

A Reading on Second Nature (re-branded as Evoke) in Utah

Guest Sermon by Emma Singer, Guest Sermonizer for January 27th, 2021 and beyond.....

I did not report actions. I spent years after my time there trying to cope with the psychological and emotional harm I experienced. I entered the program as a healthy 14 year old child and left with a host of issues that took me years of therapy (the good kind, of my choosing) to manage. I did not pursue legal action because it wasn't until I became a stable, successful adult - now with children of my own - that I was able to look back on this experience and identify the practices there as harmful to a degree that would justify legal action. I knew that what I experienced was damaging, but I didn't know initially that I had the option to pursue any legal recourse. I also didn't have contact with the other participants in the program until I tracked them down with a mission to write an expose. At this point, I realized that I was not the only one who emerged from that nightmarish place feeling abused.

I believe that Second Nature should remain on the watch list because abuse has been reported recently and because I think the entire program operates on a predatory business model that has precious little to do with providing valuable mental health services and much more to do with a hard-lined approach to youth counseling that promises to make the problems of wealthy parents disappear, while the tactics they use have been repudiated by the mental health community. I do not for one second believe the organization has changed its approach and if I had the time I am sure I could reveal countless very recent complaints. Second Nature is a program that, in its abusive nature, throws the lives of young people into complete chaos. It is incredible that any formal reports emerge in a timely fashion - but I am certain beyond a shadow of a doubt that countless other kids have been abused and emotionally harmed there and perhaps, like me, it will take them another decade to fully appreciate that. Their rebranding is also evidence of guilt, as is there unwillingness to respond to inquiries from journalists. This place was toxic and I'm convinced it still is.

I have spoken with - interviewed - countless survivors of this program from roughly the time that I attended and all of them, myself included, continue to struggle with emotional and trauma-related issues that can be tied directly to the experience they had at Second Nature. Frankly, it doesn't matter what is going on there now or whether they've changed their ways (doubt it) but no business should be allowed to wash their hands of an abusive past and continue to operate and pull in profits with impunity. Accountability is a bare minimum - and since the only thing Second Nature really values is money, it should come at a debilitating financial cost.

[End of Guest Sermon. For more information, see <https://www.heal-online.org/secondnat.htm>. COPE offers thanks to Emma Singer for the guest sermon.]

For those interested in starting #TaoFu Self-Defense Exercises, please see <https://www.cope.church/taofu.htm> and begin at any time.

There are opportunities to send messages, receive mystery bonus blessings, and more with or without donating available now on our "Pass the Basket" page at <https://www.cope.church/basket.htm> . Thank You.

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32 KJV Willful blindness is an abomination.

COPE accepts Feedback, critical and complimentary. Learn more at <https://www.cope.church/feedback.htm> . For the sake of keeping myself and others humble, a sense of humor is welcome on all sides.

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