The Human Rights Imperative for Far, Far More Choices in Mental Health…
by David W. Oaks, Executive Director, MindFreedom International

21 September 2012 • Freeport, Maine, USA

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Thank you to all those in the Maine mental health community who bravely supported this event including...

Mary Haynes, Ph.D. • Community Health and Counseling Services (CHCS)
Kate Chichester • Co-Occurring Collaborative Serving Maine (CCSME)
Plus everyone else, especially all mental health consumers and psychiatric survivors.

"Innovative Solutions for Building Recovery With Alternatives to Psychotropic Medications"

Psychiatric survivor activist 36 years
Executive Director
MindFreedom International 26 years
www.MindFreedom.org
Board member:
Oregon Consumer/Survivor Coalition
United States International Council on Disability

David W. Oaks

Disclosure Required by Conference to Provide Continuing Medical Education (CME) Credits:

David W. Oaks, Presenter:
"I have nothing to disclose with regard to commercial relationships."

5 May 2012 Boycott Normal Protest

... and MindFreedom International is one of the few 100% independent nonprofits in mental health advocacy today!
1) **TALK**: Communicate. Let's unite. Let's stop saying "mental illness" (Google those five words!)

2) **ACTION**: Not just more reform – *peaceful revolution!*

Activism and nonviolent revolution ARE alternatives to over-drugging!

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**Two Take-Home Points**

Who has helped connect academic and professional allies and psychiatric survivors?

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**The Bridge Builders**

MFI 2003 "Fast for Freedom" supporter. Director of International Society for Ethical Psychology and Psychiatry (ISEPP). Board member MFI. Dissident Psychologist

Cincinnati, Ohio author of: *Commonsense Rebellion*: *Taking Back Your Life from Drugs, Shrinks, Corporations and a World Gone Crazy*

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**Al Galves, PhD, of New Mexico**

Bruce E. Levine, Ohio psychologist

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Mom power!

PsychOut v. ECT in Toronto
Historian, activist and one of the founders of Psychiatric Survivor Archives of Toronto

What is history of 'mad' academia and 'mad' activism collaborating?

Professor of Psychology and Education, Mt. Holyoke University, Mass. Expert in "first person" stories of psychiatric survivors.

Graduate student intern starts MindFreedom Academic Alliance

In a nutshell:
- What is psychiatric survivor/mental health consumer movement, and how can anyone we connect?

Geoffrey Reaume, PhD

Bonnie Burstow, PhD in Toronto

Gail Hornstein, PhD

Piers Gooding (Melbourne Australia)

Loren Mosher v. Joseph Biederman

Sally Zinman
Community Organizing: Recycle!

- Decide.
- Grow.
- Act.
- Win.

Human 'gears' of people power.

Mutual Support Meets Activism

Nothing About Us Without Us!

Motto of cross-disability movement.

Leaders in cross-disability bridge building.

Rae, Justin, Judi, Krista.

Celia Brown, MFI President

Significant victory:

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

1 No force.
Stop involuntary and coerced drugging.

2. No fraud.
Full, accurate, clear information about drugs.

3. No fear.
Offer range of humane non-drug alternatives.

3F: Human Rights Framework
McLean Hospital

My recruiting room at McLean

Bowditch Hall:
- 1958: Robert Lowell (2 Pulitzers)
- 1959: John Nash (1 Nobel)
- 1965: James Taylor (5 Grammies)
- 1976: David Oaks

Google:
Neuroleptic Brain Damage

36 years of 'antipsychotics'?

So Many Alternatives:
Peer supported housing • Warm Lines
- Peer crisis respite • Soteria House
- Open Dialogue • Ecopsychology
- Spirituality • Nutrition • Exercise • Art
- Counseling • Emergency room transformation

All cheaper than dependency, brain damage & death.

Citizenship = alternative.
Justice = alternative.
Freedom = alternative.
Voice = alternative.
Equality = alternative.

Activism is an alternative!

Learning from history?

Masters of Bedlam:
The Transformation of the Mad Doctoring Trade
By Andrew Scull, Charlotte MacKenzie, Nicholas Hervey

Reform? Or More?
MFI protests APA

Forced Electroshock in USA

Yes, There Is Forced ECT globally, including USA:
Elizabeth Ellis and Ray Sandford of Minnesota

Mental health truth injection

Where is Our CSX Underground Railroad?

MindFreedom Vision:

- Unite for a global nonviolent revolution in the mental health system

A Few MindFreedom Campaigns:

- Shield: Alerts and Our Own Media
- Global: UN, Handbook and Training
- Choice: Alternatives for Mental Health
- Mad Pride: Celebrate Our Diversity
- Coalition: Affiliates and Sponsors
  - Electroshock & Human Rights Initiative

Unite to Win

Unite to Win
A New MindFreedom Campaign:
*Defy hopelessness:*
*I Got Better! I Got Out!*

www.igotbetter.org

Human salvation lies in the hands of the creatively maladjusted.

Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

It may well be that our world is in dire need of a new organization:

"The International Association for the Advancement of Creative Maladjustment."

MLK on IAACM

What is generally called "normal behavior" is, based on scientific studies, causing…

Global environmental catastrophe!

Warning:
Red Rubber Nose!

Patch Adams & Gesundheitd

Proud to be "Maladjusted"

Mad Pride Ireland
We Shall Overcome in Oslo, Norway

We Shall Overcome: Norway

MindFreedom Ghana

MindFreedom Ghana Mad Pride

Turkish Consumer/Survivors

Leadership in Developing World

Pune, India activist
Bhargavi Davar, PhD
Mexico City psychiatric survivors

Ukraine psychiatric survivors & allies

Unite Talk & Action!
Ancient Peasant Rebel Song:

Die gedanken sind frei

Thoughts are free

Song: Thoughts are free

I think as I please
And this gives me pleasure
My conscience decrees
This right I must treasure
My thoughts do not cater
To duke or dictator
No one can deny
Die gedanken sind frei

2nd verse: Thoughts are free

And if tyrants take me
And throw me in prison
My thoughts will burst free
Like blossoms in season
Foundations will crumble
Structures will tumble
And freely we cry
Die gedanken sind frei
Free people will cry
Die gedanken sind frei

3rd verse: Thoughts are free
What is your leadership role, globally and locally, in MLK’s:

- International Association for the Advancement of Creative Maladjustment?

Thank you to everyone for making this possible.

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MLK and You are in IAACM

David W. Oaks