## Family and Individual Defence Movement Association (RORiJ)

In Poland, in 1993, the Association for the Protection of the Family and the Individual was established by families of cult victims. It has set itself noble goals, including protecting the family against threats from...sides of groups influencing its distribution, inspiring pro-family programs, taking actions

for shaping the attitude of responsible choice, supporting families looking for their own missing relatives and popularizing the issue of threats from sects.

Association has always stood for freedom of conscience and religion, but for freedom that respects the free a choice, free from pressure and lies. We have addressed many Members of Parliament on this matter term of office, to state and local government institutions, to the Committee for Family Affairs, to the Minister Justice, the Ombudsman, the Minister of National Education, the Sejm and the Senate.

We appealed for specialists, therapists, psychologists and financial resources. We cooperated with the Inter-ministerial Team for New Religious Movements and the Police. Our representatives have participated in meetings of various bodies on sects many times. We regularly participated in the work of the Extraordinary Subcommittee for Psychomanipulative Groups, which was established in 1999, where a new legal provision was developed allowing people to be held accountable for mentally addicting others.

We presented our own legislative proposals on psychomanipulation.

Year-long work became fruitless because changes to the penal code were not accepted neither by the Sejm nor by the Senate

Our activities were carried out on many levels.

1. Preventive and warning activities. Which included training, lectures and workshops for young people, pupils, students, teachers and parents in schools and centers educational, in local government centers on the issues of threats arising from activities of destructive movements and manipulation. This activity is conducted free of charge. About the activities of the Association and problems related to groups of this nature destructive information is provided on the Association's constantly updated website:

## 2. Care for injured families

A support group created in the years 1999 - 2007 by the Association's counseling center in Warsaw she took care of families and provided psychological and legal assistance to people injured persons, carried out intervention activities in cases of threats;

Representatives of the Association acted in divorce cases and court proceedings as interveners;

# 3. Publishing activities ☐ Sects - expansion of evil joint publication, Warsaw 1997 ☐ Do not be seduced by different and foreign teachings Z. Pawlik , Warszawa 2001r. —First edition ☐ Youth and destructive cults collective work, supporting materials for teachers, Lublin: SRORiJ, 1999. ☐ And your child may be in a cult: a quide for parents and educators / Anna Łobaczewska, Małgorzata Mierzwa-Hudzik, Janusz Zawal; Family and Individual Defense Movement Association. Collective work, Lublin 2000 ☐ Bulletin of the Family and Individual Defense Movement, bimonthly, distributed free of charge among members and supporters of the Warsaw Association, 1997-2000. ☐ *Utopian paradise - New Age*, Z. Pawlik Sandomierz 2007 ☐ Information leaflets, posters, warning and educational for school children, teachers and families. 4. We organized seminars and conferences on freedom of conscience and religion legal protection of the family against sects. ☐ Methods of changing identity (1996), national seminar in Warsaw ☐ Cult movements - modern psychomanipulation - national conference in Warsaw (1998), ☐ Freedom of conscience and religion? - International seminar (1997) - Dąbrowica near Lublin, ☐ The clash of Latin civilizations and the Orient - national conference, Lublin 2000, ☐ Problems of legal protection against psychomanipulation in Poland and other countries European - international conference, Warsaw 2001 ☐ Prawo a wolność sumienia i wyznania - konferencja ogólnopolska, Lublin 2002 r. ☐ The influence of the Orient on the change of moral attitudes in modern society, Warsaw 2007 ☐ Systemic abuse in sects, international conference FECRiS Warsaw-RORiJ - co-organizer of 2011 ☐ New Age and spiritual threats 2017, Lublin ☐ Manipulative and non-addictive techniques found in healers' proposals pseudotherapists - conference for educators and students,

Lublin 2019

## Since 1994, we have been running information and counceling points:

- 1 1994-2000r w Warszawie ul. Konopczyńskiego 4, Warsaw
- 2 1994-2000 r. w Lublinie, ul. Krakowskie Przedmieście 48 at the monastery of the Friars Minor o.o.

#### Capuchins Lublin

- 3 2000 2001 r. w Warszawie, ul. Deotymy 5, Warsaw
- 4 2001-2004 r. w Warszawie, ul. Dembińskiego 3, przy OPS Żoliborz Warsaw
- 5 2002-2003 r. punkt konsultacyjny Warszawa ul. Powstańców Śląskich 9, przy OPS Bemowo, Warsaw
- 6 2002 2003 r. w Lublinie ul. Grodzka 7 Lublin
- 7 2005-2007r. w Warszawie ul. Mickiewicza 17, przy OPS Żoliborz Warsaw
- 8 .2008-2023 Lublin Motylowa5 Lublin

#### **Topics of advice**

- -Recognizing a destructive, occult, pseudo-therapeutic, economic group;
- -Ways of intervention in the event of recruiting a loved one;
- -Clarifying religious and ideological doubts;
- -Consultations with a psychologist, lawyer, sociologist;
- -Procedure in the event of family breakdown as a result of one of its members being involved in a sect family, e.g. child, spouse;
- -Consultations in case of participation in the so-called "personality development courses" on the basis of Scientology;

Advice is provided by volunteers from the **R. O. R. I. J**. Association, and, if necessary, specialists: psychologists, educators, sociologist of religion, lawyer. Advice is provided free of charge,

We have made and continue to make efforts to raise awareness among the public, above all those in power that the acts committed by sects against unsuspecting people may be subject to punishes.

Nowadays, the activities of various types of pseudo-therapists and healers who offer their services have intensified for people lost in the modern world, self-realization, getting rid of frustration, disease, joining the land of happiness if several conditions are met: depositing a large sum of money into this account organization and abandonment of the current lifestyle, i.e. work, family, and total dedication to...the care of this shaman. The cover for this type of activity is high-paid courses, training, and sessions with spiritual master. There are addictive techniques used there, the same as in sects, and it happens thereto numerous family tragedies.

#### Anna Łobaczewska