



A9. Dr. Goldstein: We are a spiritual Organization. We render service when we can. But we are not an Organization like the Red Cross. Adversity in the world and suffering of fellow beings is an opportunity for us to respond lovingly, to alleviate that suffering. Collectively as an Organization, it allows us to use our resources for this purpose. We are not primarily a service Organization but service is for our sadhana.

We are being exemplars of people who recognize the Divinity within all. We are not here to formalize an army of disaster managers. Our service is to uplift others. Hungry people can't think about God. Serving food to hungry people empowers them to see the Divinity in themselves. Obviously, when human suffering occurs, then they can't think about God. They are mainly concerned about sustaining their bodies. The same is true for other handicaps such as mental disturbance, homelessness, alcoholism, etc.

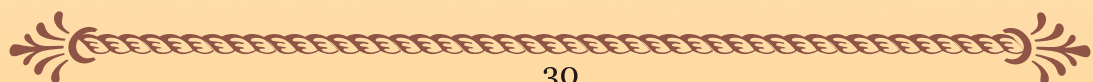
We must think in terms of the higher spiritual significance of service. We are not here to create a bureaucracy of managers who will go out in the world, responding to every tragedy. As leaders, we always pray to Swami for guidance, and try to act appropriately in terms of whatever guidance we get. Often, leaders pray and obtain guidance. We are always looking to serve, but we should not become preoccupied with making the Organization a place to train people to go out and manage disasters. Seek Swami within. Adversity and enemies are opportunities to go inwards and to Love.

Q10. *Doesn't the Organization need to set a vision? The Organization is not addressing its sustainability. The speakers are not addressing the theme of the conference.*

A10. Dr. Goldstein: First of all, there is no question of addressing sustainability. This Organization is imbued with Divinity, founded in the name of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. Imbued with Love, wisdom and power insofar as we are able to come together as devotees and tap that Love, the Organization is invulnerable and eternal as is Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. Swami has said so.

The vision is not a five- or a ten-year plan of building edifices, etc. The vision is that all will look for Love in our hearts, find that Love and practice that Love and then take that Love into the world as embodiments of Love. That is the vision of the Organization. This was also said by Sri Indulal Shah and by Sri V. Srinivasan.

There is effectiveness and efficiency. With effectiveness, we know what is right



by looking into our own hearts and the Charter. With regard to efficiency, we do what we do with the least amount of energy. Sometimes, when we are acting with the highest Love in mind, it is not the most efficient. Sometimes, efficiency is mindless or insensitive. We're not efficient in the economic sense. It is not the Organization's nature. At times like this, we must think who we are. We come together to pursue the purpose of this Organization, but we have to do within an orderly structure.

Q11. *Can there be social mixing of sexes in the Sai Organization? It is strange in my society to separate the sexes. There are no arranged marriages in the west, how are they to meet?*

A11. Dr. Harvey: Try to look at what Swami says, and strive to move towards that.

Our minds will foster doubts, always. We worry what happens if my child does not meet the right person. It comes back to the fact that we have to keep working on ourselves and to pray for stronger faith. Our mind convinces us that we are the doers, but that just is not so. All is God's Play. He is the Director. It is all in Divine order. We have to relax, to "let go, and let God." Have confidence that things will work out. We don't have to be worried that we are the ones who do everything.

Air Chief Marshall Suri: Men and women can relate. Our understanding of Love now is based on animal instincts, but Love should be pure. Swami gives us options, take time to think about what will be correct action. Do relations have to be physical? It is the manner in which we relate to one another that becomes important. Love is different from relationships. We have the task of letting people know the difference. The problem you mention is not foreign to Indians.

Q12. *All the members of the Prasanthi Council are men. Why? This panel is all men. Why?*

A12. Dr. Goldstein: Swami appointed the members of the Prasanthi Council. With regard to the panel, I thought these people would be the best to serve you.

Q13. *What should we do about money? Money is a problem in organizing events. Could our Sai Center turn to other Centers when we don't have money for the event? Should Sai Schools levy fees?*

A13. Dr. Goldstein: We should not levy fees in Sai Schools. Don't embark on anything that exceeds your resources. Let Swami guide you from within.

