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Investigation into the Chinese TV Series "Life is Innocent"

The Third Sub-channel of China's Education Channel Claims: "The media reports are fabricating rumors; the station did not air 'Life Is Innocent.'" Dozens of China's TV Stations Indicate that the TV Series is an Irregular Product and they are Unwilling to Air It.

Between June 24 and July 10, 2003, several Chinese media web sites posted the following news: "The first episode of the anti-Falun Gong 24-episode TV series, 'Life is Innocent,' has aired in China." Hence, the World Organization to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong ("WOIPFG") assigned special investigators to this case. At present, the investigative result indicates that this TV series met with resistance from several provincial TV stations and that the only TV station that aired it was Channel 1 of the Nanchang TV Station, Jiangxi Province, under pressure and out of self-interest. During the investigation, dozens of China's provincial and municipal TV stations indicated that they were unwilling to air this program. Some insiders critically stated that "this program is clearly an irregular TV production," that it has "too much political flavor," and that they had "never heard of the production team before," etc.

With regard to the article by reporter Liu Jie posted on the Chinese Consumers Net, which claimed that "starting from June 30, 'Life is Innocent' will be aired at prime time on Channel 3 of China's Education Channel," the Chief Editor's office stated under investigation that "this (report) is a sheer fabrication. There is no such thing at all. This TV station has not aired this program at all." In addition to Liu, Legal Daily's reporter Li Yong has also spread similar false rumors.

Evidence obtained by WOIPFG has also disclosed that senior officials at China's Ministry of Justice, which is in charge of arranging and sponsoring this TV series, has been exerting pressure through "abnormal channels" to many TV stations and their staff members and using methods such as trying to "establish friendly relations" in order to compel them to air this program. As senior officials of the Ministry of Justice, to use such illegal means to launch this TV series, they should be sanctioned and punished by law. WOIPFG will prepare and submit the evidence to legal and criminal institutions.

In the "Investigation Bulletin on 'Life is Innocent'" published on April 28, 2003, WOIPFG indicated that, " 'Life is Innocent' deliberately fabricates and ridicules the conduct of the "so-called Falun Gong practitioners" in the TV series to deceive the public and incite hatred. It has grossly violated United Nations human rights regulations on the publication of works of art and literature. It has also committed the crime of "inciting hatred."

" The TV series adopts Nazi-like gangster logic to falsely and deceptively gloss over the conduct of those who in fact are executing violence and torture at places such as labor camps and detention centers. It openly promotes persecutory conduct such as the forcible deprivation of Falun Gong practitioners' personal freedoms and basic rights, forcible brainwashing, and forcible transformation, etc., grossly violating articles regarding citizen's freedom of belief in China's constitution and laws, as well as the International Human Rights Covenant signed by the Chinese government.

" The "transformation" that this TV series attempts to demonstrate clearly reflects the actual psychological persecution inflicted upon Falun Gong practitioners by the Chinese government and labor camps to forcibly deprive Falun Gong practitioners of their right to freedom of belief and their ability to think independently. This has fully exposed the Chinese government's lies that there is no religious persecution.

WOIPFG has obtained the criminal facts of the following individuals in charge of this TV series who use this program to slander and persecute Falun Gong. It will submit evidence to international human rights organizations as soon as possible to confirm the "notorious human rights record" of these individuals as well as file lawsuits through related legal institutions.

Zhang Fusen, Minister of Justice ; Chen Jiping, Undersecretary-General of the Central Political and Judiciary Committee; Fan Fangping, Deputy Minister of Justice; Hu Zejun, Deputy Minister of Justice; Key producers of the TV series: Liu Diyi, Chen Zhisheng, Wang Qingyong, Liang Kaichen, Ma Anping and Cai Shijie. Key cast members: Jia Zhigang, Zhang Xin, Zhang Jianan (played Chen Ningnign), Zheng Shiming (played Ren Haichuan), Li Wenling (played Ma Guoqing), Wang Jianxin (played Liu Yongmin), Liu Na (played Jiang Xiaobai) and Zhao Weidong

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(played Chen Guoxing) etc. Reporters from Legal Daily: Liu Yong and Li Qing. Legal advisors and related individuals in charge of the Nanchang TV Station, individuals in charge of Channel 1, etc.