

Mental Health Program

February 14, 1978

Mr. Mel Sembler, President  
Straight, Inc.  
P. O. Box 40652  
St. Petersburg, FL 33743

Dear Mr. Sembler:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your undated letter concerning the Straight policy regarding holding a client against his or her will.

Your procedures will be in accordance with the pertinent statutes if we understand correctly that force will not be used to prohibit a child from leaving the program. If a child does leave in spite of your efforts to delay him until his parents arrive, or until he can be turned over to the Health and Rehabilitative Services Single Intake Unit, you should call the police immediately and advise them that you want to report a dependent runaway.

Sincerely,

J. B. Holley,  
Alcohol/Drug Abuse Program Specialist

JBH:vc



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