

MindFreedom

Support Coalition International

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Action Conference on Human Rights in Mental Health

American University Washington College of Law

April 29-May 1, 2005

With an Optional Protest of PhRMA, May 2, 2005

To: District of Columbia Law Schools and Legal Community

Re: Conference on "Activism for Human Rights in Mental Health: How the Law Can Support Grassroots Action for Human Rights in the Mental Health System."

This conference brings together key leaders, activists, allies and advocates in the field of human rights for people labeled with psychiatric disorders to develop an action plan against violations of basic human rights through inhumane psychiatric treatment, such as forced psychiatric drugging and electroshock. **Join the Human Rights Movement of the Decade.**

If you are interested in joining with this movement to **resist psychiatric abuses**, come to this unique "**action conference**." Jim Gottstein of the Law Project for Psychiatric Rights (Harvard Law School, 1978) will be speaking and is a facilitator of the track on "How The Law Can Help Fight Forced Treatment," which has a focus on **fighting the increased use of force** in the mental health system by combining the tools of the legal system and grassroots activism. Pulitzer Prize nominated author of *Mad in America*, Robert Whitaker, will also be speaking and is a facilitator of the track on Public Education and the Media. There are six tracks in all:

- How The Law Can Help Fight Forced Treatment Focus: Fight the increased use of force in the mental health system by combining the tools of **the legal system and grassroots activism**. Facilitators include: attorney/survivor Jim Gottstein, Director of the Law Project for Psychiatric Rights (PsychRights).
- International Focus: Advocacy with The World Health Organization (WHO) as well as the United Nations (UN) especially related to the **International Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities**. Facilitators include: MindFreedom President, Celia Brown and MindFreedom Director, David Oaks.
- US Congress/Federal Government Focus: Planning actions to resist the **unfair influence** of the psychiatric drug industry on the US government. Facilitators include: Dominick Riccio, PhD, Executive Director of the International Center for the Study of Psychiatry and Psychology (ICSP).
- Choices In Mental Health Focus: Support **humane alternatives** to the traditional mental health system. Facilitators include: MindFreedom board member Janet Foner.
- Public Education and the Media Focus: Relationship between the **media and science** and grassroots actions for human rights in mental health. Facilitators include: Laurie Ahern from Mental Disability Rights International (MDRI) and Robert Whitaker, author of *Mad in America*.
- Open Track Focus: Provide an open space for any conference participants to raise topics, ideas or concerns not covered by other conference tracks, especially voices from **neglected and marginalized groups**. Facilitators include: MindFreedom board member Al Galves.

The cost is only \$145; most meals included. A limited number of scholarships are available. More information is available at <http://mindfreedom.org>. **Register Today!!!**

*A non-profit uniting 100 grassroots groups to win human rights in mental health.
Accredited by the UN as a Non-Governmental Organization with Consultative Roster Status.*

www.MindFreedom.org

ein: 93-1144215

MindFreedom Action Conference Registration Form
Friday, 29 April to Monday, 2 May 2005
Washington, D.C. , U.S.A.

MindFreedom International
454 Willamette, Ste. 216 - POB 11284
Eugene, OR 97440-3484 USA

PLEASE PRINT:

Name: _____
Organization (if any): _____
Street Address: _____
City/State/Postal Code: _____
Country: _____
Home Phone (please include area code): _____
Cell Phone (please include area code): _____
Work Phone (please include area code): _____
E-mail Address: _____

As the conference approaches, we will add your e-mail address to a private e-mail list to provide you with more background information before the event.

Transportation:

A free shuttle will be provided for those arriving via Metro. (See the transportation section for important details.)

"I need to use the shuttle service from Tenleytown Metro to the conference site."

Please circle YES or NO or NOT SURE.

I need the shuttle to be accessible transportation.

Please circle YES or NO.

Food:

Registration includes a reception meal on Friday evening, along with breakfast and lunch on both Saturday and Sunday, as well as refreshments during breaks.

"I have the following special needs regarding food (please list, including if you need vegetarian option)":

Reasonable Accommodations:

"I will need the following reasonable accommodations to fully participate in the conference":

Please be specific. Please know that our resources are limited but we will do everything possible to make this conference fully accessible for everyone.

PAYMENT ENCLOSED:

\$ \$145 - Conference fee, including meals and shuttle.

\$ _____ - Additional donation to a scholarship fund to help others attend (if any).

\$ _____ - Total Enclosed.

Payment method (circle one): Check - Money Order - Credit Card