Lauren Rohs

Dear Survivors, Supporters and Community Members,

TW: Child Sex Abuse & Sexual Assault

I write to you with care and tenderness to announce a significant transition for Advocates For The Truth (AFTT). After much reflection, our Board has made the difficult decision to dissolve the organization.

AFTT was founded in March 2023 by Sheri, Cynthia and I starting with little more than a phone number on a burner app. Our goal was to support the survivors of Dean Bruer. We never intended to exist indefinitely; instead, our purpose was to facilitate assistance for those affected by this crisis of child sexual abuse and sexual assault.

As we reflect on our journey, I want to highlight a pivotal moment from last year. AFTT reached out to the FBI to establish a survivor hotline (VOSS). When it was publicly announced in February, the response was overwhelming. The resilience and strength each survivor has shown are truly inspiring, and I feel honored to have served alongside you.

In the past 18 months, we have worked closely with the FBI, Fund Recovery and Little Hooves to address the complex language and distorted vernacular surrounding these crimes. AFTT made it a point to educate others about the veiled and circular thinking of the cult that are interwoven with layers of trauma which can be crippling for survivors to describe to the outside world.

Understanding how the cult operates from within, I can speak to the ways in which it disrupts the core identity of every individual under its power, creating layers of distortion that disorient those born or brought into the system. Everything is conditional. To question, speak up or leave means paying the ultimate price—your primal connections, family ties, and spiritual identity are all at stake.

Despite our collective efforts, survivors of childhood sexual abuse and sexual assault still face the daunting challenge of escaping an abusive religious system, only to enter a world where their religion is not registered or recognized and a justice system that often does not understand the complexities of their trauma or provide the justice they deserve.

AFTT's work has been carried out on the backs of the broken. This movement has been driven by the bravery of survivors around the world. Bridges have been built for survivors by survivors across the globe. Media exposure, government awareness, international survivor advocates and third-party mental health organizations, survivors can now receive support without the cults' influence.

The barriers that once existed for survivors are shifting yet it is important to recognize that challenges remain. Those at the FBI, along with Little Hooves and Fund Recovery, are committed to understanding the complexities of abuse and supporting survivors. Their independent missions ensure that all information shared will be handled with care and confidentiality.

As we move through this transition, I want to assure you that support is still available: