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Market Watch



Index	Last Trade	Change
NASDAQ	2401.18	-14.67
SP 500	1410.76	-7.54
Russ 2000	780.82	-2.08
AMEX	2034.67	-5.44
NYSE	9062.13	-41.32
30 YR BOND	47.63	0.72

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There are "facts" and then there is the truth

Your recently published a letter from two social workers - Ms. Gutman and Ms. Jarvis - on the subject of TeenScreen. Curiously, it was entitled the "facts" about the TeenScreen program.

I think the social workers should crack open a dictionary and look up what a "fact" is. Obviously with no investigation of their own, they accept and spew the "facts" given to them by TeenScreen. One of the definitions for facts is "something said to be true or supposed to have happened," as in this example: "The facts given by the witness are highly questionable." Yet the public doesn't want or need that kind of "facts" to be presented as truth. They need real facts, as in this definition: "something that actually exists; reality; truth."


Ms. Gutman's and Ms. Jarvis' letter is full of assertions, none of which can be proven by evidence. TeenScreen spawned a lawsuit in Indiana because a teen was screened and labeled with a mental disorder without her parents' knowledge.

TeenScreen refuses to release the identity of their mysterious donors. Many members of TeenScreen's executive board have connections to drug companies. TeenScreen's biggest supporter and co-conspirator is NAMI, which receives millions from drug companies, a verifiable fact because NAMI is a non-profit organization required to reveal its contributors.

TeenScreen is intimately involved in treatment, as evidenced by the fact that TeenScreen always partners with a local mental health provider so that

Community Liaison
 Great River Medical Center, located in West Burlington, Iowa, is currently seeking a Community Liaison for our Hospice Department. This new position will support the mission of hospice through analyzing, developing, overseeing and evaluating all marketing and public relations development and fundraising programs. This position will research, create, oversee, implement, and evaluate a comprehensive development strategy for the organization through the development, promotion, and monitoring of community relationships (physicians, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, patients and families) as well as through the marketing and promotion of hospice through newsletters, health fairs, presentations, seminars, workshops and tours.
 Qualified candidates must have a Bachelor's degree, excellent organization and planning skills, and strong written and verbal communication abilities. Knowledge and experience in fundraising methodologies and development programming are preferred.
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identified youth can be directed into treatment. That information can be found on TeenScreen's own website.

Suicide IS a horrible tragedy. No one is denying that. Yet, suicide is very, very, very rare. If you want to see how rare, click on <http://www.psychsearch.net/rare/iowa.html> You'll see that the suicide rate for youth in Iowa as reported by the CDC is 2.62 per 100,000. That's a very small number. Screening identifies 30% or higher youth as needing further evaluation. Screening is obviously good for finding new customers for the mental health system but it's complete folly to pretend that its purpose is finding those at risk and preventing suicide.

Add to that the FACT that the FDA requires a black box warning on antidepressants, the same ones that will be given to some of these kids entering the mental health system via TeenScreen. This warning states that the drugs can CAUSE suicidal tendencies and violence in young people. Ms. Gutman and Ms. Jarvis neglected to mention that fact.

Everything I have stated here is verifiable, backed up by evidence. Though this may be an editorial, I am not stating an opinion. I am stating documented, provable fact.

Doyle Mills
 Clearwater, FL

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