1 CHURCH IN THE MID 70'S HAD OCCURRED JUST AS THE DEPROGRAMMING,
2 BRAINWASHING SCARE HAD COME ALONG. IN MY FIRST VISITS I JUST
3 WENT AS A PERSON OFF THE STREET. I DID NOT IDENTIFY MYSELF
4 AS ANYONE SPECIAL.
5 I SAT IN THE CONGREGATION, TALKED TO PEOPLE. IN ONE
6 INSTANCE I WENT TO A WEEKEND EVENT WHERE MEMBERS FROM AROUND
7 THE MIDWEST HAD GATHERED IN CHICAGO AND THERE WERE PEOPLE
8 THERE FROM LOCAL CHURCH CONGREGATIONS. THAT WAS AN ALL-DAY
9 AFFAIR.
10 I STAYED AND -- AFTER THE MORNING MEETING I ATE LUNCH
11 WITH PEOPLE. I TALKED TO THEM AND MORE IMPORTANTLY I LISTENED
12 TO THEIR CONVERSATION, WHAT THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT.
13 NOW, THE MEETING WAS OUT AND IT WAS INFORMAL TIME AND I
14 MADE SOME JUDGMENTS ABOUT IT. BECAUSE I FOUND IN TALKING
15 ABOUT THINGS LIKE BASEBALL SCORES YESTERDAY, A MOVIE THAT ONE
16 OF THEM HAD SEEN, JUST KIND OF NORMAL THINGS THAT MY OWN
17 CHURCH PEOPLE WOULD TALK ABOUT OVER A CHURCH SUPPER WHILE THEY
18 WERE DRINKING THEIR LAST CUP OF COFFEE.
19 SO THOSE ARE THE KINDS OF OBSERVATIONS THAT I MADE.
20 THE COURT: DID YOU TAKE ANY OF THE LOCAL MEMBERS
21 AND JUST SIMPLY SAY, "LOOK, I AM DOING A CHECK AND I'D LIKE TO
22 KNOW -- I DON'T WANT TO TAKE ONE OF THE ELDERS, I WANT TO TAKE
23 ONE OF THE LOCAL MEMBERS AND ASK YOUR OPINION. DO YOU FEEL YOU
24 ARE HELD TO THIS CHURCH BY ANY FORCES? DO YOU THINK ANYTHING
25 IS BEING PRACTICED UPON YOU AGAINST YOUR WILL?"
26 THE WITNESS: I DID THAT ONE NIGHT AT A GATHERING
27 WHERE NO ELDERS WERE PRESENT OF A SMALL -- THEY HAVE SMALL
28 GROUP GATHERINGS. I HAVE NOT DONE IT PARTICULARLY WITH ONE ON