



FREEDOM FROM RELIGION FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 750 • Madison WI 53701 • (608) 256-8900 • www.ffrf.org

May 4, 2010

Ms. Tammy Cllie
Legal Department
InterContinental Hotels Group
3 Ravinia Drive
Suite 100
Atlanta GA 30346

Dear Ms. Cllie:

We are writing on behalf of the Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF) and its members to alert you to a serious concern we have with apparent InterContinental Hotels Group sponsorship of the "Heal Me Crusade." FFRF is a nationwide nonprofit organization with over 14,500 member across the country. We work to educate on issues of nontheism and support the constitutional principle of separation of state and church.

It is our understanding that Holiday Inn Express is a sponsor of Heal Me Crusade events occurring on May 6 -8, 2010, in Plant City, Florida. The Holiday Inn Express trademarked logo appears on the website for the event. Please see the enclosed printout of the website. On the "sponsors" tab of the webpage, it says, "A special thanks to our sponsors who make this event possible for the glory of God by relieving the financial burden. On behalf of the Heal Me Crusade: Thank you so much." The Holiday Inn Express logo appears directly next to this message.

The Heal Me Crusade is dangerous and offensive. The event promotes miraculous healing by quoting Matthew 15:30. The webpage advocates, "Bring the sick, lost addicted and broken. Experience the restoration of the Holy Spirit."

A promotional video for the same event occurring in 2009 is available by visiting <http://www.healmecrusade.com>. At that event, among other absurdities, a woman claims to have "spit up her cancer." Several people stand up from their wheelchairs. It also appears that the oxygen tank for one elderly woman was turned off.

Corporate sponsorship of such events is alarming. To put it bluntly – these people are deluded. People often ask our organization, "What is the harm with religion?" The Heal Me Crusade and other similar events are one easy answer. Evangelists preaching healing by God instead of by medicine cause direct and irreparable harm to the sick. How many people must die before people wake up and put a stop to this senseless practice?

We request that you immediately contact the organizers of the Heal Me Crusade to remove any references to Holiday Inn Express. Please inform us in writing of the corrective actions InterContinental Hotels Group is taking to remedy this wrong.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Barker & Annie Laurie Gaylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dan Barker and Annie Laurie Gaylor
Co-Presidents
FREEDOM FROM RELIGION FOUNDATION

Enclosure