



The Church of Satan

The Church of Satan is a legally recognized, formally structured, organized religion in every sense, with its world headquarters in San Francisco, California. After many years of studying all forms of organized religion and the entire spectrum of the occult, Dr. Anton Szandor LaVey, High Priest of the Church of Satan, formally organized the Church on Walburgisnacht (April 30), 1966. In five years the membership of the Church has grown at an increasingly rapid rate, and it is estimated that there are countless thousands of people throughout the world who practice our teachings although they are not registered members.

The Church of Satan was established so that members could openly practice Satanism in the community, and so that, as an organized religion, the Church could dispel the many falsehoods which are widespread concerning Satanism.

Every popular idea about Satan and Satanism has been fostered by the Christian Church, in which Satan is the "evil" opposite of the "good" god. The Christian Church is not an authority on Satanism, and the Christian concept of Satan is as alien to true Satanism as is their concept of god. A Satanist knows that he is capable of performing every action attributed to the gods of spiritual religions; each Satanist is his own god.

Satan is not the misshapen, cloven-

hoofed demon of Christianity. "Satan" is the name Satanists have given to the natural force which rules the world, and which represents man and man's nature.

"Satan represents indulgence, instead of abstinence! Satan represents vital existence, instead of spiritual pipe dreams! Satan represents undefiled wisdom, instead of hypocritical self-deceit! Satan represents kindness to those who deserve it, instead of love wasted on ingrates! Satan represents vengeance, instead of turning the other cheek! Satan represents responsibility to the responsible, instead of concern for psychic vampires! Satan represents man as just another animal, sometimes better, more often worse, than those that walk on all fours, who, because of his 'divine spiritual and intellectual development,' has become the most vicious animal of all! Satan represents all of the so-called sins, as they all lead to physical, mental, or emotional gratification! Satan has been the best friend the church has ever had, as he has kept it in business all these years!" (SATANIC BIBLE)

Satan is the opposite of everything which frustrates and condemns man.

To be a Satanist means to live according to one's natural instincts. Satanic doctrine can best be stated: "Do what you will, as long as no undeserving person is harmed by your actions." The Satanic philosophy of life is: "Life is the great indulgence—death, the great abstinence! Therefore, make the most of life—here and now!" Satanism is the only religion in the world which does not condemn a man for doing what he knows is not wrong.

Satanists are found in all walks of life. The only thing a group of Satanists meeting together may have in common is that they are all living according to their own set of rules, not one imposed upon them by

an unseen, unknown, and unknowable outside force.

The only requirement the Church of Satan places upon its members is a full understanding of the principles of their religion as set forth in THE SATANIC BIBLE, written by our High Priest. This can easily be accomplished before one becomes a member of the Church. Our BIBLE explains Satanic philosophy and doctrine, Satanic ritual and magic, tells why we do not perform "Black Masses," and explains the Satanic view on sex and the use of drugs. THE SATANIC BIBLE is a primer on Satanism, but leaves each Satanist free to put its teachings into practice as he interprets them.

The Satanic view of sex, often misrepresented, is that sex is merely the second strongest instinct, after self-preservation, and that sex is natural. No Satanist will condemn a human being for performing any sexual act which is not only condoned, but often encouraged, in any other animal.

Copies of THE SATANIC BIBLE have been found at the scene of the most horrendous crimes. Self-styled "Satanists" have appeared on the front page of every newspaper in the United States. The Church of Satan is in no way affiliated with these despicable criminals who pretend to be members of the Church in order to carry out their foul deeds. The Church of Satan stands firmly for law and order, and is violently opposed to ritual murder, ritualized sex orgies, animal sacrifices, etc. By its very nature, Satanism provides the initiative for self-aggrandisement according to the needs and desires of each individual, without placing him at variance with those laws established for the common good.

No true Satanist uses hallucinogenic or narcotic drugs without a good reason (such as a doctor's prescription). These

drugs serve to expand one's consciousness, and are an escape from reality. A true Satanist is a realist, who knows that only by working within society, using his own sharpened ego, can he effect the changes that will better his condition in life in accordance with his will. He knows that we live in a world in which only the most realistic and strongest—those whom sociologists and psychologists have termed "ultimate pragmatists"—will succeed. Drugs are a crutch which enable weaklings to drop out of the society in which Satanists work and toward which Satanists contribute.

For a more complete understanding of Satanism, we encourage you to read THE SATANIC BIBLE, published by Avon Books. It is available at most bookstores dealing in paperback books. If, however, you cannot locate a copy, you may order one by sending \$1.50 (which includes postage and handling) to the Church at the address given below. A copy will be mailed to you.

If, after reading our BIBLE, you feel that you would like to become a member of the Church of Satan, write the Church, and include your telephone number. A member of the Church will contact you to make an appointment to answer questions you may have, and to give you an application for membership.

We hope to hear from you soon.

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