

Witness Council Report Outline

1. General allegations
 - a. Respondents interviewed or reported publicly
 - i. Twenty-six individuals have either sent emails, consulted the Council for confidential interviews, published articles or have done both types of reporting. There are more than fifty pages of these reports. These reports (encoded by number), confidential interviews and published articles are listed in a redacted index to insure anonymity. Twenty-four respondents were Sasaki's students or former students. The numbers below represent the coded reports in which the issues and allegations appear. While there were only twenty-five respondents, there were forty-six documents. The numbers listed refer to the document from which the comment is quoted.
Twelve respondents gave first hand reports (by women) of attempted or actual sexual contact (* used to identify first hand reporters of sexual contact or attempt here and in index), thirteen respondents gave second hand reports of sexual contact, and one respondent (not a Sasaki student) only reported on Sasaki's prison sentence for misappropriation of temple funds in Japan, and Sasaki's disinterest in caring for a child fathered there outside of marriage.
 - b. Main categories of reported allegations related to Sasaki's sexual conduct
 - i. Concerned with abuse of trust/power as religious teacher – all twenty-six respondents
 - ii. Sexual relations including kissing, groping of genitals or breasts, viewing genitals or breasts, oral sex, intercourse: twenty-five reported some of these alleged sexual contact
 1. Ten respondents reported the Rinzai-ji Oshos or Board's knowledge of allegations or to have alerted the Board and the Oshos - 1,3, 4,6,7 10,23, 28, 32,* 37 *47
 - iii. Physical assault: 3,8,9, 18 reported rape crisis report filed, 18 also mentioned an assault reported to the Los Angeles District Attorney's office (report of Sasaki assault on student) *37 was assaulted
 - iv. Disturbances to the community: 3,10, 17, *23, *37 *47 reported interfering with students' relationship or marriages
 - v. Recommending pornography as practice 43
 - vi. Complaints filed with public agencies: 7,8,18 mentioned rape crisis report, 18 reported District attorney report for Sexual assault and Children's Protective service regarding Sasaki having sex with minor
 - c. Reports of other Oshos making sexual demands of students: 3,7,8. Two respondents knew of male to male incident (anal sex or penis exposure), response 17 reported a male to female incident (osho with female student who was mentally impaired)
2. Estimated number of women affected: Based on a number of interviews response 19 extrapolated more than one hundred women, response 35 extrapolated well over one hundred women over the decades, response *38 estimated more than 300. The number of women is hard to estimate response 19, 35, and *38 extrapolated more than one hundred
3. Coercive methods
 - a. In relation to women/survivors
 - i. Offering sexual relations as a Zen teaching (eg non-attachment, emptiness): *2,6,10, 17, 22, 25, *31, *37, 38, *47
 - ii. Arguing, berating or insulting women to insist upon their compliance with his demands for sex: 7, 8, 18, *37,
 - iii. Offering to marry love interest 8
 - iv. Physical force: 3, 6, 7, *31, *37
 - v. Interfering in marriage/relationship of students: 3, 17,*23, *37

- b. In order to quiet/suppress community dissent
 - i. Explaining the benefits of sexual relations as Zen practice: *2, 6, 7,10, *22, 17, *31,32, *37
 - ii. Community belief that such relationships were the usual behaviors in Japan *8, 10
 - iii. Sasaki's justifying his sexual touch as that of a doctor: 8
 - iv. Sasaki threatening to resign and withdraw his teaching and leadership: 3,6,17
 - v. Sasaki and community members discounting women and their allegations: 1, 3, 4,6,7, 20,*23, *37
- 4. In retaliation against critics
 - i. Removal of Rinzaï-ji position: 7,8, 15, 18, *47
 - ii. Removal of Rinzaï-ji affiliation from their practice community: 7, 13, 18,20
 - iii. Loss of practice center they had established: 6, 7, 13
 - iv. Contact with respondent's work place (eg. disavowing ordination): 11
 - v. Banning from attending/visiting Rinzaï-ji practice place: 19
- 5. Other confounding factors (e.g., secrecy, special alliances)
 - a. Reports of Sasaki fathering children outside of marriage: 3, 7, 8, 44
 - b. Rumors of rewarding sexual partners with teaching empowerments or sangha property: 3, 7, 8
- 6. Other forms of misconduct related to community control
 - a. Financial
 - i. Retaliation at workplace: 11
 - ii. Retaliation thru removal of practice community (potential means of livelihood): 7, 8, 11
 - iii. Non-standard distribution of 501C3 funds through several Sasaki controlled corporations: 8, 17 Document 26. Money made available to buy favors for Sasaki sexual partners. Use of funds for such purposes outside of religious non-profit charter
 - b. Drug use and violence: Report of use of marijuana resulting in osho shooting a dog, 8, 32, 35 (excessive) alcohol consumption by Sasaki 35
- 7. Organizational structures that may have enabled silence or lack of dissent
 - a. Osho lack of independent teacher status: 4, 6, 7, 8, *23, 25
 - b. Inter-connected Boards of Directors from different practice centers: No independent practice center, all controlled by Sasaki 4,7,8, *23
 - c. Interlinked Corporations, and transfer of funds between different practice centers: lack of financial independence 4, 7, 8, *23
 - d. Lack of informed independent Board of Directors: 4, 7, 8
 - i. Sasaki would resign when allegation was current and troubling and then be re-instated by Board when complainant departed/withdrew: 17
 - e. Separate career track joju (support staff) and donai (zendo staff) which rewarded inji and isolated culturally, physically and through a separate practice schedule Roshi's female attendants (inji) 17
- 8. Long term effects on members
 - a. Lost respect Roshi *2, 3, 4, 6, 7, *22, *23, 27, 28, 30, *37, 42, *47
 - b. Lost respect Zen *2, 3, 4, 6, 7, *23, 27, 28, 30, *37, 42, *47
 - c. Lost practice place 4, 6, 7, *23, 27
 - d. Felt depressed or needed therapy* 2, 4, 6, 7, 10. *23, 27, *31, *37, 42, *47
 - e. Loss of function (eg lost relationship or employment) *2
 - f. Deceased members whose complaints were never addressed 3, 6, 33