

The Maria Monologues - 4

"I guess it pretty much shocks us to see that we talked so openly about a child of under 11 having had regular dates with the men in the Home where she had been."

--Maria talking about Mene. August 1, 1992

DISCUSSING "THE LAST STATE" LETTER . 1 AUGUST 1992

I'm listening to "The Last State" Letter now, at least a part of it & I see that in Papi's [Sara Davidito] introduction she says, "Mene no longer drank wine, had regular dates or watched adult videos." And then later it says, though, that when she was with us she had regular dates with Dito [Rick Rodriguez]. Looking back now I guess it pretty much shocks us to see that we talked so openly about a child of under 11 having had regular dates with the men in the Home where she had been. It's almost unbelievable now, but it just shows that even that short time ago we had had no reports or no indication that there was any problem with this legally.

I guess we were pretty naive because it must have been on the books worldwide at that time as well, & I guess we were thinking that somehow these Letters would never get into our enemies' hands. I don't know really what we were thinking of. Do you know? But nevertheless, we can be very thankful that the Lord brought us here when He did so we could get quickly & fully informed on what the world situation had become.

Anyway, I'm sure the Lord allowed it, so we can't cry over spilt milk. We were sure living in our own little world & not at all conscious of the big bad world out there evidently.

MENE'S STORY. 1 AUGUST 1992

Another thing, & we've talked about this a little before, but the reason why we have to explain in detail some points that our enemies bring up. Now we don't want to get wallowing in their mire & get down to their level & refute point by point everything. Sometimes that's been very effective, but right now with so many, we're having our whole lifestyle completely torn apart, every little single point that not only of our beliefs & principles, but of the Family in general's mistakes, anything that has been done--good or bad--completely, microscopically evaluated & criticised. And they made hundreds & hundreds of charges against us. So we can't possibly get into it all.

But there are some cases where, for example, this whole Mene situation where she spews out all this garbage. I see more & more how if we can answer specifically on some of those things, not taking everything, but being selective, but taking some of those points & specifically giving the truth about it, that then people, if they see, "Oh, well, it really was different than the way she said it in this case & this point, & in this point & in this point." And then evidently her whole thing was false, her whole thing is discredited.

You don't have to take every point. But as the lawyer in Japan told our people, he said, "You just have to take two or three points & pick your strongest points out & refute those. And

then later if you need more points you can keep those in reserve. But if you discredit them in even two or three things, or even one thing, then it throws doubt on the whole testimony.”

So I can see the importance of dealing with some of the points specifically. Because otherwise, what it does, you read Mene's story, & you're an outsider, you don't know anything about the situation, you say, "Oh, wow, boy, it sure doesn't sound like that could ever happen." I mean if you're a Family member, you don't see how that could ever happen, but in your mind all those lies keep going around, & you don't have any other story to compare them to, any other version.

So you think, "Well, it couldn't have been that way, but how was it?" The Devil blots out any other way it could have been, & all you have is that one side. On the other hand, if you get the story, for example, from Juan, how, "Well, I was sitting next to Peter when he spanked Mene & it wasn't like that at all. He spanked her about three times, & he just spanked her, he didn't beat her. Then he sat down, put his arms around her & comforted her." Then you have, "Oh, this is another way it could have been. Now we see!"

Then the person has a choice. Then he chooses either to believe Mene, this girl who we've given a lot of evidence against, & out of her own mouth she's told us her problems. Or they have to believe Dad or his chosen leadership. Then it comes down to a real concrete choice that you can make between Mene's version & the Family version. There is really something about having something concrete to hold on to & say, "Well, I know it wasn't that way because this is the way it was, this is what they did. Look, they said this is what they did." It's practice & it makes sense; in fact, it makes more sense than what Mene is saying. And you've really got something to hold on to.

Otherwise, you've just got all these lies flying around in your head. You can say, "Well, I know that's not true because Dad wouldn't be that way. I know those things couldn't have happened, but you don't have details to hold on to. You don't have the other version. You don't have the true version to hold on to." And it's a lot more difficult because it's sort of hard to imagine in your head, "If this is completely wrong, then what was the truth?"

I guess it's just human nature, but you just need that visualised. It's very powerful when it's visualised. So if the Devil visualises it, it really grabs you & it's very powerful. And if you don't have the true version, then you're almost swept away by the false. But if you have something else that you can hang on to, the true set of facts that you can hang on to, then it's much easier to combat the Enemy's pictures. I guess it comes down to pictures. It's portrayed in a picture. We can say to the Family, "Well, all these things were lies & falsities & misinterpretations & distortions."

But if we don't give them a picture the way she gave them a picture, a word picture like Juan did, "Well, it wasn't like that at all. I saw it. I was sitting beside Peter. We were sitting there together. He spanked Mene, but she wasn't yelling & screaming. It wasn't that much. And then he took her in his arms & he comforted her, & he read the Word with her. And she responded well." Then you have another Word picture that you can hang on to & it's just powerful, something about the details & the pictures that either the Devil's or the Lord's, they're really powerful.

And it's almost not enough to just say, "Well, those were all lies. That's wrong. She's wrong. She's misinterpreted everything, distorted everything, it's false." You say, "Yes, that's true, but you've still got those pictures going around in your head. But if you can replace it with the true picture it's much more powerful." So the fact that Juan brought that out, & Pipi mentioned things, & others mentioned details of what had actually happened. It's very very

effective in discrediting Mene because then it comes down to a plain choice of, "Well, whose version are you going to believe? Are you going to believe Mene? Or are you going to believe God's appointed leadership who were there, eye witnesses who love the Lord & are serving the Lord, serving you, the Family, & have sacrificed & laid down their lives. Why would you believe the backslidden, crazy teen who is in the hands of Deborah as her puppet?"

So that's why I realise so much why the refuting in details, some of these things, not going overboard & getting into it all, it's really a little beneath us to keep doing that. But one or two or three or four real good reputations of certain details showing the way it really was in a word picture is very effective, & I think needed.