

The Maria Monologues 3

"Mene is trying to make Dad's sexiness look like the most evil thing in the world, when it's very normal & natural and common amongst many others in similar situations. . . "

--Maria. January 11, 1994

Introduction

Maria, (aka Karen Zerby, Mama, Katherine R. Smith in the Family) is the spiritual leader of The Family International. On a typical workday, she spends hours attending to Family-related affairs. Because of her position of spiritual authority within the group, her staff records her comments on a variety of issues.

***The Maria Monologues* contain excerpts from the transcripts of these tapes. They provide valuable insight into the inner workings of The Family International as well as Maria's character and leadership.**

TO VICTORIA [Maria] FROM IAN [Peter] -- January 11, 1994

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f) Another thing that I need to know because I'm going to be talking to the lawyers is the question about whether Dad [David Berg] had sex with Mene or not & what exactly I'm supposed to say. When I spoke to K., I explained pretty frankly & clearly about Dad's situation & what happened & exactly how far Dad went with Mene & how far he didn't go, but I was able to explain it in the context of the Law of Love & our beliefs on the subject, etc. and I think he was able to take it & although I know he doesn't agree with it & all he could at least understand it in that context to some extent. However when it comes to these lawyers & this situation I'm just not sure exactly what I should explain & what I should say. I believe I could explain our outlook on the Law of Love & that whatever happened, happened prior to 1986 & after that nothing happened & there was certainly no penetrative sex, that she didn't do anything for him. There are a lot of options I could take. Or I could just deny that it happened at all, I'm just not sure what I should say or if I even have to say anything. But if you have any thoughts or counsel I'd really appreciate it.

FOR PETER: Maria's Reaction on Mene's affidavit:

GBY! I've read Mene's affidavit, and prepared a reaction, but I thought first I would mention several points that are like some new thoughts that came to me while considering this & also after reading the Summit meeting notes & your notes on the related topic. There's really alot to comment on, but first I'll just mention here some of the newer ideas that came to me.

Martin Luther & His Ninety - Five Theses:

When I was praying about this & especially the overall situation I got a picture of Martin Luther's 95 Theses, & how powerfully the Lord used it. Actually it was more just really

encouraging to think back to how much God used that, even though it was only one copy, one pub, ha! Also how he had to eventually come to the point of saying, "Here I stand, I can do no other", & it was all out confrontation with the System and his complete condemnation, but then the Lord intervened & provided a powerful patron who protected him, and his influence then on the common people grew even greater, and they were the ones who caught the vision and carried on his message.

From the sounds of some of the recent prophecies it seems like the Lord is going to do something similar at least in magnitude of the message getting out, and it was really encouraging just thinking about how the Lord multiplied his words and his stands on doctrine. I believe the 95 Theses are still a backbone of Lutheran doctrine. It really was an encouraging comparison.

COMPARISON TO MARTIN LUTHER ENLIGHTENING & ENCOURAGING FOR LAWYERS?

I was reminded again about Martin Luther and the tremendous, historically-important spiritual warfare which he stirred up, through his declaring his beliefs and sticking to his guns. I thought that perhaps making the comparison of what the Lord is doing with us now, with the battle that raged during the Reformation in which Luther found himself the center, might be a good way of helping folks like our lawyers and others whom we need to explain ourselves to perhaps better understand us & the situation in which we are all finding ourselves.

It could help them to understand better the following points perhaps: 1) that it's going to be a long and involved battle, & not over quickly, 2) that it's possible for matters of faith to stir up all-out warfare from those who are threatened, 3) why a small group with beliefs could be a threat to a large body of the politically powerful, 4) how damaging our Work is to our political enemies & why they'd go to any lengths to destroy us, 5) how our voice is powerful enough to literally destroy them by exposing that their beliefs are wrong, that they're covering their real purposes & deceiving the people to gain power, and that there is an alternative, 6) how vitally important it is for the World & for history that we do make a stand, 7) how historically important the battle which we are engaging in could be, & it's effect upon history, 8) why God would be allowing & even wanting & guiding this warfare himself!

Since it's almost impossible for many folks to fathom the present-day World leadership system, and the End-time events unfolding and where we are in them, maybe they can better grasp it all by looking backwards at this historical model, because they can't deny it happened, nor its effect, nor its clear issues.

Words That Are Used for Normal System Sexiness:

I felt funny and unclear by much of what Mene was referring to as sex when it wasn't actually sex, and I just now realized that our kids are so naive about system standards, practices and terminology that they refer to many things as being actually sex, which in my day we would call necking or parking & it was considered very commonplace and non-consequential. Previously it was called sparking, and all kinds of other terms that are very loosely applied to any sexual affection, and all of which fairly well denotes a two-way appreciated or wanted participation & appreciation... and none of which is considered serious or consequential by system parents.

Anything from playing postman, to playing doctor, to smooching, to serious necking at the drive-in or on a country road are considered very normal childhood & adolescent behavior. - Whereas, if these were given the same terminology by which Mene is describing some of the exact same kind of behavior adults would look at it differently.

Maybe even for the sake of our family & kids we should introduce them to the more generally accepted modern system terms for these things, as I think semantics plays a big role in

this battle, as it defines attitudes towards such things and either gives terms a familiar & understandable acceptance, or raises the specter of the bizarre.

Since When Is The System Against Sexiness:

Another thought is that so much of the accusations made against us are dredging up such a completely unrealistic, puritanical attitude towards sex, that it's kind of like the way they are attacking the issue of religion. We're the ones affected now, but every System person who has a healthy liberal attitude towards sex is in jeopardy of losing his own freedoms if we lose ours. It's kind of funny, but maybe in the same way as we need to warn people & especially the Christians that these attacks on us are undermining their own freedoms, maybe we ought to really come out and say that the same thing is in danger of happening to every sexually liberated man & woman as well.

Also, just as the attacks on the Christian angle exposes who our enemies are, the attacks on our sexual attitudes likewise exposes something that people need to be aware of. Who is it that is so against sex anyway? If it's not religious, what other group is so puritanical except those with communist sentiments. And what is the political force that is behind this growing body of so-called professionals in the field of social services and governmental care agencies that is so puritanical as well as anti-religious? How much power do they have and what is their goal, etc. Maybe we need to send out a call for all these sexually liberated people of the sixties and seventies to take notice and get concerned and stand up for their sexual rights, etc. And anyway, where are all these sexually liberated people of these past two decades, & what do they think about it now?

It just seems like our enemies are sticking their necks out too far when they attack us on our sexuality, because it's not anything we've hidden, and it's a very narrow, straight-laced, puritanical mind-set that would try to bring out our sexuality as being evil. It's just almost crazy, when we've never claimed to be unsexy before, & most of the world is very liberal, or at least it used to be, and probably still wants to think that it still is, and if they're not now, then where and when did this change in attitude come about. It's paradoxical that they try to use sex evilly to box us into a corner & measure us by because it's a false standard that doesn't fit us, & neither does it fit the World! It's inconsistent with the realities of the world today. It's a fairy-tale standard!

I guess at this point that comes to mind as being one the public maybe needs to sit up and take notice about is if we as a group are on the defensive about sex, how did the social climate get into this kind of a situation in the first place? How has it come about that our enemies can even think that our sexuality could be a tool against us, when it's one of our tools that has worked for us and against them before, to expose their own hypocrisy.

I'm just thinking about the way Mene is trying to make Dad's sexiness look like the most evil thing in the world, when it's very normal & natural and common amongst many others in similar situations, especially in the privacy of their homes, and notoriously so in their resorts or clubs.

What Points Should Be Answered:

Regarding whether or not we answer every little point, or whether if doing so we are then obliged to also answer the points which are the most serious & completely the ravings of a lunatic. If we do want to get any mileage out of some of the less scandalous but equally dangerous insinuations by giving a clear rebuttal & drawing realistic comparisons to put the slurs into perspective, maybe we could go ahead and answer some of the charges, and then say something like the following, perhaps:

"While some of the insinuations are very easy to point out as being unrealistically prudish and not in keeping with the realities of the times in relationship to the circumstances in which

most of the children of the world are found to live, other allegations are intentionally scandalous & completely ludicrous to the point of being obviously demented & inconsistent. However, if these childish ravings of this poor mentally ill person are taken as fact, this could result in serious harm to our members & children, therefore we feel it is imperative to establish the invalidity of the testimony of this witness."

Some General Reactions:

It really reminds me of those demonic movie scripts that are made along these lines, with all the same slants and slanders they use to portray anything religious, like the really demonic movies that unashamedly show the devil to be the good guy, and anything or anyone religious to be demented and very evil! It reminded me strongly of a movie script, & amazes me somewhat that Mene would have these thoughts & perspective on her own, or it's a script actually has been written for her to use. I guess it's also possible that she did actually see things this way, because these thoughts are from the devil's perspective, of course, but it sure shows that he's not very inventive, and his perspective is predictable, whether it's mouthed through an insane girl or a horror movie.

Would our enemies be fearful of actually getting Mene up on the stand to testify herself, as they'd be afraid that she'd act up & expose herself...which of course, she would, under so much direct influence of prayer from us! But I was thinking maybe they'd want to use it in other behind-the-scenes ways.

Would we have to bring out that from the time that Mene first mentions Mother Eve & her team, they were not officially recognized as part of our group, and we weren't responsible for their actions, which were not in accordance with our beliefs? Maybe that would hurt Mother, & maybe it wouldn't be needed, but if it was & we explained it lovingly enough to her, she might understand and even acknowledge that is so herself, or maybe she's already done so.

There are many points that can be brought out, comparing any of Mene's experiences to things which commonly happen to other children in the system, including access to pornography & illicit sex right on their TVs, as well as the preponderance of printed & acknowledged stats as to how much young people today are involved in sexual activity themselves.