

Steven Goddard Family Story

My family were a close, loving family of four. My daughter, Hayley, at 16 was invited to attend a CTMI branch in Durban. She seemed happy there and we supported her by attending sometimes with her and funding two Mauritian trips for seven months. We hosted CTMI members during a Durban conference and provided our vehicle and mountain cottage for them.

During a few weeks in October 2008 we received disturbing feedback about CTMI. Local pastors were troubled and after a joint gathering a number of them warned their congregations about the cultish tendencies of CTMI. We were also shocked to hear that one of the young ladies whom we hosted was engaged to be married three weeks after telling us she had no romantic interests. We conducted research into cults. We were disturbed to discover that CTMI aligned closely with universal descriptions of a cult.

Hayley agreed to see a pastoral therapist if accompanied by a CTMI "spiritual mother". This therapist was shocked at the degree of CTMI control and influence in her life. We wrote to Miki Hardy about our concerns and met with their local pastor. They brushed us off, denied being a cult and suggested we leave Hayley to "follow her heart". A little later Hayley was advised to take out a restraining order against us. We were losing the loving daughter we once knew. In December 2008 she was pressured to not spend three weeks with us on holiday away from her cherished group. She rather left our home to live with her "spiritual mother and father", the Fitzroys.

We discovered families in our community with very similar stories. We began meeting together and formed the Concerned Parents Group.

After 8 months of living in various CTMI homes Hayley was manipulated to attempt to come home in exchange for an apology from us to CTMI for the Concerned Parents Group Activities. We refused to bow to this deception. Later we discovered she had already booked her ticket to Mauritius.

In a November front page newspaper article exposing CTMI, Hayley was quoted as not being under pressure to make major decisions and that she was unsure of her future. Three days later she called us to announce she was to be married to a young man we had never met! When this young man called two days later I indicated that I could not give the blessing requested before meeting him and his family.

Being unable to contact Hayley and knowing CTMI's reputation for arranged marriages, I decided to fly to Mauritius to investigate.

I enquired for an address at the CTMI church office. When we arrived I greeted Hayley but was prevented from speaking to her alone! I asked her what happened to her phone and she said her card had been removed and could not explain why. Hayley agreed to see me for lunch the following day.

When I arrived with a picnic hamper for everyone in the home, I was warned to leave immediately and that Hayley did not want to see me. I was broken and the police escorted me away in tears. Two days later I received a charge from police which disappeared as soon as my lawyer made enquiries.

I set up meetings with lawyers, clergy, government officials, the media and people in Mauritius whose families had also been damaged by CTMI. On a Radio 1 chat show Hayley publically declared her allegiance to the Fitzroys and her rejection of me. The interviewer asked her when she planned to be married and she replied that she did not know. A few hours later her marriage was registered having most likely been tabled a week earlier.

This web of secretive deception and manipulation of young people weaved by CTMI in many families has to be stopped. I fear no one and will never give up. I appeal to all those adversely affected to speak out and help expose this dangerous group for what it is. I also appeal to government to act since it has become clear to me that Audrey and Miki Hardy wield much power with government officials and many in Mauritius fear the Hardy's. If you are concerned please visit www.ctmiconcernedparents.com and send us a mail which will remain private.