

*From the desk of Eric Wilson*

July 12, 2019

Jehovah's Witnesses  
Attn: Governing Body  
1 Kings Drive  
Tuxedo Park, NY 10987, USA

To the Members of the Governing Body:

I am appealing a decision to disfellowship me made by the elders of the Aldershot congregation in Burlington, Ontario, Canada on May 8, 2019. The basis for this appeal is that those elders, and the elders on the appeal committee as well as those on the Service Desk of the Canada branch all failed to follow organization rules and procedures as well as Bible law in this matter, rendering their decision invalid.

If you want to review the details of the case, you can watch them at this URL:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wT58CD03Y8>

I sought out legal counsel on the matter as I feel that this conduct violates my human rights under Canadian law. While it seems that the Canadian legal system is reluctant to involve itself in the inner workings of religious organizations, exceptions are made where property rights are involved or where the religious entity in question has failed to operate by its own rules. The latter is very much the case here.

To list the violations:

- 1) I was no longer attending the Aldershot congregation, nor any other congregation for that matter, when called to the hearing. I was not even living in their territory. They had no jurisdiction in this matter, so by what right do they exercise such authority to speak for the entire worldwide JW Organization?
- 2) The Organization's policy as posted on the jw.org website is that members who choose to leave by discontinuing meeting attendance and house-to-house preaching and who no longer identify themselves publicly as Jehovah's Witnesses are not shunned. This is true in my case, so why is that rule being ignored?
- 3) According to the *Shepherd the Flock of God* manual, "the chairman invites the accused to make a personal statement" at the beginning of the hearing. I was denied my personal notes upon which I had the statement I wished to make. Therefore, I was denied this part of my defense. (ks 16:2)
- 4) At both the initial hearing and the appeal, my witnesses were denied access to the property of the Kingdom hall, even though the *Shepherd* book states that I am allowed "to present witnesses to establish [my] innocence". Another violation of my rights that denied me an adequate defense. (ks 16:3)
- 5) I was disfellowshipped on the basis of ks 12:39.4: "**Causing Divisions, Promoting Sects**".

The Bible states:

"As for a man who promotes a sect, reject him after a first and a second admonition," (Titus 3:10) I was given neither a first nor a second admonition as the brothers refused to speak with me unless I conformed to their terms as outlined in the previous points which were in violation of Bible law and Organization policy.

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- 6) With regard to the alleged charge of “causing divisions and promoting sects”, no evidence was presented to me to detail the specifics of these alleged offenses. What sects have I promoted in the Aldershot congregation? Which publishers in that congregation heard me promoting a sect? Which members of the congregation were affected by the so-called division I allegedly caused? I saw no proof that these charges were even valid, and not just trumped up. I only learned of them following the decision to disfellowship, not before the hearing as is just.

Six is not a good number biblically and yet six are the infractions the aforementioned elders are guilty of committing against me.

I would ask that you men direct these elders to set aside their unlawful decision and make a full retraction from the platform of the disfellowshipping announcement as well as a formal apology.

The videos exposing these unchristian activities have already been viewed over 100,000 times, and this has resulted in a public relations fiasco for the Organization as it exposes gross hypocrisy. You men have a chance to set matters right. To fail to take any step to correct this will make you accomplices in the eyes of the public. Remember that Jesus, the judge of all the earth, is watching. (Acts 17:31)

I have warned you and so am clean of your blood.

I await your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric Wilson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Eric Wilson