

Changing Conditions in Society

# Solutions

The magazine of ABLE: Association for Better Living and Education International • Issue 8



# Moral confusion

Where is the road out  
for our young people?

## PLUS

### THE WAY TO HAPPINESS

A Common Sense Guide  
to Better Living

### THE GOLDEN RULE

Article by author & humanitarian,  
L. RON HUBBARD



## The Solution to Today's Moral Confusion

There is freedom in knowing what is thought right, what is thought wrong," writer and humanitarian L. Ron Hubbard observed. "There is only slavery when nobody knows and the rules are all 'off the cuff.'"

At present, our culture abounds with actions that seem to be entirely "off the cuff."

The event might be the terrifying presence of a gun in a schoolyard. Or the tragicomedy of a middle-aged executive deserting his family because he deserves to "have some fun." Or the monotone habits of the co-worker simply marking time at his desk each day, unaware that he's part of a group that could use his help.

How confused are we? In a recent survey of American high school seniors, 95 percent of the males agreed that "It's important for me to be a person with good character." Yet in the same survey, more than half of these future fathers, workers and community leaders stated, "A person has to lie or cheat sometimes in order to succeed."

What becomes of the group — whether a family, business, law enforcement agency, community, or government — in a society where it's every man for himself? While we might not like telling others what to do, their actions can either expand or limit the possibilities for our lives.

The answer to this dilemma is to forge agreements among group members regarding right and wrong conduct. This is the subject of morals. But as we enter a new century, we are much more able to build weapons of mass destruction — whether bombs, drugs or degraded "entertainment" — than to agree what is right and what is wrong.

In earlier cultures (and a few contemporary ones), religion provided guidance regarding right and wrong. But abuses of

this influence have led to general agreement that church and state should remain separate.

Today, there is no consistent moral code. There is only disagreement — nation to nation, state to state, community to community, business to business, family to family, person to person.

What does this mean, in practical terms? Loan defaults and insurance fraud become part of the "cost of doing business," right along with pencils and chairs. Parents watch helplessly as their children practice the "individual right" of consuming illegal drugs. Abortions are condemned and the death penalty praised with equal enthusiasm. A population that yearns for "family values" supports a multi-billion dollar pornography industry.

Nearly two decades ago, L. Ron Hubbard confronted this moral confusion. "Reading the papers and wandering around in the society, it was pretty obvious that honesty and truth were not being held up to the standards they once had," he observed. "People and even little kids in schools have gotten the idea that high moral standards are a thing of the past."

In response, Mr. Hubbard took a typically direct course of action. He set out to compile a moral code based on common sense, a tool for those whose survival was threatened by the misconduct of others.

The code that he produced, *The Way to Happiness*, a common sense guide to better living, is both unique and accessible. It is not a reflection on human failings, but a

Whether it is given to a troubled youth, a victim of war or a worried parent, *The Way to Happiness* changes lives.

## About the Association for Better Living and Education International

The Association for Better Living and Education (ABLE) is an international, nonprofit, tax-exempt organization dedicated to social betterment. Today's world is wracked with social problems — drug addiction, crime, failing education and moral decline. Any one of these social ills, left unremedied, could ultimately destroy the foundations upon which civilized society is structured.

The need for effective solutions is great. Research by author and humanitarian L. Ron Hubbard, over a period of several decades, resulted in breakthroughs in the fields of drug rehabilitation, criminal reform, education and

morals. Programs based on Mr. Hubbard's social betterment technologies (methods of application) have demonstrated that solutions to the worst social problems are an actuality.

Several nonprofit organizations exist, international in scope, licensed by ABLE International, each of which apply Mr. Hubbard's methods and principles to specific problems:

The Way to Happiness International utilizes the non-religious moral code contained in *The Way to Happiness*, a common sense guide to better living, written by Mr. Hubbard. This booklet is creating a groundswell of interna-

tional support for moral reform amongst both children and adults.

Narconon International, which oversees a global network of Narconon drug rehabilitation and prevention centers, is dedicated to restoring addicts to drug-free lives, through the use of Mr. Hubbard's unique drug rehabilitation methods. Narconon centers also provide educational programs to help school-age children and others avoid the trap of drugs.

Criminon International helps incarcerated criminals learn to be productive members of society and brings about reform, so that prisons actually rehabilitate inmates. Criminon criminal rehabilitation programs are also available as an alternative to prison sentences — ensuring that these offenders never become part of the prison population.

Applied Scholastics International assists students, parents, tutors, teachers and educa-

tool to help others increase their survival potential.

Since its first publication, *The Way to Happiness* has been enthusiastically received around the world. It has been printed and reprinted; at this writing, nearly 55 million copies are in circulation, in 28 languages.

Whether it is given to a troubled youth, a victim of war or a worried parent, *The Way to Happiness* changes lives. A prison inmate had this to say:

"Being a product of a high crime risk, extremely violent environment I was inflicted with a strong sense of distrust, rage and criminal characteristics. However, *The Way to Happiness* has actually suppressed the flames that were ignited inside of me. It has shown me a more productive, constructive side of me, as well as how this world should be. It has given me a brief description of how to obtain success in a positive manner, along with its survival tools of virtues and moral excellence. Slowly but surely I'm learning to trust and socialize with others again, and respect and love all of humanity."

How would your life change if those around you became more moral? We can help you begin to answer this question.

This issue of *Solutions* presents examples of the dramatic impact that distribution of *The Way to Happiness* can have on a school, community, business or other group. We would like to help you achieve similar results.

I urge you to contact us, to find out more about *The Way to Happiness*, and to discover how you can help those around you achieve a higher standard of morality.

Rena Weinberg  
President ABLE International

# Table of Contents



12

## Features

- 2 Moral Confusion — Where is the Road Out for Our Young People?
- 6 The Golden Rule by L. Ron Hubbard
- 8 Finding the Way: The Way to Happiness Booklet — The Solution to Declining Morals



18

## Departments

- 14 International Programs Leading the Way to a Better World
- 16 News Update The Way to Happiness in Action
- 18 Celebrity Supporters Stars Shine for The Way to Happiness
- 20 World News ABLE Programs Solving Drugs, Crime & Illiteracy



20

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Changing Conditions in Society

# SOLUTIONS



# MORAL CONFUSION

**Ethnic hatred. Pornography.  
Environmental destruction.  
Gun violence.  
Corruption. Slavery.**

**Where is the road out  
for our young people?**

**A** global culture of moral confusion has evolved. In crowded cities throughout the world, belief systems intermingle and clash. In the press and other media, antisocial behavior has become far from unusual. According to recent research, there is a growing sense that “something has been lost” in American morals and civility. Two-thirds of American adults believe that society’s standards for acceptable behavior are getting worse.



According to a recent Gallup poll, Americans believe that the most important issue facing their country is "ethics, morals, family decline, children not raised right."

As an ironic counterpoint to these expressions of concern, the market for pornography has exploded. America alone will produce 10,000 new pornographic videos this year, an average rate of more than one film each hour. Commenting on the \$4 billion California porn industry for the *Los Angeles Times*, an economist called its growth "a welcome anchor in the wind."

This amoral view of wealth has global echoes. According to the *Economist*, organized crime accounts for 40 percent of the Russian economy. Illegal activity is so widespread that an estimated \$500 billion to \$1.5

**According to recent research, there is a growing sense that "something has been lost" in American morals and civility.**

trillion is laundered each year, according to the United Nations.

Young people are listening and learning. Earlier this year, Japan found itself wrestling with the problem of schoolgirls dabbling in prostitution. Not to overcome poverty, but to earn cash for imported brand-name goods. "Japanese people today live for money and high-image products," said a Tokyo professor. "These are their values. What can adults say to these girls? They are just imitating the adults."

Some choose to compromise themselves for money. Others are compromised without their consent. Most people believe slavery is a thing of the past. Yet there may be more slaves on earth than ever before. According to the London-based Anti-Slavery League, more than 200 million people are in bondage, and a great number are children.

For example, as many as one million Asian children may be slaves in the carpet industry. Some are kidnapped. Some are mortgaged by their parents to repay debt. In addition, hundreds of thousands of Asian children are trapped in a sex industry that is fuelled by the patronage of Japanese and Western men.

Few would defend such practices. They wouldn't exist in a truly moral culture.

**Into Darkness**

In 1946, the founder of the World Federation of Mental Health, Dr. Brock Chisholm, described what he believed to be the "basic distortion" found in every civilization: the concept of right and wrong. Because of this, "the reinterpretation and eventual eradication of the concept of right and wrong" were "the belated objectives of practically all effective psychotherapy."

"If the race is to be freed of its

crippling burden of good and evil," Dr. Chisholm said, "It must be psychiatrists who take the original responsibility."

Over the last half-century, many in the fields of psychiatry and psychology have taken up this work. "As psychology increasingly has taken on the characteristics of a messianic political movement, an unwary public and its distracted elected representatives have bought into a well-marketed, but bogus, education agenda," notes author B.K. Eakman in *Cloning of the American Mind: Eradicating Morality through Education*.

The influence of these disciplines has been considerable. Psychological historian Thomas Leahy has noted the emergence of the view that "the rules by which we should live life come from within each one of us, rather than from outside."

Thus, the husband who commits adultery is free to justify his actions as necessary to a pursuit of happiness that no one but he can truly understand. "Psychology teaches introspection as the final judge of right and wrong," Leahy observes.

William Kilpatrick, author of *Why Johnny Can't Tell Right from Wrong*, states that psychology-based values education teaches our children "a totally nonjudgemental attitude" and "no time is spent providing moral guidance or forming character. The virtues are not explained or discussed, no models of good behavior are provided, no reason is given why a boy or girl should want to be good in the first place." The result is that young people "come away with the impression that even the most basic values are matters of dispute."

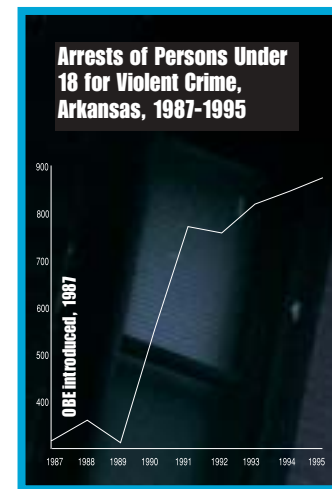
A 1960 text on these teaching methods states, "it is entirely possible that children will choose not to develop values. It is the teacher's responsibility to support this choice also."

Astonishingly, this view of morality has become quite common. However, a culture in which we can truly trust one another cannot be built on this foundation.

**A Common Sense Guide**

A number of years ago, writer and

Outcome-Based Education: This process, in part, involves breaking down and subtly invalidating the child's already acquired values and replacing them with the idea that there is no set right or wrong ("Values Clarification"). For the child, the result can be minimally confusion and disorientation.

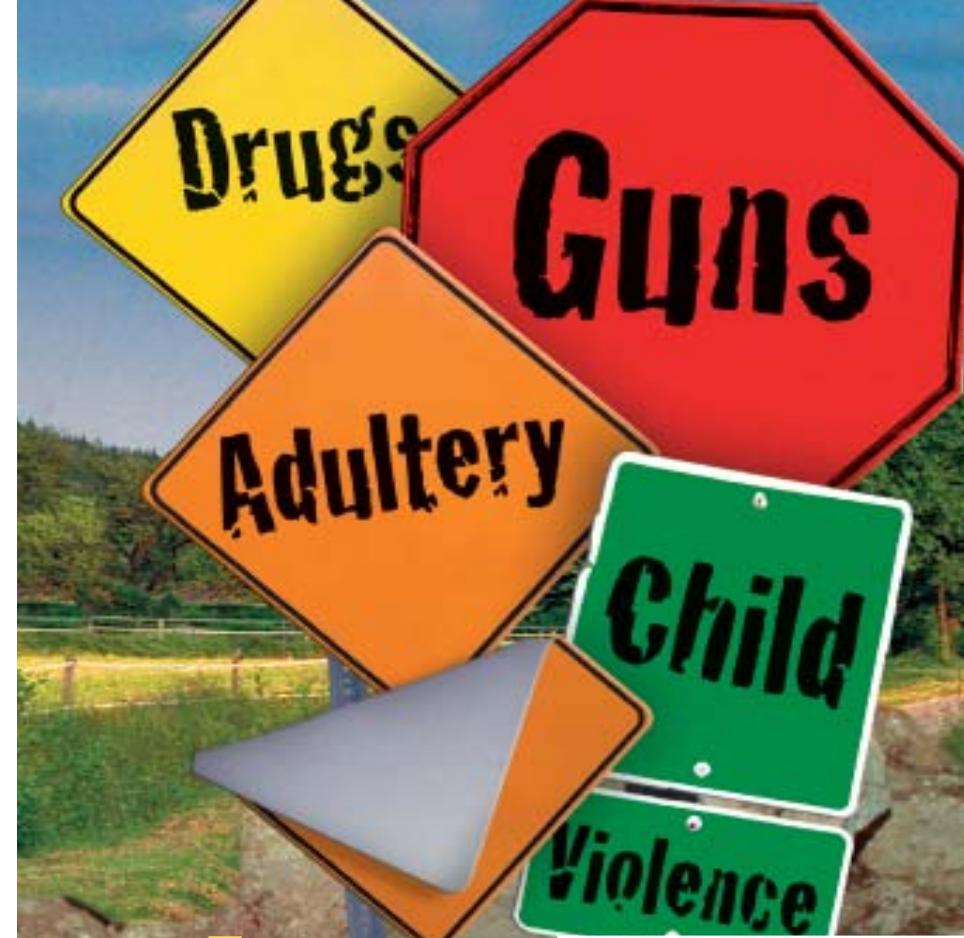


humanitarian L. Ron Hubbard returned to America after living abroad for some time. Shocked by the degradation he encountered, he set out to describe a moral code based on common-sense principles. A secular code that would be applicable in any culture, by people of any religious background (or none). A code that would be possible for people to follow and which would help them survive in the modern world.

The result of this work was *The Way to Happiness*, a common sense guide to better living. Since its first publication, tens of millions of copies of *The Way to Happiness* have been distributed. In addition to the changes it has brought to the lives of parents and students, the book has assisted businesses, and become the foundation of a remarkable rehabilitation program for prisoners.

This issue of *Solutions* examines the impact of this remarkable work. In homes and communities throughout the world, it is helping individuals re-discover basic concepts of right and wrong that form the fabric of society. It is essential to a culture in which honesty and decency can prevail.

For more information about *The Way to Happiness*, visit us at:



**Is there a way out?**



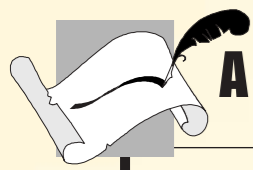
**Read the book: L. Ron Hubbard: Ethics, Justice and Civilization**

Through decades of research into the problems of society, author and humanitarian L. Ron Hubbard found workable answers to failed morals and rampant criminality. This high quality, full-color 88 page softcover book presents his groundbreaking discoveries in morals, ethics and justice.

Learn how it is possible to return individuals to lives of honesty and good values.

**Order the book, L. Ron Hubbard: Ethics, Justice and Civilization**

Use the enclosed order form or call **ABLE International. Call (323) 960-3530 NOW!**



# The Golden Rule

*In the late 1970s, American author and humanitarian L. Ron Hubbard took a hard look at the severe downward spiral of societies around the world. "Reading the papers and wandering around in the society, it was pretty obvious that honesty and truth were not being held up to the standards they once had," he wrote. He noted that even men and women of good were falling under the pressures of a rising tide of crime, violence, government corruption and pornography. Many were cast adrift with no moral anchor except the self-interest of the "now" generation.*

*He also observed: "Man has in his hands today a lot of violent weapons. He doesn't have the moral standards to go with them."*

*He set to work to address these problems, using an*

*approach that was both historically and culturally broad. He noted that just as all ancient cultures required a moral code to help provide basic principles by which people could live peaceably, prosperously and in harmony with one another, so did our own, modern culture.*

*His answer was The Way to Happiness, which he presented in 1981.*

*The Way to Happiness is a non-religious moral code, possibly the first based entirely on common sense. Uniquely suited for the modern world, The Way to Happiness consists of 21 precepts, each followed by a full explanation of its application in everyday life.*

*Presented here is The Way to Happiness precept 19, "Try Not to Do Things to Others That You Would Not Like Them to Do to You."*

**A**mong many peoples in many lands for many ages there have been versions of what is commonly called "The Golden Rule." The above is a wording of it that relates to harmful acts.

Only a saint could go through life without ever harming another. But only a criminal hurts those around him without a second thought.

Completely aside from feelings of "guilt" or "shame" or "conscience," all of which can be real enough and bad enough, it also happens to be true that the harm one does to others can recoil on oneself.

Not all harmful acts are reversible: one can commit an act against another which cannot be waived aside or forgotten. Murder is such an act. One can work out how severe



violation of almost any precept in this booklet could become an irreversible harmful act against another.

The ruin of another's life can wreck one's own. Society reacts — the prisons and the insane asylums are stuffed with people who harmed their fellows. But there are other penalties: whether one is caught or not, committing harmful acts against others, particularly when hidden, can

cause one to suffer severe changes in his attitudes toward others and himself, all of them unhappy ones. The happiness and joy of life depart.

This version of "The Golden Rule" is also useful as a test. When one persuades someone to apply it, the person can attain a reality on what a harmful act is. It answers for one what *harm* is. The philosophic question concerning *wrongdoing*, the

argument of what is wrong is answered at once on a personal basis: would you not like that to happen to you? No? Then it must be a harmful action and from society's viewpoint, a wrong action. It can awaken social consciousness. It can then let one work out what one should do and what one should not do.

In a time when some feel no restraint from doing harmful acts, the survival potential of the individual sinks to a very low ebb.

If you can persuade people to apply this, you will have given them a precept by which they can evaluate their own lives and for some, opened the door to let them rejoin the human race.

L. Ron Hubbard

# Finding the Way

## The Way to Happiness® booklet

### The solution to declining morals



problem and is already helping wherever it is distributed and gotten into use.

*The Way to Happiness* booklet centers on 21 moral precepts, each followed by a description of its applications in daily life. Based wholly on common sense, these precepts form a moral code that's easily understood and not difficult to follow. It does not put a person off by making him or her feel guilty for some particular failure. It shows exactly how to make a new beginning, no matter what the person's shortcoming may have been. One young man who had studied the booklet and made an effort to follow the precepts said, "It changed my life, turned me around from a gang member to a peacemaker. I have grown from 'cold, shrewd and don't care for anybody or anything but myself', to a kind, loving, caring, considerate man."

**T**he lack of clear and certain moral standards has led to increasing decay and turmoil in our families, neighborhoods and society. *The Way to Happiness*®, a common sense guide to better living, provides a solution to this worldwide

*The Way to Happiness* is a secular code, yet is compatible with and complementary to the





teach it. *The Way to Happiness* has been the solution.”

The essays themselves communicate exactly what the students have learned from *The Way to Happiness* (see sidebar on page 11).

#### Helping Communities Internationally

A wide variety of youth activities based on the booklet have helped young people in many U.S. cities and — thanks to the growing number of languages in which *The Way to Happiness* is available — an increasing number of countries.

- Youth essay competitions have been held by *The Way to Happiness* chapters in Russia, Hungary and India. One Russian educator had this to say about *The Way to Happiness*: “What attracted me is that your book is not a collection of morals, but a warm-hearted and honest talk with a person. Following its principles, I prepared a series of talks and even a set of special courses and training methods. Now, when I started this work, I especially clearly understood the value of it.”

- At the Harlendale Alternative Center for at-risk youth near San Antonio, Texas, more than three hundred 6th to 12th graders have been introduced to the booklet by one of the center’s counselors, Naida Segura. “Although these children come from very difficult situations, once they have been exposed to *The Way to Happiness*, they are able to make good choices,” Ms. Segura observes.

As part of the Harlendale program, the students study each precept of *The Way to Happiness*. “It is written in a style that is very simple and clear,” says Ms. Segura. “It gives the children enough understanding to overcome peer pressure and environment or familial situations that would have them otherwise make the wrong decisions.”

“Every now and then I meet or find out about one of our graduates from the program. I just came out of the hospital, for instance, where I bumped into a graduate. He has returned to school and completed his studies, and found a job at the hospital.

“Each precept is so fundamental that it encompasses many areas of life. I can see it blossom,” she continues. “The booklet has generated a lot of interest. The program for teaching

morals that was in place before just was not working.” As a result, *The Way to Happiness* program has been expanded from 5th grade only to include all of the Center’s elementary grades.

The Harlendale Alternative Center also participates in the “Set a Good Example” contest and placed first out of the hundreds of schools competing in 1999.

- Rwanda now has a *The Way to Happiness* group involving hundreds of people who are busy translating the booklet and handling requests for tens of thousands of copies. As one man in Rwanda said: “This is exactly what our country needs, as well as all countries around. We need lots of those books, one for each student, one for each person.”

- The *Way to Happiness* chapter in Israel sponsors activities for children, as well as distributing thousands of copies of the booklet to encourage peace. The headmaster of a Tel Aviv school said to the chapter director, “You can take credit for the fact that since you have done the program for the 4th grade children, there is no violence in the 4th grade classes. There was no fighting, no violence and no trouble, a complete reverse of what had been occurring before!”

- In the tradition of “train preachers” in South Africa, lectures on *The Way to Happiness* precepts have become a common occurrence on the trains that run between Johannesburg and nearby towns. One group of 120 young passengers, which had been noisy and disrespectful, quieted down and listened once the precept “Be Temperate” started being read on the train. By the end of the discussion that followed the reading, all of the young people had agreed that drugs destroy the body.

- Members of the Community Kids for a Better World — a Toronto, Canada *The Way to Happiness* club — have the goal to improve the quality of life for themselves and for their community. This group’s musical and dramatic performances teach young people the importance of precepts such as honoring one’s parents and safeguarding the environment. In recognition of its work, the group was presented with the 1998 Elaine Burke Award, a Canadian national honor recognizing achievement in active living and environmental citizenship.

- In Miami, Florida a neighborhood

*The Way to Happiness* club has made a name for itself among the city’s volunteer organizations, while helping young people learn right from wrong in a fun, friendly atmosphere. The club began when a mother of four, Barbie Rivera, started using the booklet with her own children and was soon joined by a friend and about 15 neighborhood children. “We would pick a precept from *The Way to Happiness*, talk about it, and then put it to use,” she said. “Our first project was based on the precept ‘Love and Help Children’. In addition to using this in our own families — the older children helping out younger brothers and sisters — we put it to use in the community by volunteering for the Miami Children’s Hospital.”

The club members got busy, holding a toy drive for the holidays. They raised money by baking treats themselves, holding bake sales and using their math skills to work out how to best spend the proceeds on things they knew the children in the hospital would really like. *The Way to Happiness* club has been repeatedly acknowledged for its help by Miami Children’s Hospital.

The precept “Safeguard and Improve Your Environment” found them caring for and locating a new home for a 13-foot-long python. When learning the precept, “Take Care of Yourself”, the young people found out what it takes to correctly brush

their teeth, then practiced this so they could do it themselves.

Then they held another bake sale and used the proceeds to buy toothbrushes and other dental care items which they presented to the children in a homeless shelter — along with copies of *The Way to Happiness*.

Doing these projects has given the young people skills they will use for the rest of their lives, as well as good manners and a desire to help others. Ms. Rivera said, “Kids love to do things and contribute. *The Way to Happiness* gets them doing things that are positive. It was simple to get started and just grew from there. Any neighborhood in the world could — and definitely should — have a group like *The Way to Happiness* club.” ❖

To obtain copies of *The Way to Happiness* booklet, or for more information about *The Way to Happiness* programs and how you can get involved, contact *The Way to Happiness International* (323) 962-7906 or visit [www.thewaytohappiness.org](http://www.thewaytohappiness.org)



## Where can our children find the answers?

In *The Way to Happiness* Activity Starter Kit. It is easy to get the kids in your family, neighborhood or school involved in learning and using *The Way to Happiness*® a common sense guide to better living.

The basic kit contains: 5 bundles of *The Way to Happiness* booklets (each bundle contains 1 dozen pocket-size booklets);

1 copy of *The Way to Happiness* Results video; Information pack with suggestions on how to use the booklet and ideas for neighborhood or community activities.

The full chapter kit contains: 100 bundles of *The Way to Happiness* booklets (each bundle contains 1 dozen pocket-size booklets);

5 *The Way to Happiness* hardback books;

5 *The Way to Happiness* extension course packs;

1 copy of *The Way to Happiness* Results video;

5 *The Way to Happiness* T-shirts;

Information pack with suggestions on how to use the booklet and ideas for neighborhood or community activities.

**Order your kit today!**  
Use the enclosed order form or call **ABLE International (323) 960-3530.**



#### Youth Essay Competition and Poster Competition

Another program that has enabled students by the thousands to learn and apply *The Way to Happiness* is the “Making a Better World” essay and poster competition. In this contest, students study and discuss *The Way to Happiness* in a classroom setting, then write essays on a precept or how to make a better world with *The Way to Happiness*. Younger students create posters.

Teachers submit the best essays or posters from their class to the sponsoring organization, *The Way to Happiness International*. “Thank you for once more offering this outstanding

competition for our students,” one remarked. “I believe they have gained a great deal from reading the booklet and putting their ideas on paper. Perhaps projects such as this one will help to solve some of the problems presently plaguing our county and its teens.” Another said, “Character Education is a subject we are obliged to teach, but have not had appropriate materials to adequately

Upper right: After individuals in Rwanda started reading *The Way to Happiness*, tens of thousands of booklets were requested to help their fellow Rwandans. Top: South African “Train Preacher” inspires young people with the non-religious, common sense moral code in *The Way to Happiness*. Middle: The Spanish translation of the booklet helps young people in El Salvador. Bottom: *The Way to Happiness* Club of Miami, Florida has become one of the most valued community groups in the city.

teachings of all of the great religions of the world. At the same time, because it is secular, it may be distributed by businesses, in public schools, by police officers or other concerned government employees and incorporated into community betterment activities for young people and adults.

Successes from the use of the booklet in school and community programs

The "Set a Good Example" contest gives young people the opportunity to work together to apply the precepts in *The Way to Happiness*. They gain first-hand experience in setting a good example by doing projects to help their families, school and community. This quilt, part of one such project, was made by students from the winning school in Thunderbolt, Georgia.



indicate that it does show the way out of moral confusion. For example, one middle school principal stated that violence dropped 70%–80% during the school year when the school participated in a *The Way to Happiness* contest and students learned and used the booklet's precepts every day.

A teacher in a school drop-out prevention program stated, "I have used *The Way to Happiness* booklet in my classes to aid in teaching values over the past two years. In all my years of experience, I have never found a more useful and effective tool for conveying and instilling in young people the foundation and framework from which to begin their life's work."

*The Way to Happiness* can help parents or teachers successfully teach children right from wrong. As a gift to friends, neighbors and other associates it can lead to a better, happier life. And these individuals are, in turn, encouraged to help others with this common sense moral code.

With the first publication of *The Way to Happiness* in 1981, came an immediate and considerable popular response. Individuals passed

the booklet along to their neighbors. Hotel managers placed them in rooms as a unique service for their guests. Community minded business people printed tens of thousands of copies and had them inserted in local newspapers as a gesture of goodwill. Merchants kept a supply of booklets on hand to give away to customers. An insurance company mailed copies of the booklet as a gift to clients (and experienced a significant decrease in insurance claims, presumably due to increased honesty on the part of these clients). Youth activities using the booklet started to spring up — everything from musical groups which performed songs based on *The Way to Happiness* precepts to classes for juvenile offenders which, as one former

gang member put it, "gives you the outcome of your actions. You understand the outcome of what you do. It teaches you the Golden Rule. I used to hear about it, but this puts it into perspective. I know what it means now."

To date nearly 55 million copies of the *The Way to Happiness* have been circulated in 70 countries.

Now translated into 29 languages (with several new languages in progress), *The Way to Happiness* is more than a booklet, it is a global campaign to reverse moral decline and provide a road to a more decent world. As one U.S. Senator stated: "It is a wonderful and insightful guide to living a more peaceful life on a personal and worldwide basis."

#### Helping Young People Find the Right Road *The Way to Happiness* Youth Programs

Recent media reports about youth behavior paint a picture of a culture largely populated by victims and victimizers. But given the chance, most young people want to do the right thing. For many, *The Way to Happiness* is making the difference and, in fact, changing lives.

"*The Way to Happiness* precept 'Do Not Do Anything Illegal' saved my friends' lives, and mine," one 13-year-old reports. "Now we read and use all the precepts every day. We are spreading *The Way to Happiness* to everyone, and one by one, creating a better world."

Millions of young people have read and used *The Way to Happiness* as part of youth programs sponsored by schools and community groups in many parts of the world, such as those described here.

#### The Set a Good Example Contest

The longest-running youth program based on *The Way to Happiness* is the "Set a Good Example" contest sponsored by the Concerned Businessmen's Association of America (CBAA). Since its beginnings in Los Angeles in 1984, more than 12 million students from over 10,600 schools have participated in this annual contest.

The "Set a Good Example" contest gives young people the opportunity to work together, and to create projects based on the precepts found in *The Way to Happiness*. These projects have helped schools, families and communities throughout the country. Along the way, millions of young people have gained first-hand experience of the advantages of setting a good example.

Any group of students, a classroom, club or student council from any public,



Youth Essay Competition winners show they have learned how to make a better world with *The Way to Happiness*. Top: Winning students from Logan Elementary School in San Diego, California with their teacher, Karen Koehler. Above: Contest sponsor, Al Hanning, presenting Ms. Koehler with a proclamation from San Diego's mayor, congratulating the winning students.

The Way to Happiness is more than a booklet, it is a global campaign to reverse moral decline and provide a road to a more decent world.

private or parochial elementary, middle, junior or high school in the United States is invited to enter. The only limit on the application of the precepts is the imagination and ingenuity of the students.

At the junior high and high school levels, the projects must be planned entirely by the students themselves. Completed projects are submitted to the Concerned Businessmen's Association of America, and are evaluated by a panel of business and community leaders. Three cash prizes of \$5,000 are awarded to schools each year.

Teachers have commented that students are more positive after participating in contest projects, that they are proud of their accomplishments, that they work together better and are more friendly and helpful with one another. School administrators credit the program for decreases in school disciplinary problems, noting that participating students become more courteous and more responsible.

In Nashville, Tennessee, a student

wanted to do something about the violence and other problems in his school and asked his class to join the "Set a Good Example" contest. The idea caught on throughout the school.

Later, the school's principal stated, "We have decreased the violence by 70%–80% over the school year. Kids now are more apt to sit down, calm down, think about what to do and set a good example."

"We are still reaping the rewards of having been involved in the 'Set a Good Example' program," said the principal of an Amite, Louisiana high school. "The 7th graders who began the program at our school are now graduating seniors who have distinguished themselves in all areas, including academics, athletics, drama, music and leadership roles." It's not just the administrators and teachers who appreciate such results, however. In a survey of 1,200 students who participated in the "Set a Good Example" contest, 83 percent said they would like to take part in the project again the following year.

This activity has also captured the attention of government officials. The majority of the nation's state governors have issued proclamations acknowledging the "Set a Good Example" contest, and hundreds of recognitions have been received from mayors, congressmen and senators.

The "Set a Good Example" contest has been so popular in schools that a Children's "Set a Good Example" campaign has started, for individual young people and families. Founder of the Concerned Businessmen's Association of America, Barbara Ayash, said, "Participation in the Children's 'Set a Good Example' campaign immunizes young people against immorality and the perils of crime, drugs and peer pressure." The campaign's National Youth Chairman is 10-year-old Ted Demos, who tells other young people, "No matter how old you are, you can set good examples, have fun and help others too."

For more information about the Set a Good Example contest for schools or to enroll your child in the Children's "Set a Good Example" campaign, call 1-800-455-0173 or visit [www.excaliburworld.org](http://www.excaliburworld.org)



## Young People Show the Way

### Student essays from the youth competition



"Good examples can be set in different ways... You can teach a younger brother or sister to make friends and that you care. You can teach them by talking to them if they have any problems or comforting them when they are scared. Setting a good example also means always trying to do the right thing because whatever you do to everyone else, the little kids will want to do the same thing." — Student, age 9

"There is a place where violence is commonplace and expected much as unpleasant weather. Where nothing is thought of armed robbery. Where narcotics and hallucinogens are sold like newspapers. Where the only safe haven can be found in alliance with a group of armed and hardened people who are forever defending and conspiring against other affiliations. Where brutal crimes are punished by temporary confinement measured in hours, or black marks on one's record, or not at all. This fence- and metal detector-encircled institution is the high school. In this environment, the individual student is liable to fall back to very primitive philosophies to survive, in place of the morals that were never taught. The government's solution is to build vandal-proof drinking fountains. We must bring students the morals in *The Way to Happiness*. We must bring them today. For without them, the future is dark." — Student, age 15



The Way to Happiness International

# Leading the Way to a Better World

"The happiness or unhappiness of others you could name is important to you.

"Without too much trouble, using this book, you can help them survive and lead happier lives.

"While no one can guarantee that anyone else can be happy, their chances of survival and happiness can be improved. And with theirs, yours will be."

— L. Ron Hubbard

**T**hese words, at the beginning of *The Way to Happiness*, describe how individuals can help their family, friends, neighbors and business contacts find the way to more moral and therefore happier lives. They are, as well, the beginning of a campaign to reverse moral decline and provide a road to a more decent world.

In the forefront of this drive to restore trust and honesty to our society is The Way to Happiness International, a nonprofit, charitable organization with international headquarters located in Los Angeles. Since its inception in 1984, this organization has coordinated and assisted the *The Way to Happiness* activities which originate at a grass-roots, community level around the world — everything from beach cleanup events in Australia and poster contests in Russia, to children's parades in Mexico and booklet distributions in the townships of South Africa.

The Way to Happiness International also works with a variety of social betterment organizations, businesses and government agencies — police

departments, service clubs, youth groups, parents groups and neighborhood or block clubs. Local The Way to Happiness chapters often raise funds for activities from concerned individuals and businesses in the community.

The Way to Happiness International sponsors televised public service announcements with the message "Morals — they're not hard to learn, we just have to teach them" and the Youth Essay Competition described earlier in this magazine.

Finally, but perhaps most importantly, The Way to Happiness International makes it possible for others to print their own copies of *The Way to Happiness*® common sense guide to better living with the company or organization name on the back cover. Merchants, banks, insurance companies, police departments, hotels or



Top: Youth choir performing at a ceremony for the dedication of a 3,700 acre game reserve in Buchanan, South Africa. The reserve was dedicated to L. Ron Hubbard to acknowledge his writing *The Way to Happiness* and his discoveries in education.

Middle: Attendees at the game reserve dedication.

Bottom: Young men in the Philippines finding the road to a happier life.

Left: A young Australian applying *The Way to Happiness* precept, "Take care of your environment."

motels and so on, become licensed by, and obtain the booklet printing materials from, The Way to Happiness International. The businesses or organizations then have the booklets printed by their own printers and distribute *The Way to Happiness* as a goodwill activity to employees, customers, and members of the community.

*The Way to Happiness* does work. It makes sense to people. And it is helping to change lives for the better by providing individuals with real moral values that they can use in a complex and sometimes confusing world. All that is needed to turn around the current decline in morals and build a society based on trust and honesty is for enough people to get behind the campaign to get the *The Way to Happiness* into wide use. And how rapidly that occurs depends upon people like you.

■ Contact The Way to Happiness International, P.O. Box 2930, Hollywood, CA 90028 or call (323) 962-7906. Visit [www.thewaytohappiness.org](http://www.thewaytohappiness.org)

## What The Way to Happiness Booklet Can Do



Thousands of stories illustrate what individuals can do to help others, simply by distributing *The Way to Happiness* booklets.

Bob Sullivan and his company, Magic Carpets, have taken advantage of *The Way to Happiness* reprint program and printed tens of

thousands of copies of booklets with the company name on the back. The booklets are given to the company's salespeople to distribute to customers and prospective customers.

One salesman tells of his experience in helping two people find the way to happiness:

"A young couple sat down near my carpet display and were arguing. I walked over to them with two copies of *The Way to Happiness*. After the young man told me he was going off to college and wanted to date other girls while gone, I understood why his pregnant girlfriend was so upset.

"I turned to the precept 'be faithful to your sexual partner' and read it aloud to the young man. I said, 'We're not even talking about your girlfriend's happiness; we are talking about YOUR happiness. This booklet is *The Way to Happiness*. Do you want to be happy?' He replied that he did want to be happy and sat down and started intently studying the booklet."

The salesman went back to packing up his display. The girl was still crying, but also reading her copy of the booklet. After about 10 minutes, the young man jumped over the brick wall and ran into a nearby store. "He returned with two huge heart-shaped balloons," said the salesman. "He hopped over the brick wall, handed both balloons to her and whispered something in her ear. They embraced, kissed and literally skipped down the sidewalk, arm in arm, with the two *The Way to Happiness* booklets and the two heart-shaped balloons bouncing along with them. This incredible booklet had just changed their lives for the better."



# The Way to Happiness in Action

Sometimes major disasters and harmful events in this world seem to be beyond the ability of the average citizen to change or correct. But with *The Way to Happiness*®, a common sense guide to better living, something *can* be done.



Wherever concerned individuals have seen to widespread distribution of *The Way to Happiness* in war-torn countries or areas of unrest, it has made a difference. Following the 1992 civil unrest in Los Angeles, the Concerned Businessmen's Association of America and individual business people raised funds for, and arranged printing and massive distribution of, more than a million copies of *The Way to Happiness* throughout the city. Since that time the crime rate has been dropping at an even greater pace than the U.S. decrease in violent crime (which has been occurring since 1993).

Another remarkable result was obtained in South Africa at the time of the ending of apartheid and the holding of the first fully open election in that country. A number of communities, such as Soweto, were undergoing ethnic hostilities. Shootings and other violence were a regular

occurrence. Massive violence and possibly riots were being predicted for election day. However, in the weeks preceding the elections, hundreds of thousands of copies of *The Way to Happiness* were printed and distributed. On election day, "mysteriously", there were no incidents of violence — a fact which shocked local and international observers. Similarly, in the 1980s, local South African authorities warned each year of the dangers of violence and even massive civil unrest on the anniversary of the 1976 Soweto riots. During 1986 (the tenth anniversary) and 1987, *The Way to Happiness* was broadly distributed in this area and, once again, "inexplicably", no violence occurred.

## Helping Achieve Peace in the Balkans

A recent example of "*The Way to Happiness* in action" can be found in the Balkans. This region has been in ethnic turmoil since before the beginning of the twentieth century, and in the last decade has become embroiled in campaigns of ethnic cleansing and two wars.

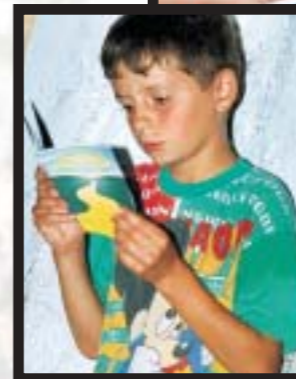
The Way to Happiness International marshaled the support of individuals and

businessmen throughout the United States and Europe. Executive Director of The Way to Happiness International, Joni Ginsberg, explained, "*The Way to Happiness* booklet has helped war-torn regions in the past. I knew right away that we had to do something to help the people of Kosovo to increase their survival."

These individuals and businesses contributed funds to print *The Way to Happiness* booklets in several of the diverse languages of the area. The organization then supported a massive distribution of the booklet in the areas of conflict. Helping give out the booklets were local businessmen, self-help groups and concerned citizens in the immediate area of the conflict. Volunteers from neighboring countries, who understood that their survival was threatened by the conflict and the continuing ethnic animosities in the area, also assisted with the distribution.

Mike Edwards, a volunteer who arrived from the United States and oversaw the distribution of the booklets in the Kosovo area, told how enthusiastic the local response was to the booklet. "I saw soldiers reading the booklet; kids sitting on the sidewalk reading it; parents sitting under trees reading it; people reading the booklet in the café. People comment frequently after reading the booklet, 'It will help our stability and freedom.'"

Top: To help bring stability and freedom to Kosovar youth, *The Way to Happiness* is being distributed in schools, at the request of the Minister of Education. Right: A young man finds the path to peace for himself and his people in *The Way to Happiness*. Far right: The booklets were typically received with enthusiasm.



The people of the region clearly found in *The Way to Happiness* a solution to generations-old problems. As one resident of Kosovo said: "The correct path is contained in the small 'big' book, *The Way to Happiness*. From this booklet I am learning the correct way to act. The precepts are simple, but powerful, and give me peace inside."

Other individuals highlighted the personal and broader social impact of the booklet: "As for me," one Kosovar said, "and for all the people of my country, *The Way to Happiness* is very much needed. I say this because of what we have just gone through. And now we have *The Way to Happiness* in our lives." Another stated: "If people will apply *The Way to Happiness*, there will be no murder, no rape, no stealing, no treason, no contagious diseases, no AIDS. People will be rich with human virtues."

The value of the booklet to the region

to *Happiness* booklets for the Balkans, was Businesses for Better Communities International. One of the group's founders, Alan Weidlich, explained: "When the war in Serbia started, I said, 'We cannot sit by and allow this to happen — we have to help these people.'"

Located in Los Angeles, California, Businesses for Better Communities International has supported the distribution of the booklet not only in the Balkans, but also in many communities around the United States and in other countries. "Wherever we have promoted the booklets and the program, we have improved the community in which the

program was done," said the organization's co-founder, Neil Willner. "Quite frankly, young people are not taught morals anymore. Kids do want to know what is the right thing to do and what's the wrong thing to do. We need the most direct and effective means of getting that done. They can read *The Way to Happiness* and make up their own minds as to how it applies to their own lives and their friends' lives."

In this framework, Mr. Weidlich explains the impact of another of their programs which encourages local businesses to reprint

the booklet and distribute it to their customers: "It comes full circle. Children of today are the customers and business leaders of tomorrow. They will be applying for mortgages and home loans. The highest rate of default of foreclosures are those who have operated on the basis of 'how can I lie to be able to qualify?'. These people get in trouble because they can't meet the payments, and then the spiral begins — the downward moral slide."

"Businesses can positively influence not only their customers, but their community as well. It spreads out to their children, the school, their business associates — all will deal with each other on a more moral basis. And that helps everyone."

■ *The Way to Happiness International licenses businesses to print The Way to Happiness with the company name on the back for complimentary distribution to employees, customers, prospective customers, and members of the community. This results in good will for the company and a better community. For more information, contact The Way to Happiness International at (323) 962-7906.*

## Businesses for Better Communities International

An organization which majorly assisted in fundraising and printing of *The Way*

# Stars Shine for The Way to Happiness

*The Way to Happiness* has enjoyed tremendous support from celebrities who wish to see young people on the road to honesty and good values.



CLOCKWISE, FROM FAR LEFT TO THE RIGHT:  
 ■ Nancy Cartwright, *The Way to Happiness* International Spokesperson, visits "Set a Good Example" contest winners in Houston, Texas.  
 ■ Leah Remini with young spokespeople from the "Set a Good Example" campaign for children.  
 ■ Jenna Elfman on the "Set a Good Example" float in the Hollywood Christmas Parade.  
 ■ Legendary musician, Isaac Hayes.  
 ■ Actress Michelle Stafford.

"As a parent and citizen I share your concern about the current state of society. Crime, violence in schools and the general lack of moral values are not creating a safe environment for our families and ourselves. The good news is that something is being done to change these conditions. That is why I am pleased to support *The Way to Happiness* campaign, which is helping combat moral decline in our society.  
 "With this campaign, we can prevent

crime before it begins by effectively teaching children right from wrong — at home, at school and in the community.

"I use *The Way to Happiness* booklet with my family, friends and colleagues and I invite you to do the same!"

The late Alex Haley, best remembered as the author of the book *Roots*, said the following about *The Way to Happiness*:

"The goals, and the patterns, and the methods of *The Way to Happiness* seem to me to be about as dramatic a response to the prayers of the forefathers as could possibly be contrived..."

Methodic faceted ways to improve the moral, the physical, the intellectual aspects of the culture in which we live."

For 15 years the Concerned Businessmen's Association of America has sponsored a float in the Hollywood Christmas Parade featuring *The Way to Happiness* and the "Set a Good Example" contest.

This annual parade has always featured the best known film and television stars and most popular entertainers riding through the streets of Hollywood on floats and antique cars. The Set a Good Example float follows this tradition. In recent years legendary musician, Isaac Hayes and television stars, Jenna Elfman, Michelle Stafford and Jennifer Aspen have contributed their time and talents, communicating *The Way to Happiness'* message of trust and honesty from the float to the millions who see the parade. Most recently, children from the "Set a Good Example" campaign were joined on the float by popular actress, Leah Remini, who stated, "I am so honored to be here with the Children's 'Set a Good Example' contest. We are so used to seeing violence and bad stuff with our youth. These guys, with millions of children, are making a difference every day in a positive way through the booklet, *The Way to Happiness*. And that's a good thing!"

## Show the Colors of THE WAY TO HAPPINESS



Presenting special insignia items which remind young people (and not so young) of *The Way to Happiness'* message of trust and honesty.

- T-SHIRT
- DENIM SHIRT
- PENDANT
- LAPEL PIN

Sale of these insignia items benefits *The Way to Happiness* International programs.

Call ABE International **TODAY!**  
(323) 960-3530

H O L L Y W O O D

ABLE programs in action

# Solving Drugs, Crime and Illiteracy

Saving lives through effective ABLE® social betterment programs.

## Narconon Chilocco New Life Center Receives Third National Accreditation

When a drug rehabilitation organization receives "accreditation," it means that it is delivering a high quality of care to its clientele. A prestigious national accrediting organization in the U.S. — the Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission (CARF) — recently gave a three-year accreditation with commendations to the Narconon Chilocco New Life Center in Oklahoma. This is the third such accreditation Narconon Chilocco has received from this organization.

When CARF surveyors review a drug rehabilitation program, they look at the technical delivery and administrative system and compare them against more than 200 standards to ensure a center is offering the best care possible from both a medical and drug rehabilitation aspect.

The President and CEO of CARF stated in a letter to Narconon, "This is an indication of your organization's dedication and commitment to improving the quality of the lives of people in need of rehabilitation."

Upon hearing of the accreditation, the Governor of Oklahoma also sent a congratulatory letter to Narconon Chilocco which states, "Your achievement demonstrates the ability of those involved with your organization to function in a manner which meets national rehabilitation standards for quality performance. It is a tribute to teamwork and good organization."

A series of Narconon "Truth About Drugs" presentations were given to thousands of children in Taiwanese elementary schools.

## Narconon Taiwan

Following successful completion of the Narconon pilot program in Taipei Jail (which resulted in 15 inmates ending their addiction to drugs), Narconon® drug rehabilitation and prevention services were set up to reach many more throughout Taiwan.

A series of Narconon "Truth About Drugs" presentations were given to thousands of children in Taiwanese elementary schools. Following the lectures, one school official requested personal training on

Narconon drug education material and recommended it for all the teachers at the school. Narconon drug education was also featured as part of a nationally televised drug prevention event with a live audience of 30,000 young people.

The Narconon drug rehabilitation program has continued to receive dedicated support from the Buddhist community, led by Master Ching Yao's "Enhancing Society" Foundation. (Ching Yao was instrumental in starting the Taipei Jail Narconon program.) This organization is now striving to make effective drug rehabilitation available to more Taiwanese people. The foundation has provided land, donated by one of its members, on which to build a Narconon drug rehabilitation center and is working with Narconon Taiwan to make this a reality.



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1. Actor Steven Seagal was honored for his humanitarian activities with the World Literacy Crusades' Spirit of the Community Award.

2. The Narconon Chilocco Campus and certificate of accreditation from CARF.

3. Governor of the State of Baja California, Mexico congratulating Ensenada Prison inmates for completing the Criminon program.

4. The inmates in the Ensenada Prison "Second Chance" program.

5. Outside the Second Chance facility, 150 inmates about to enter the program.

6. Thousands of children and adults have come to H.E.L.P. to learn to read and improve their ability to learn.

7. Narconon drug education lectures give the truth about drugs to thousands of Taiwanese young people.



6

## A·B·L·E

### Criminon® Criminal Reform Programs Change Lives in Mexico

The LIVE program is a crime prevention and moral program currently being run into the Mexicali, Mexico school system from the police department. Working hand in hand with the Mayor and Chief of Police, the program started when the Mayor of Mexicali was introduced to *The Way to Happiness* by Criminon representatives, Rick Pendrey and Joy Westrum. He immediately requested that this material be incorporated into the crime prevention program he had been running in the schools.

Twenty-eight officials (including the Mayor's Program Administrator, police officials and volunteers from affiliated organizations) were trained to deliver the program themselves. They were given extensive training on each of the precepts in *The Way to Happiness* booklet. The Mayor himself presided over the program's graduation ceremony.

2,000 young people now have finished the program which was run in the worst drug- and crime-ridden areas.

Surprisingly, three former prison inmates were among the supervisors who directed the training of these government officials. They were all graduates of another program which utilizes *The Way to Happiness*, the "Second Chance" program in the Ensenada State Prison.

The Second Chance program has reduced the recidivism rate for the Ensenada Prison to 15% from over 70%. These unprecedented results prompted the prison to provide facilities for 150 more inmates and government funding has been provided to continue the program — the state's first funding ever for inmate rehabilitation.

Currently there are a total over 400 inmates on the Second Chance program. A recent graduation at the Second Chance facility inside the prison acknowledged inmates who had completed the Criminon program. Attending this event were officials including the Governor of the State of Baja California, President of the State Congress, Minister of Justice and the Mayor of Ensenada. Several of the inmates told how they turned around their lives from years of drug use and crime. One inmate asked forgiveness from the officials present, for the harm he had caused, not only to individuals but to the state.

### H.E.L.P. The Hollywood Education and Literacy Project

The Hollywood Education and Literacy Project (H.E.L.P.), founded in 1996, is an Applied Scholastics™ educational program based on the works of L. Ron Hubbard. Since the original H.E.L.P. project opened on Hollywood Boulevard in Los Angeles, the center's 400 tutors have helped thousands of people improve their ability to read and learn, using L. Ron Hubbard's breakthrough in



7

education, Study Technology. Each week this center delivers over 600 hours of one-on-one tutoring to students.

H.E.L.P. International has opened 23 more projects in the United States, Puerto Rico and Bangkok, Thailand. Each of these programs is a volunteer organization using precisely the same system and organization as the original. The Hollywood branch has become the training organization for branches throughout the country and for those interested in opening their own H.E.L.P. project.

The Los Angeles Police Department and Hollywood Police Activities League recently acknowledged H.E.L.P. for its work with the youth of Hollywood — during the past two years the juvenile crime rate in Hollywood has dropped over 50 percent. H.E.L.P. President, Kinder Hunt said, "H.E.L.P. is not the only reason for the drop in youth crime. But we know we are a healthy part of the reason." And H.E.L.P. has been recognized as such by the Los Angeles Police Department and the community.

Visit [www.helplearn.org](http://www.helplearn.org) or call (323) 463-2100 for more information.

### World Literacy Crusade Celebrates 8th Anniversary

Another Applied Scholastics™ educational program, the World Literacy Crusade marked its 8th anniversary with its Celebrity Salute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"History reveals that education is one of the most productive and effective vehicles for African-American achievement and advancement," stated World Literacy Crusade International Spokesman, legendary musician Isaac Hayes. "Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream of freedom and equal opportunity for all races is now possible through the efforts of the World Literacy Crusade and the use of the effective educational discoveries of L. Ron Hubbard."

The event featured musical performances and readings from Dr. King's works. During the event, the World Literacy Crusade *Spirit of the Community Award* was presented to actor Steven Seagal for his dedicated humanitarian efforts on behalf of Native Americans.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

- how to become involved as a volunteer
  - how to start an ABLE activity in your area
- write to the ABLE office nearest you (addresses are on page 1 of this magazine) or call ABLE International at (323) 960-3530 or visit us at [www.able.org](http://www.able.org)



**Today  
she steals  
your  
heart...**

**...tomorrow  
she might  
just  
steal.**

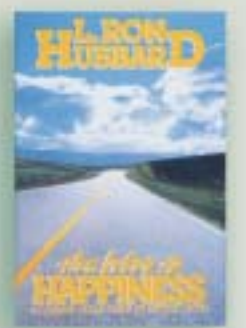


*Morals: they aren't hard to learn;  
we just have to teach them.*

**T**he *Way to Happiness*®, a common sense guide to better living, shows the way out of today's moral confusion. Its 21 moral precepts are based on common sense and can be agreed to by individuals of any race, cultural or religious background.

By giving copies of this booklet to your family, neighbors, friends and associates, you help them discover how honesty and good values lead to happiness for themselves. Present each person with several copies of *The Way to Happiness* so they can keep one and pass the rest along to the people most important to them.

*The Way to Happiness* booklet. 95 pages. Pocket-size softcover. Many photographs. Available in bundles of 1 dozen.



**Order your copies today.**

Use the enclosed order form or call ABLE International (323) 960-3530 or visit us at [www.thewaytohappiness.org](http://www.thewaytohappiness.org)



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