" by

Jon Atack's "Let's sell these people A Piece of Blue Sky" and Russell Miller's "Bare Faced Messiah". "Bare-Faced Messiah: The True Story of L. Ron Hubbard" covering the entire history of Scientology and its controversial founder L Ron Hubbard, it gives a good overview. But at the same time it is based firmly in the Australian part of the story. In this book you will find revealed for the first time many details about the Chelmsford "Deep Sleep Therapy" story, the people behind the investigation into and banning of Scientology in Australia, the bizarre story of Hubbard's death and the struggle for his succession and Scientology's attempts to infiltrate the sport of Rugby. New details are unearthed in the author's in depth research about the Scientology leaders and board members that escaped, only to be harassed and persecuted. Some heretofore untold stories were brought to light. Billionaires, slaves and high rollers are all covered with journalistic rigor with thorough references and verifiable facts. The Scientology of today is a mere shadow of its former glory. The few old and tired celebrity members are not being replaced by well known names, and its membership is dwindling. But it is still able to tear apart families. It is still violating immigration laws, luring young idealists into lives of penury and forced labor. It is worth a hard look, but not because of Scientology's strange beliefs. Scientologists are as free as any to believe what they believe. No, we need to take a close look at Scientologists because of their violations of the law of the land, which seem to be baked into the very nature of Scientology. Because of the parents who cannot contact their sons and daughters, even when they are dying. Because of the children who are subjected to massive vitamin overdoses and excessive heat in saunas, the so-called "Purification Rundown". Because of those held against their will. Because of the needless deaths and damaged lives. The facts need to be known, and Steve Cannane has presented them very well.

A tremendous book, compellingly written. Deep research, crisp writing and impeccable references as well as many details never before revealed make this another essential documentation of a history Scientology tries to obscure and hide. A bright light is shone on the dark underbelly Scientology denies, in an exciting read. Chapters 7 and 8 are the juicy heart of this absolute cracker of a book, replete with details and drama, pathos and sorrow. The genesis of the Anderson Report and its implications for Hubbard and his movement have never been reported in such depth. They are sandwiched between tales of escape, of obfuscation and stolen valor, of hubris, of spying and of human trafficking. Scientology's appalling policy of disconnection inevitably rears its ugly head as does the casual cruelty deep in its culture, discarding and maltreating loyal minions and hounding disaffected ex-members. I am incensed by some of the cruelties and injustices. I am delighted that yet another milestone in reporting will prove a millstone for Miscavige and the criminal enterprise he

helms. Steve Cannane has succeeded in even lighting a spark of sympathy for Rupert Murdoch in me, a feat I would previously have considered impossible. This is one of the better books on Scientology, certainly in the top 5 or 6. Kudos, Mr. Cannane - you have assembled the facts. Scientology will not try to refute them, they will deny them and call all your sources liars. Tick Tock

Steve Cannane has written an engrossing book on the "church" of Scientology. I have read a lot about this group and still was surprised to find out how much I didn't know about them. This book covers Scientology from its inception up to the present. It gives new insights into the analyses of L Ron Hubbard and his criminal organization that has been able to dupe so many governmental agencies into granting it religious status. (I'm talking about you, IRS). There are numerous citations on nearly every page to back up the almost unbelievable facts about this group. Many think that the evil that is Scientology started after Hubbard's death. This book gives facts that prove that the evil started decades earlier with Hubbard's twisted ideas about how to gain and maintain control over well meaning individuals wanting to make the world a better place. It reads like a crime novel, but it's true. If you are involved with this group, I dare you to read this book. Bo

Fair Game by Steve Cannane is a very important book about the Church of Scientology in Australia. For those like myself who lived within The Sea Organization this book weaves together what went on outside the US & gives graphic pictures of The Church of Scientology at work. Those never in Scientology will learn things as well. Very Well Done Steve, a tremendous read. Thank you abw

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