



stichting schooladviescentrum

maliebaan 59
3581 ce utrecht
tel. 030 - 33 12 72
postrekening 525179

ondiep 63
3552 eb utrecht
tel. 030 - 43 42 24

To whom it may concern.

Nieuwegein, july 13th 1983.

Introduction:

Legal name: Gerda E. de Oude (drs.)

Religious-Sannyasname: Ma Deva Mayo

Date of birth: december 26th 1939

Address: Marconibaan 28, 3439 MS Nieuwegein, the Netherlands

Telephone-number: 03402 - 37759 and 030 - 434224 (work)

Qualifications: --Fully licensed schoolteacher; graded in 1959 at the State Teacher's College in the city of Utrecht.

--Ortho-pedagogue, doctorandus (title: drs.) in education science and schooleducation; graded after completing a five-years full-time training/study at the State University in december 1971.

Work-experiences: 1. From 1959 - 1966 teacher, working with children, aged 5-15 year. During four years I acquired knowledge by teaching mentally handicapped and emotional and behaviour disturbed pupils.
2. Since 1971 I am working as a full-time schoolcounsellor in service from the Foundation Schooladvisory-Centre in Utrecht. The colleagues and I are paid to coöperate with the teachers, schoolboardmembers and parents to innovate changes in all infant- and primaryschools in the town Utrecht.

Getting acquainted with Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh and his work:

In february 1979 I got acquainted with the work of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. I read many of his Books and listened to several lecture-tapes. In december 1979 I went to India for a six-week-stay and asked Bhagwan to give me sannyas. In december 1980 I went again to India (Poona) for a five-week-stay.

My experiences in the ashram of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh were very enriching. It was surprising and hopefull to me, that I could directly experience a lot of the teachings, whereabout I read and heard already in his books and the tapes. The people in the Schooladvisory-Centre agreed with these two short stays in India. Since january 1980 I exercised my profession with the teachers in Roman-Catholic, Protestant-Christ and Public infant- and primaryschools in Utrecht, using my

sannyas-name, wearing red/orange-coloured dresses and a mala (necklace). Nobody made any problem about it.

The same was the case in respect of my in- and outdoor-meetings and activities with local and State authorities, colleagues, parents, students, etc. In april 1981 I demanded the Board of the Schooladvisory-Centre for an unpaid five-months-leave.

In my application to the Board I wrote about Bhagwan's teachings, the Rajneesh Counsellor-training, other Rajneesh meditations/courses in which I wanted to participate and last but not least about the Rajneesh School for children, aged 3 - 16 years old, that I wanted to visit.

The Board granted the unpaid leave from september 1st 1981 until february 1st 1982. As the Rajneesh-ashram in Poona, India, closed, I chose to go to America during november/december 1981 to participate in a Rajneesh-counsellorscourse and other activities in the Geetam-Rajneesh-ashram in California.

In july 1982 and july 1983 I again went to America; these times to take part in the religious Annual World Celebrations in Oregon in the presence of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh.

The importance of Bhagwan and his teachings in relation to the work of the Schooladvisory-Centre in Utrecht-town:

From 1976 - 1982 the Dutch Government, Ministerium for Education and Science, made some experiments possible to develop a new Dutch schooltype: "Basisschool", meant for children aged 4 -12 year.

In 1985 the two present schooltypes "Kleuterschool" (=Infantschool) and "Lagere School" (=Primary School) will disappear according to the new Dutch schoolsystem-laws.

I worked as project-leader in such national project, that was and is visited by many school/education-interested people from the Netherlands and abroad. Recently (friday june 17th 1983) we received even a group of American education-scientists.

The Dutch Government, the Schooladvisory-Centres, many teachers in the Infant- and Primarieschools and many other people are trying to find other (better) forms of schooleducation. The Dutch society (as other societies!) is changing fast: more and more information, computerizing, progressing development in broken families, unemployed people, aggressiveness, etc. etc.

As I understood in the vision and teachings of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh are the following aspects in schooleducation important to make changes in society possible. Several of them I recognised already during the realisation of the national "Basisschool-project", that as I just mentioned, I led as a project-leader.

In schooleducation (3 - 15 year old children) it is important

- to educate younger and elder pupils together in psychological age-groups;
- to respect the process of learning by own experience;
- to develop a curriculum around the children's psychological age, not physical age;
- to avoid competence;
- to give the pupils a maximum of independence;
- to integrate working and learning;
- to pay attention to self-discipline and caring;
- to give way to emotional expressions and choices;
- to give the children English as a second language;
- to give more space to esthetical education and body-work;
- to promote real communication and respect between the teachers and pupils.

In meetings, workshops and other activities with my colleagues, the teachers and schoolboardmembers I make points as just mentioned more concrete in the work at the schools.

In publications, programs, etc. we try to illustrate the possibilities. Several colleagues started reading the books from Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh themselves and are directly interested to get acquainted with Bhagwan's teachings about education and schoolsystems.

G.E. de Oude

Ma Deva Mayo

(drs. G.E. de Oude, schoolcounsellor)



Seen for legalisation of the signature of Mrs. Drs. GERDA EVERDINA DE OUDE, residing at Nieuwegein, the Netherlands, by me, Mr JAN FREDERIK WELLE DONKER, notary, practising at Utrecht, the Netherlands, on this nineteenth day of July nineteen hundred and eighty three.

[Handwritten signature]

Nieuwegein, July 13th 1983.