

CONVERSION PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT: Sorenson's Ranch School in UT  
By Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE (<https://www.cope.church> ) Dated: 7/13/22

The HEAL Mission of COPE has received 128 separate complaints from individuals and families alleging human trafficking, abduction, one survivor reported via e-mail to the HEAL Mission "I was kidnapped and taken from my bed at age 15 by 2 complete strangers that denied me the opportunity to see my mom or even say goodbye to her. They told me she wasn't there which I later found out that was a lie. They had told her to hide out in the basement with my only then 9 yr old sister at 3am while they skirted me out of the house. They told her they didn't want my seeing her to cause any emotional outbursts. Because God forbid she explain what was going on, god forbid I cry or even worse hug her good-bye. They put me on a plane all the way from [redacted]. I had no prior criminal history, wasn't on probation or court ordered to any treatment facility, I wasn't hurting people so wtf did I end up at a place that made me believe like i was the problem. Upon arrival to the ranch they forcefully made me remove my clothes 'or else's where 2 staff watched me undress and squat like if I was a prisoner. Humiliation? They stripped me of my basic civil human rights and treated me like a criminal. I was a teenager that was lacking loving parents and a little compassion. I was depressed considering my father was psychologically and emotionally abusive. I was an otherwise good and decent human being, with strong values and morals. I currently live in a gated community with security and i still struggle falling asleep due to fear. I have ring door alarm, video cams, and security bars under my door knobs at entrances. I have baseball bats, mace, bb gun and other random weapon type objects. I suffer from extreme PTSD...", exposure to the elements, emotional abuse, physical abuse, improper restraint, isolation/solitary confinement, one survivor reported via e-mail to the HEAL Mission "I was sent to isolation for a week. I spent all day in a cubicle like space where you must sit up straight on a bed with a wall directly in front of your face. You can't even lean sideways or backwards on your elbow. No talking(not even to yourself),no books, nothing but you and the wall. At night we were brought in to the chow hall to sleep directly on the wood floor with just a sleeping bag and still no communication of any kind allowed. When I was at Sorenson's a week was the minimum stay in isolation, no one ever went in for less and many people spent several weeks in there. Have you ever watched the show locked up? Adults in prison segregation units are allowed to read books and talk to themselves. I was never physically abused at Sorenson's but the mental torture of staring at a white wall inches from my face for a week, not being allowed to make a sound is something no person should go through, especially not a child.", fraud (diploma mill), sexual abuse, one survivor reported via e-mail to the HEAL Mission "I was clearly groomed by a staff member who was a predator. He always had a "favorite" and I became the next one.", one father reported via e-mail to the HEAL Mission "Sorensens was a horrible place for my son and hurt him very badly.", held incommunicado (communication restrictions, blackouts, censoring/monitoring), one survivor reported via e-mail to the HEAL Mission "I was sent to Sorensens Ranch School (SRS). My first 3 weeks into the school I had no contact with my parents besides letters. Which in all I didn't mind. Until I found out they went through our letters and read them. Very understandable in some cases. But then there were others. Where if I were to tell my parents that Justin the Staff raped three girls they wouldn't send it. And make me change

it. A very real situation.”, and coercive thought reform at Sorenson’s Ranch School. Some of these complaints are referenced online and others remain confidential and on file with the church. With the intention of providing an opportunity for closure, clarification, and potentially peace, on 7/5/22 Rev. Angela Smith invited Sorenson’s Ranch School victims (families and survivors) as well as staff whistleblowers to provide a guest sermon. That invitation read thus:

"Dear Sorenson's Ranch School Survivors and Families,

Sorenson's Ranch School is on the HEAL Mission watch-list (of fraudulent and abusive programs) and enrolled in the COPE Conversion Program based on your reports to the HEAL Mission alleging fraud, abuse, and/or other violations. You can learn more or refresh your memory at <https://www.heal-online.org/thelist.htm> and/or <https://www.heal-online.org/sorenson.htm> .

The HEAL Mission and COPE Conversion Program (for Conversion Programs) has updated our protocols to provide entities populating the watch-list and/or enrolled in the COPE Conversion Program three ways off the watch-list or out of the program. Death and/or closure remains one way after which they will be buried at <http://www.beyondbusiness.net/youarenext.htm> with the others who didn't make it off the list or reform in time. Programs enrolled in the COPE Conversion Program/placed on the watch-list are also eligible for graduation if they meet the minimum Honesty In Marketing Standards described and/or provided via hypertext link at <https://www.cope.church/standards.htm> . The third option is merciful release. Merciful releases are determined by date of last directly reported to the HEAL Mission complaint (date of incident(s) of abuse), whether those incidents occurred prior to when by custom or law the requirement to retain such records has expired, and whether Sponsors (you) are actively participating or maintaining interest in holding your program accountable.

The most recent complaint the mission received on Sorenson's Ranch School occurred in 2018 (if you were abused later than that then you did not include the dates of your enrollment when you contacted the HEAL Mission). The custom is to retain such records for 7 years in Utah. So, the requirements for merciful release have not been met. This is an invitation for you to provide a guest sermon by Wednesday, July 13th, 2022 at 8pm Pacific unless you prefer a progress report be posted at that time in lieu of any guest sermon. For guest sermons and progress reports see <https://www.heal-online.org> . Here's how to participate:

1. In the body of an e-mail message write out your complete sermon and include answers to the following questions:

Did you report fraud or other unlawful actions to the proper authorities? If not, why? If so, what happened with the reports? (So, 2 part question)

Why do you believe Sorenson's Ranch School should remain enrolled in the COPE Conversion Program?

2. Send that guest sermon to me at [rev@cope.church](mailto:rev@cope.church) with your first and last name (full) and notify me if you wish for your contact information to be included or for all feedback to be handled by the mission and/or church. Your full first and last name will be shared along with your sermon as written and provided by you. It will be posted as a Guest Sermon at <https://www.heal-online.org> , <https://www.heal-online.org/sorenson.htm> , and <https://www.cope.church/sermons.htm> .

If no one provides a guest sermon and there are no new complaints received by the HEAL Mission of COPE by December 31st, 2025, Sorenson's Ranch School will be mercifully released.

Thank you in advance for participating. And, please learn more about how to value your contributions at <https://www.cope.church/givetoday.pdf>.

In Solidarity,

Rev. Angela Smith  
HEAL Mission National Coordinator/Founding Mother of COPE"

Now, there was a vote on whether Sorenson's Ranch School should remain on the watch-list initiated on April 14th, 2020 where all Sponsors of that program's placement in the COPE Conversion Program were invited to participate. The participants unanimously voted against merciful release or the equivalent at that time. HEAL Mission and the COPE Conversion Program recognize participation in the vote in April as recent enough participation even if Sponsors prefer more time to consider, write, and/or provide any guest sermon. While we understand this may be disappointing for Sorenson's Ranch School, it is the hope that this progress report helps explain the reasons for the continued enrollment/placement in the COPE Conversion Program. Additional or continued participation by Sponsors, including providing guest sermons or participating in future votes will impact whether or not the program qualifies for merciful release or remains enrolled. Lack of participation by Sponsors where all other criteria for merciful release are met, will result in merciful release of the program.

Similar invitations will be going out to all survivor/victim/whistleblower e-mail lists and their respective programs placed on the watch-list. It may take some time to get through the entire list especially if enrollments pick up. But, we are working on it and everyone can submit Feedback at <https://www.cope.church/feedback.htm> at any time regardless of position regarding program placement or enrollment.

To close, I remind everyone that there are remedies at law. Labor trafficking, rape, fraud (misleading marketing/false advertising), false imprisonment, kidnapping, battery, assault, and any crime or tort you could name are actionable at law. The HEAL Mission of COPE is prepared to assist all victims by providing reporting resources and information for the sake of justice and we appreciate all Sponsors who selflessly contribute content for the sake of informing the public to help those exercising due

diligence avoid becoming a victim. Reporting Guide Available at: <https://www.heal-online.org/report.htm> and <https://www.heal-online.org/sorenson.htm> .