

Dear CNN,

Anderson Cooper seems like a fair guy. It's hard to believe that after seeing his interviews for years, some of which I admired, he would do a program about Scientology without looking at every angle and all sides. Is it fair to put together a program and say you have done "research" when you have heard just one side?

I am going to tell you what I know from my own experience and observation, which will give you one aspect of another side of the story, and you won't be able to say you didn't know.

I was born into Scientology. I joined staff at a young age and then when I finished school, I became a fulltime Sea Org member. While I was in the Sea Organization, I served at various echelons of the Church including at Golden Era Productions, its International HQ and at the Church in Clearwater, Florida.

After 19 years in the Sea Organization, I left. I now have a gorgeous baby girl. My husband and I are both Scientologists and we are raising our daughter on the basic principles of Scientology: communication, granting importance and a common-sense moral code.

Working in the Church was an incredible experience. I knew then and I know now that the staff are the most unbelievably genuine, well-intentioned people on Earth and they want to change conditions for the better. There were challenging times, of course, but NEVER in my 19 years on staff, in the Sea Org or before, did I witness, experience or even *hear* of someone beating up another. If you want to call it "violence" when someone raises their voice, then every individual in the world is guilty of violence, every mother, father, child, co-worker and boss, CEO or otherwise. But physical violence? I never saw any, not once.

It occurs to me with horror that you are formulating your view of the Scientology religion, Scientologists and the Sea Organization based solely on the ex-members you are talking to for your story. They have undoubtedly loaded you up with their fictional accounts of life in the Sea Org, and because you obviously have not looked for yourself, your program is automatically fictional too. And these people you are talking to are *horrible* examples of former Scientologists and former Sea Org members. They are lazy, shiftless and apparently are doing nothing productive in life, so they have time to hang out with you and spin tales.

Most of us, in and out of the Sea Organization, are productive, happy people. After leaving the Sea Organization, I became a property manager for a firm, managing commercial buildings in downtown Los Angeles. (There is no connection between this company and Scientology.) The first building I took on was at 62% occupancy. Through the skills of managing and the application of L. Ron Hubbard's administrative technology that I learned as a staff member, I have increased the occupancy of my building to over 91%. The tenants are happier and would happily tell you that I have changed the building

for the better. Not an earth-shattering accomplishment, but productive and making life better for many every day.

Now, this is not to toot my own horn, but to merely point out that the “bums” you are talking to are *not* Scientologists, they in no way represent Scientologists or Scientology or, God forbid, the Sea Organization or L. Ron Hubbard.

So I cannot state strongly enough that for you to do a show (and I do mean a *show*) based on bitter people who have gained your attention because of their salacious stories, is bias and discrimination and utter disregard for the truth—and personally offensive to millions of actual Scientologists.

As a Scientologist, as a fellow human being, I am asking you to reconsider this entire show. Give it a rest. Start over. Be fair. Get both sides of the story. Don't close your eyes. Do not formulate an opinion and influence your viewers to formulate an opinion based on bitter ex-Sea Org members. DO NOT bash my religion because Marty Rathbun told you to.

Thank you for seeing my side.

Sincerely,

L.I.