

LAZARUS
PROJECT
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Universal Life Church
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Credentials Of Ministry

This is to certify that the bearer hereof was ordained
this date: July 21, 1998

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Lida G. Hensley
Lida G. Hensley, D.D., President

S.O.U.L.
CLINIC
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3 Interview
Mr. OB

WHISPERS
S.O.U.L. Clinic
Interview Questions

Thank you for this interview bro... as I said: The Prison Boom these last few decades is this generations modern-day holocaust of "criminals". Its time we remind the living out there that we are still alive, all be it in exile. *

Let's begin this interview with: name/age/race/county-year of conviction/
Public Defender - plea - appeal comments. Was the sentence fair - why? Is prison what you expected - as the media projects? How do you make it psychologically acceptable to deal with your crimes - and corresponding time? How many years have you been in prison now? What would you like to tell tax payers about some of the things you've seen in prison, which they'd never imagined could happen to their sons/husbands/fathers? What would you like to say about your observations/experience with prison guards/counselors/administration? What is your disciplinary history? What is your experience/observations with the Psych. Dept.? With the Religious Dept.? With any of the "Rehab. Groups"? Are you any different from this prison experience? What do you think has changed the most about you? How'd that change come about? Do you consider yourself a criminal? What do you think makes someone a criminal? What's your greatest strength? your greatest weakness? What would you like to accomplish? Have you maintained relationships outside prison? Visits/letters/phone calls? Do you feel you have been forgiven for your actions? Have you made amends to the people you have harmed? If you have not had the opportunity to make personal amends with your victim or their family, what would you say if given the chance?

* Interviews will be posted on my blog site: BetweentheBars.org

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WHISPERS: Okay hombre, thank you for your interest in this Lazarus Project interview, which I will be posting on my blog-site BetweenTheBars. How are you? Do you have any present time problems preventing your full attention on our purpose here-now?

MRØB: I am doing very well, thank you. You have my full attention, sir. In fact, I'm really excited to be a part of this Project to help the public see our point of view in here.

WHISPERS: Very well, let's begin. You're able to duplicate the Interview Q's which I'm asking everyone to confront?

MRØB: Yes sir. You may call me Angel. I'm a 51yr. old Mexican, out of San-Bernardino. 1997 was the year I was sentenced to a 25yr. to-life term. Of course my court appointed Public Defender dumped me - and my Appeal was denied without hesitation. I had prior prison terms which struck me out on this case that typically carries a 16 month, 2 years or 3 year sentence, so NO! I do not believe my 25yrs-to-life sentence was fair.

The media? Don't get me started on the media! The media markets fear to justify unjust Laws. They project the idea that Prisoners never change. Granted, a large percentage of Prisoners who've lost hope of ever being with their families again are prone to continue in their criminal thinking and behavior... but there is also a percentage of us who strive to mature and make our lives worthwhile despite the odds we will ever be released from prison.

Psychologically? I do my time and deal with my pain and sorrow, as well as the dysfunctional personalities around me, by occupying myself with my artwork. It's the best I can do for the time-being Whispers, to help me "stay sane in this psychotic environment", as I've heard you say.

WHISPERS: Yes indeed Angel, artwork qualifies as the "Aesthetics" dynamic, and permits our Creative Communication upon a higher plane of awareness, not to discount the effect of admiration it causes amongst the bestial folk here mired in their despondent mediocrity. Well done. Now please continue.

MRØB: Where was I? Oh yea: Psychologically acceptable to deal with - corresponding time? I do not correspond much because Yesterday is pretty much the same as Last Year, as well as all my Tomorrows, I expect. I've been serving time for twenty straight years now, and yesterday was the first time I've been able to speak with my granddaughter.

My observations regarding staff? Yea, I try to keep an opened mind toward the guards. I was taught to treat people, as I would like to be treated. Of course there are some guards who know that they can be abusive and get away with it, but what can we do in the over-all scheme of things?

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My disciplinary history as an active gang member, wasn't good at all. Yet, as of the last fourteen years, my violence has dropped dramatically to an occasional fight - usually over undisciplined youngsters who are allowed on this side and feel they need to prove themselves.

As far as the Psych. Dept... it's getting worse! I see less and less of the Psych. Tech's, and group therapy is cancelled more often than not, due to "shortages" they claim.

What do I think has changed about me? My change has come with age and maturing to the point of where I really don't care what - or how people see me. I have learned to respect myself, and love my self for who I am.

I am no longer a "criminal". I believe what makes a criminal is when one can not let the lifestyle of weapons and criminal intent to continue the same as when you entered the prison system.

My greatest strength? I try to make people smile and laugh. I'm able to make people comfortable around me.

My greatest weakness? Babies, kids, animals (especially puppies and kittens).

What I'd like to accomplish is getting my High School Diploma.

Relationships? I've lost most of my elder loved ones over these past twenty years in prison.

I have not had any visitors since I was at County Jail, 20 yrs. ago.

Amends? I have never asked the person I harmed ages ago to forgive me. But if I could I would definitely beg their family to forgive me for negative impacts I'd caused. I'd let them know I'm nothing like I was before - I am no longer into the gang scene or violence.

I no longer believe in being a tough guy. I humble myself to you and yours and want you to know: In my own beliefs, I don't think that harming anyone for anything is ever necessary. Here I sit, saying to all I've ever hurt, that my behavior was that of a wounded animal. I no longer carry that chip on my shoulder. Now I feel more like a turtle - or a rabbit... I want no enemies. I don't believe that I've been forgiven for my past, but the Lord knows my heart. Karma has paid me back. Please forgive my past behavior.

WHISPERS: Very good Angel, well done! This concludes our Session here, unless you have anything else you'd like to add. Have I ever told you how much I miss rabbit stew? Hey, maybe you'll cum by for lunch sometime.

MROB: Maybe I will. Thank you for your time and attention - and good luck on your S.O.U.L. Clinic. Hasta La Vista, Whispers. You're funny.