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Info-Cult responds daily to requests by phone and email about numerous groups and subjects. In 2017-2018, we dealt with more than a 1,000 and since 1980 more than 80,000. Responding to inquiries for help and information is one of our principal activities. It is also the one that requires most of our time.

Info-Cult is asked about numerous groups and subjects: 126 this year and more than 4,000 since our creation. In many of the communications we have there is a question that often is asked in different forms. What does Info-Cult do?

In response Info-Cult elaborated the following text providing an overview of who we are and what we do.

Founded in Montreal (Quebec, Canada) in 1980, Info-Cult is a nonprofit charitable organization that offers information and help with regard to groups, their ideology, their functioning as well as the interpersonal relationships within a cultic context.

Different terms are commonly used to describe these groups: cults, extremist groups, radical groups, coercive groups. Info-Cult provides an analysis that goes beyond these labels to help people become aware of what they have experienced in a group and, in particular, to better understand the worldview and the functioning of the group.

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Info-Cult Launches a Support Group for former members (in French)

In response to the expressed needs of former members Info-Cult has started a support group in Montreal. The support group, being run in French, is for those who have gone through a controlling relationship (conjugal, ideological or group). The group is being led by a psychologist and psycho-educator who are volunteering their time and expertise. The support group started in February 2018 and takes place on a monthly basis at a local CLSC, who are providing us with a free meeting space.

The purpose of the group is to help former members move on after their experience. After being involved in an environment that was so intense, post-group life can be quite lonely and isolating. A group for former members can help counteract that sense of loneliness. It's also helpful for former members to see that the manipulations and power tactics used on them were similar whether they were involved in a religious, new age, political, therapy cult or cultic relationship.



About Info-Cult

Info-Cult offers:

- Information on different groups, including cultic groups;
- Support to people who are dealing with difficult experiences and challenges with regard to integrating or reintegrating into society, as the case may be;
- Help in understanding the various daily experiences in a group (relationship among its members, leader/member relationship) and, if necessary, when leaving a group.

The situations that present themselves are often complex and simple responses are rare. Thousands of groups exist in the world and many of them foster an enriching experience, while others give rise to experiences of being controlled or victimized.

Info-Cult's approach is to analyze situations on a case-by-case basis in order to better understand the individual's experience and, if necessary, to identify the problematic patterns that, for example, go against the Canadian and Quebec Charters of Human Rights and Freedoms.

Since its founding, Info-Cult benefits from the close collaboration of its Board of Directors, which is made up of professionals in the fields of law, education, business and mental health with the support of numerous other volunteers. Supported by an international network, Info-Cult has, for nearly forty years, contributed to an important mission of informing and educating the public about the cultic phenomenon.

ICSA International Conference 2018, July 5 – 7, 2018, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The **ICSA international conference**, organized jointly with **Info-Cult**, will take place in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from July 5 – 7, 2018.

The theme is ***The global challenge of young people born, raised or recruited into extremist groups, abusive religious organizations, or coercive/exploitative relationships.***

Information and the program can be found here:

<http://www.icsahome.com/events/conferenceannual>

Among the dozens of sessions are:

- Domestic Violence and Cults
- Gang, Cult and Terror Youth Recruitment
- What Helps Former Members Recover
- Reawakening Your Spirituality After a Cult Experience
- Spiritual Abuse
- Impact of Being Born or Raised in a Cult
- Parenting Postcult
- Cults and Sexuality
- Legal Theories: Overview and Potential Strategies



Philadelphia, site of the 2018 ICSA conference

Library Collection

Info-Cult's library has acquired a vast quantity of materials on "cults", "new religious movements" and related groups and subjects.

The documentation centre is the largest of its kind in North America and houses, thousands of files, more than 1,200 programs on audio/video cassettes, journals, newsletters, government and legal documents, academic reports, journals and thousands of books principally in English and French with a smaller collection of documents in Spanish, Italian, Japanese, and German. The collection spans critical and group generated information and other materials which are obtained from sources around the world.

Info-Cult's Web Site

Different pages on our website are updated on an ongoing basis and a number of documents and programs are available in their entirety, here: www.infocult.org

Governmental Reports

This page <http://infosecte.org/ic-gov.html> provides a range of government studies and reports, legal decisions and other documents from **21** countries and the Council of Europe.

New Acquisitions - April 2018

BOOKS



Anton, Carlos Bardavio

[*Las sectas en Derecho penal: Estudio dogmatico de los delitos sectarios*](#)

JB Bosch Editor

C2018, Barcelona



Gallagher, Eugene V., Editor

[*Cult Wars in Historical Perspective: New and Minority Religions*](#)

Routledge INFORM Series

C2017, Abingdon



Harvey, Sarah, Silke Steidinger and James A. Beckford, Editors

[*New Religious Movements and Counselling: Academic, Professional and Personal Perspectives*](#)

Routledge INFORM Series

C2018, Abingdon

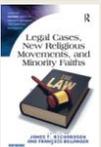


Lalich, Janja and Karla McLaren

[*Escaping Utopia: Growing Up in a Cult, Getting Out, and Starting Over*](#)

Routledge

C2018, New York



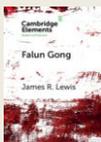
Richardson, James T. and François Bellanger

[*Legal Cases, New Religious Movements, and Minority Faiths*](#)

Routledge INFORM Series

c2018, paperback, Routledge (C2016, Ashgate), Abingdon

E-BOOKS



Lewis, James R.

[*Falun Gong: Spiritual Warfare and Martyrdom*](#) (Booklet)

Cambridge University Press

C2018, Cambridge

Info-Cult on Facebook



Find us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/InfoCult.InfoSecte>



Info-Cult E-mail Information Lists (English and French)

Info-Cult's **free email service** offers subscribers: articles on cults, new religious movements and related subjects, announcements of upcoming conferences, television programs and updates about Info-Cult. For more information about this service:

http://infosecte.org/Options_EN.html



Info-Cult's videos can be accessed on our YouTube page:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/infosecte>

Info-Cult is a registered charitable organization and is recognized for its role in responding to a real need in our society. Info-Cult is able to carry out its activities thanks in large part to the support of people like you who believe we provide a vital community service. Please consider donating to Info-Cult today.

Online at:



<https://www.canadahelps.org/services/wa/dnm/en/#/page/16231>

Or by:



Go to www.infocult.org and click on **DONATE NOW**

Or by mail to
Info-Cult at: 5655 Park Ave, Suite 208, Montreal, QC, Canada H2V 4H2.

Donations to Info-Cult are tax deductible and are greatly appreciated